

BLUE & GOLD

Pitt experience sparks Cobetto Lecture Series Lecture now in its 15th year

The Cobetto children learned early on that major life events were planned around the University of Pittsburgh Panther football games. Their parents, Bernard H. Cobetto, MD, '45 CAS, '47 MED and Ellen J. Cobetto, were long-time members of the Laurel Highlands Golden Panthers and season ticket holders for 70 years. The family holds fond memories of attending the games and traveling there on the bus chartered by the Golden Panther group.

Bernard Cobetto's connection to the University of Pittsburgh extended far beyond the fall football season. He graduated from the College of Arts & Sciences and from the Medical School during one of the pivotal times in US history and served in both the US Army and the US Navy.

Graduating from high school at the height of the Great Depression meant that he worked for three years at a furniture warehouse in Braddock before enrolling at Pitt. His paycheck totaled \$16 for a six-day week with an opportunity to earn an extra \$0.35 an hour for overtime. The other employees would remind him to get out and go to college. Finally, while recovering from a work-related injury, Cobetto approached his father about going to college—and was told, “Well, I’ll guarantee you two years, but then I can’t guarantee any more than that.”

Cobetto enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh and paid \$10 a credit. He commuted daily by train from his family home in Pitcairn. In his unpublished memoir, he wrote that he struggled that first semester and asked neighbors—an English teacher and a chemical engineer—to tutor him. “The work was super time-consuming. I would go to school in the



Bernard H. Cobetto, MD, and Ellen J. Cobetto during a visit to the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. (ca. 2005).

morning, come home in the afternoon, and study every evening. Every weekend was used in writing themes for English or doing homework. . . . All I know is that by the time the first semester ended, for a guy who was potentially flunking, I ended up with the equivalent of a 3.2—a little better than a B+ average.”

A nickel pinball machine in the family store brought in about \$150 to \$200 during a semester, and Cobetto noted, “My dad put that money aside to pay for my college credits. I’m probably one of the few guys that went through college on the pinball machine.”

On Dec. 7, 1941, Cobetto was at Pitt when he heard the news about the bombing of Pearl Harbor. He and the other students had to decide whether to enlist or stay in school. In December 1942, the US Army solved that dilemma when it announced The Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP). The ASTP was established to identify, train, and educate academically talented enlisted men as a specialized corps of Army officers during World War II. The enlisted men could remain in college until the Army needed personnel. Cobetto’s strategy was to complete all the subjects that he needed to be eligible for medical school—which he did in two nine-month periods and a summer session. His acceptance letter to medical school noted that he would start in 1944.

At the end of the semester, Cobetto went to basic training at Camp Grant (Rockford, IL) followed by an assignment to a hospital unit at Camp Shenango. He felt pretty lucky to receive a hospital assignment, since most of the men assigned to Camp Shenango were destined to be shipped overseas. In January 1944, he returned to Pitt to start medical school.

After living in several apartments and the Webster Hall Hotel, Cobetto moved into the Cathedral of Learning. Pitt and the Army agreed to convert the third and fourth floors of the Cathedral of Learning into barracks for

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A composite photo of Bernard Cobetto’s medical school class. The red arrow points to Cobetto’s photo. (ca. 1947).

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Message from the President

The fall 2022 semester is well underway, and campus is buzzing with activity. We are excited that enrollment has increased this year, shaped by a large incoming class of first-year students—our most diverse group ever, with more out-of-state and international students than we have enrolled previously. This year's enhanced enrollment is very welcome news and has helped to buoy the spirits of our campus community.

Our new students include the first cohort of Science Learning Interdisciplinary Community Expansion (SLICE) scholarship recipients. Funded by the National Science Foundation over six years, this project will recruit, support, and graduate academically talented first-year and transfer students with high financial need from rural communities who intend to major in STEM disciplines (see story in the *Blue & Gold Newsletter Winter/Spring 2022*).

Speaking of STEM programs—the Life Sciences Building is on schedule to be completed by the end of November and ready in plenty of time for classes when the spring semester begins on January 9, 2023. As you probably know, this wonderful facility will house our nursing program, along with providing additional spaces for the biology, biochemistry, and chemistry programs. We will be hosting a “sneak peek” for students and employees on December 7, and an official dedication and reception for the public on Thursday, January 12, 2023. Please watch for a forthcoming announcement with details about this event.

Fall sports are currently wrapping up with our women's soccer team competing in the NCAA Division III national tournament and the men's soccer team competing in the ECAC post-season tournament. Our women's tennis team will compete in the NCAA Division III national tournament this spring, too. Cross country and volleyball are finishing their seasons. By the time you read this, our men's and women's basketball teams and women's bowling will have started their competition as well. Athletics truly add vibrancy to the campus, and each year our student-athletes perform impressively in their academic endeavors.

As we look forward to the holiday season just around the corner, I want to express my thanks for all who have helped make this university such a special place to teach and learn. Thanks to each of you for your support of Pitt-Greensburg and its students.

Hail to Pitt!

Robert Gregerson, PhD
President



University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

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Cobetto Lecture Series continued from page 1



Michael Colaresi, PhD, academic director of Pitt Cyber, visited the Pitt-Greensburg Honors class where he fielded questions from the students.

all of the Army med students. “The rooms were former classrooms which had concrete floors, one wall would be windows and the other three walls would be blackboards. . . . It was kind of nice having blackboards to write out our notes when we were studying. . . . The bunk beds left a lot to be desired and the room was absolutely bare . . . just a couple of tables to study on and chairs.” The enlisted men lived in the Cathedral of Learning until the Army discharged them during their third year.

