

Investing in connection, collaboration and discovery **Positioning the Pitt Community** for maximum impact in research, scholarship and creative endeavors

Fueling our Future.

Second Annual Internal Funding Showcase

September 2, 2021

University Club, ballrooms A and B

Sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Research

Reinvention never stops.

Neither do we.



WELCOME

Welcome to the second annual University of Pittsburgh Internal Funding Showcase. We are excited once again to bring resources and recognition to faculty members who are brimming with innovative ideas related to both research and teaching. We congratulate this year's awardees and hope that this showcase helps to spread your enthusiasm for interdisciplinary scholarship and teaching across our campuses, into the community, and beyond.

As you may know, when Pitt's Momentum Funds were created, they restructured and extended a group of existing research development funds (the Central Research Development Fund, Social Science Research Initiative, and Special Initiative to Promote Scholarly Activities in the Humanities) into a tiered set of awards designed to offer support across multiple stages of large, ambitious projects.

- **Seeding Grants** support significant and innovative scholarship by individual or small groups of faculty members.
- **Teaming Grants** support the early-stage planning and capacity building of large multidisciplinary projects.
- **Scaling Grants** support the detailed project planning, gathering of proof-of-concept results, and reduction of technical risk so that teams can competitively pursue large, complex extramural funding.

An important focus of the Momentum Funds is to support partnerships. We want to set our faculty teams up for success, so the default setting for the funds is "collaborate." Because of that, we've selected for ideas that span disciplines and the campus organizational chart. University-level support lowers barriers and allows faculty to focus on their projects.

This cycle, we encouraged a range of interdisciplinary theoretical and methodological approaches to address social injustice. In response to the crises of 2020, our staff and members of the University Research Council made a concerted outreach effort across campus to let faculty know that we welcomed proposals addressing systemic racism, histories of racist structures, impact of race/ethnicity on social determinants of health, preexisting racial inequities highlighted by the global COVID-19 pandemic, or arts-based race or social justice storytelling and creative performance.





The responses and results have been amazing. We saw projects that responded to difficult, complex, systemic societal challenges by forming rich partnerships across campus and deepening their ties with dynamic nonprofit organizations.

As Pitt researchers know—as we look to grow our impact and our reach—funding agencies look for results-driven inquiries that can contribute meaningful insight, deeper understanding, or robust solutions to societal challenges through an array of scientific, clinical, public policy, business and technical innovations. It's inspiring the way this year's awardees are opening a new chapter of impressive scholarship here at Pitt.

We also want to highlight the Pitt Seed grants, another important source of internal funding. The Pitt Seed Projects play an instrumental role in transforming the University of Pittsburgh.

We extend our deep appreciation and thanks to all the reviewers and to the members of the University Research Council. Without your dedication and hard work, these awards would not be possible.

With thanks and best wishes,

Ann F Cudd

Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor

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Rob A. Rutenbar

Senior Vice Chancellor for Research



AGENDA

University Club Ballroom B

1-1:10 p.m. Welcome to the Internal Funding Showcase

Patrick Gallagher, Chancellor

1:15-2 p.m. Panel Discussion: The Pursuit of Team Research

Ann E. Cudd, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor

Rob A. Rutenbar, Senior Vice Chancellor for Research

Kevin Binning, Associate Professor, Psychology and Learning Research

and Development Center

Corinne Richards-Zawacki, Professor, Biological Sciences and

Director, Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology

University Club Ballroom A

2-3 p.m. Reception and Poster Session





Scaling Grants, which provide up to \$400,000 over two years, support detailed project planning, gathering proof-of-concept results, and reduction of technical risk so that teams can competitively pursue an identified large extramural funding opportunity. Scaling Grants are specifically designed to further the goal of the Plan for Pitt to engage in research of impact by positioning the University to participate in large research collaborations.

Promoting Trustworthiness of the SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Among Black and Latinx Communities

Elizabeth Miller, Department of Pediatrics
Maya Ragavan, Department of Pediatrics
Daniel Rosen, School of Social Work
Patricia Documet, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences
Jamil Bey, Urban Kind Institute
Paul Abernathy, Neighborhood Resilience Project
Judy Martin, Department of Pediatrics

The COVID-19 pandemic is disproportionately impacting marginalized communities. Due to structural inequities, adults and children identifying as Black or Latinx are at higher risk for COVID-19 related morbidity, mortality, and economic ramifications. Lack of trustworthiness of medical institutions, research, and government, grounded in historical trauma and oppression, may impede acceptance and distribution of a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine when it is available. This project leverages the expertise of a multidisciplinary community-academic team to conduct surveys and interviews with Black and Latinx adults residing in neighborhoods with concentrated

disadvantage with the goal of identifying strategies to promote SARS-CoV-2 vaccine trustworthiness at multiple levels: health care, research institutions, community, and government (including public health agencies). This project is urgent and significant because we aim to shift away from a focus on 'educating' minoritized communities to address mistrust towards listening and learning from community partners about how research institutions and health professionals can create vaccine messaging and practices that improve trustworthiness. Results from this study will inform future larger scale grants to the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities to evaluate the impact of these strategies on reducing SARS-CoV-2 vaccine disparities when the eventual FDAapproved vaccine is available.



Improving Educational Opportunities for Black Youth in Pittsburgh: A Justice-Centered Intervention

Esohe Osai, Department of Health and Human Development
Shanyce Campbell, Department of Educational Foundations, Organization, and Policy
Louis Maraj, Department of English
Khirsten Scott, Department of English
Jalyn Evans-Williams, School of Education
Omid Fotuhi, Learning Research and Development Center
Josefina Bañales, Department of Psychology

College going and completion is shown to provide substantial tangible (e.g., lifetime wages) and intangible (e.g., critical consciousness) benefits. Yet, Black youth often are excluded from opportunities to access college. For instance, in Pittsburgh, only 16% of Black students earn a college degree while 42% of White students earn a college degree. In response to higher education barriers, Justice Scholars Institute (JSI) was created for Black youth in Pittsburgh. JSI provides college-credit courses and various justice-oriented educational programming, including college preparatory workshops, out-of-school time justice-focused youth development opportunities, and training in justice-focused research. The project uses critical theories and transformative approaches to (1) understand factors that impact Black students' college access opportunities; (2) examine the mechanisms that influence the success of students in JSI; (3) extend the research around designing justice-centered partnerships focused on post-secondary access for Black students; and (4) develop a justice-centered teacher leader collective to support college access opportunities for Black students. Findings from this study will provide greater insight into how educational leaders, universities, and community leaders can create liberatory conditions for Black youth to thrive as global citizens.



Teaming Grants, which provide up to \$60,000 for one year, support the formation of new multidisciplinary collaborations to successfully pursue large-scale extramural funding. Team and community-building activities may include, but are not limited to, inviting external speakers, creating a working paper series, and organizing a workshop. Teaming Grants, like Scaling Grants, are specifically designed to further the goal of the Plan for Pitt to engage in research of impact by positioning the University to participate in large research collaborations.

Center for Text Analytic Methods in Legal Studies

Kevin Ashley, School of Law
Diane Litman, Department of Computer Science and Learning Research and Development Center
Daqing He, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems
Rebecca Hwa, Department of Computer Science
James Anderson, RAND Corporation

This Teaming Grant supports a multi-disciplinary collaboration across the School of Law, the School of Computing and Information (SCI), and the RAND Corporation to develop a Center for Text Analytic Methods in Legal Studies. The new center takes advantage of unique expertise at the University of Pittsburgh and its environs: SCI's methodological excellence in developing and applying new tools for analyzing large text corpora and RAND's substantive excellence in conducting impactful empirical research on legal issues of social importance. More specifically, the Pitt team members have considerable experience in developing natural language processing (NLP) and machine learning (ML) techniques and adapting them to the unique features of legal language and documents. The RAND team member has a remarkable track record of devising empirical methods to measure the social effects of laws or legal institutions such as systems for the defense of indigents.

Reducing Language Obstacles that Deaf Students Face When Developing Scientific Competencies

Richard Boyce, Department of Biomedical Informatics
Malihe Alikhani, Department of Computer Science
Sheila Pratt, Department of Communication Science & Disorders
David Boone, Department of Biomedical Informatics
Kenneth De Haan, Gallaudet University

People who identify as Deaf or Hard of Hearing (Deaf/HoH) are highly underrepresented in research. Among the reasons for this disparity is the fact that Deaf/HoH students face significant obstacles to advancing in STEM including issues in accommodations, self-advocacy, and establishment of a support system. Our Momentum Fund Teaming project will develop and test a novel technology that supports Deaf/HoH students while learning biomedical topics using material available on the internet including educational videos, scientific articles, and websites. We hypothesize that interactively linking highly visual material to specific terms and phrases in existing online learning materials will improve students' topic comprehension. Our long-term goal is to develop a scalable technological intervention that is effective at reducing the language barriers Deaf/HoH students face when developing scientific competencies.

