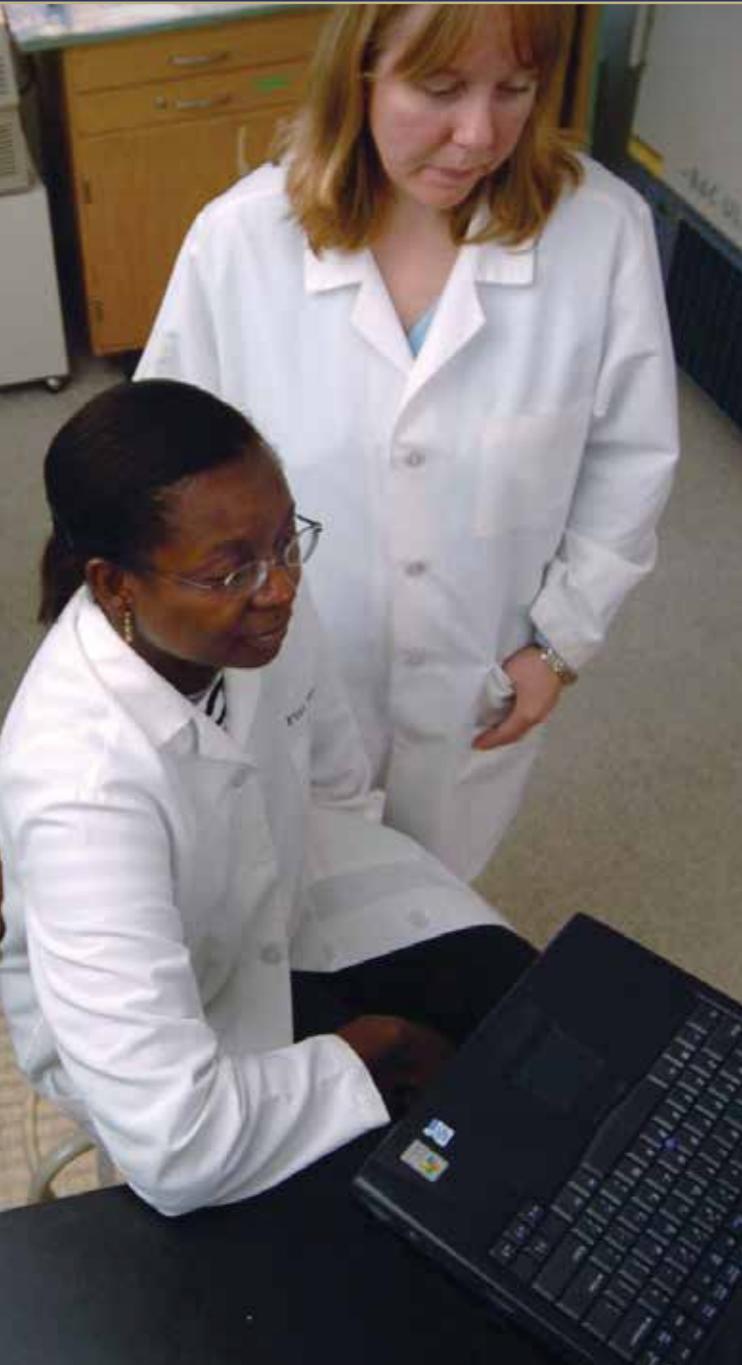


BLUE & GOLD



Who will take care of you in the next 10 years?

That's a question we will be asking ourselves as more than 290,000 Baby Boomers in Pittsburgh's tristate region are eligible to retire in the next decade. It is predicted that these retirements will result in a significant shortage of skilled employees across many sectors including IT, business and finance, healthcare and life sciences, energy, and advanced manufacturing. Also in this timeframe, economic growth is expected to create 50,000 new positions, adding up to nearly 340,000 open jobs. This gap is already exacerbated by a continuously shrinking pipeline of would-be workers emerging from our education system.¹

Numerous sources are projecting a national and regional shortage of workers in the healthcare and social assistance sectors as Baby Boomers retire over the course of the next decade. The projected job growth in southwestern Pennsylvania in these employment sectors is predicted to be 18.4 percent between 2012 and 2022.²

By 2030, an estimated 29 percent of the population in Pennsylvania will be 65 years of age or older, placing it fourth in the nation in the percentage of residents in that age range. This rapid growth in the senior citizen population is already influencing the supply and demand for healthcare workers, in particular for nursing, occupational therapy, and physical therapy occupations.³

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg is playing a key role in advancing the economic progress in western Pennsylvania by developing signature academic programs at the intersection of student interest and emerging occupational opportunities—thus equipping students to fill jobs so that the students and jobs remain in the region. Pitt-Greensburg is making a concentrated effort to meet the educational needs of the community by adding new majors and minors to its program selections. These include our new baccalaureate Nursing (BSN) program and our new majors in Healthcare Management, Biochemistry, and Healthcare Sciences.

Continued on page 3



Pitt
Greensburg

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 3 Reception Celebrates New Nursing Program | 8 Alumni Events Schedule |
| 4 Pawprints | 9 The Power of One Team |
| 6 Alumni Association Honors | 10 Athletics News |
| | 11 Arts & Theater |

Message from the President

As we begin a new year, many of the projections made in 2017 for the region are coming to fruition: as Baby Boomers retire, a potential shortfall of as many as 80,000 workers is projected for the greater Pittsburgh region by 2025. Although there are more than 40,000 students in higher education in this area, half of them leave for other regions in large part because they do not realize the employment and quality of life opportunities in the region.

