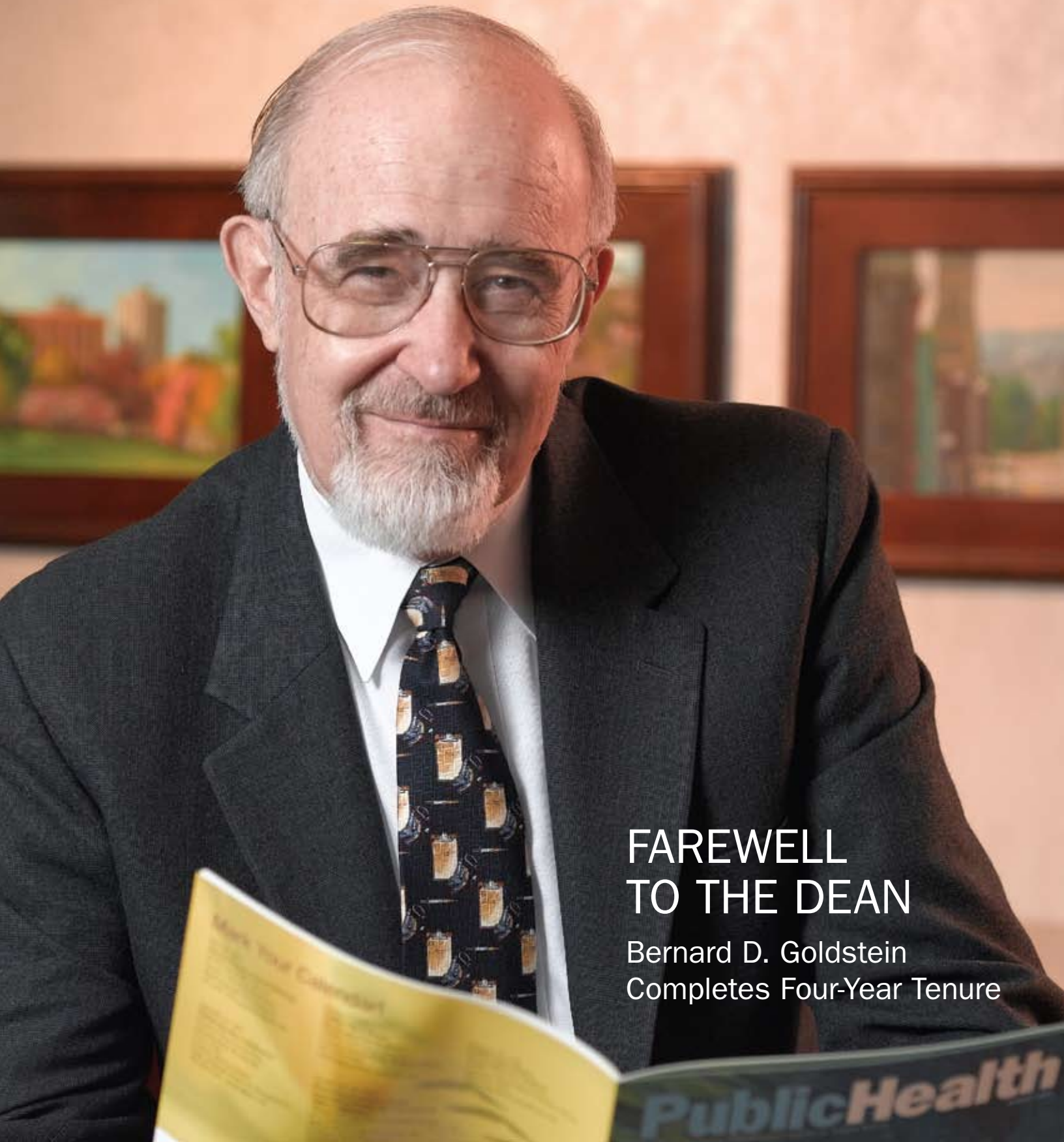


# PublicHealth

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

FALL 2005



## FAREWELL TO THE DEAN

Bernard D. Goldstein  
Completes Four-Year Tenure

PublicHealth

## PublicHealth

University of Pittsburgh  
Graduate School of Public Health

Dean  
**Bernard D. Goldstein**  
Editor  
**Gina McDonell**  
Writer  
**Sally Ann Flecker**

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Department of University  
Marketing Communications

Communications Manager  
**Kelly Kaufman**

Editorial Assistant  
**Brenda Furiga**

Graphic Designer  
**Coleen Rush**

Production Coordinator  
**Chuck Dinsmore**

For inquiries, feedback,  
or comments, please contact:

**Lauren Wally**  
Acting Director of External Affairs  
412-624-3001  
lwally@pitt.edu

**Gina McDonell**  
Administrator for  
Marketing and Development  
412-648-1294  
mcdonell@pitt.edu

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## Dean's Message

*Abridged from Dean Bernard D. Goldstein's  
April 30 convocation address "The Epic of  
Public Health"*

I chose the word "epic" as a title for this convocation address because it represents the importance and the long-sustained challenges of our field. Epic is so loosely used that I could talk about almost anything—the epic of the Pittsburgh Steelers, the epic of the Parran Hall renovations (a true epic).

Central to my belief that a career in public health is an epic in the best sense of the term is the importance of being able to tell truth to power. In many ways, this is what distinguishes public health from medicine. In medicine, there is a relatively clear power relationship between the physician and the patient, which guides communication and outcomes. In public health, the power relationship is blurred—communications are to a broad network, and outcomes are difficult to measure and often years distant. Coupled with our mission of making a difference, this challenging power relationship with society is part of the reason I believe that the field of public health has the qualities of an epic.

Epics are part of every human culture. The Bible is truly epic, as is the Ramayana, the Koran, the *Odyssey*, and even the legend of Dr. Faust. All contain elements of a long and difficult journey. And all have the theme of at least partial failure because inherent human weaknesses interfered with achieving the goal. The seeds of failure are our fears and desires, our arrogance and our combativeness, and perhaps most important to public health, our often willful ignorance.

How else but willful ignorance can one explain why the richest country in the world has 44 million people who do not have the most basic health insurance; that there are communities on our planet in which 80 percent of babies do not survive to age 2; that we spend enormous amounts on curing diseases and alleviating suffering and so little on preventing disease and suffering?

Telling truth to power is not without its risks to the teller. Suppose there is a 10 percent chance of a major epidemic about to sweep down on the United States. Suppose also that it could be prevented but the preventive measure is expensive, is based upon galvanizing an overworked public health infrastructure, and is likely to have side effects in a few people.

I am sure you would advocate for this costly preventive measure. But in my scenario I left out one real-world consequence. A 10 percent likelihood of occurrence means that there is a 90 percent likelihood that the epidemic would not occur—and that the resultant controversy may cost you your job.

In public health situations, telling truth to power depends first on knowing the truth. But we do not always know the truth. Scientific investigation, whether it is of the laws of nature or the activities of humans, has always been an epic venture. With the new scientific advances in molecular biology and human genetics; with the greater scientific strengths of the disciplines of epidemiology and biostatistics; with our better understanding of community dynamics, obtaining truth and translating it for the public good will be an even more exciting challenge.

But in terms of science and knowledge, I can with great assurance make three predictions. The first certainty is that some of the current collective wisdom that you learned at GSPH is simply wrong. Fifty years ago, after the success of the Salk vaccine, when new wonder antibiotics were being rapidly developed, GSPH faculty confidently predicted that infectious disease would soon no longer be a significant health problem. Yet today, we are racing to halt the spread of emerging infectious diseases like HIV, SARS, resistant forms of TB, and malaria.



Bernard D. Goldstein

The second prediction is that there will be major public health challenges during your careers that none of our faculty now predict. If you asked each of the faculty to write down the 10 most likely major problems in the next decade, even with all of our so-called wisdom, we would miss many of them. So you will be challenged.

And the third prediction is that there will be continued growth in the gap between scientific knowledge applicable to human health and the use of this knowledge to protect the public and improve health. That gap in many ways describes our mission. Closing that gap (effectively translating the truth to protect public health) requires a broad range of knowledge and skills.

Some of you will do research that will provide the truth; some of you will communicate that truth and use it to lead others of you to design and oversee interventions that still others of you will evaluate to determine whether they are effective.

On the way, you will meet many external challenges and you will be challenged from within yourselves to keep to the very highest traditions of the epic of public health.

I have every confidence that you will succeed.

Bernard D. Goldstein

# On the Cutting Edge

A Sampling of Innovative Research



## Exposure to Tobacco Smoke Causes Genetic Mutation In Utero

Contradictory findings that emerged from three earlier studies of the effects of tobacco smoke exposure on babies in utero led Stephen Grant, associate professor of environmental and occupational health, to re-examine the original data. (Grant was co-author of one of the three studies.) His new analysis appeared in the online journal *BMC Pediatrics* in June.

The related studies had examined mutations at the X-linked hypoxanthine phosphoribosyltransferase (Hprt) locus in human newborn cord blood samples and had reached what Grant calls a novel conclusion: only passive maternal exposure—not exposure from a mother's active smoking—had a significant effect on the developing baby.

In his new paper, Grant shows that the effects of maternal exposure were masked because of the significant effect of secondary smoke exposure among the nonsmokers who comprised the control group. In the reanalysis, passive exposure to smoke was considered a separate category of exposure rather than included in the nonsmoking controls. Grant then looked at the frequency and range of induced mutation—a biomarker of tobacco smoke carcinogenesis that is a measure of biological effect more so than a quantification of exposure.

"This new analysis shows that not only is there a significant genotoxic effect of maternal active smoking on the unborn, but that passive exposure causes the same type of DNA damage, at similar levels," says Grant. "Moreover, we found similarly increased induced mutation in women who had quit smoking during their pregnancy—usually when they found out they were pregnant. So, just like drug warnings say, 'Tobacco should not be used by women who are pregnant or likely to become pregnant.'"



Furthermore, says Grant, if a woman wishes to protect her unborn baby, she must avoid coming in contact with others who smoke in her presence. "Thus, smoking must be eliminated in the home (i.e. by spouse, parents, older children, etc.) and in the workplace," he says. "Accompanying friends who smoke on their smoke breaks or in the smoking sections of restaurants is 'exposing' the baby.

"The smoking public is likely to get upset about this because it suggests that there is no acceptable level of exposure," he adds. "And this is the message."