Freedom Dreaming: Black Communal and Familial Educational Practices in Pittsburgh's Hill District Before, During and After COVID-19

Lori Delale-O'Connor, Department of Education Foundations, Organizations, and Policy T. Elon Dancy, Center for Urban Education Kirk Holbrook, Community Engagement Center (CEC) in the Hill James Huguley, School of Social Work

In this project, faculty, staff, and students from the Center for Urban Education (CUE), the Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP), and the Hill District Community Engagement Center (Hill CEC) will work collaboratively on a research and practice project that focuses on learning how schools and other formal educational spaces can center Black families and communities as knowledge co-constructors. Through this work, we will also cultivate synergies across these three Centers to engage in more collective work.



Transcending Disciplines to Advance Regional Water Equity

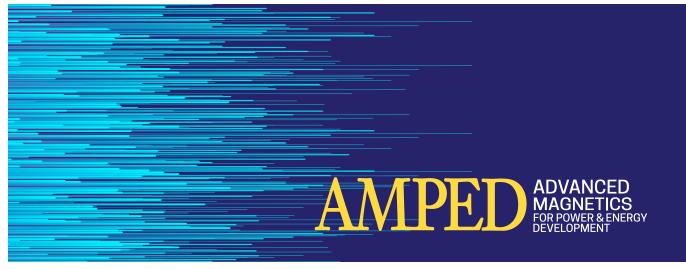
Emily Elliott, Department of Geology and Environmental Science
Marcela Gonzalez Rivas, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs
Jackie Smith, Department of Sociology
Noble Maseru, Schools of Health Sciences
Daniel Bain, Department of Geology and Environmental Science
Eitan Shelef, Department of Geology and Environmental Science
Eric Perry, Department of Geology and Environmental Science

Pittsburgh has positioned itself as a city with a strong commitment to sustainable development, pledging to implement the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals including equitable access to clean water and sanitation. However, the City of Pittsburgh has also been identified as being the worst locale in the country for Black women, and inequities in race, class, and gender persist. Further, the region is challenged by a rapidly changing climate, aged and failing infrastructure, and impaired water quality. The juxtaposition of water and social challenges amplifies both sets of concerns. This project unites faculty members from diverse disciplines including sociology, public health, public policy, and geoscience, as a new team to comprehensively evaluate water challenges and inequities in the Pittsburgh region, centering interactions between the social and geophysical dimensions.

Advanced Magnetics for Power and Energy Development – A Multidisciplinary Consortium between Pitt, CMU, NCSU

Brandon Grainger, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering **Paul Ohodnicki**, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science **Daniel Mosse**, Department of Computer Science **Rabikar Chatterjee**, Katz Graduate School of Business

Emerging societal trends drive the need for advanced magnetic materials and power magnetic components including the electrification of domestic and military transportation; the emergence of solid state transformers as a practical and viable alternative to conventional transformers; increased penetration of renewables and other distributed energy resources which require power electronics converters; and novel electric machines for grid integration. A historical gap in research and development funding for advanced power magnetics has created a severe shortfall in the necessary workforce required to support these quickly emerging areas within both nascent and established industries in the electric power sector. Since January 2020, faculty members in the engineering school have been establishing a consortium called Advanced Magnetics for Power and Energy Development (AMPED). The consortium will focus on magnetic materials development, manufacturing techniques, and their utilization in power electronic systems at medium frequency and medium power levels. Other AMPED university partners include North Carolina State University and Carnegie Mellon University.





Understanding the Role of the Brain in Race/Ethnicity Based Stressors and Behavioral Challenges Among Youth of Color

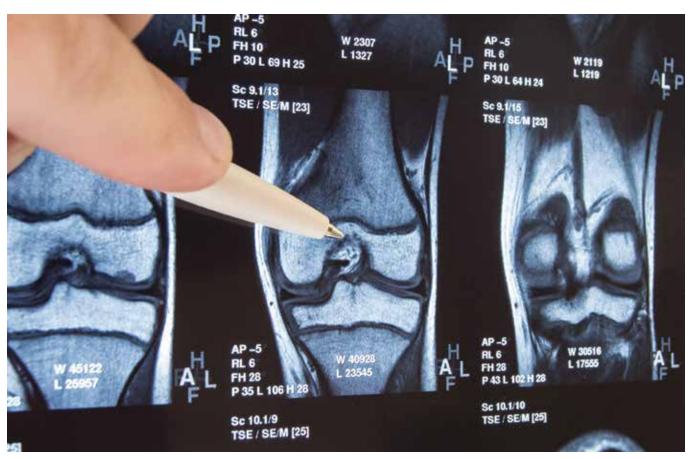
Jamie Hanson, Department of Psychology Jaime Booth, School of Social Work Seong Jae Hwang, Department of Computer Science

Racial and ethnic discrimination can impact mental health, with these types of negative experiences linked to later depression, anxiety, and aggression. While these relations have now been well established in largescale epidemiological studies, how racial and ethnic discrimination gets "under the skin" to create mental health challenges is poorly understood. Suggestive data underscores that racial and ethnic discrimination may be best conceptualized as forms of chronic psychosocial stressors, especially as these experiences are linked with multiple forms of physiological dysregulation. With these changes likely impacting the brain and brain development, it will be critical to understand if racial and ethnic discrimination influence brain development during adolescence, a developmental period when the brain is rapidly changing and when mental health problems are increasing. To increase knowledge in this space, this project will leverage, the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study (Total N=11,875) and use cutting-edge neuroimaging methods to test the hypothesis that higher levels of self-reported racial and ethnic discrimination will influence connectivity in brain circuits involved with reward and emotion-processing. Changes in these neural circuits, we hypothesize, could then create an increased risk for mental health challenges. Pinpointing critical pathways between youth of color's context and brain development, pathways that are typically overlooked when youth are aggregated, may be crucial for identifying targets for interventions to prevent mental health issues. Understanding these mechanisms may also give insight into brain development that may be applied to the prevention of other problem behaviors.

Discovering Drugs to Treat Osteoarthritis with a Knee Joint-on-a-Chip Model

Hang Lin, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery **Sung Kwon Cho**, Department of Mechanical Engineering **Shilpa Sant**, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Osteoarthritis (OA) is the most prevalent degenerative joint disease, which is mainly characterized by pain and physical disability. Currently, no FDA-approved disease-modifying OA drugs (DMOADs) are currently available to stop, slow, or reverse the progression of OA. Numerous DMOADs have been investigated, but the results were disappointing and subsequently terminated. The reasons for the failures included unexpected toxicity and poor treatment outcomes that were not identified during preclinical studies, suggesting deficiencies of currently available models for the development of DMOADs. Recently, with grant support from the NCATS/NIAMS (UG3/ UH3TR002136), our team has successfully developed an in vitro multi-component microphysiological joint chip (microloint), integrating engineered osteochondral complexes, synovium, adipose tissue, and immune cells (macrophages). In this teaming grant, we will build a multidisciplinary team from Schools of Medicine, Engineering, and Pharmacy that is needed for a successful application of the next large-scale external funding. The new team will develop a collaboration plan and work together on a project to generate preliminary data for the next grant application. In particular, we will add the additional features, including mechanical stimuli emulations into the current microJoint system and work with drug discovery scientists to test the drugs. Our multidisciplinary team under this teaming grant proposal will also start to work together with the OA physician. The team will have a bi-weekly meeting to discuss the progress toward the milestones and development of the next large-scale grant application. The PIs also communicate on an almost daily basis, either by e-mail or phone, to discuss related matters. In addition, we will hold a quarterly journal club for the entire team and discuss the publications that are relevant to tissue chip. With the success of the Teaming grant, we will organize the work into a manuscript and submit it. This publication is a critical component to show the collaboration history of the team and feasibility in the new proposal.





Developing a Latinx Youth Research Advisory Board to Address and Dismantle Structural Inequities in Emerging Latinx Communities

Maya Ragavan, Department of Pediatrics
Josefina Bañales, Department of Psychology
Sara Goodkind, School of Social Work, Department of Sociology, and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program
Patricia Documet, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences
Sharon Ross, Department of Health and Human Development
José Ochoa, Casa San José
Benjamin Gutschow, Casa San José

Mónica Ruiz, Casa San José

Diana Escobar-Rivera, Casa San José

In this project, we will create a multidisciplinary community-academic partnership to develop a Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) study with Latinx youth living in Pittsburgh, PA (or the surrounding region), which is an emerging (or new growth) Latinx immigrant community. Our team will use YPAR—an approach that centers youths' voices in research by investigating and acting on issues that are of concern to youth and their families—to develop a Youth Research Action Collaborative. This Collaborative will include Latinx youth ages 14 to 18 with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Faculty will guide youth through creating and implementing research that aims to dismantle structural inequities, such as White supremacy, xenophobia, and language barriers. This "Teaming" grant includes community partners from the Latinx empowerment organization Casa San José, as well as a multidisciplinary team of faculty with backgrounds in psychology, social work, education, medicine, and public health. The goals of this proposal are threefold: 1) develop the Youth Research Action Collaborative with Latinx youth in Pittsburgh; 2) design and implement a research curriculum for youth leaders; and 3) conceptualize, implement, and analyze a pilot study using Photovoice to explore how structural racism impacts Latinx youth in Pittsburgh. Collaborations nurtured through this work, coupled with data from the YPAR project, will inform larger external grants to the National Institutes of Health and the WT Grant Foundation to develop a research program around addressing structural inequities experienced by Latinx youth in emerging Latinx communities.