These challenges are particularly acute in Westmoreland County. Indeed, the Westmoreland County comprehensive plan, currently in development, is meant to begin changing these trends by focusing on creating jobs that will attract more people to come to this area and stay here. This means advancing economic development opportunities and enhancing neighborhoods but also preserving those quality of life attributes—like green space and recreation areas—that are attractive to current and potential residents. With overall county population down 3.25% since the 2000 Census, reversing these population declines is a priority.

We know that, both now and in the future, the healthcare sector is a vital part of the economy of the region. Seven of the top 10 fastest growing occupations will be in healthcare. With student interest in the natural sciences continuing to grow, we persist in developing programs that will satisfy those interests while also leading to clear career paths.

We are adding a major in Health Sciences to join the majors in Nursing and Healthcare Management, which we launched this year. Health Sciences is a major that helps to align student interests with emerging career opportunities in healthcare. It can also serve as a “pre-therapy” major that will position students to pursue graduate studies in occupational or physical therapy. At Pitt, these graduate programs can be found at the School of Health and Rehabilitation Science, which is ranked fourth in the country in occupational therapy and first in physical therapy. All of our new programs serve two goals: they address the health needs of the county while also contributing to its economic development.

The modern proverb tells us it is better to light a candle than curse the darkness. We expect our new programs to light a path to progress for our county.

Hail to Pitt!

Sharon P. Smith, PhD

President



University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

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The Blue & Gold is published for alumni and friends of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. Questions and comments should be directed to the Office of University Relations and Institutional Advancement.

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

Reception Celebrates New Nursing Program

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg kicked off its new four-year nursing program (BSN degree) with a reception in September. More than 80 people attended the event held in Smith Hall Lounge.

“The purpose of the event was to bring the Pitt School of Nursing, Pitt-Greensburg, and the local healthcare community together to generate excitement about what nursing means to the region,” said Jodi Kraisinger, director of University Relations and Institutional Advancement, who led the organizing effort.

Members of the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing faculty along with members of the Pitt-Greensburg faculty, President’s Cabinet, and Institutional Advancement staff were joined by representatives of other educational institutions, the Pitt-Greensburg Advisory Board, the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association, Pitt School of Nursing alumni, state and local officials, and administrators and nurses from various Westmoreland County healthcare providers in welcoming Pitt-Greensburg’s first cohort of nursing students.



Students in Pitt-Greensburg’s first cohort of Nursing students had the opportunity to chat with representatives of the Pitt School of Nursing and Pitt-Greensburg administrators. The students were reminded of the historic nature of this moment for the campus as well as how great the need for healthcare works is and will be in the future. Chatting with the students are: Kathryn R. Puskar (center), DRPH, RN, FAAN, associate dean of Undergraduate Education at the Pitt School of Nursing; Juriatu Kamara, Pitt-Greensburg student and Peer Mentor; Julius M. Kitutu, PhD, MSc, MEd, associate dean for Student Affairs and Alumni Relations at the Pitt School of Nursing; Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean of the Pitt School of Nursing; Marie Fioravanti, DNP, RN, associate professor in the Natural Sciences Division and Pitt-Greensburg director of Nursing; and Sharon P. Smith, PhD, president of Pitt-Greensburg.



Attending the reception were more than 80 guests representing educators, alumni, local and state officials, and representatives of regional healthcare providers.

Pitt-Greensburg’s first cohort of nursing students:

- Ariyana Bonam
- Abigail Douglass
- Hanna Horner
- Jordan Prines
- Haley Uzman
- Jewel Brown
- Jennifer Fitzgerald
- Kaylee McClelland
- Emily Stein
- Trevor Ward
- Chinwem Philomena Chibueze
- Malena Gallucci
- Christina Pacacha
- Madison Swiger

Continued from page 1

Who will take care of you in the next 10 years?

Underlying these additions to our curriculum is an ongoing dialogue about our needs as a campus to support this growth. A planning study, completed in spring 2017 by the University of Pittsburgh states, “In summary, while the ‘bones’ of the structure are sound, Smith Hall does not meet the University of Pittsburgh’s standards for a modern science facility.”

Pitt-Greensburg is at a tipping point. Our future annual enrollment in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) majors is conservatively projected to increase by a minimum of 20 percent over the next five years. Plans continue to be developed that would allow the campus to expand its facilities by adding a new Life Sciences building next to Smith Hall.



“STEM still stands out, There’s no time to spare in preparing workers in the Pittsburgh region for next-generation jobs.” *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*, May, 2016...based on the report from the Allegheny Conference on Community Development (The Inflection Point: Supply, Demand and the Future of Work in the Pittsburgh Region)

²PA Department of Labor & Industry’s Center for Workforce Information and Analysis

³Pennsylvania Health Care Association Long-Term Care Trends and Statistics

Pawprints

Pitt-Greensburg receives multiple accolades

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg was recently recognized by a variety of organizations:

- For the second-consecutive year, Pitt-Greensburg was named to the 2017 Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Rankings.
- Pitt-Greensburg placed 32nd on a list of 93 colleges in Pennsylvania identified as leaving students with low levels of student loan debt. The 2017 Student Loan Debt per Graduate by School, by State report was compiled by the 2017 Student Loan Report (www.studentloans.net/debt-per-graduate-statistics-2017/#tab-con-38) and uses Peterson's financial aid dataset for the Class of 2016 to detail the average student debt per graduate from more than 1,100 colleges and universities in the United States.
- College Raptor recognized Pitt-Greensburg as a 2018 "Hidden Gem for Women in STEM." The campus placed 11th on a list of 25 colleges and universities selected as the best colleges in the country for women in STEM. Pitt-Greensburg joined an impressive set of colleges and universities on this list, some of which are in our aspirant group.
- The website www.AppliedBehaviorAnalysisEdu.org endorsed Pitt-Greensburg as one of the "Top 57 Best Schools Offering ABA Bachelor's and BCaBA Courses." This recognition pertains to Pitt-Greensburg's coursework in Applied Behavioral Analysis and our preparation of students. Only two other schools in Pennsylvania were included in the list: Cairn University (Langhorne, PA) and Saint Joseph's University (Philadelphia, PA).
- Pitt-Greensburg was recognized as having one of the best criminal justice degrees by bestvalueschools.com. The ranking considered program popularity, number of criminal justice programs, acceptance rate, graduation rate, retention rate, and net price. Pitt-Greensburg was ranked #42, with one of the editors endorsing it as one of the best criminal justice degrees in the country. This ranking put Pitt-Greensburg in the company of much larger campuses, like Michigan State University, San Diego State University, and Penn State University. The Center for Applied Research (CFAR), opportunities to perform paid research, and scholarships were included as reasons to look at the program.
- Zippia named Pitt-Greensburg one of the 10 best colleges for Criminal Justice Majors in Pennsylvania and one of the 10 best colleges for Chemistry Majors in Pennsylvania. For Criminal Justice, Pitt-Greensburg came in at No. 9 and was joined on the list by the University of Pittsburgh (Oakland) at No. 5 and Pitt-Bradford at No. 8. For Chemistry, Pitt-Greensburg came in at No. 9, and was joined on the list by the University of Pittsburgh (Oakland) at No. 6. Zippia, a website designed to help people find and pursue the right career, used data from the National Center for Education Statistics and College Scorecard data from Ed.gov to determine its picks.
- Pitt-Greensburg has been designated a "Military Friendly School" for seven consecutive years.



College and university presidents speak out against sexual violence

Dr. Sharon P. Smith, president of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, was among the 13 college and university leaders from Allegheny and Westmoreland counties who participated in a series of 14 videos speaking out against campus sexual assault. The videos were compiled by Southwest PA says No More. The academic leaders featured in the videos represented Carlow University, Carnegie Mellon University, Chatham University, Community College of Allegheny County, Duquesne University, La Roche College, Point Park University, Robert Morris University, Saint Vincent College, Seton Hill University, University of Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, and Westmoreland County Community College.

"We want to address the root cause, and that's why our work with the Blackburn Center is so essential," said Smith. "If we foster an environment where every member of the community understands that violence is not tolerable, that awareness will be carried by our students wherever they go. We want them to understand that an individual can and should make a difference, now and always."

New community writing workshop for veterans established

Veterans Write, a new community writing workshop for veterans and those who love them, launched at Pitt-Greensburg with a meet-and-greet reception in October. The workshop is under the direction of co-founders Lori Jakiela, professor of English; Jason Eichner, Psychology and Creative & Professional Writing major and Army veteran; Gretchen Uhrinek, 2017 Pitt-Greensburg graduate in Creative and Professional Writing; and Jeff Martin, visiting professor of English at Duquesne University. The veteran community is welcome to attend the free writing workshops on campus every Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Village Hall 118. Funding for the workshops was provided by the Provost's Office through the University Research Council's Research in Diversity Initiative and the David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership. For more information, visit <http://veteranswrite.com>.



Jakiela leading community writing workshops

As part of a community rejuvenation effort, Lori Jakiela, professor of English and Creative Writing, is leading a series of community writing workshops in Trafford, PA. The workshops, Trafford Gets Lit, are held every Tuesday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at The Yoga Deck. The workshops feature monthly readings and open mic events. Suggested donation is \$5, with all proceeds going to charity.

Bridges to College Success Conference

In partnership with the Consortium for Public Education, Pitt-Greensburg hosted more than 100 guests for the first Bridges to College Success Conference for K-12 staff and faculty. Public school teachers, counselors, and administrators participated in this mini-conference designed to support the conversation on college readiness among K-12 educators, college faculty and staff, and business/community leaders. The conference featured an employee panel discussion, 14 topic sessions, and 14 round table discussions on various issues surrounding college preparedness. The sessions were led by representatives of the Consortium, Pitt-Greensburg faculty and staff, several area colleges and universities, as well as representatives of local businesses, industry, and non-profits.



Pawprints *continued*

Beshero-Bondar elected to TEI Consortium Technical Council

Elisa Beshero-Bondar, PhD, associate professor of English, will serve a two-year term on the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) Consortium's Technical Council. The director of Pitt-Greensburg's Center for the Digital Text and one of the key faculty members involved in the campus' Digital Studies program, she previously served two prior terms on the Council in 2016 and 2017. The TEI Consortium is a nonprofit membership organization composed of academic institutions, research projects, and individual scholars from around the world. The Technical Council is responsible for the development and maintenance of the TEI Guidelines and other TEI systems and resources.



Pitt-Greensburg students in Whirl Magazine

Pitt-Greensburg was invited to participate in a photoshoot for the September issue of Whirl magazine. Students Jenna Coleman and Zack Zimmerman posed with animals from Animal Friends of Westmoreland for the feature showcasing several animal shelters serving the Greensburg area. Also participating were students from the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) and Seton Hill University. You can see the online version of the Explore Greensburg: Making Furry Friends feature here: <http://whirlmagazine.com/explore-greensburg-making-furry-friends/>.