Grant, Stephen G. "Qualitatively and Quantitatively Similar Effects of Active and Passive Maternal Tobacco Smoke Exposure on In Utero Mutagenesis at the HPRT Locus," *BMC Pediatrics*, 5 (20), June 19, 2005.

## Managed Care Not Shown to Narrow Racial Disparities in Preventive Care

Noting the dramatic change in the health insurance landscape in the United States in the past decade, Pitt researchers—including Professor of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences Myrna Silverman and Associate Professor of Health Policy and Management Howard Degenholtz—have found that managed health care has not reduced racial and ethnic disparities in preventive health services. Their study was published in the February issue of the *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*.

The study looked at three types of preventive care services: influenza vaccination for men and women, prostate-specific antigen (PSA) tests for men, and mammograms for women. Data were drawn from a larger longitudinal

study of older adults living in Allegheny County who have a chronic disease. The study sample included 463 African Americans and 592 Whites. The use of influenza vaccinations, PSA tests, and mammograms were calculated and compared for each racial group and by members of each insurance group. Then, using a series of logistic regressions, researchers analyzed the impact of race and health insurance on the use of each preventive care service.

The study found that elderly African Americans were less likely to get a flu vaccine than elderly Whites. The researchers reported no significant interaction between race and type of insurance, concluding that a disparity persists, even among those in managed care plans: "Influenza vaccination is seasonal and depends on patients seeking out the service. Thus, outreach and education might successfully address this disparity."

Slightly more African American women than White women reported having had a mammogram in the previous year. In contrast, fewer African American men than White men reported having had a PSA during the previous year.

"These differences suggest a need for further study of the process by which patients are counseled and make decisions about these preventive tests," say researchers. "In particular, it is important to disentangle factors associated with physician-patient communication bias, patient preferences, and system factors."

The authors conclude that more needs to be done to make a significant difference in preventive health care and to reach

the goal of eliminating racial disparities by the year 2010, as outlined in U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Healthy People 2010.

Lin, Chyongchiou Jeng, Donald Musa, Myrna Silverman, and Howard B. Degenholtz. "Do Managed Care Plans Reduce Racial Disparities in Preventive Care?" *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 16 (February 2005): 139–151.

## Healthy Women Study Yields More Findings

According to recent research at the University of Pittsburgh, middle-aged women who take an active role in their health care may be at lower risk for heart disease as they move through menopause. Researchers presented results of the study at the annual meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society in Vancouver, British Columbia, in March.

The study involved 370 middle-aged women from the Healthy Women Study, an investigation of health during and following the critical menopausal transition. Lewis H. Kuller, professor of epidemiology, is leading the study.

"Our findings provide evidence that women who believe they should be engaged in the maintenance of their health, rather than put the responsibility for their health into someone else's hands, are at lesser risk for cardiovascular disease. We suspect that these attitudes translate into better health through behavioral and psychological mechanisms," said Wendy Troxel, a doctoral fellow in psychology at Pitt and the study's lead author.



Other authors include Kim Sutton-Tyrrell, GSPH professor of epidemiology, and Karen Matthews, professor of psychology, epidemiology, and psychiatry at Pitt.

Women who scored as being actively involved with their health care had lower measures of intima-media thickness (IMT) and plaque buildup in the artery walls than those who were considered to be less involved. IMT is a measurement of the thickness of the artery wall. Increased IMT is considered a risk factor for heart attack and stroke.

"This study supports the present trend in health care to encourage patients to take an active role in their health and well-being," said Troxel.

Troxel, W.M., K.A. Matthews, L.H. Kuller, and K. Sutton-Tyrrell. "Taking Care of Your Health: Behavioral Involvement in Health Care and Subclinical Carotid Disease." Paper presented at the 63rd Annual Scientific Conference of the American Psychosomatic Society, Vancouver, British Columbia, March 2005.

## Location of Body Fat Linked to Metabolic Syndrome

Metabolic syndrome has generally been thought to be linked to obesity. But according to a study by Pitt researchers published in the April 2005 issue of *Archives of Internal Medicine*, in older men and women, the location of body fat is important in determining the risk of metabolic syndrome.



“If two people are the same weight, but one of them has a rounder abdomen—a

beer belly—while the other has more rolls of fat, the one with the beer belly is probably at greater risk for metabolic syndrome,” say senior author Anne B. Newman, associate professor in the Division of Geriatric Medicine, and lead author Bret H. Goodpaster, assistant professor of medicine and adjunct assistant professor in the School of Education.

Metabolic syndrome involves a cluster of symptoms including elevated blood lipid levels, insulin resistance, high blood pressure, and large waist size. Having metabolic syndrome increases the risk of dying from a heart attack or stroke.

Researchers examined the association between body fat distribution and metabolic syndrome in 3,035 men and women between the ages of 70 and 79. Patients were characterized as having metabolic syndrome if they met at least three of five criteria: waist circumference greater than 40.2 inches (men) or 34.7 inches (women); elevated blood triglyceride levels; low high density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol levels; high blood pressure, treated or untreated; and elevated blood sugar level, treated or untreated.

Visceral fat found in deep tissue and around the body’s internal organs was associated with metabolic syndrome in older men and women, regardless of whether they were a normal weight, overweight, or obese. Subcutaneous fat—under the skin—was associated with metabolic syndrome only in normal weight men. Intermuscular fat was associated with the syndrome in normal and overweight men.

One surprising finding was that subcutaneous thigh fat was inversely associated with metabolic syndrome in obese men and women. Thus, an individual with more of this type of fat was less likely to have metabolic syndrome.

Practitioners should not discount the risk of metabolic syndrome in older patients entirely on the basis of body weight or body mass index (BMI), the researchers caution. The study concludes, “Generalized body composition, in terms of both BMI and the proportion of body fat, does not clearly distinguish older subjects with the metabolic syndrome.”

Goodpaster, Bret H., Shanthi Krishnaswami, Tamara B. Harris, Andreas Katsiaras, Steven B. Kritchevsky, Eleanor M. Simonsick, Michael Nevitt, Paul Holvoet, and Anne B. Newman. “Obesity, Regional Body Fat Distribution, and the Metabolic Syndrome in Older Men and Women,” *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 165 (April 11, 2005): 777–783.

### Black Women at Lower Risk of Fracture from Osteoporosis

In an article published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* in May, GSPH researchers reported that older Black women have a lower risk of bone fracture than their White counterparts. Low bone mineral density was associated with increased risk of bone fractures for women of both races. However, at every level of bone density, fracture rates were 30 to 40 percent lower for Black women.

“It’s well established that bone density measurements predict fractures in older White women,” said Jane Cauley, GSPH professor of epidemiology and lead author of the report. “But this has never been shown in women of other races.” Joseph M. Zmuda, GSPH assistant professor of epidemiology and human



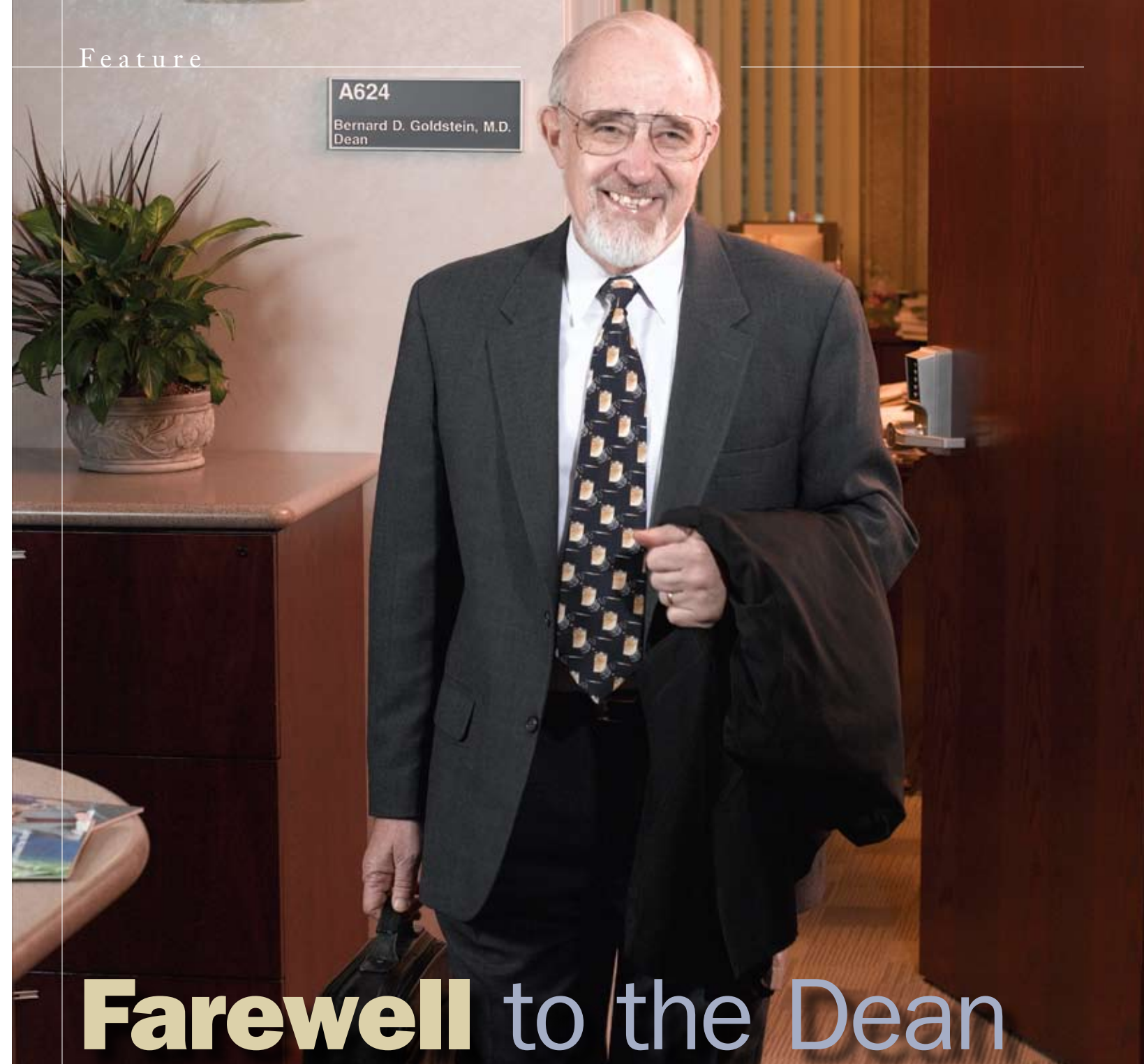
genetics, was another of the study’s authors. The findings came out of data from the multi-center Study of Osteoporotic Fractures, for which Cauley is principal investigator.