Cobetto writes that the first six months of medical school were a proving ground: “The classes were challenging and if you made it through the second trimester, there was a tremendous sense of relief, because that meant the faculty knew we had what it took to finish medical school. We all knew this, so the examinations at the end of the second trimester were so important.”

At the end of the first year, he had a two-week “vacation,” and then second year started. He took classes at Pittsburgh hospitals and then, as a third- and fourth-year student, participated in clinical hospital rotations. When the war ended in Europe—after Cobetto’s second year—the Army discharged all of the people in the ASTP Program. Because of accelerated schedule, Cobetto completed medical school in four years and graduated April 11, 1947.

A member of the World War II generation, Cobetto exhibited the strong work ethic and high moral standards that characterize that group. The desire to explore these and other common values are why Cobetto and his wife Ellen established the Dr. Bernard H. Cobetto Lecture Series on Contemporary Ethical Issues. The couple wanted to engage the campus and community in discussions on ethical issues to educate and initiate fruitful dialogue.

“My parents always felt a strong sense of duty: to their family, to their country, and to the people and organizations that fostered their potential,” said Jeanne Cobetto, one of their six children. “It was natural for them to honor the place that set the course for their long, happy lives by supporting the University over many decades.”

This year, the lecture series marked its 15th anniversary. The programming has been wide-ranging and timely, presented by experts representing the fields of government, healthcare, the media, business, and education. To view a complete list of the past lecture topics and lecturers, please visit <https://bit.ly/cobetto-lecture-series>.

The 2022 lecture explored the subject of disinformation and its effect on democracy. Michael P. Colaresi, PhD, the William S. Dietrich II Professor of Political Science and Research and the academic director for Pitt Cyber, presented “The Earth is Flat (On Our Screens): How Democracy is Disrupted by Disinformation and Digital Illusions of Information.”

“We have always tried to uphold good ethics in our lives,” said Ellen Cobetto in a *World of Giving* article. “Having strong values and moral principles is something we’ve tried to instill in our children and grandchildren, and we hope that through our gift to the University of Pittsburgh, we can help inspire other young people, too.”

Editor’s Note: Sadly, both Dr. Cobetto (<https://legacy.co/3SO5RaQ>) and Mrs. Cobetto (<https://bit.ly/jellen-cobetto-obiit>) recently passed away, in 2022 and 2020, respectively. Memorial gifts may be made to the Cobetto Lecture Fund. Please contact Jodi Kraisinger, director of University Relations and Institutional Advancement, at kraisinger@pitt.edu or 724-836-9942.

PGAA News Round-Up



At the Honors Convocation in April, the PGAA presented Russell E. Phillips, III, PhD, with the **Outstanding Faculty Award** and Alexis Ray with the **Student Community Service Award**.

The PGAA and members of the campus community returned to the ballgame for **Pitt-Greensburg at PNC Park** in June. The pre-game tailgate featured a walking taco bar and giveaways. Despite a Pirates loss, the left field seats offered a great view of the game and the city, and everyone received a \$10 credit for food and drinks with their tickets. Guests enjoyed a post-game drone show that highlighted Pirates history and Pittsburgh landmarks.



The annual **PGAA Leadership Meeting** was held in June. All alumni were welcome to attend. Pitt-Greensburg President Robert Gregerson, PhD, gave a campus update, and PGAA President Robert P. Najim, CPA, CPIM, MBA ’93 reviewed the PGAA’s activities for the 2022-2023 academic year.



Alumni volunteers Jim Smith ’75, Michel Keller ’96, and Harry Bowser ’72 attended the **Admissions Pitt-nic** in July. They met with prospective students and their families, answering their questions and sharing their campus experiences.



In July, the PGAA hosted a **New Pitt Student Send-Off** for incoming Pitt-Greensburg students. Alumni and members of the campus community welcomed students and their families. Held at Applebee’s Grill & Bar (Westmoreland Mall), the event featured appetizers, blue and gold bingo, and a Q&A session that focused on everything from what to bring to campus to getting involved.

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PGAA Celebrates Alumni at Annual Dinner

The Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association welcomed alumni and their families to campus for the PGAA Alumni Celebration Dinner, held Oct. 1 as part of Blue & Gold Celebration. The dinner celebrated all of the alumni in attendance and recognized this year's PGAA Alumni Award winners.

Young Alumni Leadership Award

The PGAA presented its Young Alumni Leadership Award to Sara Hoover '15. The award recognizes established and future leaders among Pitt-Greensburg's young alumni who are age 35 and younger.



Hoover, a licensed professional counselor (LPC) in Pennsylvania, works as an outpatient therapist at the Family Counseling Center of Armstrong County (Leechburg, PA). She works with clients from underprivileged backgrounds and advocates to help them have their mental health needs met. She is a certified clinical trauma professional (CCTP) and a nationally certified counselor (NCC).

A psychology major at Pitt-Greensburg, she regularly volunteered with the Blackburn Center (Greensburg, PA), providing hotline counseling to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. She also completed a semester-long internship at CASA of Westmoreland. By the time that she graduated summa cum laude from Pitt Greensburg, Hoover was passionate about helping those suffering from mental illness and/or trauma and made the decision to pursue a career as a trauma therapist.

In recognition of her passion and investment in the field of psychology, Hoover was awarded Pitt-Greensburg's Helen Connors Psychology Award and named a University Scholar for graduating in the top two percent of the senior class. Active in multiple honor societies, she also served as president of the Active Minds Mental Health Club, twice earning "Member of the Year" awards for her leadership.

Hoover earned a master's of arts degree in clinical mental health counseling from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), where she was a graduate assistant for the Department of Counseling and worked closely with Professor Lorraine Guth.