Richard McMahon recognized for Outstanding Performance

The Compass Group, Chartwells' parent company, recognized Richard McMahon, director of Dining Services at Pitt-Greensburg, for his outstanding performance and 33 years of service. The award was announced during a Compass Community Council (CCC) held in August. McMahon was the recipient of the President's Medal for Distinguished Service at the 2015 Pitt-Greensburg Commencement ceremony.



Anthropology students participate in archaeological project in Egypt

Last summer, two Pitt-Greensburg anthropology students, Amanda Gerhard and Wyatt Krater, participated with Greg Bondar on the Tell Timai Archaeological Project learning to excavate and analyzing artifacts from the ancient Greco-Roman city of Thmouis on the Nile delta of Egypt. The trio visited the pyramids at Giza, the temples on the Upper Nile at Elephantine, Philae, Dendara, Kom Ombo, Edfu, Karnack, and Luxor, the Valley of the Kings, and went diving to the ruins of the Pharos Lighthouse in Alexandria harbor. Bondar is a part-time instructor of Anthropology at Pitt-Greensburg.



Grant Activity

Grants awarded since August 2017 include:

- University Relations and Institutional Advancement received a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. A part of the Council's Project Stream grant program, administered locally by the Pennsylvania Rural Art Alliance, this funding was used to purchase art display boards for the first annual Art Show@Pitt-Greensburg which took place during Blue & Gold week.
- The Center for Applied Research received funding from the McKinney Charitable Foundation, held by the PNC Charitable Trusts, in support of the Community Arts and Reintegration Project (CARP). This funding will be used to complete and install the first CARP community mural in Mt. Pleasant and support the planning for a second community mural in a different Westmoreland County community.



Detailed selection from the mural design

Scholar-Athletes earn recognition

Nearly 80 Pitt-Greensburg student-athletes were recognized for their outstanding academic performance at the 2018 Scholar-Athlete Awards ceremony held in February. The awards recognized students who have earned a 3.0 or higher GPA during the previous semester. Congratulations to these students for their success on and off the playing field.

Baseball

Patrick Aul
Noah Beasley
Michael Dolan
Benjamin Green
Brandon Hoener
Tyler Holland
Evan Johnston
Daniel Kiester
Matthew Mish
Anthony Pacelli
Brandon Shapiro
Michael Spadafore

Basketball (Men's)

Kyle Bondi
Nathaniel Burt
Jay Grubb
Jacob Kitner
Joseph Mancini

Basketball (Women's)

Madison Coddington
Nadege Durand
Catherine Gollighugh
Andrea McGinnis
Sabre Turner

Cross Country (Men's)

Darius Eicher-Peeble
Dean Walters

Cross Country (Women's)

Colleen Murphy**
Kelsey Oddis*
Alyssa Panza*

Golf

Zachary Bernstein
Dwight (Trey) Brown
Nicolas Leone
Anthony (AJ) Magnu
Gregory Maleckar
Brandon Noel
Garrett Woznichak
Austin Reay

Soccer (Men's)

Joshua Algarin
Nicholas Bono
Tyrell Cheeseboro
Dylan DeRoss
Chad Melenzyer
Eric Trexler

Soccer (Women's)

Camdyn Bass
Amelia Braggs
Brianna Burgunder
Erika Caldoro
Kiara DeVore
Shannon Edwards
Alexa Fetterman
Cierra Geiger
Allie Grimm
Kelcey Hickman
Hayley Hulbert
Maggie Kelly
Kaitlyn Watson

Softball

Krista Bayus
Jennifer Fitzgerald
Katlyn Keenan
Jennifer Miller
Kayla Seidl
Mackenzie Stonebraker
Justine Varhola
Tayjah White
Calle Zmenkowski

Tennis (Men's)

William Hersh
Vaughn Hunkele
Terrance Madarish
Michael Meyer
Andrew Oden
Jeremy Simms

Tennis (Women's)

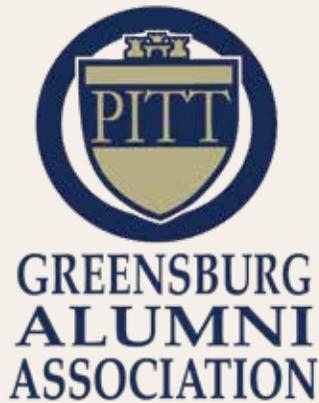
Rebecca Beaumont
Emily Frye
Amanda Jepsen
Kasey McIntosh
Hannah Sterrett
Stephanie Vargas

Volleyball

Marissa Leonard
Aubree Newhouse
Amanda Ross
Rayli Turek

* participates in two sports ** participates in three sports

Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association honors



The Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association (PGAA) recognized three alumni at its Alumni Celebration Dinner as part of the campus' Blue & Gold Week activities.

Earning recognition this year were Lawrence J. (Larry) Helkowski '74, Chad Eric Smith '08, and Scott Szypulski '14.

Helkowski, a resident of Irwin, PA, received the PGAA Alumnus of Distinction Award. Established in 2001, this award acknowledges excellence among alumni of Pitt-Greensburg. All candidates must have graduated from or completed courses at Pitt-Greensburg. 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 other special efforts or success.

An award-winning actor, musician, writer, film director, and activist, Chad Eric Smith '08 received the PGAA Young Alumni Leadership Award. Smith returned to Washington, DC, after graduating from and working for Pitt-Greensburg for three years. The Young Alumni Leadership award,

PGAA Alumnus of Distinction



Lawrence (Larry) J. Helkowski '74 completed three years of study at Pitt-Greensburg before transferring to the Oakland campus where he completed a BS in Management. Married, and just out of the military, he completed his degree as a non-traditional student. His current relationship with Pitt-Greensburg extends

to serving on the PGAA Board of Directors and being involved with events, such as the annual golf outing.