Researchers collected data from both Black and White women over the course of six years. The data found that Black women who had had a bone fracture tended to be slightly older than the White women and also had lower height, weight, and body mass index. Also, the Black women were less likely to report walking as a form of exercise, more likely to report osteoarthritis, less likely to take calcium supplements, less likely to consume alcohol, more likely to report falling two or more times in the previous year, and more likely to say they needed to use their arms to stand up from a chair.

That there were fewer Black women enrolled in the study (630 compared to 7,330 White women) could have affected the estimates, Cauley said. Because all of the participants were volunteers and could walk without assistance, they might be healthier than other women their age.

The study also concluded that race-specific normative databases might be appropriate to define osteoporosis through bone density.

Cauley, Jane A., Li-Yung Lui, Kristine E. Ensrud, Joseph M. Zmuda, Katie L. Stone, Marc C. Hochberg, and Steven R. Cummings. “Bone Mineral Density and the Risk of Incident Nonspinal Fractures in Black and White Women,” *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 293 (May 4, 2005): 2102-8.



# Farewell to the Dean

## Bernard D. Goldstein Completes Four-Year Tenure as GSPH Dean

Bernard D. Goldstein, retiring dean of the Graduate School of Public Health, doesn’t enter a room when a visitor is waiting. He bounds into it, ready to direct his considerable energy and intellect to the task at hand. Not unlike how he arrived at GSPH four years ago.

“Bernie came in and, like a good environmental scientist, focused on the health of the Graduate School of Public Health,” says Margaret C. McDonald, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs and health sciences, and assistant professor of epidemiology. “He analyzed all of the innate and external

elements that would affect the health of the school. And where he found the school was not as healthy as it could be and should be is where he put his time, thought, and energy. As a result, the school is as healthy as it’s been in a long time.”

# Farewell to the Dean continued



Natalie Solomon, Minority Student Organization president, presents Dean Bernard D. Goldstein with a gift at his celebration reception.

Goldstein will step down as dean in December 2005. He will continue at the school as a full professor and expects to be involved with research and teaching. Goldstein is an environmental toxicologist whose research has focused on the concept of biological markers in risk assessment.

Prior to his appointment at GSPH, Goldstein was professor and chair of environmental and community medicine at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. There he directed the Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute, the largest such academic program in the United States. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, vice president of the Paris-based Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment, a consultant to the United Nations Environment Programme, and a member of the executive committee of the Association of Schools of Public Health.

Under Goldstein's leadership, GSPH has risen to third in National Institutes of Health funding among the 36 schools of public health in the United States. Arthur S. Levine, senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and dean of the School of Medicine, points to Goldstein's many accomplishments as dean.

"He has increased the enrollment," Levine says. "He's increased the breadth and depth of the research program. He's been a very active supporter of the community outreach programs in the school of public health. And I think he's been an important contributor to the intellectual life of the University as a whole."

“ [Dean Goldstein] has increased the enrollment. He's increased the breadth and depth of the research program. He's been a very active supporter of the community outreach programs in the school of public health. And I think he's been an important contributor to the intellectual life of the University as a whole. ”

—Arthur S. Levine  
Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine

GSPH enrollment has increased by 25 percent to 511 students since Goldstein was installed as dean in 2001. The amount of research dollars generated by GSPH faculty has almost doubled in the past four years, from \$42.5 million to \$80 million. In addition, Goldstein has bolstered the relationship between the school and its alumni, providing a number of opportunities for interested alumni to become more involved.

"It's been very heartening to me to see the responsiveness of alums to being associated with the school. That's been very positive," Goldstein says.

"I am particularly proud about our increase in the amount of funding available to our students," he adds. "We're able to provide more resources for students than we have in the past. I'm thankful for what the alumni and the community have done to support our students."

During Goldstein's tenure, there has also been a renewed vigor to the school's community outreach efforts. The school has greatly increased the strength of its centers and developed several new centers, among them the Center for Minority Health, the Center for Public Health Practice, and the Center for Healthy Aging. Goldstein has

also strengthened ties between GSPH and the Allegheny County Health Department.

"Service to the community is very important for a school of public health," says Goldstein. "We need to be sure that our work is pertinent to the public. Even the most basic research we do is pertinent, of course. But bridging that gap, being sure that we're able to translate that research for public use, is important to us."

Goldstein is quick to heap praise on the school and its faculty. "Superb" is the word he uses often to describe both.

"I think the most important thing I've been able to do, given all my years in academia, is to know when there's something very good. Then the role of the dean is to stay out of the way of the faculty and make sure they have the wherewithal to achieve their goals."

"The school is made up of very strong departments," McDonald says. "He's done a lot to bring those departments into some shared alignment, making sure—without sacrificing the independence of the departments—that those components of independence that are good for the school also work together to benefit the school."

"The dean's done that by holding regular retreats," she adds. "He's also done that by communicating. Bernie's regular dean's letters to the faculty, staff, and students are a sheer delight. He compliments the school and the faculty, but he also offers personal opinions. So even if people don't know him as a person—some of the students may not know him, but I would bet most do—they get a strong sense of where he stands and what he thinks because he writes to them in the best epistolary fashion."

One of the biggest challenges that Goldstein says he has faced as dean is not having enough physical space to accommodate the school's needs. Parran and Crabtree Halls continue to be the public face of GSPH. Only half of the school's programs, offices, and labs are housed in this space, with the rest dispersed among 19 other locations. And although the lack of space is a problem, it is magnified by the fact that the school's buildings are out of date for modern research and educational purposes. As he steps down, Goldstein is pleased that his appeal for cohesive and state-of-the-art facilities



Dean Bernard D. Goldstein with Philip Hallen, chair of the Goldstein celebration committee

has been heard. GSPH was included in the University's planning submission to Harrisburg this year, and as the University develops its new 10-year facilities plan, major construction for GSPH is on the agenda.

"Public health has two characteristics, which, taken together, distinguish it from other schools in a university setting," says Goldstein. "One characteristic is the breadth of our disciplines. Another characteristic is the importance

of our disciplines working together. Certainly, the faculty of arts and sciences has a broader range of disciplines. But there is no need for French and physics to ever talk to each other.

"It's important for every one of our departments that the insights of each get fed into the others and

that they all work together," he says. Goldstein's mantra: No major public health problems can be solved by any one discipline itself. "So we must have folks working together," he says. "Doing so when we have 20 locations has been particularly difficult. That we've been able to partially transcend this problem for at least the past few years is compelling evidence of the strength of the faculty. But, clearly, we need to be able to get our folks in the same location."

This fall, Goldstein returns to the classroom to teach a new overview



Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg looks on as William Strickland, president and CEO of Bidwell Training Center/Manchester Craftsmen's Guild, presents Dean Bernard D. Goldstein with a piece of artwork during his celebration reception.

of public health course for master's degree students. "We believe that anyone who graduates with a degree from a school of public health should have some broad knowledge of public health, even if they specialize in one area. We've developed a new course that's going to provide an overview and an integrated approach to public health," he says. "I'm really excited to find myself once more thinking through what are the best educational approaches to a particular course rather than, as I've been doing up to now, just giving lots of lectures in different courses."

Goldstein will continue to explore his particular research interest in the interface between environmental health sciences and public policy. "I joke that I have manuscripts that I've carried

around with me so much on my trips," he says, "that they've been assigned frequent flyer numbers."

As to where he'd like to see the school head in the future, Goldstein points out the importance of being responsive to where the public health needs are—from basic research all the way to student outreach into the community. "We have growing public health issues—obesity, diabetes, certainly global health issues," he says. "But about the only certain prediction is that there will be some major public health problem in the next decade that none of us can now predict. So it's always important to remember that your planning has to focus on expertise, on quality, so that you have the flexibility to be responsive to whatever are the future public health issues."

Goldstein and his wife, Russellyn Carruth—an adjunct member of Pitt's law school faculty—have endowed a fellowship, the Bernard D. Goldstein Student Award in Environmental Health Disparities and Public Health Practice, for graduate students or postdoctoral fellows. The award will be available beginning in 2006. "We think these are areas of great importance to public health," Goldstein says. "We'd like to leave something behind that we know will be tangible."

"We feel strongly that supporting students who are working with centers like the Center for Minority Health and the Center for Public Health Practice is the best way to leave a legacy."

## Leaving a Legacy: The Bernard D. Goldstein Student Award

Leading one of the most prestigious schools of public health in the nation is no easy task. Elevating it to the highest-ranked state university for funding from the National Institutes of Health is a sure mark of a highly successful administrator.

Bernard D. Goldstein has many accolades to be proud of in his four years as dean of GSPH, but his personal contribution to the school could be one of which he is most proud. When Goldstein began as dean in 2001, he and his wife, Russellyn Carruth—an adjunct faculty member in Pitt's School of Law—wanted to make an impact that may not have put them on the front page of newspapers.

They wanted to permanently support the school and one of its most vital assets—its students.

Knowing that a large part of GSPH's success is attracting the brightest and most committed students, Goldstein and his wife feel strongly about creating more opportunities for students to be able to afford pursuing a future in public health. Goldstein says, "We'd like to leave something behind that we know will be tangible."

The couple's plan was to give gifts to GSPH until they had the right amount to create an endowed fund. Now, with the Bernard D. Goldstein Student Award in Environmental Health Disparities and

Public Health Practice, and Goldstein's retirement as dean this year, the couple feels great satisfaction knowing that they've personally helped more students obtain a world-class education. Best of all, they know these students will go on to positively affect the public's health—all because of their passion for and commitment to GSPH.

*Goldstein and Carruth especially hope that their gift will inspire others—from alumni who remember and appreciate the education that brought them where they are today to faculty members who want to see their research and devotion to public health continue forever. To donate to the Bernard D. Goldstein Student Award or to establish your own student award, please contact Judith D. McConnaha, director of development; A631 Crabtree Hall, 130 DeSoto Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261; phone: 412-624-5639; or e-mail: jmconn@pitt.edu.*



# Human Genetics Xserve Cluster Runs at Super Speed

It's a quiet day in the Department of Human Genetics Xserve cluster, a configuration of computer processors that rivals the speed and power of a supercomputer. Only 305 jobs are logged on to the system today, associate professor Michael Barmada (PhD '99) reports. The average is four to five hundred.