An officer in the CESA Club (Counselor Education Student Association) and a member of Chi Sigma Iota, the National Counseling Honor Society, Hoover was the recipient of the 2016 George Spinelli Scholarship Award and the 2017 Janet Fontaine Outstanding Student Award in recognition of her outstanding leadership in the counseling department. Following her graduation in 2017, Hoover worked as an outpatient therapist at SPHS (New Kensington, PA), offering individual and group counseling to those suffering from addiction & mental health issues.

Alumnus of Distinction Award

The PGAA presented its Alumnus of Distinction Award to 2005 graduate Jesse Brocious. The award acknowledges excellence among alumni of Pitt-Greensburg. It is the highest honor given by the PGAA to an individual alumnus/alumna annually.



Brocious and his wife Ashley '06, are the parents of three children, Evan, Amelia, and Miles. Brocious is well-known in Westmoreland County through his work during the past 14 years with First Commonwealth Bank and, more recently, with his own business, West Point Auto Works.

At First Commonwealth Bank, Brocious is senior vice president of real estate and facilities. He and his team play an integral role in anything that impacts First Commonwealth's owned or leased properties, including the entire network of 119 branches and 16 corporate sites. He started with First Commonwealth as vice president/staffing manager and moved to vice president/senior compensation analyst (2010) and vice president/sales development integration manager (2012).

Brocious received the 2020 Strategic Thinker Award at the Pennsylvania Bankers Association's (PA Bankers) Emerging Leader's Conference. The award was presented as part of the PA Bankers Highlighting Young Professionals' Excellence Awards program and highlights the accomplishments of young banking professionals within their financial institutions, the banking industry, and their communities.

In 2017, Brocious, his wife Ashley, and long-time friend Robert Marsh founded and opened West Point Auto Works in Greensburg. Brocious noted that the business is focused on creating a better automotive repair experience for customers with the goal to provide premium service with honest prices. In 2021, Brocious and his team opened a second West Point Auto Works location in Monroeville, PA. Brocious plans to continue expanding the business and adding a specialized off-road component.

Jesse and Ashley believe that it is important to support the communities they serve, assisting a wide variety of local organizations, including local fire departments, CASA, Central Westmoreland Habitat for Humanity, and a variety of local athletic teams and organizations.

Brocious supports Pitt-Greensburg as a volunteer at PGAA events and by sponsoring campus and alumni events like the Art Show @ Pitt-Greensburg, the Pitt-Greensburg Golf Outing, and Casino Night during the Blue & Gold Celebration, as well as the Merry Mingle alumni Christmas event.



Campus President Robert Gregerson (left), PhD, congratulates Jesse Brocius (middle) and Andy Garsteck (right) during the Alumni Celebration Dinner. Sara Hoover, the third award winner, accepted her award via Zoom.

Volunteer Excellence Award

Anthony “Andy” P. Garsteck, Jr. ’74 CAS received the PGAA Volunteer Excellence Award, which recognizes alumni who volunteer their time to the PGAA and the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. The award honors alumni who dedicate 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.



Garsteck is active with the PGAA alumni board of directors and as a member of the Events Committee. He also is the president of the Pitt-Greensburg’s Men’s Alumni Basketball Club (MBAC), having previously served as treasurer of the group.

A familiar face at PGAA events, Garsteck assists with set-up, volunteers, and welcomes alumni, new students, families, and other guests. These events include Move-In Day, Merry Mingle alumni Christmas gathering, Blue & Gold Celebration, the Pitt-Greensburg Golf Outing, and the Senior Send-Off.

As president of MBAC, Garsteck spearheaded the MBAC effort to sponsor an awards night recognizing the accomplishments of the Pitt-Greensburg basketball players. He’s credited with planning, helping to design the awards, and emceeding the event—as well as recommending that the character award be named in honor of Thomas M. Jollie ’72, a recently deceased member of MBAC.

Loyalty to the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg runs deep in the Garsteck family. Garsteck attended Pitt-Greensburg from 1970 through 1972 before graduating from the Pittsburgh campus in 1974. Two of his three children are also Pitt-Greensburg alumni. Their connection to campus is recognized through one of the Pawprints Alumni Series Posters that hangs in Chambers Hall (Fireside Lounge).

Garsteck and his wife LeeAnn have three children, Jason ’15, Alexandra ’16, and Nikki. He is a retired United States Postal Service employee, having served as a letter carrier from 1994 through 2017. Prior to that, he worked as a production supervisor for Volkswagen of America.



PGAA volunteers Andy Garsteck ’74, Mya Cole ’21, Michel Keller ’96, Harry Bowser ’72, and Matt Schachte ’13 welcomed students and their families during the **New Student Move-In Day**. They distributed Pitt-Greensburg swag gift bags and bottles of water.

At the First-Year Student Convocation, PGAA representative James Smith ’75 awarded freshman Elijah Crowe with the **PGAA’s Incoming Freshman award**.



Merry Mingle

Kick off the holiday season on Dec. 2 at 7 pm with the Merry Mingle in Millstein Library! Enjoy delicious food, great company, and returning favorites, like the ugly sweater contest. Registration is \$30 per person/\$55 for couples without holiday spirits and \$35 per person/\$65 per couple with holiday spirits. Purchase your registrations at <https://bit.ly/merry-mingle-22>.



Chris and Barbara Luccy ROC’in the Spirit Award

During the 2022 Pitt Homecoming Celebration, Christopher Luccy, DMD, A&S ’70, DEN ’73 and Barbara Luccy NURS ’70 received the ROC Spirit Award, which recognizes outstanding enthusiasm, loyalty, pride, and Pitt spirit. Chris and Barbara have been an integral part of the Pitt-Greensburg community. Barbara passed away in 2019 and posthumously received the award. Christopher and Barbara fell in love with each other and with Pitt while they were undergrads on the University of Pittsburgh’s Greensburg and Pittsburgh campuses. The Luccys and their family were ever-present at Pitt football and basketball home games—a commitment Chris continues to this day. Congratulations to the Luccy family on this achievement.