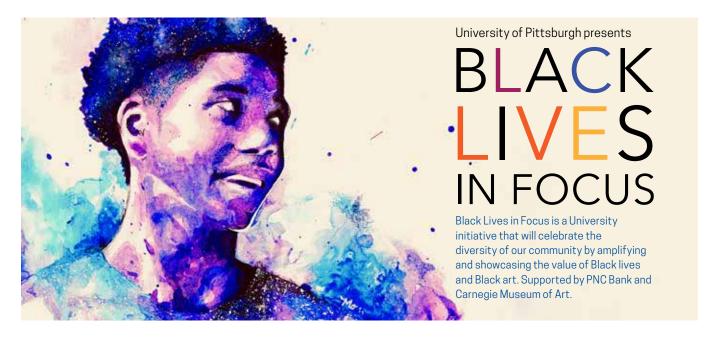
Seeding Grants, which provide up to \$16,000 per year, support significant and innovative scholarship by individual or small groups of faculty at all ranks at the University of Pittsburgh. In constructing each year's portfolio of awards, attention is given to supporting early career faculty and areas where opportunities for extramural funding are extremely limited. Proposals are reviewed in four tracks: Creative Arts, Performing Arts and Humanities; Engineering, Technology, Natural Sciences, and Mathematical Sciences; Health and Life Sciences; and Social Sciences, which include the fields of business, policy, law, education and social work.

A Pilot Exploring Self-Advocacy as a Factor in Maternal Mortality and Morbidity in Pregnant Black Women

Betty Braxter, Department of Health Promotion & Development Teresa Thomas, Department of Health Promotion & Development Paul Scott, Department of Health & Community Systems Trisha Cousins, Department of Sports Medicine and Nutrition Willa Doswell, Department of Health Promotion & Development

Hemispheric Conversations Urban Art Project

Caitlin Bruce, Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences
Sylvia Rhor Samaniego, Department of History of Art and Architecture
Oreen Cohen, Department of Interdisciplinary Artist
Max Gonzales, Boom Concepts
Shane Pilster, Rivers of Steel



Toward Effects of Collective Animal on Larger-scale Ocean Transport and Mixing

Lei Fang, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Detailed Unemployment and the Resilience of Urban Workers

Morgan Frank, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems

Coastal Rivers: The Missing Link in Source to Sink Understanding of Sediment Flux in a Changing World

John Gardner, Department of Geology and Environmental Science

Determining Gene Expression Control During Neural Differentiation Through Coupled Protein Localization and RNA-seq in Single Cells

Sarah Hainer, Department of Biological Sciences

Conceptualizing Corporate Reparations

Paul Harper, Katz School of Business

Physics-Guided Machine Learning for Scientific Knowledge Discovery

Xiaowei Jia, Department of Computer Science

Seed Imbibition Monitoring Using Millimeter-Scale Wireless Sensing Systems

In Hee Lee, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Community-Centric Building of Digital Infrastructures Against Systemic Oppression: G2A Police Misconduct Complaint Support System

Sera Linardi, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs **Yu-ru Lin**, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems

Pittsburgh Is Our Home, Too: Refugee Arts and Education for Well-Being

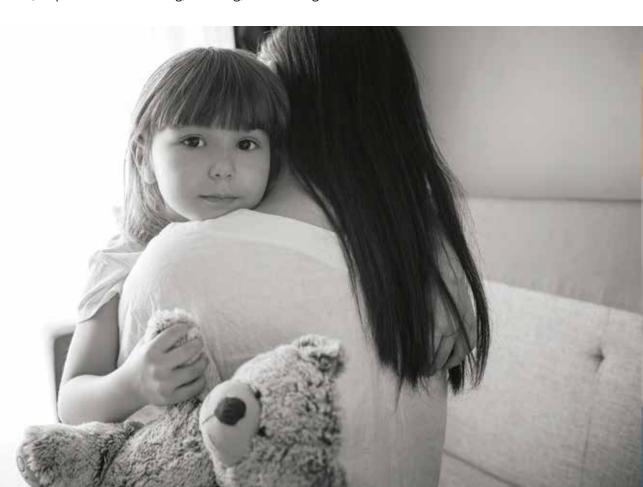
Josue Lopez, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading **Jenna Baron,** ARYSE (Alliance for Refugee Youth Support and Education)

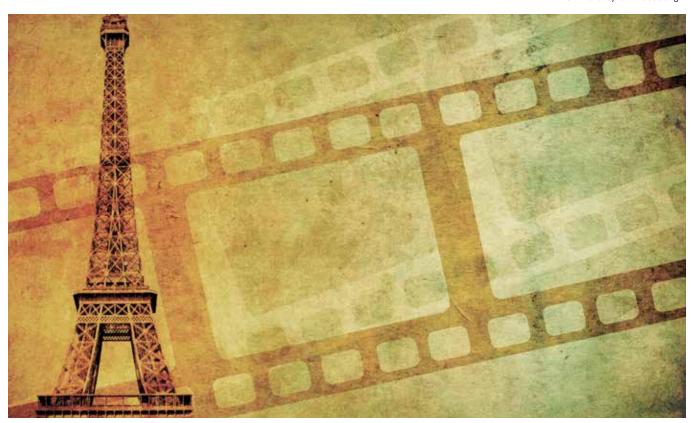
Barriers and Opportunities for Pennsylvania's Solar and Wind Energy Development: Macro-Policy Reforms and the Perspectives of Rural Low Income Communities

Shanti Rabindran, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

Supporting the Education of Youth in Foster Care During the Pandemic: Foster Parent and Agency Perspectives

Mary Elizabeth Rauktis, School of Social Work
Fengyan Tang, School of Social Work
Aimee Sgourakis, University Library System Department of Research and Educational Support
James Huguley, School of Social Work
Rachel E Robertson, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading





Multimedia Archival Work in Paris: The Reception of LGBTQ French Cinema

Todd Reeser, Department of French & Italian Languages & Literatures

Exploring the Cause and Effect of Ribosomal RNA Hidden Breaks in Various Plants

Laura Ritchey, Pitt-Johnstown, Department of Chemistry

Developing Communities of Research and Practice to Support Teacher Use of Proactive Behavior Management

Rachel Robertson, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading **Kevin Binning**, Learning Research & Development Center **Thomas Farmer**, Department of Health and Human Development

Characterization of Microplastics in Sediments and Surface Waters of a Headwater Catchment

Mitzy Schaney, Pitt-Johnstown, Department of Environmental Studies Lisa Emili, Penn State Altoona

Embracing Heterogeneity in Modern GPUs

Xulong Tang, Department of Computer Science

Overlearning Speaker Race in Sociolinguistic Auto-Coding

Daniel Villarreal, Department of Linguistics



Supporting the Plan for Pitt

The success of the University's strategic plan is predicated upon engagement across the University. Started in 2018, one of the focused efforts directed toward this engagement is the annual opportunity for faculty and staff to submit ideas for transformative projects that are support one or more of the six goals and associated strategies within the Plan for Pitt.

Pitt Seed Projects are well-defined actions that will play an instrumental role in transforming the University of Pittsburgh. Funded projects include a range of activities, including: research ideas, academic programs, process improvement, diversity and inclusion, community and industry partnership development, outreach, methods of teaching and learning, workshops, lectures, and enhancing the student experience.

Pitt Commons Social Capital & Professional Networking Evaluation

Lisa Belczyk, Office of the Provost Jonathan Malek, Pitt Alumni Association Shutong Song, Office of the Provost Joseph Yurko, School of Computing and Information

Pitt Commons is an online platform designed exclusively for members of the Pitt community. Utilizing a blend of organic use and programming, the platform allows students, faculty, staff and alumni the opportunity to develop career networks, facilitate mentoring relationships and, ultimately, cultivate social capital, leading to enriched opportunities. Although we can analyze discrete interactions within platform usage, we do not have the ability to quantitate user outcomes or evaluate the effectiveness of digital engagement methods. This study will allow us to understand the current landscape of platform usage and align resources and interventions to encourage user behaviors for optimal outcomes.

Luso-Sphere Through the World

Luis Vanfossen Bravo, Center for Latin American Studies Gisselle Arce, Global Experiences Office Ana Paula Carvalho, Department of Hispanic Languages & Literatures Allyson Delnore, European Studies Center Keila Grinberg, Center for Latin American Studies Stephen Lund, European Studies Center Serena Rivera, Department of Hispanic Languages & Literatures

The Center for Latin American Studies and the European Studies Center at the University of Pittsburgh are jointly working to develop a program in Lusosphere Studies. For students who wish to pursue a career or perform research with an international dimension, or in the Lusosphere specifically, studying this history and the cross-regional relationships that now exist in the Portuguese speaking world would provide multiple opportunities. Such a program would be among the first of its kind in the United States and could become a central location for the study of Portuguese language and the Lusosphere cultures.

Infant Oral Health Education at the Pitt Community Engagement Center at Homewood

Jacqueline Burgette, School of Dental Medicine
Cynthia Chew, School of Nursing
Cara Ciminillo, Trying Together
Alene D'Alesio, UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
Daniel Rosen, School of Social Work
Shannah Tharp-Gilliam, Homewood Children's Village
Katherine Watson, School of Medicine

Healthy Teeth, Healthy Me meets community needs in Homewood by providing education on oral health and connecting families with services to keep children's mouths healthy. Faculty and students from the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Dental and Social Work provide this interprofessional oral health education at the University of Pittsburgh's Community Engagement Center in Homewood. This approach develops a collaborative workforce to improve child health while also addressing a community-inspired and community-informed need. Healthy Teeth, Healthy Me impacts not only the child's overall health, but the quality of life for families in the Homewood community.