Michael Barmada

With the Apple OS X-based cluster, researchers are able to tackle increasingly complex research in a more reasonable amount of time. For instance, in some of the studies the researchers analyze simulated data sets to better understand how a test statistic behaves.

"Researchers may want to do as many as 100,000 rounds of simulation," Barmada says. "Before, you'd have to do each one sequentially. Now, they can start 100 different replicates at once on the cluster."

What were considered large studies in the 1990s when Barmada was a graduate student—when 300 or 400 families were involved in the study of a disorder that yielded 400 markers—can now be examined more in terms of large international consortia in which 100,000–500,000 markers represent individuals in thousands of families.

The computer cluster was funded through a National Institutes of Health shared resource grant. Made up of 250 2Ghz PowerPC G5 processors, eight

867Mhz PIII processors, 10 1.53 Ghz Athalon processors, and 16 3Ghz Xeon processors, the cluster runs Mac OS X and Linux system software. Its 130 servers generate so much heat that the cluster requires enough air conditioning for an entire building to keep it cool.

Those who work with the cluster call it Gattaca after the 1997 science fiction thriller of the same name about a genetically engineered society. (Gattaca comes from combining the letters G, A, T, and C, the amino acids that encode DNA.)

"The movie deals with many of the ethical issues that we, as human genetics researchers, should be concerned about," says Barmada. "I'm hoping to enhance our students' awareness of those concepts because a lot of work that we're doing on this cluster has the potential of having a large impact on public health."



# GSPH Takes Part in 2005 Senior Olympics

## The Olympics Come to Pitt

The day before registration opened for the 2005 Senior Olympics, Kendra Winters of the Center for Healthy Aging (CHA) was on site at Pitt's Petersen Events Center answering two cell phones at once while fielding questions from volunteers.

"People are getting excited about it," she says. "There are 11,000 athletes coming in from all over the country, and they want to be a part of it."

Like the traditional Olympic Games, cities bid for the opportunity to host the Senior National Summer Games (Senior Olympics), a 15-day, 18-sport competition for men and women 50 years old and older that takes place every two years. Pittsburgh was selected out of 18 cities to serve as the site of the 2005 Games, which were held June 3–18.

Athletes qualify for the games during the off years by competing in local and

state competitions sponsored by 50 member-state organizations. The top two athletes in each age category go on to the national games (the home state may send eight athletes), where they compete in archery, badminton, basketball, bowling, cycling, golf, horseshoes, race walking, racquetball, road racing, shuffleboard, softball, swimming, table tennis, tennis, track and field, triathlon, and volleyball. Venues at the University of Pittsburgh included the Petersen Events Center, Trees Hall, and the Cost Center. Games were also held at Carnegie Mellon University, Schenley Park, North Park, and the Princess Lanes in the South Hills.

Becoming involved with the Senior Olympics was a no-brainer for CHA. One of 33 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded research centers in the United States, CHA has as its mission to promote healthy lifestyles and disease prevention in the older adult

population of Allegheny County through education, research, and public service. So when Senior Olympics organizers approached the center and asked for help in amassing a pool of volunteers to help make the games run smoothly, it seemed to director Connie Bayles to be a perfect fit.

For Winters, CHA community outreach coordinator and cochair of the volunteer committee, recruiting, training, and coordinating the mammoth volunteer force was truly a task of Olympic proportions. By the first week of May 1,200 volunteers had signed up. As the buzz about the games spread, the number of volunteers who filled slots ranging from scorekeeping to handing out water along the racecourse to manning the hospital-ity tent, information desk, and registration table skyrocketed to 3,200. In the days before the games began, 75 more volunteer signed up to help.

When she's not coordinating 3,000-plus volunteers, Winters works on developing collaborations between CHA and the community. Her goal is to promote the center's "Ten Keys to Healthy Aging," one of which is to be active. Her enthusiasm over CHA's involvement in the games was evident.

"I want a lot of people to participate," she says. "I want them to be a part of such a wonderful thing. And what better way to be involved with public health than to be involved with this event."

Two GSPH alumni, 58-year-old Tingle Barnes (MSHyg '71) and 59-year-old Bill Hoon (MPH '81), were also involved in the games—as competitors.

## Fierce Competition

Every time she falls off one of her horses at her farm in Dorseyville outside of Pittsburgh, Tingle Barnes is thankful she became a swimmer. "It makes recovery a whole lot quicker," she says. Barnes had been a swimmer as a child, but it was her own children's involvement with a local swim team and the occasional parent/child races that spurred

her, at 40 years old, to begin swimming competitively. "It was a matter of finding a masters group, a pool, and the time," she says. "I was lucky because I love to swim. It's great exercise, and I happen to have some natural proficiency at it."

Swimming with a masters group is the ideal way to train, says Barnes, who retired after 20 years as director of education at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve in Fox Chapel and now teaches children's literature part time at Chatham College. "You're with a group, so it's social, but you get a workout."

Barnes competed in her first Senior Olympics this year and swam in six events—the 50, 100, 200, and 500 free-style, the 50 backstroke, and the 200 individual medley (IM), which is her favorite event because it combines all four strokes. Unfortunately on the day of the 200 IM, she was running a fever. Although it didn't keep her out of the water, she was not at her best.

"I should have gotten a bronze in the 200 IM," she says, "I didn't swim my usual times."



Barnes and fellow competitor after awards ceremony

The competition was fierce, Barnes says, but she tends to not think about it. "The woman who won most of the events was a phenomenon. My competition is me. My competition is the clock," she says. "When I'm swimming, I'm not acutely aware of what is going on beside me. Instead, I'm thinking about making the turns. I'm thinking about where I am in the race. I'm thinking about when I want to build. It clearly makes a difference in your race."

Barnes says she's considering competing in the 2007 Senior Olympics in Louisville, Ky. Senior Olympians compete in five-year age brackets, meaning she'll be able to compete in the 60–65-year-old group. She is looking forward to getting another crack at the competition.

"When you're the baby of the group, you can have an advantage—although not always," Barnes says. "But I know I can swim better than I did this time."



Tingle Barnes



Bill Hoon

Championship in Hawaii despite being injured. He has been competing in triathlons since the mid-1980s, swims five miles a week, and, when the weather is warm, bikes 100 miles a week. He doesn't run as much as he'd like—only 20 miles a week—but he has three spots of arthritis in his left knee and an old ACL tear in his right one.

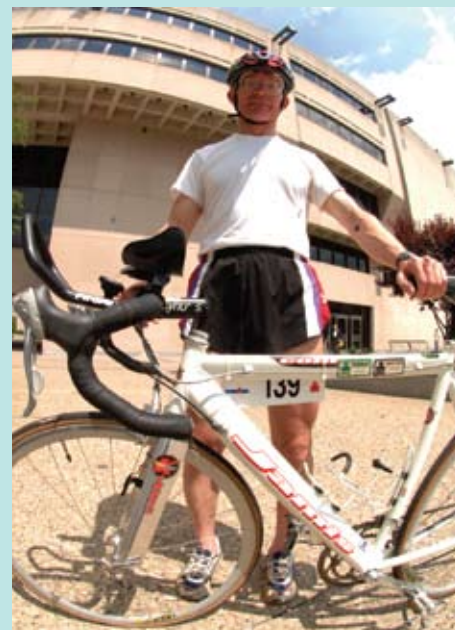
At 6:30 a.m. on the day of the Senior Olympic triathlon, Hoon was already at the park, tinkering with his bike and talking to the other participants. The starting gun for his heat didn't sound until 8:20.

Hoon asked another competitor if he was planning to wear a wet suit for the first leg of the triathlon, a 400-meter swim. "Too

short," the other athlete says of the length of the swim. Hoon decided to wear his anyway. In retrospect, he said later, it probably slowed him down a little in his transition from the pool to the bicycle.

The 20K bike race was five loops around the park, including many unforgiving hills. As Hoon raced he thought about what gear he was wearing, how the bike felt, where his nearest competitor was, and how much water he would need to stay hydrated. He calculated his pace at 17.5 mph. It was only last year that he broke 20 mph for the first time during a race, and that was on a flat, less challenging course.

Hoon jumped off his racing bike, racked it, and rushed to start the foot race. There was a long uphill section right in the middle of the course that some



Hoon on the day of the race

of the athletes walked, but it was here that Hoon, a native Pittsburgher, had the advantage. During his training runs, it's almost impossible to map out a totally flat route. He overtook seven runners in that short stretch.

Eighty-five minutes and 13 seconds after jumping into the water, Hoon's race was run. He came in 53rd out of 139. Not bad for his first race of the season.

"All in all, a good day," he says. "I enjoyed myself." Hoon says he is looking forward to turning 60, because like Barnes, he will move into the next age group. Every athlete, he says, looks forward to getting older.

Now *that's* healthy aging.

*A complete wrap-up of the 2005 Senior Olympics is available at [www.2005seniorgames.org](http://www.2005seniorgames.org). For more information about getting involved with the Senior Olympics, or to learn more about qualifying for the games in your state, visit the official Web site of the National Senior Games Association, [www.nsga.com](http://www.nsga.com), or call 225-766-6800.*

## Looking Forward

"Sprint-distance races are not my best event," says Bill Hoon, referring to the triathlon event at the 2005 Senior Olympics. "The longer the race, the better."

A retired dentist and a colonel in the Army reserves, Hoon prefers the Ironman triathlon, in which competitors have 17 hours to complete a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike race, and 26.2-mile run. He can finish in 14 or 15 hours. By contrast, the Senior Olympic triathlon at Allegheny County's North Park was a 400-meter swim, 12.4-mile bike race, and 3.1-mile cross country run.

Hoon has run six marathons in under three hours, run a 10K road race in 37 minutes and 11 seconds, and finished the 2001 Ironman Triathlon World

# 2005 Parran Lecture Marks 50th Anniversary of Groundbreaking

The 2005 Thomas Parran Lecture on March 31 marked a special occasion—the 50th anniversary of GSPH's groundbreaking. In his introductory remarks, Dean Bernard D. Goldstein reflected on the school's beginnings, including civic leaders' insistence that the school be headed by a major figure in the field.