To view a video of Luccy talking about his connection to Pitt and Pitt-Greensburg, please visit <https://bit.ly/luccy-roc-award-22-video>.

BLUE & GOLD Celebration HIGHLIGHTS

The annual Blue & Gold Celebration opened with the annual golf outing on Sept. 23 and continued through Oct. 1 with a variety of activities for the campus and for alumni.

Pitt-Greensburg Golf Outing presented by Elliott Group



First-place overall (Madero Cantina): David Montanez, Noah Montanez, Chad Barnett, and Dewey Larson.



Top Alumni Team: President Bob Gregerson congratulates Matt MacKenzie, Jerry Fedele '75 A&S '86 KATZ, Jeff Fedele, Colin White.



Thank you to Elliott Group for being this year's Presenting Sponsor.

Thank you alumni, parents, staff/faculty, and friends for spending a fun-filled day on the greens of the Westmoreland Country Club raising funds for and celebrating Pitt-Greensburg. It would not be a success without each and every sponsor, contributor, volunteer, and golfer. Congratulations to Team Madero Cantina for the first-place finish. Top Alumni Team honors went to Greensburg relocate Jerry Fedele '75 A&S '86 KATZ, Jeff Fedele, Colin White, and Matt MacKenzie. For a complete list of team and skills contest winners, plus a special video message, please visit greensburg.pitt.edu/golf-outing. 2022 outing committee members included Chris Luccy, DMD '70, Brian Manning '96, Ron Ott A&S '74, Jim Sankovich, Patrick Stofko '97, Jeromy Yetter, and Sheila Kudrick. To inquire about next year's outing, contact Sheila at 724-836-7039 or pggiving@pitt.edu.



Fan Favorite — Norm Simko Untitled 1

Artists and artwork shine at annual show

The Art Show @ Pitt-Greensburg featured 104 pieces submitted by 40 artists from both the campus and the community. Visit <https://bit.ly/art-show-22> to see all of the winning artwork and a slide presentation of all of this year's entries.

Congratulations to the winners:

- Fan Favorite: Norm Simko (Untitled 1)
- Photography: Natalie Maxino (Sheltered)
- Mixed Media: Paula Martino '82 (Lush)
- Drawing: Tammy McGee (Talk to the Wing)
- Painting: Francine Miceli (Afternoon Drive).

Blue & Gold Blood Drive



Happy Camper Cakes cupcakes sweeten the celebration

Paint the Campus Blue & Gold



Campus Bonfire heats up the weekend





PGAA Alumni Celebration Dinner



Casino Night & Homecoming Dance

Chambers Gym was transformed into a casino and dance space for alumni and students to enjoy. Celebrity dealers—faculty and staff—visited with guests while facilitating the games. The winners of the Homecoming Royalty competition were announced at the Homecoming Dance: seniors Lamont Ayers-Henry and Henry Polley.



Pawprints

Thank you: Your Voice Made a Difference

Last spring, we asked you to reach out to Pennsylvania lawmakers and encourage them to vote yes to continue funding the University of Pittsburgh. We are happy to share that the legislature listened to you and passed Pitt's state appropriation in early July.

Thank you for sharing your stories and concerns with your elected officials. Your voice made all the difference and helped to secure this positive outcome that will continue to support a tuition discount for Pennsylvania students, who make up more than 90 percent of Pitt-Greensburg's student body.

New Dean, New Department Name

After performing a search this past summer to fill the vacant position in Student Life, Pitt-Greensburg has named R. Leigh Hoffman its new Dean of Students. She served as Assistant Dean of Students for 16 years and worked closely with Rick Fogle, who retired from that position in Summer 2022.

The department name has also been changed from the Office of Student Services to the Office of Student Life & Success to better reflect the purpose of the division.



Wings Across Westmoreland coming to Pitt-Greensburg

As part of Pitt-Greensburg's 60th anniversary celebration, a pair of wings supporting the Wings Across Westmoreland art initiative will soon be installed at Pitt-Greensburg. Wings Across Westmoreland, sponsored by the Westmoreland Cultural Trust, is bringing art and awareness to venues throughout the County. The wings are a popular art installation and often serve as a backdrop for selfies, senior photos, and wedding photographs.



The large metal wings on our campus will tell our Pitt-Greensburg story. We're looking for the images, icons, words, etc. that best depict Pitt-Greensburg, and we opened our search at our Blue and Gold Celebration in October. We now invite each of you—students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends—to give us your thoughts! The top 25 items will be submitted for inclusion. Submit your ideas by November 30 at <https://bit.ly/wings-art-ideas>. The wings will be installed and unveiled in April 2023.

Pulitzer-Prize Winning Author Eli Saslow visits campus

The campus community welcomed Pulitzer-Prize winning author Eli Saslow to Pitt-Greensburg in October as part of the Westmoreland Reads' exploration of his book *Rising Out of Hatred: The Awakening of a Former White Nationalist*.

In the book, Saslow charts the rise of white nationalism through the experiences of Derek Black, the one-time heir to America's white nationalist movement who came to question the ideology he helped to spread. When Black chose to attend a tiny liberal arts college, his ideological foundations cracked. Black's experience is a testament to the power of education to broaden minds and spark conversations—and spark conversations was exactly what Academic Village Director Sheila Confer, EdD, wanted to do when she initiated Westmoreland Reads this past year. Through this common book reading, Confer hoped to elicit discussion in the campus community and the greater Greensburg community.