While pursuing his degree, Helkowski worked for People's Gas starting as a clerk and in credit collections. After graduation, he moved into sales and marketing, ultimately working with builders and developers to economically deliver gas on residential lot plans. He won salesman of the year for three consecutive years because of the Seven Springs expansion.

After 33 years with the gas company, he was named president/CEO at the Westmoreland County Blind Association (WCBA). What started out as a one-year contract turned into 13 years of providing meaningful job opportunities to people with visual impairments or who are multiply challenged. Since 2002, he has served as president of the Westmoreland Human Services. Helkowski also served as account executive for the United Way, and then as chairman of the board at Westmoreland County Community College.

Helkowski and his wife Jacqueline (now deceased) were married for 50 years. Helkowski's son Scott, a 1992 Pitt graduate, and his wife, Julie, have one son, Andrew.

PGAA Young Alumni Leadership Award



Chad Eric Smith graduated from Pitt-Greensburg with a BS in psychology in 2008. He is a musician, writer, film director, activist, and an award-winning actor.

As a student, he served as a Resident Assistant and was named Resident Assistant of the Year (2007). He also served as a Pitt Pal tour guide and Presidential Ambassador,

as well as performing in campus theater productions and as a member of Soothing Sensations, a student jazz trio.

His work educating others about how to end sexual violence began at Pitt-Greensburg. Partnering with the Blackburn Center, Westmoreland County's only anti-violence agency, he founded the Men Against Sexual Violence club on campus. Smith currently works as a consultant for the national non-profit, Men Can Stop Rape.

Upon graduation, he worked as a Pitt-Greensburg Admissions Counselor and continued to pursue his interest in the arts, playing a variety of characters in community theaters in and around Pittsburgh. The Pittsburgh Chapter of the African American Council on the Arts awarded him two Onyx awards (2010).

In 2011, Smith served as a college advisor at high schools within the District of Columbia Public and Public Charter school system. Upon returning to his hometown of Washington, DC, Smith has continued to act in independent films, web dramas, and television.

His current work includes starring in *Counselor* (2015), a YouTube web drama, for which he received a 2016 IndieCapitol Award nomination, and making his national television debut in the TV One season finale of *For My Man*. Smith co-wrote and starred in his film directorial debut *Dark Therapy* (2014), for which he received the TIVA-DC Gold Peer Award. In 2015, he co-produced and composed the original score for the silent short film *#SeeTheBoy*, and recently premiered his short psychological drama *Rumination* at the Reel Independent Film Extravaganza. He continues to act in leading, supporting, and featured roles.

outstanding alumni

established in 2015, recognizes established and future leaders among Pitt-Greensburg's young alumni, age 35 and under, for their accomplishments and service. The winners of the award have distinguished themselves as leaders among their peers and in their profession, community, and/or the University.

Scott Szypulski '14, of Irwin, PA, was the recipient of the PGAA Volunteer Excellence Award. The award recognizes alumni who volunteer their time to the PGAA and the University. Established in 2009, the award honors alumni who have dedicated a significant amount of personal time 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.

PGAA Volunteer Excellence Award



Scott Szypulski graduated in 2014 with a BS in Management-Accounting and minors in Actuarial Science and Theatre. While a student, he was a member of the Student Activities Board, Habitat for Humanity, Judicial Board, Peer Leader Program, and Phi Eta Sigma. A Community Assistant (CA) and campus leader, Szypulski

was named 2014 CA of the Year and served as president of the Student Government Association, Resident Student Council, and the Presidential Ambassadors program. He also was named Senior of the Year and was the recipient of the Dean's Leadership Award and the PGAA Community Service Award.

Upon graduating, Szypulski was employed as a Financial Assistant in the Department of Critical Care for the University of Pittsburgh. In 2016, he was promoted to Financial Research Administrator there. As a member of the Staff Association Council since 2015, he has been active in multiple activities, including assisting in the establishment of the Frisch Fund Scholarship and serving as chair of the 2017 Kennywood Committee for Pitt Day at Kennywood, which sold out of the allocated 2,000 tickets. In addition to these responsibilities, he is pursuing his MBA at the Oakland campus.

Since 2014, Szypulski has been actively involved with the Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association (PGAA) and is currently the PGAA Treasurer and Executive Committee liaison for the events committee. He has been directly involved in the organization of alumni events including the Holiday Wine Tasting, Welcome Back Picnic, and Pitt Greensburg at PNC Park. He also remains involved as a volunteer with the campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity (HFH) and served as a chaperone for the 2017 HFH Alternate Spring Break Collegiate Challenge trip to Tucker, Georgia.

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 30, 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 9, at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni-awards.** The award criteria, guidelines, and nomination forms are available online.



Alumni invited to meet 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 24, March 16, and April 7. **Register for any or all events online at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/events.**



Bobcats Out and About

Feeling festive, the PGAA Events committee hosted a painting night for alumni and their guests at Painting with a Twist in Greensburg. The group painted a holiday snowman 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.**



Save the Date: Golf Outing - October 12th

Save the date for this year's golf outing, which is set for October 12 at the Westmoreland Country Club. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/blucandgoldweek/golf-outing for details. Alumni who are interested in serving on the committee for the event should contact Sheila Kudrick, Charitable Relationship manager, at pggiving@pitt.edu or 724-836-7039.