"That's very clear from their opening documents," Goldstein said. "They thought that a school of public health could make a big difference to the working people of the city of Pittsburgh, especially in terms of the pollution from the mills. But they were unwilling to do so unless they could be sure that the very first leader was someone who had the enormous respect of the field. Thomas Parran was just that individual."

Having served as U.S. surgeon general under Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman, Parran helped found the World Health Organization. "He had been the person who decided it was time for our country to get beyond its unwillingness to look squarely at certain public health issues," said Goldstein. "Dr. Parran at one time was bleeped from the radio because he said the word 'syphilis.'"

The Graduate School of Public Health started in 1948 and was housed in the Pittsburgh Municipal Hospital, now Salk Hall. In 1950, the school enrolled 30 students in its first class, 12 of whom graduated the following year. Today the school's corridors bustle with 541 students, and the faculty has grown from 41 at the time of the groundbreaking to 142. Research funding in 1955 amounted to \$942,453. Today, that figure exceeds \$80 million. In 2003, GSPH graduated its 5,000th student.

With the 50th anniversary of the school's groundbreaking serving as a backdrop, Noreen Clark painted a picture of where the field of public health is headed in her

lecture "Achieving the Promise of Public Health." Clark, former dean and Marshall H. Becker Professor of Public Health at the University of Michigan School of Public Health, is known for her research in asthma, public health, and women's health and behavior.

"Dr. Noreen Clark is truly an inspirational leader in our field," Goldstein said in his warm introduction. "She has clearly set the bar high for all of us in public health to be able to really make a difference."



Noreen Clark

"Dr. Parran was one of the legends in public health," said Clark. "He left very big footsteps for all of us to follow."

After outlining the current challenges facing public health science and practice, Clark looked at the ramifications of what she called the thunderbolts—two events that led to a shift in the way science is considered and conducted: the discovery of the structure of DNA and the molecular revolution. That shift has led, she believes, to an era of multidisciplinary approach across all of the sciences, including social and behavioral sciences.

"A younger generation of multidisciplinary scientists is very interested in collaborations that were once unthinkable," she said. As an example, she pointed to the merging of traditional epidemiology and social and behavioral sciences to create social epidemiology, as well as the collaboration of pathology, toxicology, and engineering to create new arenas in nanotechnology. "To put together people at the bench, people doing clinical work, people in communities—this is exciting to young scientists. And it says to me that if we don't lead in that direction, we're going to have no one following us."



Parran Hall circa 1950s

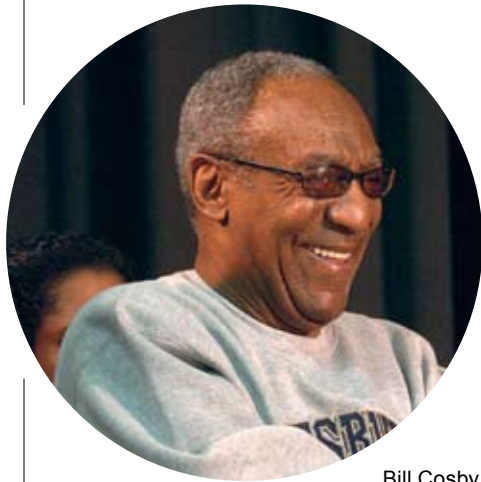
Clark explored the ideal of an "energized school of public health," which she defined as "a school at the top of its game, doing everything it ought to be doing to provide the best opportunities for impacting the public's health." Such a school encourages partnerships across disciplines, constituencies, and communities; develops new disciplines and techniques to study population-wide problems; infuses its teaching with research that crosses disciplinary lines, and thinks about the ultimate outcome. Toward that ideal, Clark proposed a physical, social, and intellectual environment that is conducive to real multidisciplinary work—one that supports innovation and risk taking.

Clark's conclusion brought the lecture full circle with a mention of the school's founding dean. "Thomas Parran would probably be in favor of an energized school of public health," she said. "He would have been surprised and impressed with the strides made by this school. He would have been bursting with pride."

*Audio of Clark's lecture can be heard by visiting <http://cidde-msl.cidde.pitt.edu>. Under Categories, select the Graduate School of Public Health and then choose the 2005 Thomas Parran Lecture "Achieving the Promise of Public Health." Audio can only be accessed using Microsoft Internet Explorer and Windows Media Player.*



## Bill Cosby Awarded 2005 Porter Prize



Bill Cosby

The day before Bill Cosby arrived in Pittsburgh to accept the 2005 Porter Prize, the weather had suddenly and unexpectedly turned from snow to spring. People arriving at Reizenstein Middle School for the evening, billed as “A Conversation with Bill Cosby,” came dressed for a special occasion in crisp suits and colorful dresses. Their spirits buoyed by the warmth in the air, they seemed full of energy and self-assurance, eager to deliver on whatever challenges the educator/actor/comedian would issue them.

GSPH awards the Porter Prize annually in recognition of exemplary performance in health promotion and disease prevention. Cosby was recognized in part for his bestselling book *I Am What I Ate ...*

*And I'm Frightened!*, a humorous look at the unhealthy eating habits he developed over his lifetime and how that affected him.

This year's presentation on April 5 was part of GSPH's observance of National Public Health Week and the Center for Minority Health's celebration of National Minority Health Month. It also marked the 20th anniversary of the awarding of the first Porter Prize to Anne Somers in 1985. As this year's honoree, Cosby was in good company. Past recipients have included Fred Rogers of *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood* fame, former U.S. surgeon general C. Everett Koop, and the late Senator John J. Heinz III, as well as prominent healthcare executives, foundation directors, and academicians.

The event was invitation only and featured not only Cosby, but also numerous community leaders who participated in a roundtable discussion. In attendance were parents and children from kindergarten to high school age, as well as community members, ministers, social workers, teachers, and healthcare professionals.

The crowd cheered as the participants, including Cosby, took their seats on stage. Cosby was unassumingly dressed in a gray Pitt sweatshirt. Stephen

Thomas, director of the Center for Minority Health, was the evening's comoderator along with Esther Bush, president and CEO of the Urban League of Pittsburgh. Thomas took the podium and talked about how fitting it was that this event was taking place in the community. People in the audience responded with an “Amen!”

Making introductory remarks were Andrew King, acting superintendent of

Pittsburgh Public Schools; Bernard D. Goldstein, GSPH dean; and Craig Jackson, Reizenstein principal. Judith Davenport (MPH '74), chair of the Porter Prize committee, and Lee Foster, trustee of the Adrienne and Milton Porter Charitable Foundation—which provides support for the prize—presented the award with help from a Reizenstein student, who handed it to Cosby.

Then Cosby stepped up to the podium. “I'm going to speak to you from the heart.

“My message to you this evening is about parenting,” he continued. “Parenting is not where you say, ‘Because I told you so, that's why,’ and then leave the room. That's not parenting.



Carl Krauser, Pitt Panther basketball student-athlete, with Cosby

“Stay on the child,” he said, putting an emphasis on each word. “Ride that child all day, all night. Tell them, ‘I am not put on this earth to be your best friend. You will thank me later.’”

Cosby repeated the phrase “Stay on the child” throughout his message. He told stories about growing up under the watchful eyes of his mother and teachers.

“Now at age 67, I understand,” he said. “These children need to be watched, and they need for you to stay on the case. If you can't do it, get some help. And that's what you're going to get from up here,” he said, referring to the people on stage with him. “People who are going to tell



you you can come to them and get some help. Don't be ashamed or afraid—these neighborhoods are not getting any safer.”

Cosby concluded by telling the audience, “My job was to draw you in so you can hear your community draw you in and embrace you. Stay on this child. Stay on these children. Show them love.”

For the next hour, community leaders told stories that centered around the themes of violence, education, health and nutrition, and resilience in the face of tragedy. Two mothers whose children were murdered talked about rising above their grief to found a ministry. Calvin B. Johnson, Pennsylvania secretary of health, discussed violence as an epidemic and with a nod to Cosby, identified himself as a child who was watched. A single mother who put two kids through college talked about her struggles. Other speakers included a Pittsburgh Police detective, a physician, a nutritionist, a nun, and a retired teacher who coordinates a mentoring and career program for third, fourth, and fifth graders.

When the last speaker finished, Cosby said, “What I loved about this whole evening is that we took the excuses away from an awful lot of people. You don't settle and you don't accept. You don't just look up and say, ‘Oh well.’ That's not how you got here.”

Stephen Thomas gave concluding remarks. “The point is that the conversation has begun,” he said. “This is just the beginning.”

## Gino Strada Lectures on the Effects of War



(Left to right) Alberto Colombi, Dean Bernard D. Goldstein, and Gino Strada

During his third visit to GSPH in early March, internationally renowned war surgeon and Nobel Prize nominee Gino Strada spoke about his experiences in war-torn countries and discussed his book *Green Parrots: A War Surgeon's Diary*. Strada is cofounder and chief surgeon for Emergency, an organization that builds and maintains healthcare facilities in countries that have been ravaged by war. Alberto Colombi (MPH '97), adjunct faculty member in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, introduced Strada. Colombi is corporate medical director for PPG Industries, as well as president of Emergency USA.

Strada said it's the public's duty to be informed about the effects of war, in part because the media does not often cover the civilian side of conflict. “War is the biggest public health problem we have worldwide,” said Strada. “We have to question who's fighting whom when civilians are the ones who die the most in war.”

In many war-torn countries, Strada explained, health care is not accessible or affordable. In some cases when a

family member needs surgery, people have to go to the pharmacy, buy a blade, and deliver it to the surgeon.

A native of Italy, Strada received part of his medical training at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine from 1981–82, where he worked under famed heart transplant pioneer Thomas Starzl.

Since its founding by Strada and others in 1994, Emergency has treated approximately 1.4 million war victims. Sponsoring Strada's appearance were GSPH, the Departments of French and Italian, the Graduate Program for Cultural Studies, the Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences, University Center for International Studies, and Global Links, a local humanitarian organization that provides medical supplies to indigent countries.