Saslow presented a keynote address to the campus (recording available at <https://bit.ly/westmoreland-reads-Saslow>; program begins at the 13:30 mark), met with students for an afternoon Q&A session, and then spent the evening talking to the public at a reception held at the Westmoreland Museum of American Art.

"Folks really came together," said Confer, who credits the support of community partners Adelphoi Village, Blackburn Center, the Community

Foundation of Westmoreland County, Friends of Millstein Library, PFLAG Greensburg, the United Way of SWPA, the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, Westmoreland Community Action, the Westmoreland Diversity Coalition, Westmoreland Library Network, the Westmoreland Museum of American Art, and the YWCA of Westmoreland County for sharing the project with their constituents and for financially supporting Westmoreland Reads. For more information, please visit <https://bit.ly/westmoreland-reads-Saslow>.

Learning Resources Center celebrates 25 years



"I was so grateful to the Learning Resources Center and staff during my four years at Pitt-Greensburg," said a Pitt-Greensburg alumnus. "After studying for two weeks and failing an exam, I brought my frustrations to Dr. Sears. After confirmation of my clinical diagnosis, Dr. Sears introduced me to a professional tutor who thoroughly supported me each semester to make sure I had the proper resources to help me through my educational experience."

For the past 25 years, the Learning Resources Center (LRC) has been helping students to achieve their academic dreams and graduate with Pitt degrees. Lou Ann Sears, PhD, founded the LRC in September 1997 in order to provide disability services, tutoring, and study help.

Today, Sears handles disability services and oversees the work of professional tutors Michael Garing, Daniel Hitt, and Jacob Wigfield. A small army of peer tutors, volunteer note-takers, and a new student intern round out the Center's staff. In a typical academic year, Sears estimates that more than 575 students use the disability services and approximately 600 students receive tutoring. Sears, who works closely with faculty, emphasizes that the LRC offers support and services to all students who request it—and not all of the students using the LRC services have disabilities.

B&N renovates Campus Store and offers Bobcat Book Bundle



A new—but familiar—look greeted the campus community when they visited the Pitt-Greensburg Campus Store (<https://bit.ly/upg-campus-store>) at the start of the academic year. This

past summer, representatives of Barnes & Noble College (BNC) worked closely with Pitt-Greensburg staff to create a Pitt-themed retail space that provides an improved customer experience and fosters campus spirit.

"The physical aspect is much more customer-oriented and friendly," explained John Chaump, regional manager for Barnes & Noble College. "The store feels more modern and displays our products better. There is also a better traffic flow, making it easier for customers to get in and out—allowing us to serve them better."

"Our partnership with Barnes & Noble College continues to play a key role in our commitment to providing the best possible services for our students, families and employees," said Robert Gregerson, PhD, president of Pitt-Greensburg.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony showcased the re-opening and the selection of Pitt-branded and Pitt-Greensburg-branded clothing and accessories available at the Chambers Hall location and online. The Campus Store also offers students the Bobcat Book Bundle. Previously known as First Day Complete, the program was renamed to embrace Pitt-Greensburg's branding and to help students to feel school spirit and pride. The program provides the average student a savings of between 35 percent and 50 percent on the cost of their class materials.

Pitt SEED grant funding Wellness Ecosystem Project



Building an Ecosystem of Wellness Across University of Pittsburgh Campuses and Communities received funding through the Pitt SEED grant program. Sheila Confer, EdD, director of the Academic Village, Gayle Pamerleau,

MSW, director of the Counseling Center, and Joe Yun, PhD, of Pitt IT/Engineering, developed this project to enrich the student experience with transformative opportunities to learn, grow, and thrive.

Using the framework of Thrive@Pitt, resources are being made more easily accessible and are being expanded with a dedicated concierge. Counseling experts are providing coordination of well-being efforts across the Pitt campuses to better assess and meet student needs.

“Our proposal acknowledges that many wellness resources exist throughout the University,” said Confer. “but those resources may not be presented in a way that is easily accessible.” The project is designed to support and enhance Pitt’s efforts to address the crisis of mental illness that American universities are facing. “Numerous people on both the Pitt-Greensburg and Pitt campuses have contributed their skills and expertise to this project.”

Hispanic Festival celebrates and educates

The Pitt-Greensburg community came together to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month in October with a Hispanic Festival in Wagner Dining Hall. Organized by Silvina Orsatti, PhD, assistant



professor of Spanish, and her students, the event immersed participants in the Hispanic culture. While enjoying authentic Hispanic food prepared by Chartwells Dining Service, students, faculty, and staff were charmed by music performed by the Pitt-Greensburg Chorale, under the direction of Chris Bartley, director of music, and the newly-formed student instrumental group—including a sing-along of the familiar Mexican folk song, La Bamba. Attendees could browse the authentic artwork and other items on display from Orsatti’s collection and then try their hand at games and crafts.

Veterans Week observance

Pitt-Greensburg offered a wide variety of activities during its annual Veterans Week observance. This year’s theme, Operation Transition: From Service to Wellness, aligned the event with the University of Pittsburgh’s 2022-2023 Year of Emotional Well-Being. Programming for the week was supported by sponsor Adagio Health. A complete overview of the events may be found at <https://bit.ly/veterans-week-22>.

Students study medieval manuscript

Making history come alive for his students is a primary goal of William H. Campbell, PhD, visiting assistant professor of history at Pitt-Greensburg. This past summer, he and colleagues Stacey Triplette, PhD, associate professor of Spanish and French, and Amber McAlister, PhD, assistant professor of history of art & architecture, taught a Pitt-Greensburg course called The History of the Book that allowed students to work directly with medieval manuscripts. The project, in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh



Library, was supported by grants from the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation.