Cultivating a Data Science Learning Community

Matt Burton, School of Computing and Information Gesina Phillips, University Library System Melissa Ratajeski, Health Sciences Library System

This project will address the growing demand for informal data science training from students, faculty, postdocs and staff across disciplines at Pitt and build a sustained learning community. The demand for informal training offered by the School of Computing and Information and the libraries has outpaced capacity. To address this demand, this project will scale up informal data science training through guided and self-guided instruction with student workers. To complement informal instruction, the project will create a diverse and inclusive data science learning community that supports learners during and after workshops, hosts events, and maintains a space for further informal learning and collaboration.

Pop Rocks Punctuation for Students with Reading Problems

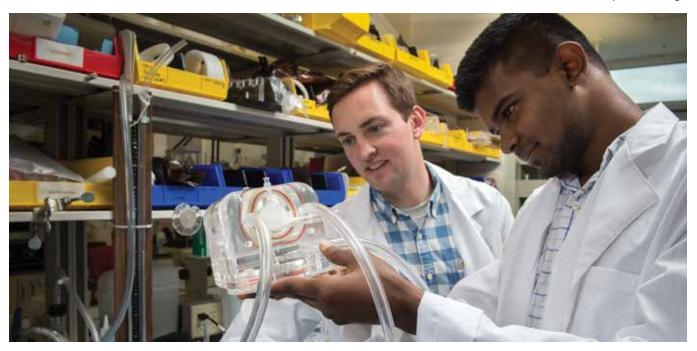
Jonathan Chitiyo, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford **Wayne Brinda**, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford **Anne McDonald**, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford

This grant will support a research study to assess the efficacy of a unique reading intervention strategy to help students with learning disabilities and other students with exceptional learning needs with reading problems. The ultimate goal of the study is to inform the development of new methods courses for our current education curriculum to ensure our education majors learn, practice and apply relevant, research-based methods of teaching reading to students with special needs. Through this Pitt Seed project, Pitt-Bradford will strengthen our connections with the community as we expand what our education majors will bring to the teaching profession.

Understanding, Building and Achieving Diversity and Inclusion Excellence in the University of Pittsburgh Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

Susan Cohen, Katz Graduate School of Business
Mary Goldberg, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Hassan Karimi, School of Computing and Information
Jon Pearlman, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Pitt aspires to foster research of impact and a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Yet, it is unclear how these aspirations are supported or achieved through Pitt's translational, tech transfer and commercialization activities. Literature suggests societally beneficial inventions often have small commercial markets, and entrepreneurs from underrepresented groups may be less successful in attracting funding, making it difficult to jointly maximize DEI, commercial value and societal impacts. We propose to study how DEI is incorporated and promoted in Pitt's entrepreneurial ecosystem to identify opportunities to reconcile trade-offs between societal impact and commercial value, and promote excellence in DEI.



Active Accommodations for Laboratories

Rory A. Cooper, Human Engineering Research Laboratories Jonathan Duvall, Human Engineering Research Laboratories Garrett Grindle, Human Engineering Research Laboratories Libby Powers, Human Engineering Research Laboratories Randy Williams, Human Engineering Research Laboratories

Students with disabilities face barriers while attending university courses that require hands-on laboratory activities. Typically, those students are forced to take a passive role rather than actively participating in the labs, which leaves them with a subpar education. This project will attempt to provide students with disabilities the necessary accommodations for them to actively participate in their lab activities along with their peers to the greatest extent possible.





Wicked Problem Innovation: Community Development in Pittsburgh's Hill District and Hilltop Neighborhoods

Stephanie Dangel, School of Law

This Pitt Seed project will allow Pitt Law, Katz Business, and other faculty, staff, students, and alumni to work with local stakeholders to co-design a transformative Wicked Problem Innovation course on how universities should support marginalized communities in addressing neighborhood development challenges. Seed funding will supplement University support with community consulting, provided by Pitt's Community Engagement Center in the Hill District, the UrbanKind Institute and a project coordinator. The initial pilot course will focus on addressing community development challenges in Pittsburgh's Hill District and Hilltop neighborhoods, including challenges in reconciling the sometimes-conflicting goals of racial equity, economic development and environmental sustainability.

Screenshot ASIA: Connecting Pittsburgh to 21st Century Film and Media

Charles Exley, Department of East Asian Languages & Literatures
Lynn Kawaratani, Asian Studies Center
Neepa Majumdar, Department of English
Kun Qian, Department of East Asian Languages & Literatures
Seung-Hwan Shin, Department of East Asian Languages & Literatures
Kirsten Strayer, Asian Studies Center

The Screenshot: Asia Film Festival, starting October 2021, brings together students, faculty and community members around our interest in Asia as a rapidly developing and essential part of the 21st century global economy and our region's shared love for contemporary film and media arts. The weeklong event will showcase films from northern Asia to the Middle East. Our themes, Global Asia (2021) and Inter/Media (2022), give us the flexibility to engage with local ethnic communities, Asian and Asian-American student interests, film lovers and the broader public eager to learn more about Asia while celebrating artistry, diversity and humanity through cinema.

Promoting PEERs: Creating an Inclusive Environment through Tiered Mentoring to Promote Diverse STEM Communities

Sarah Hainer, Department of Biological Sciences
Hisham Alrubaye, Department of Biological Sciences
Jon Boyle, Department of Biological Sciences
Laty Cahoon, Department of Biological Sciences
Alex Francette, Department of Biological Sciences
Jada George, Department of Biological Sciences
Miler Lee, Department of Biological Sciences
Erica McGreevy, Department of Biological Sciences
Donya Shodja, Department of Biological Sciences
Jessica Wandelt, Department of Biological Sciences
Dan Wetzel, Department of Biological Sciences

The lack of racial and ethnic diversity within academia, across STEM programs and within the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh can be an isolating factor for historically underrepresented students, or persons excluded because of their ethnicity or race (PEERs). Stereotype threat, structural exclusion and a low sense of belonging can hinder performance in classes and decrease engagement in extracurricular activities including research. We propose to develop a tiered mentoring and professional career development program for graduate and undergraduate students who are historically excluded from STEM with the goals of 1) building a community with increased belonging, 2) increasing exposure to high-impact research experience, 3) increasing recruitment and retention of diverse student populations, and 4) preparing students for positions in STEM, both within and outside of academia.





Building the Foundation of a Diverse Health Care Workforce

Andrea Hergenroeder, Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers
Jennifer Bohland, Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers
Paula Davis, Health Sciences
Joseph McCarthy, Office of the Provost
Teddy Ricketson, Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers
Kevin Snyder, Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers
Julia Spears, Office of the Provost
Bailey Tobias, Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers

Pitt's Interprofessional Center for Health Careers will connect with existing units on campus and build new programs that extend the University's excellence in health professions education to its undergraduate underrepresented minority (URM) students who aspire to health-related careers. Outcomes will include a 1) strengthened system of mentoring URM students into health-related careers, 2) a campus culture supportive of pre-health students from diverse backgrounds, 3) a more diverse pipeline of Pitt alumni entering graduate professional programs, and 4) a transformed environment that results in Pitt becoming a recognized leader in preparing the array of health providers needed to ensure the health of underserved and diverse populations.



The Neighborhood Academy Social Justice Education Initiative

David Herring, School of Law Kevin Ashley, School of Law Tomar Pierson-Brown, School of Law William Carter, School of Law Gina Garcia, School of Education Jeffrey Shook, School of Social Work

The project engages students from the Schools of Law, Social Work and Education to teach students at the Neighborhood Academy, a high school where all students are Black and in serious financial need. Through its intensive college preparatory program, the Neighborhood Academy works to break the cycle of generational poverty. Pitt students will work with project faculty to develop and teach a social justice course focused on constitutional law and Black history for the academy's juniors and seniors. The course will be a homeroom from which students will implement actual social justice projects in the Pittsburgh community.

The Pitt Cyber Range

Ahmed Ibrahim, School of Computing and Information

This project will build the Pitt Cyber Range, a sandboxed environment to simulate real attacks and defenses, which will have a societal impact on a broad range of learners. It will be used 1) in the security courses offered by the School of Computing and Information, 2) by students in cybersecurity clubs to prepare for national competitions, 3) in outreach to underrepresented groups to provide an accessible and affordable way to increase diversity in the cybersecurity field, and 4) to enhance and promote advanced cybersecurity education through a series of workshops for learners and educators across the country.



Fostering Civic and Cultural Competency Across the Disciplines Via Digital Game-Based Learning

Ronald Idoko, Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Tinukwa Boulder, School of Education
Neil Edmond Brown, Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences
Lina Dostilio, Community and Government Relations
Victoria Grieve, School of Computing and Information
Everett Herman, Honors College
Jay Huguley, Center on Race and Social Problems
Lorie Johnson-Osho, Office of the Provost
Chaz Kellem, Pitt Serves, Student Affairs
Lindsay Onufer, Center for Teaching and Learning

Conventional civic learning mediums at the University of Pittsburgh come with inherent barriers to broad student participation as they are communicated and facilitated disparately and often compete against prevailing academic/social commitments, making it impractical and implausible for most Pitt students to engage them accordingly. The COVID-19 pandemic has further impeded student access to these mediums with the requisite transition to remote engagement. This project aims to create a digitally accessible, gamified civic learning technology to aid Pitt students in fostering their civic and cultural competence and develop an objective, longitudinal assessment of their competence.