*GSPH's John C. Cutler Memorial Global Health Fund examines global health issues with an annual student award and public lecture presented by internationally renowned experts. For more information or to donate to the fund, please contact Judith D. McConnaha, director of development, at 412-624-5639 or jmconn@pitt.edu.*

Members of the Porter Prize Committee (left to right): Lee B. Foster, Judith L. Davenport, Bill Cosby, Stephen B. Thomas, and Dean Bernard D. Goldstein

# Top Shelf



Monto Ho

## Several Worlds: Reminiscences and Reflections of a Chinese American Physician

By Monto Ho (World Scientific, Singapore. Publication late 2005)

Monto Ho, professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, never intended to write a book about himself. In fact, he had looked at memoirs with some disdain. But after his retirement from GSPH in 1997, Ho was invited to Taiwan to serve as director of clinical research at the National Health Research Institutes. There, as he took part in discussions about medical and public health education, he began thinking about his own idiosyncratic education.

The son of a Chinese diplomat, Ho received his early education in cities around the world—Ankara, Berlin, Vienna, and Brooklyn. He spoke four languages by the time he was 10 years old. Although Ho lived in China for only 13 of his 78 years, his father taught him Chinese, impressing upon him the importance of the language.

*My Education and My Path in Medicine*, which Ho wrote while living in Taiwan, was published in 2001. “It was an interesting experience for me to write the book in Chinese,” he says. “Quite an accomplishment for somebody who has been in the United States for most of my life.” Later, when Ho returned to the United States, his friends and colleagues

were disappointed that his story was written in a language they couldn’t understand. Thinking it would be a simple process, Ho decided to write the English version.

Thus began several years of writing and revising. A new, more ambitious book called *Several Worlds* emerged. In it Ho takes readers on a journey through his eventful childhood around the world, his immersion in Chinese culture during World War II, and his intellectual development—first as a philosophy and government undergraduate and then as a medical student at Harvard University.

In the chapters that span his time at GSPH, Ho outlines the context and development of his pioneering work on interferon research and with viral infections that threaten transplant patients. He also tells the story of how, after his retirement, he was able to help address the critical public health problem of antibiotic resistance in Taiwan.

“Academic Medicine” and “The Ups and Downs of a Department” are fascinating chapters in which Ho gives a behind-the-scenes look at schools of public health, including the role of basic disciplinary sciences.

Much of Ho’s writing is reflective. He explores the theme of looking at himself as a lifelong learner and problem solver as he writes about his development as a researcher. Ho’s insights into the Chinese and American cultures are thoughtful. The book—which mirrors his charm and intelligence—is an autobiography of both a philosophical and scientific mind.

To reserve a copy of *Several Worlds*, visit [www.worldscibook.com/general/5888.html](http://www.worldscibook.com/general/5888.html).

## Pittsburgh Compound-B Researchers Deliver Foster Lecture on Alzheimer’s

This past spring when committee members for the Jay L. Foster Memorial Lecture Series were considering speakers for the biannual presentation on Alzheimer’s disease, they didn’t have to look far to find an expert of international repute.

In April, at the IBEW Conference Center on Pittsburgh’s South Side, William Klunk presented an engaging talk to, as he put it, the hometown crowd. Klunk, associate professor of psychiatry and associate director of the clinical core with the Alzheimer Disease Research Center at the University of Pittsburgh, gave a lecture titled “Alzheimer’s Disease and Pittsburgh Compound-B: Progress in Diagnosis and Drug Discovery” to an auditorium full of family members, caregivers, residential treatment staff, and other health professionals.

Klunk and his colleague Chester A. Mathis, professor of radiology and codirector of the positron emission tomography

(PET) research facility at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, have been hailed for their creation of Pittsburgh Compound-B (PIB), a dye that allows researchers to see—in living brain tissue—the protein fragment believed to cause Alzheimer’s. The pair’s recent PET studies of humans, done in collaboration with researchers at Uppsala University in Sweden, may open the door to a new era in research into the debilitating brain disease.

During his talk, Klunk walked the audience through the nine-year process leading to the development of the compound and discussed the team’s current work. Klunk and Mathis are using PIB imaging studies to determine the presence and follow the progression of the disease with the hope of developing new therapies to halt the build-up of amyloid in the brain.

Later that day, Mathis joined Klunk to present the scientific component of the

lecture: “From the Outside Looking In: Imaging Amyloid in Alzheimer’s Disease.”

The family of the late Jay Foster established the Jay L. Foster Memorial Lecture Series to enhance the scientific base for preventing and treating Alzheimer’s disease, and to call attention to the devastating effects the disease has on the family as well as the patient.

Audio of the scientific lecture can be heard by visiting <http://cidde-msl.cidde.pitt.edu>. Under Categories, select the Graduate School of Public Health and then choose the Jay L. Foster Memorial Lecture Series in Alzheimer’s Disease. Audio can only be accessed using Microsoft Internet Explorer and Windows Media Player.



Jay L. Foster

## The Art and Science of Recruitment

Janet Bonk, senior research associate for the Department of Epidemiology, can rattle off with alacrity the acronyms and numbers associated with the clinical trials and health prevention studies with which she’s been involved in her 19 years of recruiting study participants. PLCO, MRFIT, WHI, and OAI, to name a few. Or 3,764—the exact number of women recruited for the Women’s Health Initiative (WHI) and 508—the number of women recruited for the WOMAN (Women On the Move through Activity and Nutrition) study.

Bonk has recruited for more than 20 national studies, 19 of which were completed during the last 16 years, and she has served as national chair of recruitment for two. All told, Bonk and her staff have sent out 9.5 million mailings and have

successfully enrolled more than 41,000 people in studies.

But it’s not all about numbers, says Bonk. It’s about people. “Recruitment is both an art and a science,” she says. “It’s so important that you explain the science to people in a way that would have meaning in their life. The key to a successful study is treating people with respect. You want the study participants to enter into a partnership with the investigators, so that when the study results are known, they can feel they’ve made a significant contribution to the advancement of knowledge about the disease being studied.”

Bonk has worked on a number of projects—including the community demonstration project for the Center for Healthy Aging—with epidemiology professor Lewis Kuller.

“The ability to do good human population research requires three things: recruitment of appropriate participants, retention, and adherence to specific protocols and measure of outcomes,” says Kuller. “Janet’s work is critical.”

One of Bonk’s next assignments will be to recruit participants for a long-life family study. She’ll be looking for people who are older than 85 who also have siblings who are older than 85. “Of course, that’s going to be extremely challenging,” she says. “But all the studies have their own unique requirements, and that’s what makes my job so very interesting and exciting.”



Janet Bonk

## Meet GSPH's Board of Visitors A Significant Life: Leon E. Haynes III



Leon E. Haynes III

The first time he set foot inside the old school building on Wallace Avenue in Wilkensburg, a community just outside of Pittsburgh's city limits, Leon Haynes wasn't prepared for what he would see. Haynes, who is executive director of Hosanna House, knew the building had been vacant and that it wasn't heated. But it was the haunted remains of a society that had long since disappeared that disturbed him the most. In classrooms, chalkboards still had cursive writing on them, and in the cafeteria there was a full tray of brownies with one square missing.

"It was like they had rung the bell, and they expected to come back and never did," he says.

Ten years after that last bell rang, Haynes led a group of community leaders back to the building to explore the feasibility of introducing new life. "A lot of times you wait to start things when

you have money," says Haynes. "But the question for me and for the leadership at that time was what resources do we have and how can we make a difference with those?"

Haynes, who left a corporate career to do community outreach, had already been tackling problems in the community for three years. At Covenant Church of Pittsburgh, he started a mentoring program for young men called Brothers Keepers. When he organized a workday at the Wallace Avenue building on short notice, he didn't know if 20 or even 10 people would show up to work alongside him. Instead, 500 volunteers came. Today, the building has come full circle thanks to the efforts of those volunteers.

The building, now called Hosanna House, is teeming with energy. When summer camp is in full swing, high-spirited groups of children move through the halls on their way from one activity to the next. Some are on their way to swim and play at the outdoor camp. Others are in small groups learning the song and dance elements for an end-of-summer performance. Still others head off to robotics class.

Haynes' goal is to continue developing relationships through such avenues as the summer camp, after-school programs for children and teens, technical programs in robotics and computers for high school students, and the fitness center, which houses the borough's only swimming pool.

Haynes is involved with other projects and organizations both close to home and far away. He travels to Zimbabwe and Botswana to mentor organizations and facilitate workshops on community building and leadership development. He was named a Peter Drucker Foundation Community Innovative Fellow, received the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award, and is a member of Pennsylvania's Governor's Cabinet on Children and Families.



Hosanna House

"I was ambitious and naïve and it all paid off," Haynes says, referring to his days at Hosanna House when he was a staff of one. Now 75 staff members offer services to nearly 27,000 individuals and families each year.

"I wanted to be part of something that would be significant," Haynes says. "You can have a lot of successes in your life. But significance has a much broader impact. And it lasts for more than a lifetime."

As it turns out, for the one-time school building, the final bell has yet to be rung.

## Achievements Recognized at Convocation and Alumni Dinner



Rosemarie Ramos presents John Wilson with the 2005 Dr. James L. Craig Endowed Excellence in Teaching Award.

On April 30, GSPH held its 55th Convocation and Alumni Dinner. Retiring GSPH dean Bernard D. Goldstein presented the convocation address titled "The Epic of Public Health," which was adapted for this issue's Dean's Message.

**John Wilson**, assistant professor of biostatistics, received the 2005 Dr. James L. Craig Endowed Excellence in Teaching Award for his teaching and advising efforts. Presented annually through an endowment created by distinguished alumnus **James L. Craig** (MPH '63),

the award is given to a faculty member who is nominated by students and alumni and approved by a committee of faculty and students. Wilson was presented with a plaque at GSPH's convocation and received a grant of \$5,000 in support of his teaching-related activities.

Later that afternoon, several graduates and alumni received awards during the school's annual alumni dinner. Listed below are the recipients of the Distinguished Alumni and Margaret F. Gloninger Service Awards, as well as the 2005 initiates to the Omicron Chapter of the Delta Omega National Honor Society, the national public health honor society.