“Medieval manuscripts are among the world’s most inaccessible works of art,” explained Campbell. “It can be easier to shake hands with a pope or president, or walk into the tomb of a pharaoh of Egypt, than to turn the pages of a precious illuminated manuscript.”

Students enrolled in The History of the Book worked with an interdisciplinary team of professors and librarians in a hands-on encounter with 10 medieval manuscript books, some of them more than 700 years old.

“We studied them as art and literature, as crafts and technologies, as artifacts and relics, considering what was gained and lost with the coming of print five centuries ago, and what was gained and lost again with the digital information revolution of our own lifetimes,” said Campbell.

One of the books is a Latin copy of the Psalms made in Germany around 1250. Despite the picture of a monk, it has signs that it was owned by a family who used it to teach their children to read.

Jakiela’s latest poetry collection awarded the Wicked Woman Prize

Lori Jakiela’s latest book, a poetry collection entitled “How Do You Like It Now, Gentlemen?”, received the Wicked Woman Prize from Washington, DC-based Brickhouse Books. The collection was the August Book Club pick at Pittsburgh City Paper and garnered reviews from The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Pittsburgh Quarterly, Pittsburgh City Paper, and more. Jakiela, a professor of English and creative writing at Pitt-Greensburg, will have her next book, “They Write Your Name on a Grain of Rice,” a hybrid memoir about cancer and living even so, published in 2023 from Atticus Books.



In her review published in Pittsburgh City Paper, Lisa Cunningham writes, “This is a collection for those of us who had aunts with Barbie doll torsos in homemade knitted skirts covering their rolls of toilet paper on the back of commodes, to those who grew up watching Daryl Hannah playing ‘a mermaid in a movie once,’ and, yes, to those with Baby Boomer mothers with high expectations, all things Jakiela shares in her more than 30 poems.”

Mears authors memoir and anthology of her favorite German poetry

“This book marries poignant stories with well-researched historical data. The result is an uplifting, relatable story that will provide a new perspective on history for those who lived through it,” reads a review of “How Could This Happen? My Family from the Monarchy to Today” (2021).

In this memoir, Helga Mears, an instructor of German, connects her personal story to the political background of the Hitler era, and attempts to explain how Hitler and the Nazis happened. The book is available in both English and German (“Wie konnte es dazu kommen?”). Mears translated the book from English to German for publication.

Mears also published “Think of It, O Heart!: Poems that help to master life” (2022). The book is a collection of her favorite German poems that she translated into English and then provided her interpretation of their meaning. She writes in the introduction, “I have put together a collection of poems in which the poet shows an understanding for many life situations and problems.” Her hope is that the poems might help others to come to a better understanding and mastery of life.





Bobcat Athletic Highlights

New giving page benefits athletics

This fall, the Pitt-Greensburg Athletics Department, working with University Relations and Institutional Advancement, launched a new webpage, <https://giveto.pitt.edu/upgathletics>, specifically designed to make it easy to support any—and all—of our 13 NCAA Division III men's and women's teams. The site offers a convenient way to donate to the campus athletic programs and other athletic-related projects—another way to cheer on the Bobcats. Your commitment is important to Pitt-Greensburg student-athletes who work to excel on and off the playing field. Your generosity is appreciated!



Women's Tennis



Eden Richey



Abigail Rosman



Emily Ruhlman



Amber Sterrett

The Pitt-Greensburg women's tennis team returns to the NCAA Division III Women's Tennis Tournament in May 2023 after claiming their second-consecutive AMCC post-season championship title. The Bobcats defeated Penn State-Behrend 5-0 in the final round of the AMCC tournament after securing a 5-0 semi-final win over Mount Aloysius. The victories maintained the Blue & Gold's claim to an undefeated conference record for the season, plus both matches saw a complete sweep of the doubles matches. Eden Richey and Abigail Rosman were named to the AMCC All-Tournament team.

In regular season play, the team posted an undefeated 5-0 record against AMCC opponents to win the regular season championship and take all of the spots on the AMCC All-Conference First Team. Overall, the team posted an 11-match win streak that started after their only loss of the season to Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Ruhlman earned AMCC Player of the Year honors for the third-straight year, Richey was named the AMCC Newcomer of the Year, and Head Coach Doug Smeltzer '17, the first Pitt-Greensburg tennis coach to post 50 wins, was named AMCC Coach of the Year for tennis. With a 66-7 record, Rosman set the new school record for all-time wins for the sport, and Sterrett set a new school record for consecutive singles victories. As a group, the team's seniors now own the claim to most wins in the program's history.

Women's Soccer

The Pitt-Greensburg women's soccer team secured a spot in the NCAA Division III national soccer tournament and played Case Western Reserve in the first round. Complete details about their tournament play may be found at <https://pittgreensburgathletics.com>. They secured their spot by defeating Penn State-Altoona (2-0 score) and Penn State-Behrend (3-2 score) in the AMCC post-season tournament. The Bobcats secured a first-round bye in the tournament with a 3-1 victory over Penn State-Behrend for the regular-season title. Pitt-Greensburg ended the regular season undefeated in conference play (7-0) and posted a 14-3-1 overall record. Their only losses came against Grove City, Franciscan University of Steubenville, and Ohio Wesleyan; the tie came against Juniata.



Megan Hickey



Paige John



Hailey Kepner



Nylah Pannebaker

The season has been one for the record books with Ashley Lucas surpassing the nearly 20-year-old school record for career goals held by Pitt-Greensburg Athletics Hall of Fame inductee Jennifer (McIntosh) Luciew, and Head Coach Chuck Wigle posted his 100th win with the Bobcats. Wigle took over the program in 2012 and has led the team to two AMCC Championship and two NCAA Div. III Tournament appearances.