Early Bridge Program at Pitt-Greensburg

Kelli Maloy, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg **Kearsten Adams**, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg **Kayla Heffernan**, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

Since 2017, the Bridge program and its summer component, Early Bridge, have served at-risk students admitted conditionally to Pitt-Greensburg by offering support services to promote academic success. For the past four years, these students have completed a one-week intensive summer program prior to the start of the fall semester. However, low rates of persistence/retention, good standing, graduation and graduate-school enrollment indicate a strong need for more robust support. The grant funding will support the development of preparatory courses in algebra and composition comparable to 1.5-credit courses, which will be offered over a period of four weeks beginning in July 2021.



Serving Those Who Protect the Public: The Pitt Center for Emergency Responder Wellness

Eric Meyer, Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program **Thomas Platt**, Rehabilitation Science and Technology **Sheila Roth**, Rehabilitation Science and Technology **Melanie Cherry**, Rehabilitation Science and Technology

Emergency response personnel (ERP) protect the public, despite occupational hazards that threaten their mental health. This center will be a clinical innovation hub that 1) delivers accessible, culturally adapted, evidence-based mental health interventions; 2) trains the next generation of health science students to work with ERP; 3) fosters the success of local ERP peer support networks; and 4) as a future goal, makes major contributions to the scientific understanding of post-trauma recovery processes. Goals for the seed phase are to establish a team, build collaborations with local ERP departments, demonstrate feasibility and initial clinical impact and compete for federal funding.

Creating a Diverse Cybersecurity Workforce

Leona Mitchell, School of Computing and Information **Alexa Bakalarski,** School of Computing and Information **Ahmed Ibrahim,** School of Computing and Information

The cybersecurity skills gap remains a significant challenge in the industry. The increase of complex cyberattacks has escalated the need for qualified resources. Faced with this challenge, employers are searching for candidates outside of tech, but transitioning to cybersecurity from a non-tech field is difficult. Furthermore, today's cyber workforce is underrepresented; men outnumber women by three to one, and underrepresented groups make up less than 15% of the workforce. Our project aims to bridge this skills gap through a series of asynchronous boot camps, making cybersecurity education more accessible while helping to address the skills shortage in the industry.



University of Pittsburgh Computational Genomics Training Program

Fangping Mu, Center for Research Computing
Riyue Bao, Department of Medicine
Uma Chandran, Department of Biomedical Informatics
Robert Lafyatis, Department of Medicine
Shuchang Liu, Department of Pathology
Amanda Poholeka, Department of Pediatrics
Dhivyaa Rajasundaram, Department of Pediatrics

Recent years have seen rapid advances in high-throughput technologies in biology. Investment in high performance computing clusters, such as the HTC cluster managed by Center for Research Computing, have made computational resources increasingly accessible to interpret the results of such experiments. However, a pressing challenge that many research groups face is a lack of readily accessible bioinformatics expertise. Our aims are to 1) design and teach approximately 40 three-hour computational genomics hands-on workshops during the coming two years and 2) design and manage a web forum platform to allow Pitt researchers to pose questions and offer solutions to bioinformatics-related problems.

Creating a Culture of Inclusive Excellence to Promote Retention

Doris Rubio, Institute for Clinical Research Education Esa Davis, School of Medicine Megan Miller, School of Medicine Ginger White, Institute for Clinical Research Education

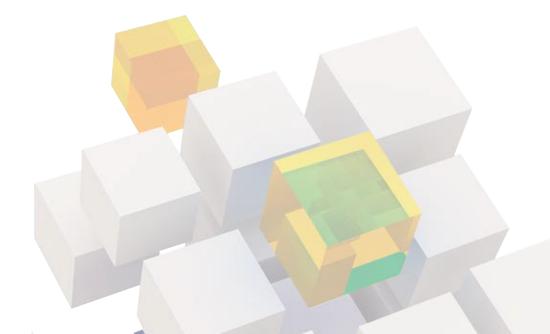
As Pitt embarks on a cluster-hiring initiative, it is imperative that we work to change the culture to one of inclusive excellence. To do this, we will create a Getting Connected Series, open to all faculty of color, where we will focus on careers in academia, leadership and community building. We will also form Learning Communities with new faculty hires to explore the issues raised during the Getting Connected Series, practice new skills learned and address any challenges. By providing opportunity to meet the leadership, form communities and connect to the University, the program will contribute to creating an inclusive culture.



Social Listening for Institutional Resilience

Raymond Wrabley, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown **Skip George**, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown

Tens of thousands of conversations about our brand, community, students and programs are flowing all around us through digital channels, and yet the University often misses these conversations. Social listening technologies allow institutions to track and analyze digital conversations for actionable insights that can improve services; uncover new needs; and engage potential students, community stakeholders, staff, and faculty to advance our mission. We propose to harness the power of social listening for a period of two years to enhance the capabilities of our admissions team, improve services to students and promote our role in bolstering the region's employment and reputation.



PRIOR AWARDEES

Central Research Development Fund

- **Raja Adal**, Department of History, 2018 **Gustavo Almeida**, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, 2018
- **Salah Al-Zaiti,** Department of Acute/Tertiary Care, 2017
- **Elizabeth Arkush**, Department of Anthropology, 2020

Engineering, 2018

- **Shalini Ayyagari,** Department of Music, 2018 **Tarun Banerjee**, Department of Sociology, 2018 **Mostafa Bedewy**, Department of Industrial
- **Andrea Berman,** Department of Biological Sciences, 2017
- **Kyle Bibby**, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2017
- **Hoda Bidkhori,** Department of Industrial Engineering, 2017
- **Ryan Bird,** Division of Natural Sciences Pitt-Johnstown, 2019
- **Joshua Bloom**, Department of Sociology, 2018 **Ioannis Bourmpakis**, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2017 and 2020
- **Bryan Brown,** Department of Bioengineering, 2020 **Christopher Brown,** Department of Communication Science and Disorders, 2017
- **Caitlin Bruce**, Department of Communication, 2017 **Jeanine Buchanich**, Department of Biostatistics, 2019
- **Andrew Bunger**, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2018
- **Gerard Campbell,** Department of Biological Sciences, 2019
- **Rosemary Capo**, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2017
- **Anne Carlson,** Department of Biological Sciences, 2019
- **Deborah Chapman**, Department of Biological Sciences, 2017, 2019
- **Markus Chmielus,** Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2017
- **Sung Kwon Cho,** Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2017
- **Sophia Choukas-Bradley,** Department of Psychology, 2019
- **Youngjae Chun,** Department of Industrial Engineering, 2017, 2020
- Nicole Coleman, Pitt Business, 2020
- **Christopher Coughenour,** Department of Energy and Earth Resources, Pitt-Johnstown, 2020
- Marc Coutanche, Department of Psychology, 2017 Elizabeth Crago, Department of Acute/Tertiary Care, 2018
- Jason DeBlois, Department of Mathematics, 2017

- **Sabina Deitrick,** Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2018
- **Jill Demirci**, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2018
- **Dawna Duff,** Department of Communication Science and Disorders, 2018
- **Jacob Durrant**, Department of Biological Sciences, 2018
- **Müge Finkel**, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2018
- **Gina Garcia,** Department of Administrative and Policy Studies, 2019
- **Hayley Germack**, Department of Acute/Tertiary Care, 2020
- **Bethany Gibbs**, Department of Health and Physical Activity, 2017
- **Leanne Gilbertson,** Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2018 and 2019
- **Andres Gomez Escobar,** Department of Industrial Engineering, 2019
- **Brandon Grainger**, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2020
- **Marsha Grimminger,** Division of Natural Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019
- **Joshua Groffman,** Division of Communication and the Arts, Pitt-Bradford, 2017 and 2020
- **Sarah Haig,** Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020
- **Sarah Hainer,** Department of Biological Sciences, 2020
- **Lauren Hallion,** Department of Psychology, 2018 **Marquis Hawkins,** Department of Epidemiology, 2020
- **Jill Henning**, Division of Natural Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019
- **Raúl Hernández Sánchez,** Department of Chemistry, 2020
- **Tina Hershey**, Department of Health Policy and Management, 2020
- **Katherine Hornbostel**, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2020
- **Jingtong Hu,** Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2019
- Geoffrey Hutchison, Department of Chemistry, 2019
 Tristen Inagaki, Department of Psychology, 2017
 Katharine Jacobs, Department of Instruction and Learning, 2020
- **Leah Jacobs**, School of Social Work, 2019 **Tevis Jacobs**, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2017 and 2020
- **Daniel Jiang**, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2018
- **Paul Johnson**, Department of Communication, 2019 **Shirin Fozi Jones**, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2019

Margaret Judd, Department of Anthropology, 2018
Sungkyu Jung, Department of Statistics, 2017
Chae Ryon Kang, Department of Biostatistics, 2019
Jacob Kariuki, Department of Health and
Community Systems, 2018