Upcoming Alumni Events at a Glance

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

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Feb. 24, 2018 | Admitted Student Day (Alumni volunteers needed) |
| Mar. 16, 2018 | Admitted Student Day (Alumni volunteers needed) |
| Mar. 20, 2018 | Pitt Day in Harrisburg |
| Apr. 7, 2018 | Admitted Student Day (Alumni volunteers needed) |
| Apr. 22, 2018 | Senior Send-Off (6 p.m.) |
| Apr. 27, 2018 | New Alumni Reception |
| Apr. 27, 2018 | Family Appreciation Dinner (7 p.m.) |
| Apr. 28, 2018 | Alumni Leadership Meeting (8 a.m.) |
| Apr. 28, 2018 | Commencement Breakfast (9:30 a.m.) |
| Apr. 28, 2018 | Commencement (11 a.m.) |
| Jun. ?, 2018 | Pitt Networking Day |
| Jun. 16, 2018 | Pirates Tailgate (PNC Park) |
| Jun. 23, 2018 | PGAA Board Retreat |

Blue & Gold Week

HOME COMING 2018
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH GREENSBURG

Watch for details about our October 2018 events
www.greensburg.pitt.edu/BlueAndGoldWeek



You are invited to participate in Commencement activities

Sunday, April 22



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 27

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 28

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 2018 Alumni Marshall, Larry Helkowski '74, 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 30.

IF EVERY PITT-GREENSBURG ALUMNUS GIVES \$25 . . .



It's a movie date night



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It's a bar tab



It's only \$25



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VISIT DAYOFGIVING.PITT.EDU AND FIND "UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH-GREENSBURG" IN THE DROP-DOWN MENU.

Students making a difference in the community



The Power of One Team

Since 2005, the Pitt-Greensburg chapter of Habitat for Humanity has amassed more than 7,000 hours of service through its annual Habitat for Humanity Alternative Spring Break Collegiate Challenge. The program takes our students, alumni, and staff on a road trip to another state, usually in the southern United States, to spend their spring break building a home for a family in need.

The experience is transformational for both the students and the families who will live in the homes being built. Brian Root, advisor for the group, explains that the trip is so significant because it teaches the students about themselves, about each other, and about the community in which they serve. It also allows them to step outside of their comfort zones—all while having fun and forming lasting bonds.

“Over the past 10 years or so, I’ve had the pleasure to take more than 150 different students on this annual trip,” said Root. “It’s always such a transformational experience for these students. They are truly immersing themselves into a life of service, even if only for that one week.”

In spring 2017, the group traveled to Tucker, Georgia, a city where nearly a quarter of the population falls below the poverty line. This year, Pitt-Greensburg’s group will travel to Lucedale, Mississippi, to build simple, decent, affordable housing. Working six to eight hours a day, Monday through Friday, the chapter will join with a local partner family to build walls and roofing, put up dry wall, or install siding on the home.

In addition to funding provided by the Student Government Association (SGA), the trip is financed through fund-raising activities, including an EngagePitt crowdfunding campaign (<https://engage.pitt.edu/project/4898>). Last year more than \$5000 was raised through EngagePitt to help cover the cost of daily meals, van rentals and gas, transportation to and from the work site each day, program fees, lodging, and work site supplies. This year’s campaign opened January 22 and runs through February 21. The goal is to raise at least \$4,000 for this year’s trip expenses.

While on the trip, students blog about their experiences and post to their EngagePitt update page. Here are a few of the student reactions to the 2017 trip:

“Each trip is special in its own way and brings new learning experiences,” wrote Katie Byers ’17, the past president of Habitat for Humanity who organized the 2017 trip. “It never fails to amaze me how 25 people can come as strangers and leave as family.”

“Our team’s supervisor was unable to be at the site today, but that didn’t stop us from completing a window and door frame all on our own before lunchtime,” wrote senior Brooke Stewart, this year’s trip leader. “Our team, Bobcats the Builders, really stepped it up, and we were able to complete our frames without outside help. We read the plans, measured and cut the wood, and assembled it by ourselves. That alone instilled a sense of accomplishment in us, and I’ve enjoyed getting to work with such eager and determined people.”

“Today was an extremely productive day and I cannot wait to do more work,” wrote Tyler Massar, a freshman making his first HFH trip. “It was crazy to see the door frame that I helped build come together. To see a pile of wood be made into something that a family will walk through every day was surreal. It really helps me to understand what I am doing down here in Georgia. Tomorrow’s going to be another great day.”

Pitt-Greensburg’s chapter of Habitat for Humanity and its annual Collegiate Challenge trip are just one example of the Power of One Team.



That's Pitt to the Power of One.

Fall Sports Wrap-up

Cross Country

At the AMCC Championships, the men's team finished fifth and the women's team finished sixth. Daniel Spanner finished 16th for the men and Kelsey Oddis placed 19th, followed by Colleen Murphy, and Sadie Shannon. One of the team's best season performances was at the Westmoreland Community College Wolfpack Invitational, where the women finished third and the men finished fourth, overall. This fall, Michael Gentile took over the head coaching position for the men's and women's cross country team.



Daniel Spanner



Trey Brown

Golf

The men's golf team finished sixth in the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference Championship with rounds of 321 and 320 for a two-day total of 641. Javon Trout continued to lead the team, winning an individual title at the La Roche Tournament. Anthony Berich is the team's head coach.



Jared Jenkins

Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team finished the season 5-10-1 overall and 3-6-0 in the AMCC. The Bobcats posted wins against Penn College, Saint Vincent College, Pitt-Bradford, Penn State Altoona, and Hilbert College. Jared Jenkins and Dylan DeRoss led the team in goals with five and three, respectively. The Bobcats are coached by Dan Keefe and Assistant Coach Marc Bucci.