Ashley Lucas



Chuck Wigle

The team lived up to the prediction that placed the Bobcats second in the AMCC in the annual pre-season coaches poll. Lucas was voted the AMCC Preseason Offensive Player of the Year, and Nylah Pannebaker was voted AMCC Pre-season Co-Defensive Player of the Year.

Lucas leads the team in points scored (43), assists (9), and is tied with Megan Hickey for goals (17). Hickey is second on the team in points (40). Goalkeepers Hailey Kepner (7-2) and Paige John (7-1-) have recorded 34 saves and 31 saves, respectively.

Men's Soccer

Pitt-Greensburg's men's soccer team was accepted into the ECAC Post-Season Tournament where they played Penn State-Behrend in the second round. Complete details are available at <https://pittgreensburgathletics.com>.



Caleb Yuricha



Danny Rodgers

The team hosted its first AMCC post-season tournament game since 2014 after finishing the season 8-5-4 overall and 4-2-1 in the conference. The Bobcats, who are coached by Marc Bucci, lost 4-0 to Penn State-Behrend in the AMCC post-season tournament. The team clinched their second-consecutive playoff appearance and home field advantage after their 2-1 regular season victory over Penn State-Altoona on Oct. 19.

Pitt-Greensburg posted victories against conference opponents Alfred State, Hilbert, Hood, LaRoche, Pitt-Bradford, and Penn State-Altoona. Non-conference wins came against Thiel, Wilson, and Carlow.

Statistical leaders are, on offense, Caleb Yuricha (12 goals | 4 assists | 28 points | 31 shots on goal) and, on defense, Danny Rodgers (7 wins as goalkeeper | 69 saves).

View soccer home games in real time!

Now you can watch men's and women's soccer game via the Veo Live App, available through the Apple App Store, Google Play Store, and Android App Store. The games can be viewed on your smart phone and tablet, as well as being casted and air-played to your smart TV. Google Chromecast will also provide the capability to cast from a smartphone/tablet to a non-smart TV. Visit <https://bit.ly/upg-veo-live-app> for more information on how to access the live video.

Bobcat Athletic Highlights



Women's Bowling

In its pre-season poll, the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) coaches voted the Pitt-Greensburg women's bowling team sixth; Kayla Gaughan, who led the team in all major categories last season, and Giavonna Salvio were named players to watch. The Pitt-Greensburg women's bowling program is in its third season under the direction of Head Coach Amanda Cunningham. The team competition started in October and continues through March 2023.



Kayla Gaughan

Volleyball

The fall 2022 season offered the opportunity for new beginnings as the volleyball team welcomed new head coach, Kevin Conroy. A native of Flint, MI, Conroy has spent the last six years as a club and high school head coach in northern Virginia.

As a club coach, Conroy took both the Manassas Volleyball Club and Core VA Volleyball Club to the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) and USA Volleyball (USAV) National Championship Tournaments. As the varsity head coach at Potomac Senior High School (Dumfries, VA), he earned Coach of the Year honors in his second season and developed two second-team all-district players in each of his two seasons as head coach.

"Kevin's overall experiences combined with his true passion for teaching volleyball will be a tremendous asset for our student-athletes," said Jeremy Yetter, Pitt-Greensburg director of athletics.



Kevin Conroy

Men's and Women's Cross Country



Ashley Barker



Jocelyn Behr



LeeAnn Harris



Sidney McCully



Lizzie Penrose



Joshua Mentzer



Casey Montrey



Noah Pittman

Individual bests and top-10 team finishes highlight the women's cross country season. In September, all five Bobcat runners posted personal bests for the team to take fourth place overall in Penn State-Fayette's Roaring Lion Invitational. Sidney McCully (27:44.6) finished fourth overall, followed by Lizzie Penrose (31:27.0) and Ashley Barker (31:37.5). Jocelyn Behr and LeeAnn Harris also finished in the top 20. Mid-October, the team finished first against LaRoche with McCully (22:47) winning the women's race. Barker, Behr, and Harris all finished in the top 10.

The highlight of the men's cross country season was their performance at the Carnegie Mellon Invitational where four runners posted personal bests. Casey Montrey (28:46.9) was the top finisher for the Blue & Gold, followed



Jason Yeager

by Joshua Mentzer, Noah Pittman, and Jason Yeager who came in around the 35-minute mark. Ackerman (19:48) also posted a top-10 finish in the LaRoche Invite, with Montrey, Mentzer, Yeager, and Pittman all finishing in the top 20 in the meet. Montrey (21:18) finished the Mount Aloysius meet just six seconds behind the overall winner of the meet.

Kelsey Oddis '18 is the head coach of the two teams.

Men's Golf



Mason Boehm



Connor Richards



Sante Shasko



Brendan Welsh

In what could be described as a rebuilding season for Head Coach Scott Adams and his team, the Pitt-Greensburg golfers finished the season with a solid final round at the AMCC Championship, bettering their score by 37 strokes over the first day's round. Brendan Welsh shot an 83, while Mason Boehm and Neo Miller improved to 89 and 94, respectively.

Earlier in the season, Welsh shot an 82 and a 79, during the two-day Mountain Valley Collegiate Classic. He finished the event tied at No. 22.

Boehm, who turned in a team-low score of 170 after shooting an event team-low of 79 in day one of the Guy and Jeanne Kuhn Memorial, offered consistent performances throughout the season, as did Connor Richards, Will Thorp, and Sante Shasko.