Samannaaz Khoja, Department of Physical Therapy, 2020

Tuangtip Klinbubpa-Neff, Division of Humanities, Pitt-Johnstown, 2017

Christopher Kline, Department of Health and Physical Activity, 2018

Kevin Kohl, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019 and 2020

Adriana Kovashka, Department of Computer Science, 2017, 2019

Mangesh Kulkarni, Department of Bioengineering, 2020

Jennifer Laaser, Department of Chemistry, 2018

Daniel Lambrecht, Department of Chemistry, 2019

Miler Lee, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019

Sangyeop Lee, Department of Mechanical

Engineering and Materials Science, 2017 and 2018

Young Ji Lee, Department of Health and Community Systems, 2020

Dan Li, Department of Health and Community Systems, 2017

Lei Li, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2017 and 2019

 Klaus Libertus, Department of Psychology, 2018
 Melissa Libertus, Department of Psychology, 2018
 Sera Linardi, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2018

Steven Little, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2020

Tomas Matza, Department of Anthropology, 2017 **Tessa McCarthy,** Department of Instruction and Learning, 2018

Lee McDermott, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 2017

Rebecca McHugh, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Pitt-Bradford, 2019

Patrick McKelvey, Department of Theatre Arts, 2020 James McKone, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2019

Nadine McQuarrie, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2018

Stephen Meriney, Department of Neuroscience, 2018

Iva Miljkovic, Department of Epidemiology, 2018 **Rachel Miller,** Department of Epidemiology, 2019 **Kevin Mollen,** Department of Surgery, 2020

Carla Ng, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2018 and 2019

Tagbo Niepa, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2020

Shyamal Peddada, Department of Biostatistics, 2019 **Barbara Petrosky**, Division of Humanities, Pitt-Iohnstown, 2019

Louis Picard, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2019

Oleg Prokopyev, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2018

Shanti Rabindran, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2020

Michele Reid, Department of Africana Studies, 2019 Zhao Ren, Department of Statistics, 2020

Piervincenzo Rizzo, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2017

Rachel Robertson, Department of Instruction and Learning, 2017

Margaret Rosenzweig, Department of Acute Tertiary Care, 2020

Sharon Ross, Department of Health and Physical Activity, 2017

Vinayak Sant, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 2018

Armin Schikorra, Department of Mathematics, 2019 Karina Schumann, Department of Psychology, 2017 Yogita Shamdasani, Department of Economics, 2020 Eitan Shelef, Department of Geology and

Environmental Sciences, 2017

Kay Shimizu, Department of Political Science, 2019 **Michelle Sobolak**, Department of Instruction and Learning, 2020

Jason Shoemaker, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2019

Max Stephens, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2019

Jessica Stephenson, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020

Heather Szabo Rogers, Department of Oral Biology, 2017

Susheng Tan, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2018

Brian Thomas, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2019

Teresa Thomas, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2019

Yiming Wang, Department of Chemistry, 2019 **Rebecca Webb**, Division of Natural Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2017

Josef Werne, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2020

Emily West, Department of Political Science, 2019 **Darren Whitfield**, School of Social Work, 2018 **Christopher Wilmer**, Department of Chemical and

Petroleum Engineering, 2017

Jonathan Woon, Department of Political Science, 2018 **Eugenia Wu**, Pitt Business, 2017, 2020

Feng Xiong, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2018 and 2019

Wei Xiong, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2019

Corinne Zawacki, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020

Bo Zeng, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2017

Chancellor's Distinguished Public Service Award

Betty Braxter, Department of Health Promotion & Development, 2020

Kay Brummond, Department of Chemistry, 2018 **Thistle I Elias,** Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2019

Paul Harper, Department of Business Administration, 2021

Kent Harries, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020

Timothy Holler, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, Department of Criminal Justice, 2021

Ray Jones, Department of Business Administration, 2020

 Christi Kolarcik, Department of Pathology, 2020
 Mark Kramer, Department of English, 2019
 Steven R Little, Department of Chemical and Petrolium Engineering, 2019

Jules Lobel, School of Law, 2020

Anthony S Novosel, Department of History, 2017
Margaret Rosenzweig, Department of Acute &
Tertiary Care, 2021

Doris Rubio, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2021

Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award: Junior Scholars

Kara Bernstein, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics School, 2017

Heath Cabot, Department of Anthropology, 2021 **Maria Chikina**, Department of Computational and Systems Biology, 2020

Nathan Clark, Department of Computational and Systems Biology, 2019

Jules Gill-Peterson, Department of English, 2020 **Michael Hatridge**, Dpartment of Physics and Astronomy, 2021

Haitao Liu, Department of Chemistry, 2017
Peng Liu, Department of Chemistry, 2020
Jill E Millstone, Department of Chemistry, 2018
Rebecca Price, Department of Psychiatry, 2021
Ervin Sejdik, Swanson School of Engineering, 2018
Matiangai Sirleaf, School of Law, 2019

Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award: Senior Scholars

Derek C Angus, Department of Critical Care Medicine, 2019

Hülya Bayir, Department of Critical Care Medicine, 2018

Daniel Buysse, Department of Psychiatry, 2020 **Yvette Conley**, School of Nursing, 2020

Yan Dong, Department of Neuroscience, 2020 JoAnne Flynn, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 2019

Robert Friedlander, Department of Neurological Surgery, 2021

 Sarah L Gaffen, Department of Medicine, 2018
 Mark T Gladwin, Department of Medicine, 2017
 Heng Huang, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2021

Thomas W Kensler, Department of Pharmacology and Chemical Biology, 2017

Edouard Machery, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, 2018

Mary Phillips, Department of Psychiatry, 2019 Ronald D Stall, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2017

Lise Vesterlund, Department of Economics, 2021

Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award

Salah Al-Zaiti, Department of Acute & Tertiary Care, 2020

Jeff Aziz, Department of English, 2020

Barbara Barnhart, Natural Sciences, Mathematics & Engineering, 2019

Chris Bonneau, Department of Political Science, 2021
 Lisa Borghesi, Department of Immunology, 2021
 Jennifer Cousins, Department of Psychology, 2020
 Lori Delale-O'Connor, Department of Educational Foundations, 2021

Philip Empey, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2018

Sean Garrett-Roe, Department of Chemistry, 2017 Sara Goodkind, Department of Socialogy, 2018 Robin E Grubs, Genetic Counseling Program, 2019 Tammy Haley, Department of Biological & Health Sciences, 2019

Zsuzsa Horvath, Department of Dental Public Health, 2021

Jana Iverson, Department of Psychology, 2018 **Raymond Jones**, Katz Graduate School of Business CBA, 2018

Melissa J Marks, Department of Behavior Sciences, 2017

Barry M. Mitnick, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2021

Daniel Lambrecht, Department of Chemistry, 2019

David Sanchez, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, 2020

John Schumann, Department of Neurobiology, 2017 **Cindy Skrzycki**, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2017

Carla Spagnoletti, Division of General Internal Medicine, 2020

Richard Steinman, Hillman Cancer Center, 2019 **Alan Sved**, Department of Neuroscience, 2018

Innovation in Education Award

Dmitriy Babichenko, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2020

Sara Baumann, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2018

Lucas Berenbrok, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2020

Renee Clark, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2018

Samuel Dickerson, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2018

Gianni Downs, Department of Theatre Arts, 2018 **Dawna Duff**, Department of Communication Science and Disorders, 2020

Annmarie Duggan, Department of Theatre Arts, 2018 **Nicholas Farnan**, Department of Computer Science, 2020

Elizabeth Felter, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2018

Ashley Firm, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2018

William Garrison, Department of Computer Science, 2020

Jessica Ghilani, Division of Humanities, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020

Leah Jacobs, School of Social Work, 2018

Robert Kerestes, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2020

Paul Lucas, Division of Humanities, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018

Tommy Mayberry, Division of Biological and Health Sciences, Pitt-Bradford, 2018

Elaine Mormer, Department of Communication Science and Disorders, 2020

Emily Murphy, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, 2018

Diane Nicodemus, Division of Humanities, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018

Helen Petracchi, School of Social Work, 2018 **Sarah Ruffell**, Division of Biological and Health Sciences, Pitt-Bradford, 2018

Zuzana Swigonova, Department of Biological Sciences, 2018

Patty Wharton-Michael, Division of Humanities, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018

Forge Your Own Path Grant

formerly known as Personalized Education Grant

Andrea Abt, Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers, 2019

Liz Adams, College of Business Administration, 2019
 Ryan Alvarado, Department of Mathematics, 2019
 Dmitriy Babichenko, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2020

Jordan Ariel Barria Pineda, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019

Paul Barto, Department of Athletics, 2019 and 2020 **Christine Berliner**, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019, 2021

Sean Bridgen, School of Computing and Information, 2021

Peter Brusilovsky, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019 and 2020

Kim Hung Chau, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019

Susie Chen, Department of Psychology, 2019 **Kar Hai Chu**, Department of Medicine, 2019 and 2020 **Denise Chisholm**, Department of Occupational

Therapy, 2020 **Leigh A. Coogan,** School of Law, 2020, 2021 **Colleen Culley,** Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2021