Brianna Burgunder

Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team earned the sixth seed in the Allegheny Mountain Athletic Conference Tournament, but lost 4-3 in a hard fought quarterfinal match against Franciscan University of Steubenville (#3). The Bobcats finished the season 9-8-1 overall and 4-6 in the conference. Head Coach Chuck Wigle and assistant coaches Chris Fabian and Steve Kukic guide the team.



Emily Frye

Women's Tennis

The women's tennis team (#5) advanced to the AMCC Tournament semifinals where they lost to Franciscan University of Steubenville (#1), 5-0. The Bobcats, with strong play from their singles players, won the quarterfinal round of the AMCC Tournament 5-4 against Medaille (#4). The team finished the season 5-9 overall/3-5 in the conference.

The Bobcats are coached by Doug Smeltzer '17, who was named the head men's and women's tennis coach in August.



Amanda Ross

Volleyball

The women's volleyball team posted wins against Albright College, Waynesburg University, Hilbert College, and Penn State Altoona, ending the season 4-21 overall and 2-7 in the conference. Autumn Karlheim and Amanda Ross led the team in points with 221.5 and 198, respectively. On defense, Erica Bosh led the team in digs (418), while Ross led the team in blocks (30). Kylynn Smith '10, head coach, assisted by Samantha Meyers, led the team.

All AMCC Selections



Rebecca Beaumont —
Women's Tennis, 2nd team



Camille Hickman —
Women's Soccer, 3rd team



Amanda Ross —
Volleyball, 3rd team



Brianna Burgunder —
Women's Soccer, 1st team
& United Soccer Coaches
NCAA Division III All-Great
Lakes Region Team



Amanda Jepsen —
Women's Tennis, 2nd team



Javon Trout —
Golf, 1st team

BOBCATS Get all of your Bobcat athletic news at PittGreensburgAthletics.com

Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company presents:

Shakespeare's *The Tempest* in a futuristic setting

The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company continues to explore the theme of "Invisible Forces" with its spring production of *The Tempest*, by William Shakespeare. As with the fall performance of *Harvey* (Mary Chase), *The Tempest* deals with supernatural creatures who affect the world around them in mysterious ways.

"We are touched by invisible forces on a daily basis: sunshine and moonlight; cosmic rays; ghostly emanations; and supernatural and metaphysical vibrations," explains Stephen A. Schrum, PhD, associate professor of Theatre and director of the campus theatre program.



Kari Womack

The Tempest is Schrum's favorite Shakespeare play. He chose the play because it will allow senior Visual and Performing Arts major Kari Womack to design the set as part of her Senior Capstone Project. Womack is using SketchUp™ software to digitally design the play's set. She'll use a 3-D printer to build a realistic model from the sketch, giving her a three-dimensional example of how it will look as they begin the building process.

Womack plans to use a futuristic design theme and will take her inspiration from such diverse films as *Forbidden Planet* and *Manhunt in Space*.

"This production will be unlike anything seen on the Pitt-Greensburg stage," said Schrum, who will also do his usual editing, so the Shakespearean text will be accessible to all audience members.

The Tempest will be performed in Ferguson Theater March 22-24 at 7:30 p.m. and March 25 at 2 p.m. Tickets (\$10 regular, \$5 students/seniors/Pitt ID) will be available at the door.

Music at Pitt-Greensburg

The spring semester will be filled with music at Pitt-Greensburg. Performances are open to the public at no charge and begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

Joan Chambers Concert Series



Layali Al-Sham

The Joan Chambers Concert Series will feature two outstanding groups.

On April 6, Layali Al-Sham will perform its diverse repertoire of Arab music and share its multi-cultural perspective with our audience. The group, under the direction of Andrea Shaheen Espinosa, assistant professor of Ethnomusicology and Oboe Studies, is the University of Texas at El Paso's premier Middle Eastern Music Ensemble.



The Heinz Chapel Choir

Then, on April 20 at 8 p.m. (please note the later start time), the Heinz Chapel Choir will perform its annual concert at Pitt-Greensburg. This internationally recognized *a cappella* choir features students from the University of Pittsburgh under the direction of Susan Rice, DMA. The Heinz Chapel Choir performs to sold-out crowds in its home venue, the Heinz Memorial Chapel on the Pitt campus and performs in international venues every three years.

Pitt-Greensburg Chorale & Chamber Singers



The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale & Chamber Singers

The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale & Chamber Singers will perform their spring concert, under the direction of Christopher Bartley, on April 12 and 13. Prior to their campus performance, the group plans to perform on tour in New Jersey and New York. This will be the second trip in five years for the choral group.

On April 18, Pitt-Greensburg students participating in voice or piano studies will perform their spring recital.

Friday Evening Music Club

Members of the Friday Evening Music Club will perform February 23, March 23, and April 27.

Pitt Day in Harrisburg set for March 20

Opportunity to make a difference in the future of higher education

Investing in people: it's one of the most important things that we can do as a region, a state, and a country. When you participate in the annual Pitt Day in Harrisburg, set for March 20, you have the opportunity to remind Pennsylvania state legislators why it is important to invest in the people of Pennsylvania by supporting higher education, in general, and the University of Pittsburgh, specifically.

State-related universities, like the University of Pittsburgh and its branch campuses, are powerful economic engines driving growth and opportunity. With Pitt, PA Wins—and so do you.

The economic impact of the University of Pittsburgh and its regional campuses is \$3.95 billion for fiscal year 2017. That includes \$190.75 million in local and state tax revenue that it generates, \$74.3 million in charitable and volunteer service donations, and 29,436 jobs that are supported throughout Pennsylvania.