Upcoming Events

Events are free and open to the public unless indicated (\$). Unless public health guidance changes, we are planning for the events to be held in-person and on campus.

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Mar. 31, 2023

Admissions Full-Tuition Scholarship Competition

Deadline to submit applications for the Full-Tuition Scholarship Competition. Details and applications are available at <https://bit.ly/full-tuition-scholarship-2022>.

Apr. 8, 2023

Admissions Preview Pitt Open House — 8:45 am – 1:15 pm; Chambers Hall

Meet with admissions team and faculty, then tour the campus.

Pre-register at <https://bit.ly/admissions-visit-2022>.

Apr. 13 & 14, 2023

Spring Chorale Concert: If Music Be the Food of Love

7:30 pm; Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center

The Pitt-Greensburg Chorale and Chamber Singers will present their spring concert, featuring If Music Be the Food of Love (David Dickau).

Apr. 21, 2023

Joan Chambers Concert Series — 8 pm; Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center

The University of Pittsburgh's Heinz Chapel Choir will perform.

Apr. 22, 2023

Admission Commit to Pitt Day

Prospective students who have been offered admission to Pitt-Greensburg are invited to meet with faculty, see how they fit into campus, and commit to Pitt-Greensburg.

Pre-register at <https://bit.ly/admissions-visit-2022>.

Apr. 29, 2023

Commencement — 11 am; Chambers Gymnasium

The Class of 2023 will celebrate with family on this special day. Tickets are required to attend.

Upcoming Events

Events are free and open to the public unless indicated (\$). Unless public health guidance changes, we are planning for the events to be held in-person and on campus.

Nov. 22, 2022

Admissions Transfer Student Instant Decision Day — 3 pm – 7 pm; Millstein Library
This event is designed for transfer students who receive an instant admission decision when they bring all of the necessary materials for review by the Admissions team. If admitted, the \$100 deposit is waived. Pre-register at <https://bit.ly/admissions-visit-2022>.

Nov. 30, 2022

Admissions Evening Campus Tour and Information Session
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm; Rossetti House
This **Evening Campus Tour and Information Session** is for prospective students and their families who can't make it to a daytime visit. Pre-register at <https://bit.ly/admissions-visit-2022>.

Dec. 2, 2022

PGAA's Merry Mingle (\$) — 7 pm; Millstein Library
Don your ugliest, silliest, or craziest holiday sweater and enjoy delectable hors d'oeuvres, a spirited signature drink, hot chocolate bar, games, giveaways, and more.
Register at <https://bit.ly/merry-mingle-2022>.

Dec. 7, 2022

Admissions Evening Campus Tour and Information Session
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm; Rossetti House
This **Evening Campus Tour and Information Session** is for prospective students and their families who can't make it to a daily visit. Pre-register at <https://bit.ly/admissions-visit-2022>.

Dec. 10, 2022

Admissions Saturday Campus Tour and Information Session
10 am – noon; Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center
This session is for prospective students and their families who can't make it to a week-day visit. Register at <https://bit.ly/admissions-visit-2022>.

Dec. 18, 2022 – Jan. 8, 2023

Winter Recess (students)
Residence halls open Jan. 8, 2023. Spring Term begins Jan. 10, 2023.

Dec. 19, 2022

Transfer Student Instant Decision Day — 3 pm – 7 pm; Millstein Library
This event is designed for transfer students who receive an instant admission decision when they bring all of the necessary materials for review by the Admissions team. If admitted, the \$100 deposit is waived. Pre-register at <https://bit.ly/admissions-visit-2022>.

Dec. 23, 2022 – Jan. 2, 2023

Winter Recess (faculty and staff)
Campus is closed. All University offices and buildings open Jan. 3, 2023.

Jan. 12, 2023

Ribbon Cutting and Dedication — 4 pm; Life Sciences Building (lower lobby)
Celebrate the opening of the new Life Sciences Building. Watch for details.
RSVP at <https://bit.ly/lb-ribbon-cutting>.

Jan. 23, 2023

Martin Luther King Jr Day — The University is closed in observance of the holiday.

Feb. 10, 2023

Athletics Hall of Fame Inductions
Pitt-Greensburg Athletics will induct its second class with a dinner and induction ceremony.
Watch for details: <https://pittgreensburgathletics.com/>.

Feb. 21, 2023

Pitt Day of Giving — All Day; On-campus and Virtual
Your gift during our annual **Pitt Day of Giving** helps us to compete for additional funds that support important Pitt-Greensburg initiatives. Watch for details on how you can make a difference for our students and our campus.

Feb. 25, 2023

Admissions Commit to Pitt Day
Prospective students who have been offered admission to Pitt-Greensburg are invited to meet with faculty, see how they fit into campus, and commit to Pitt-Greensburg.
Pre-register at <https://bit.ly/admissions-visit-2022>.

Mar. 5 – Mar. 12, 2023

Spring Recess (students)
No classes will be held during spring recess. Campus is closed for the Spring Holiday on Mar. 10.

Mar. 13, 2023

Professional Impressions — 6 pm; Chambers Hall
Using a professional networking format, students practice their elevator pitches on alumni volunteers. Register at <https://bit.ly/prof-impressions-volunteer-22> to serve as an alumni volunteer.

March 18, 2023

Admissions Commit to Pitt Day
Prospective students who have been offered admission to Pitt-Greensburg are invited to meet with faculty, see how they fit into campus, and commit to Pitt-Greensburg.
Pre-register at <https://bit.ly/admissions-visit-2022>.

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Watch for details on how you can make a paws-itive difference in the lives of Pitt-Greensburg students!

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



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

New events are added each week!

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

Photos in this issue of Blue & Gold reflect the guidelines in effect at the time they were taken.