Shelby Dawkins-Law, Department of Administrative and Policy Studies, 2020

Linda DeAngelo, Department of Administrative and Policy Studies, 2019 and 2020

Samuel Dickerson, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2019

Laura Dietz, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2021

Lina Dostilio, Office of Community and Governmental Relations, 2019 and 2020

Gianni Downs, Department of Theatre Arts, 2020 **Dawn Drahnak**, Division of Nursing and Health Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2020

Annmarie Duggan, Department of Theatre Arts, 2020 **Benjamin Espinoza**, Mathematics, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020

Rebecca Farabaugh, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences 2021

Mallory Ferguson, Division of Nursing and Health Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2020

Kenrick Fernandes, Department of Computer Science, 2019

Beth Fields, Department of Occupational Therapy, 2020

Julie Fiez, Department of Psychology, 2019 **Cassidy Fischer**, Department of Film Studies (Alumna), 2019

Derek Fisher, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2019

Omid Fotuhi, Learning Research and Development Center, 2019 and 2020

Brian Galla, Department of Psychology in Education, 2019

Casey Garrow, Department of Athletics, 2019 and 2020

Jennifer Ganger, Department of Psychology, 2021 **Lorin Grieve,** Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2019

Kelly Hammonds, Department of Athletics, 2019 and 2020, 2021

Kent Harries, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020

Daqing He, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2020

Kayla A. Heffernan, Division of Natural Sciences, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020, 2021

Erin Higgins, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2019

Daniel Hitt, Division of Humanities, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020

Elizabeth D. Katrancha, Division of Nursing and Health Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2020

Ellen Kelsey, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019 **Robert Kerestes**, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2019

Katherine Kinsinger, Academic Success Center, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019

Martha Koehler, Division of Humanities, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020

Emily Koren, Department of Administrative and Policy Studies, 2020

Jamie Kulzer, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2021

Eliza Beth Littleton, Department of Surgery, 2019 and 2020

Lingfeng Liu, Department of Chemistry, 2021 **Derek McDonald,** College of Business Administration, 2019

Rebecca McHugh, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Pitt-Bradford, 2020

Rami Melhem, Department of Computer Science, 2019

Dana Miller-Cotto, Learning Research and Development Center, 2019

Janelle Moody, Department of Occupational Therapy, 2020

Daniel Mosse, School of Computing and Information, 2021

Mary Napoli, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2021

Tim Nokes-Malach, Department of Psychology, 2019 **Marie Norman**, Department of Medicine, 2020 **Nathan Ong**, School of Computing and

Information, 2021

Sam Orlowski, Film Studies, 2020

William Pamerleau, Division of Humanities, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020

Ravi Patel, School of Pharmacy, 2019 and 2020Karen Pater, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2021

Cheryl Paul, Swanson School of Engineering, 2020
 Anita Persaud, Swanson School of Engineering, 2019
 Jenette Phillips, Department of Mechanical
 Engineering and Materials Science, 2020

Caleb Porto, Department of Mechanical
Engineering and Materials Science (Alumnus), 2019
Chalcas N. Brouk, Institute for Clinical Research

Chelsea N. Proulx, Institute for Clinical Research Education, 2020

Cassie Quigley, Department of Instruction and Learning, 2020, 2021

Stephen F. Robar, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Pitt-Bradford, 2020

Juleen Rodakowski, Department of Occupational Therapy, 2020

Ben Rottman, Department of Psychology, 2019 **Joseph Samosky**, Department of Bioengineering, 2020 **Jake Savitz**, Departments of Communication and Film Studies (Alumnus), 2019

Armin Schikorra, Department of Mathematics, 2019Kristine Schonder, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2021

Ann Sinsheimer, School of Law, 2020, 2021
 Liam Sporrer, Department of Athletics, 2019 and 2020
 Sybil Streeter, Department of Psychology, 2019
 Pamela Toto, Department of Occupational
 Therapy, 2020

Chun-Hua Tsai, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019

Natalie Vazquez, Department of Medicine, 2020 Jessica Wandelt, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019, 2021

Kevin Wheeler, Department of Athletics, 2019 and 2020 **Frank Wilson**, Office of Academic Affairs, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020, 2021

Eben Witherspoon, Learning Research and Development Center, 2019

Kevin Wu, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019, 2021

Lauren Yaich, Division of Biological and Health Sciences, Pitt-Bradford, 2020

Michelle Zuckerman-Parker, Department of Medicine, 2020

Pitt Seed Grant

 Alaine Allen, Swanson School of Engineering, 2020
 Christopher Drew Armstrong, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2019
 Angela Athanas, Department of Mathematics, 2020
 Dmitriy Babichenko, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019 **Mackenzie Ball,** Department of Computer Science, 2020

Brandon Barber, Swanson School of Engineering, 2021

Paul Barto, Department of Athletics, 2020

April Belback, Office of the Provost, 2021

Nehal Bhojak, Department of Otolaryngology, 2020

Kevin Binning, Department of Psychology, 2021

Alex Bittner, Office of Admissions,

Pitt-Greensburg, 2020

Christopher Bonneau, Department of Political Science, 2019

David Boone, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2020

Ronald Brand, School of Law, 2019

Melissa Brandes, Department of Athletics, 2020

Aaron Brenner, University Library System, 2020

Zachary Brodt, University Library System, 2020

John Cannon, Honors College, 2021

Judy L. Cameron, Department of Psychiatry, 2020

John Camillus, Pitt Business, 2020

Babs Carryer, Innovation Institute, 2020

Rakie Cham, Department of Bioengineering, 2019

Jeremiah Coldsmith, Division of Social Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019

Nancy Condee, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, 2019

Vaughn Cooper, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 2021

Christine Dahlin-Schuster, Division of Natural Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019

Lori Delale-O'Connor, School of Education, 2020 **George Dougherty**, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2020

Ervin Dyer, Office of University Communications and Marketing, 2020

Stephen Emery, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, 2019

Kerry Empey, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2020

Max Fedor, Department of Otolaryngology, 2020 Goeran Fiedler, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2020

Müge Finkel, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2020

Jennifer Ganger, Department of Psychology, 2021 **Umeka Ganjoo,** School of Public Health, 2021

Ann Gleason, Center for Military Medicine Research, 2020

Cynthia Golden, Office of the Provost, 2021

Becky Gonda, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020

Benjamin Gordon, Department of Religious Studies, 2020

Aaron Graham, University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2019

Kelly Hammonds, Department of Athletics, 2020

Jill Henning, Division of Natural Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019

Zach Horton, Department of English, 2020 **Melanie Hughes**, Department of Sociology, 2020 **Jennifer Iriti**, Learning Research and Development Center, 2020

Stephanie Jimenez, Division of Natural Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019

Lorna Kearns, University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2019

Ross Kleinstuber, Division of Social Sciences, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019

Tuangtip Klinbubpa-Neff, Department of English, Pitt-Johnstown, 2021

Rachel Kranson, Department of Religious Studies, 2020

Krista Kutina, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2020

Maureen Lazar, Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2020

Alison Slinskey Legg, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020

Lingfeng Liu, Department of Chemistry, 2021 Brianna Lombardi, School of Social Work, 2020 Jared Magnani, Department of Medicine, 2020 Jessica Malandro, Innovation Institute, 2020 Amber McAlister, Division of Humanities, Pitt-Greensburg, 2019

Jessica Merlin, School of Medicine, 2021

David Y. Miller, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2020

Ann Mitchell, Department of Health and Community Systems, 2020

Michele Montag, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2020

Channing L. Moreland, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, 2021

Scott Morgenstern, Department of Political Science, 2020

Clark Muenzer, Department of German, 2019 Tim Nokes-Malach, Department of Psychology, 2020 Esohe Osai, Department of Psychology in Education, 2020

Leigh Patel, School of Education, 2019 **Ravi Patel,** School of Pharmacy, 2020

Elizabeth Pitts, Department of English, 2020

Sandra Prigg-Monteverde, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2020

Lisa Reffner, Office of the Registrar,

Pitt-Greensburg, 2020

Michele Reid-Vazquez, Department of Africana Studies, 2019

Joseph Samosky, Department of Bioengineering, 2021 **Sylvia Rhor Samaniego**, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2020

Daniel Rosen, School of Social Work, 2020

Margaret Rosenzweig, Department of Acute Tertiary Care, 2020

Julia Santucci, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2020

Jennifer Silk, Department of Psychology, 2020 **Abdesalam Soudi**, Department of Linguistics, 2019 **Natasha Tokowicz**, Department of Psychology, 2020 **Luis Vargas**, Pitt Business, 2019

 Sheila Velez Martinez, School of Law, 2021
 David Vorp, Department of Bioengineering, 2020
 David Wallace, Department of Critical Care Medicine, 2019

Y. Ken Wang, Division of Management and Education, Pitt-Bradford, 2020

Jessica Wandelt, Department of Biological Sciences, 2021

 Anna Wang-Erickson, Department of Pediatrics, 2021
 Karin Warner, Department of Nurse Anesthesia, 2020
 Kurt Weiss, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, 2019
 Geoffrey Wood, Division of Social Sciences, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020

Jennifer Woodward, Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Research, 2019

Gerald Zahorchak, Division of Education, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019

Haihui Zhang, University Library System, 2019

Pitt Momentum Funds:

Scaling Grants

Eric Beckman, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2020

Götz Veser, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2020

Melissa Bilec, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020

Vikas Khanna, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020

Peng Liu, Department of Chemistry, 2020

Amy Wildermuth, School of Law, 2020

Joshua Galperin, School of Law, 2020

Shandong Wu, Department of Radiology, 2020

Ashok Panigrahy, Department of Radiology, 2020

Wendie Berg, Department of Radiology, 2020

Rivka Colen, Department of Radiology, 2020

Robert Nishikawa, Department of Radiology, 2020

David Vorp, Department of Bioengineering, 2020

Seong Jae Hwang, Department of Computer Science, 2020

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Kayhan Batmanghelich, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2020

Teaming Grants

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Esa Davis, Department of Medicine, 2020

Abi Fapohunda, Department of Africana Studies, 2020 **Tomar Pierson-Brown**, School of Law, 2020

Jada Shirriel, Healthy Start, Inc., 2020

Alysia Tucker, Allegheny County Health Department, 2020

Dannai Wilson, Allegheny County Health Department, 2020

La'Tasha Mayes, New Voices for Reproductive Justice,

Yuri Bunimovich, Department of Dermatology, 2020 **Valerian Kagan**, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, 2020

Sunil Saxena, Department of Chemistry, 2020
 Kevin Binning, Department of Psychology, 2020
 Christian Schunn, Department of Psychology, 2020
 Lorna Kearns, University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2020

Linda DeAngelo, Department of Administrative and Policy Studies, 2020

Erica McGreevy, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020

Mari Webel, Department of History, 2020

Sarah Krier, Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, 2020

Thuy Bui, Department of Medicine, 2020

Matiangai Sirleaf, School of Law, 2020

Michael R. Dietrich, History and Philosophy of Science, 2020

Wilbert Van Panhuis, Department of Epidemiology, Biomedical Informatics, 2020

Richard Boyce, Department of Biomedical Informatics. 2020

Steven Albert, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2020

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Jennifer Bomberger, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 2020

Vaughn Cooper, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 2020

Seema Lakdawala, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 2020

Tim Corcoran, Department of Medicine, 2020 **Yohei Doi**, Department of Medicine, 2020 **Ghady Haidar**, Department of Medicine, 2020 **Alina Iovleva**, Department of Medicine, 2020

Joe Pilewski, Department of Medicine, 2020 Ryan Shields, Department of Medicine, 2020 Fernanda Silveira, Department of Medicine, 2020 Daria Van Tyne, Department of Medicine, 2020 Balasubramani Goundappa, Department of Epidemiology, 2020

Steve Wisnieski, Department of Epidemiology, 2020 **Graham Hatfull**, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020

Jim Pipas, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020
Stephanie Mitchell, Department of Pathology, 2020
Lisa Parker, Department of Human Genetics, 2020
Doug Reed, Department of Immunology, 2020
Anna Wang-Erickson, Department of Pediatrics, 2020
Michele Reid-Vazquez, Department of Africana
Studies, 2020

Shawn Alfonso-Wells, Dietrich School Advising enter, 2020

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Martha Mantilla, Hillman Library, 2020 Luis Van Fossen Bravo, Center for Latin American Studies, 2020

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Leanne Gilbertson, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020

Zachary Horton, Department of English, 2020 **Adriana Kovashka**, Department of Computer Science, 2020

Klaus Libertus, Department of Psychology, 2020 **Shervin Sammak**, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2020

Carl Wang-Erickson, Department of Mathematics, 2020

Lisa Maillart, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2020

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Raúl Hernández Sánchez, Department of Chemistry, 2020

Jeffrey Hildebrand, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020

Fengyan Tang, School of Social Work, 2020 Elizabeth Farmer, School of Social Work, 2020 Heather Szabo Rogers, Department of Oral Biology, 2020

Elizabeth Pitts, Department of English, 2020 **Mostafa Bedewy**, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2020

Andrea Rosso, Department of Epidemiology, 2020Gelsy Torres-Oviedo, Department of Bioengineering, 2020

 Andrea Weinstein, Department of Psychiatry, 2020
 Peter Campbell, Department of English, 2020
 Emily Wanderer, Department of Anthropology, 2020
 Mitzy Schaney, Division of Social Science, Pitt- Johnstown, 2020

Charles Exley, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, 2020

James Pickett, Department of History, 2020 Karen Gilmer, Department of Theatre Arts, 2020 Feng Xiong, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2020

Alison Stones, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2020

Ravi Madhavan, College of Business Administration, 2020

Martin Turcotte, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020

Michelle Granshaw, Department of Theatre Arts, 2020

Elizabeth Miller, Department of Pediatrics, 2020 **Janine Talis,** Department of Pediatrics, 2020 **Eric Moe,** Department of Music, 2020 **Angie Cruz,** Department of English, 2020

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Paola Buitrago, Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, 2020

Heath Cabot, Department of Anthropology, 2019 **Michael Colaresi**, Department of Political Science, 2020

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Müge Finkel, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2019

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 Jamie Hanson, Department of Psychology, 2019
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Yu-Ru Lin, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2020

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Jerome Branche, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, 2020

Caitlin Bruce, Department of Communication, 2019

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Angie Cruz, Department of English, 2017 and 2019

Charles Exley, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, 2019

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Cory Holding, Department of English, 2020

Zachary Horton, Department of English, 2020

Tracee Howell, Division of Communication and the Arts, Pitt-Bradford, 2019

Aaron Johnson, Department of Music, 2019 **Shirin Fozi Jones**, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2018

Jeanette Jouili, Department of Religious Studies, 2018 **Tuangtip Klinbubpa-Neff**, Division of Humanities,
Pitt-Johnstown, 2017

Neepa Majumdar, Department of English, 2019
Dawn Lundy Martin, Department of English, 2018
Ryan McDermott, Department of English, 2019
Patrick McKelvey, Department of Theatre Arts, 2020
Michael Meyer, Department of English, 2017 and 2020
Benjamin Miller, Department of English, 2017
Elizabeth Monasterios, Department of Hispanic
Languages and Literatures, 2019 and 2020
Michael Morrill, Department of Studio Arts, 2018
Christopher Nygren, Department of History of Art
and Architecture, 2019

David Pettersen, Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, 2019

James Pickett, Department of History, 2019 and 2020 Elizabeth Pitts, Department of English, 2019 and 2020 Mrinalini Rajagopalan, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2019

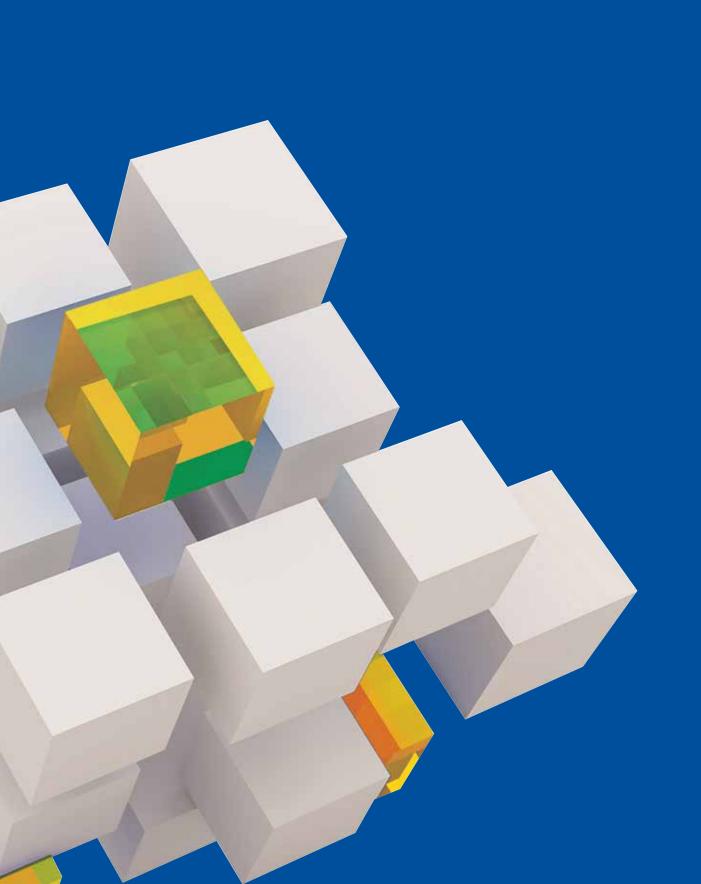
Todd Reeser, Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, 2019

Pernille Roege, Department of History, 2019
 Gayle Rogers, Department of English, 2019
 Mathew Rosenblum, Department of Music, 2017 and 2019

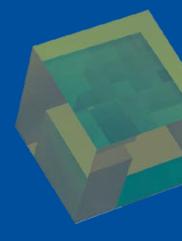
Shalini Puri, Department of English, 2020 **Alexander Taylor**, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2019

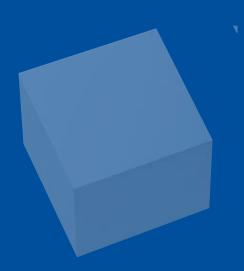
David Tenorio, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, 2020

Molly Warsh, Department of History, 2020 Courtney Weikle-Mills, Department of English, 2018 Amy Williams, Department of Music, 2017











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