When Pennsylvania supports state-related universities, it makes obtaining a quality education affordable by helping to keep tuition for in-state students low. That support also allows state-related universities to use funds to build and expand programs that not only benefit students, but society in general, especially through research and entrepreneurial activities that generate new discoveries and products.

But the benefits to our society don't stop there.

A high-quality, affordable system of public higher education helps to build a stronger middle class, develop entrepreneurs, and provide skilled workers who will fill the jobs of the future.

When a region is home to a highly educated workforce, everyone benefits because studies show that this contributes to lower rates of crime, greater levels of civic participation, better health, and economic success. In fact, regions with highly educated residents attract strong employers who pay their employees competitive wages that are then used to purchase goods and services from others in the community. This then affects the wages of workers at all levels of education, resulting in overall better pay scales in the region.

This is why it is important to share the University of Pittsburgh story with state legislators, to encourage them to renew their investment in higher education, and to promote college affordability and quality. You can share your Pitt-Greensburg experience when you participate in Pitt Day in Harrisburg on March 20.

Sign up at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/pittdayharrisburg. This free opportunity includes transportation, continental breakfast on the bus, and lunch at the Capitol. This event is sponsored by the Pitt-Greensburg Office of University Relations and Institutional Advancement in partnership with Pitt Advocates, Pitt Alumni Association, Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association, and the Office of Community and Governmental Relations. **Please contact Christina Guzik, Office of University Relations and Institutional Advancement at 724-836-7497 or uria@pitt.edu with questions.**



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.

March 4-11

Spring Recess for students. University offices and buildings remain open and staffed except for March 9 (Spring Holiday).

March 17

The campus community will honor those affected by cancer and raise funds to support the American Cancer Society during our second annual **Relay for Life**. The event kicks off at noon in Chambers Hall Gymnasium and continues throughout the day and early evening. Use this link to participate: <http://bit.ly/PGRelayForLife>.

March 20

Pitt Day in Harrisburg: Watch for details about how you can influence our state lawmakers through your story. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/pittdayharrisburg.

March 22-25

The **Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company** will present Shakespeare's *The Tempest* in Ferguson Theater. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. on March 22-24 and at 2 p.m. on March 25. Tickets are available at the door.

March 25

This is the tentative date for the Pitt-Greensburg Community Easter Egg Hunt on Chambers Lawn. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu for details.

April 4

The **Pitt-Greensburg Career & Internship Fair** will run from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Chambers Hall Gymnasium. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/career-services/fair for details.

April 5

The Student Government Association will host their **Charity Volleyball Game** to benefit a local charity.

April 6

The **Joan Chambers Concert Series** presents **Layali Al-Sham** at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

April 12 & 13

The **Pitt-Greensburg Chorale & Chambers Singers** will present their spring concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

April 14

Register and attend the **Admissions Discovery Day** for an in-depth look at Pitt-Greensburg. Meet with a professor, learn about financial aid options, and tour the campus. A \$45 application fee waiver to Pitt-Greensburg is offered to students who have not yet applied. Call 724-836-9880 to register.

The **Power of Nursing** event, hosted by our Office of Admissions, will provide an in-depth, hands-on look at Pitt-Greensburg's BS in nursing program. Panel discussions and activities with nursing professionals are planned. Lunch with professionals, staff, and faculty, as well as a campus tour are provided. Call 724-836-9880 to register.

April 18

Register for **free FAFSA Completion sessions** offered by the Office of Financial Aid between 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. in 137 McKenna Hall. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/fafsa to register and for materials needed to complete the process.

Pitt-Greensburg's **voice and piano students** will present a recital at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

April 20

The **Joan Chambers Concert Series** presents the **Heinz Chapel Choir** in performance at 8 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center.

April 22

This is the tentative date for this year's **Senior Sendoff**. Join the PGAA at Rialto's (Greensburg) to congratulate and welcome the 2018 graduating class. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/events for details.

April 28

Pitt-Greensburg's annual **Commencement** at 11 a.m. (Ridilla Field; inclement weather: Chambers Gymnasium). Alumni planning to participate should email pgaa@pitt.edu to register. Tickets are required for this event and are distributed to the graduates.

May 4

Young adult author **A.S. King** and children's author **Mark Weakland** are the keynote speakers for the **2018 Pitt-Greensburg Children's Literature Conference**. Early registration is \$70 through March 31. Visit www.greensburg.pitt.edu/millstein/clc for details and to register.

May 9

Register for the **Admissions Evening Information Session** to meet with an admissions counselor and tour the campus with a current student. The program begins at 5 p.m. and lasts approximately two hours. Call 724-836-9880 to register.

May 23

Transfer Decision Day offers an accelerated application process open to transfer students only. Applications are reviewed that day and, after paying the tuition deposit, admitted students schedule their courses for the upcoming semester. A \$45 application fee waiver is offered to students who attend. All official transcripts and test scores are needed when attending. Call 724-836-9880 to register.

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.



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Pitt to the Power of *One*

From the Archives



Pitt-Greensburg's first athletic team, the men's basketball team, played their initial official season in 1969-1970. Cheering the team on was Pitt-Greensburg's first team of cheerleaders. Row 1 (kneeling, left to right): Joan Boby and Donna DiMaria. Row 2 (standing, left to right): Linda Adams, Diane Kosic, and Karen Battistoni.

This photo is part of the Millstein Library Archives (www.library.pitt.edu/millstein-library-upg-archives). If you have photos of a historic nature taken during your studies here at Pitt-Greensburg, please share them with us at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/share-your-pitt-greensburg-memory. We'd love to hear your stories and see your photos!