The Omicron Chapter of the Delta Omega National Honor Society also named **Theresa Chalich** (MPH '89) the winner of the 2005 Abraham L. Wolk Distinguished Service Award in Public Health. The award recognizes the efforts of Southwestern Pennsylvania residents who have dedicated their lives to the practice of public health or to the

advancement of the field. It was established in memory of Pittsburgh City Councilman Abraham L. Wolk's tireless efforts to improve the health of people living and working in the Pittsburgh area. Chalich was recognized for her efforts with Bethlehem Haven, a shelter for homeless women in Pittsburgh and for her public advocacy of women's health and support service programs. In keeping with her work, Chalich designated PUSH (Pennsylvanians United for Single-Payer Healthcare) as the recipient of the charitable donation that accompanies the Wolk award.

### Alumni Awards

(see page 28 for profiles of the winners)

### Distinguished Alumni Awards

Joseph P. Costantino (MPH '74, DrPH '76)  
Constance Husman (MSHyg '74)  
Gerald Katz (MSHyg '63)

### Margaret F. Gloninger Service Award

Marc Hiller (MPH '74, DrPH '78)  
Samuel Koilpillai (MSHyg '76)

### Delta Omega National Honor Society Student Initiates

Julie Ann Blasiolo, BCHS, MPH  
Gina Marie D'Angelo, BIOS, PhD  
Craig Lee Fuller, PhD  
Malay H. Gandhi, HPM, MHA  
Paul Kyung Joon Han, MMPH  
Megan L. Kavanaugh, BCHS, MPH  
Rhett H. Lieberman, MMPH  
Donald Musa, BCHS, DrPH  
Ayla Ozturk, HUGEN, PhD  
Ami Suryakant Patel, EPIDEM, PhD  
Tomoko Takamiya, EPIDEM, MPH

### Alumni Initiates

Artis Hall (MPH '93)  
Kimberly Mathos (MPH '01)



Dean Bernard D. Goldstein delivers his convocation address.

# Spotlight

## IDM Announces First Recipients of New Scholarship

First-year master's degree students **Diane Downie** and **Roseanna Guzman** each received \$1,000 awards from the recently established Infectious Diseases and Microbiology (IDM) Public Health Scholarship. The scholarship recognizes academic excellence among incoming MPH and MS degree students. The Bob Yee Fund—established in 1990 in honor of Yee, a former faculty member, to support IDM students—provides funding for the award.

## Soloff Receives Delta Omega Poster Award

**Adam Soloff**, a doctoral student in IDM, received the Delta Omega Poster Award, given by the Omicron Chapter of the Delta Omega Honor Society to the best poster in the student competition at GSPH's Dean's Day. In addition to the \$250 award, Soloff's poster will serve as GSPH's entry for the Delta Omega-American Public Health Association (APHA) national poster competition that will take place during this year's APHA meeting in Philadelphia, Pa.

## Presentations

Several GSPH students presented abstracts of their research at the annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in Anaheim, Calif. in April. The abstract "Distal 11q Haploinsufficiency Correlates with Deficiency in S-Phase DNA Repair and Cell Cycle Arrest in Squamous Cell Carcinomas of the Head and Neck," is for research conducted by human genetics (HUGEN) master's degree student **Rahul A. Parikh** and **Jason S. White**, an MPH student in epidemiology (EPI-DEM). The students are working with

Susanne Gollin, professor of human genetics. The same group also presented the abstract "H2AX Deficit in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Leads to Altered H2AX Function and an Attenuated DNA Damage Response," which concluded that a deficit of the histone protein variant H2AX might contribute to a poor prognosis in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma patients.

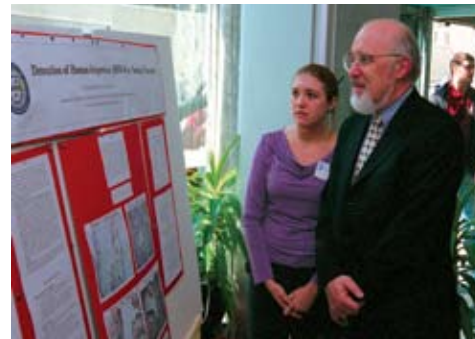
At the same meeting, **Xin Huang**, a postdoctoral researcher in human genetics, presented the abstract "Gene Amplification and Overexpression of Protein Phosphate 1 in Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma Cell Lines," which was based on research Huang conducted with Gollin.

## Dean's Day Research Competition

In March, 30 students presented posters and oral presentations of their research and practice activities at the 2005 Dean's Day competition. Awards were presented to eight students, recognizing the best overall projects in both the master's and doctoral degree categories, as well as the project that made the greatest contribution to the field of public health. Established in 1999 by former dean Herbert Rosenkranz, Dean's Day is a forum for GSPH students to display their projects and receive recognition for superior research and practice.

**Doctoral Degree Student Awardees**  
1st Place (\$1,000): **Adam Soloff (IDM)**: "Rapid Response Vaccination Protects Against Lethal Human Outbreak Avian Influenza"

2nd Place (\$600): **Kevin Brown (IDM)**: "Disproportionate Loss of Lymph Node Myeloid Dendritic Cells in AIDS Associated with Impaired Langerhans Cell Migration"



Dean Bernard D. Goldstein observes a poster presentation with master's degree student Jill Montgomery.

3rd Place (\$300): **Kelley Pettee (EPI-DEM)**: "The Relationship Between Leisure Physical Activity, Lipoprotein Sub-Classes, and Hormone Therapy in Postmenopausal Women"

**Master's Degree Student Awardees**  
1st Place (\$1,000): **Rachel Malinowski (HUGEN)**: "Assisting the Impact of Prenatal Diagnosis of Clefting on the Maternal/Paternal Birth Experience"

2nd Place (\$600): **Kristen Sonon (Health Policy & Management)**: "Searching for and Selecting an Assisted Living Facility"

3rd Place (\$300): Tie:  
**Erin O'Leary (HUGEN)**: "The Role of FANCD2 in the DNA Damage Response Pathway"

**Camille Ragin (EPI-DEM)**: "Cervical and Oral Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Infection in Tobagonian Females"

Soloff also received the Rosenkranz Award (\$500) for his research examining the relationship between influenza outbreaks and rapid response vaccination to contain spread of the disease. The Rosenkranz Award is presented to the project making the most significant contribution to the field of public health.

## Former CDC AIDS Prevention Expert Heads Up MMPH Program

It was late 1985 and Ron Stall, then junior researcher at the University of California at San Francisco, was gathered around a set of computer printouts with his colleagues. The researchers were in shock as they read through the results of their data. According to their findings, nearly one out of two gay men in the city was infected with HIV. These researchers were among the first to realize the implications of the AIDS epidemic for San Francisco and nearly all of America's urban centers.

"I realized then the extent of the death toll, the morbidity, the catastrophe that would befall the city. It was almost as if the bubonic plague had come back," says Stall. "We were struck by this nightmare that came out of the blue, wreaking havoc. Twenty years later, it is still playing out."

Stall recently left his position as chief of the Prevention Research Branch of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to direct the Multidisciplinary Master of Public Health (MMPH) program at GSPH. Also an assistant dean and professor in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, Stall brings an interesting mix of expertise to his work in AIDS prevention.



Ron Stall

His fieldwork in Latin American studies as an undergraduate at the University of Florida gave him an early glimpse at how social change and development go hand-in-hand with health. "I spent a lot of time in Mexico's peasant villages," he says. "You can't avoid noticing how many diseases are there that you didn't see in the United States—partly because you come down with those diseases yourself while there." That insight led Stall to study applied anthropology at the University of Kentucky and epidemiology and medical anthropology at the University of California at Berkeley and San Francisco.

Stall's research interests later turned from historical trajectories and cultural change to behavior change. When the AIDS epidemic hit, he began to focus his attention on HIV.

Today, Stall is known for his pioneering work in identifying HIV risk behaviors and establishing key areas for HIV prevention such as relapse in HIV risk behaviors, the influence of alcohol on sexual risk behavior, and the interrelationship of drug use, depression, poverty, and HIV/AIDS. At the University of California at San Francisco, Stall's work with the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS) included collaborating on the AIDS Behavioral Research Project, the San Francisco Men's Health Study, and the Urban Men's Health Study. Author of more than 100 articles and book chapters on AIDS-related issues, he is among the top 250 most cited researchers in the social and behavioral sciences in the world.

As director of the MMPH program, Stall hopes to expand the program by collaborating with other schools and continuing to cultivate the school's already strong partnership with the School of Medicine. He is also exploring the idea of providing public health training to foreign medical students and other health professionals studying in the United States to better equip them to handle issues in their home countries.

As for his own research, Stall says a number of HIV/AIDS-related research projects have yet to get off the ground. "AIDS is the most important health issue facing the world today," he says. "There's a lot of work to be done not only in our country but abroad, and I'll make whatever contributions I can."

# Roundup

Check Out the Latest GSPH News



Judith D. McConnaha

GSPH welcomes Director of Development **Judith D. McConnaha**, who arrived in May from Toledo, Ohio, where she was assistant director of development at COSI Toledo, a science museum. For the past 20 years, McConnaha has held numerous development and teaching positions in higher education and in the museum community. Her professional experiences include work at Zayed University in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, Iowa; Lincoln Park Zoological Gardens in Chicago, Ill.; and the Field Museum of Natural History, also in Chicago.

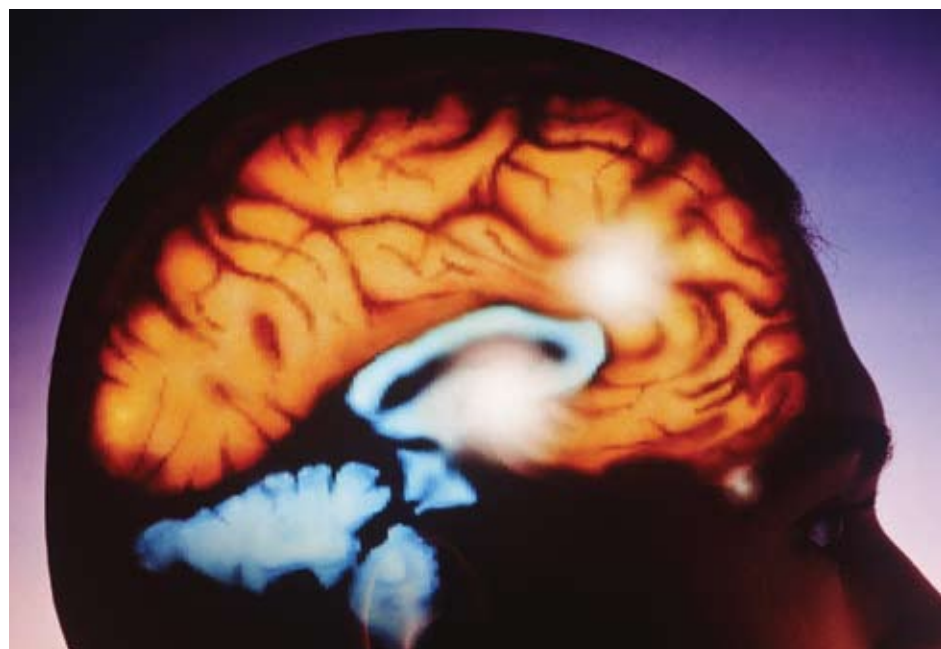
**Ronald Stall**, assistant dean, director of the Multidisciplinary Master of Public Health program, and professor of behavioral and community health sciences, has been selected to serve as a member of the Behavioral and Social Science Approaches to Preventing HIV/AIDS Study Section for the Center for Scientific Review in the National Institutes of Health.

## Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

Funded by a grant from the American Legacy Foundation to reduce prenatal smoking in Pittsburgh, the department is teaming with Tobacco Free Allegheny to develop and implement a collaborative

demonstration project that will augment existing behavioral smoking cessation interventions with a structured “Circle of Friends” social support component. Robert Goodman, professor and chair, will lead the investigation and assess the program’s design feasibility and its impact on smoking behaviors of pregnant women. Pittsburgh has been cited as having the highest rate of prenatal smoking among the 50 largest cities in the United States.

Along with the Center for Injury Research and Control, the department sponsored a Grand Rounds presentation by David Sleet, associate director for science, division of unintentional injury prevention with the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Sleet presented on the role of behavioral and social sciences in the development, implementation, and evaluation of injury prevention initiatives.



Associate Professor **Christine Ley** is the recipient of a grant from the Women’s Studies Faculty Course Development committee to revise the course “Public Health Approaches to Women’s Health.” The revision will bring a stronger global perspective to the course and include a significant online component.

**Jeanette Trauth**, associate professor, presented “The Patient Side of the Equation: Health Information Seeking Behaviors” at the 14th Annual Current Controversies in Medical Ethics Conference. The conference, From Hippocrates to Bill Gates: Doctor-Patient Communication in the Electronic Age, was sponsored by the Ladies Hospital Aid Society of Western Pennsylvania and held at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Four new faculty members joined the department in fall 2005. **Diane Abatemarco** comes to GSPH from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and her main research interests include the study of social epidemiology and maternal child health issues.

She is currently funded by the Academy of Pediatrics to evaluate a national pilot project to help pediatricians implement prevention practices for childhood abuse and neglect. **Jessica Burke** joins GSPH from a postdoctoral research appointment at the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. Her research concentrates on the health of women and children, specifically among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations. **Steven Albert** is an internationally known researcher in the areas of Alzheimer’s and chronic neurological diseases. He comes to GSPH from New York City where he was an associate professor at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University and the director of the Outcomes Division of the Sergiesky Center. **Ronald Stall** is internationally recognized for his work with HIV/AIDS. Stall was previously chief of the Prevention Research Branch of the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention at CDC.

## Biostatistics

**Stephanie Land**, assistant professor, was co-investigator on a study examining the effect of estrogen on the expression of genes in lung cancer cells. With funding from a Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPOR) award in lung cancer from the National Cancer Institute, Land and her colleagues from the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI) found that the same growth genes induced by estrogen in breast cancer are also regulated by estrogen in lung cancer. They also discovered that fulvestrant, an estrogen inhibitor, blocked estrogen’s ability to regulate lung cancer cell gene expression and that therapies are needed that target specific estrogen pathways and halt their lung cancer signaling.



Felicia Wu and Meryl Karol preside over the policy conference Developing Policies to Improve Indoor Environmental Quality: Transatlantic Viewpoints.

Assistant Professor **Douglas Potter** is part of a team that has been awarded a \$1.8 million grant from the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research to study the molecular mechanisms involved in the development of both human papillomavirus (HPV)-positive and HPV-negative oral cancers utilizing genomic and proteomic approaches.

**Carol Redmond**, Distinguished Service Professor of Public Health, was the section editor on clinical trials for the second edition of Encyclopedia of Biostatistics, a reference to support the development and use of statistical methods for addressing the critical issues that confront scientists, practitioners, and policymakers engaged in the life and medical sciences.

**Lisa Weissfeld**, professor, was coauthor of a study investigating the role of dopamine receptors in anorexia nervosa published in a recent issue of *Biological Psychiatry*. She and her colleagues found that overactivity of dopamine receptors in the brain’s basal ganglia—an area that plays a role in how people learn from experience and make choices—could be a major reason why people develop anorexia.

**Sati Mazumdar**, professor of biostatistics and psychiatry, received a training grant of nearly \$500,000 to direct the Biostatistics in Psychiatric Research Training Program. The program trains biostatisticians to develop and apply new or refined statistical methodology in the area of mental health research. Students can integrate biostatistics training with classes in the Department of Psychiatry.

## Environmental and Occupational Health

Vice chair and professor **Valerian Kagan** is the recipient of a three-year, \$1.4 million grant from the Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP) for his research titled “Oxidative Lipidomics of Programmed Cell Clearance: From Nematodes to Humans.” HFSP supports research at the interface between life sciences and the physical sciences and places special emphasis on creating opportunities for young scientists. Kagan was one of only 27 grant recipients for 2005 from more than 700 applicants.

Professor **Meryl Karol**, associate dean for academic affairs, and **Felicia Wu**, assistant professor, organized the policy

conference Developing Policies to Improve Indoor Environmental Quality: Transatlantic Viewpoints in June. Co-sponsored by GSPH and the European Union Center of the Center for West European Studies, the conference examined the challenges facing governments, public health workers, researchers, and other interested parties involved in developing regulatory policies for indoor environmental quality in Europe and North America. The department also sponsored the publication of conference proceedings in *Environmental Health Perspectives* magazine.

**Joseph Schwerha**, clinical professor and also with the Center for Public Health Practice, received the 2005 William S. Knudsen Award, the highest honor in occupational and environmental medicine, from the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM). Schwerha was honored for his distinguished career in occupational and environmental medicine—especially as an educator—as well as for his service to ACOEM as a member of the Board of Directors of the Occupational Physicians Scholarship Fund and numerous committees. Schwerha was also cited for his current work on a five-year retrospective study in Allegheny County, Pa., which will determine whether or not lowering air pollution over time has resulted in a decrease in the incidence of cardiopulmonary disease and asthma.

Dean and professor of environmental and occupational health **Bernard D. Goldstein** received the 2005 Senator Frank R. Lautenberg Annual Award from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ)-School of Public Health. Goldstein received the award and presented the annual Lautenberg Lecture in Public Health at the UMDNJ-School of Public Health's convocation ceremony in May. The Lautenberg award is given to an individual with a significant record of



advocacy for public health and a record of lifetime achievements in the area of public health.

Goldstein also delivered the 2005 Samuel Kuna Distinguished Lecture in Toxicology at the UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School this spring.

In addition, Goldstein chaired a panel of experts at a GSPH peer consultation workshop on the draft toxicological review of naphthalene by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA and Oak Ridge Institute of Science and Education conducted the workshop to seek expert opinions on the research needs related to the mode of action of the inhalation carcinogenicity of naphthalene. The EPA will consider the panel's opinions in determining a course of action for assessing potential health risks associated with naphthalene exposure.

## Epidemiology

**Lisa Bodnar**, assistant professor, recently completed research that showed women who have a high prepregnancy body mass index (BMI) have a greater

risk of developing preeclampsia during pregnancy and that interventions to reduce inflammation and triglycerides may be beneficial to such women.

The Highmark Foundation awarded a four-year, \$1 million grant to the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute's Center for Environmental Oncology (CEO), which is directed by Professor of Epidemiology **Devra Davis**. The grant will help fund CEO's Highmark Healthy Places, Healthy People initiative aimed at reducing environmental health risks in homes, school, and communities, and promoting healthy behaviors. Working with the Center for Minority Health, CEO will create culturally appropriate messages in a multifaceted approach to promoting healthy behaviors for individuals and communities.

Assistant Professor **Catherine Haggerty** received a three-year grant of \$750,000 from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of NIH for her study "Mycoplasma Genitalium and Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID)." The study will examine M. genitalium as a cause of PID, evaluate the response of M. genitalium infection to antibiotics currently recommended for the treatment of PID, and determine the effect of M. genitalium upper genital tract infection on reproductive morbidity.

**Sheryl Kelsey**, professor and deputy director of the Epidemiology Data Center, received a grant from Vasomedical to continue her project "Registry of Enhanced External Counterpulsation," which maintains a multicenter national registry of consecutive patients undergoing enhanced external counterpulsation. The Epidemiology Data Center receives and processes data collection forms, sends schedules to clinical sites for patients who are due for their annual follow-up, edits and analyzes data, and generates reports.



Two faculty members are a part of a \$7.5 million research grant from the National Institute on Aging (NIA) to create the Pittsburgh Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center at Pitt that will focus on mobility and balance disorders in older Americans. Of the five center research cores, **Jane Cauley**, professor of epidemiology, will lead the Participant Core, which will ensure and optimize the recruitment and retention of study participants. Professor **Anne Newman** will manage the Pilot and Exploratory Projects Core, to support preliminary studies by senior and junior researchers and promote innovative research as a part of the Research Career Development Core.

One of just nine such NIA Centers of Excellence in the United States, each with its own specific focus, Pitt was the only institution to receive a highly competitive Pepper Center grant this year. The Pittsburgh Pepper Center will promote independence in older Americans by focusing its research on the causes, consequences, and effective interven-

tions surrounding mobility and balance disorders in older adults.

Cauley also received a \$400,000 grant from the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases to continue her research on osteoporotic fractures in men.

In June, Professor **Kim Sutton-Tyrrell** sponsored another jewelry sale that raised more than \$1,800 for the Evelyn H. Wei Memorial Fund. This is in addition to the more than \$1,500 that Sutton-Tyrrell raised for the fund last December. The fund was established in 2004 by the family of GSPH alumna Evelyn Han-Wei (PhD '99) to provide support for epidemiology students' travel to conferences and meetings.

In the largest study to date on the early detection of colorectal cancer, Associate Professor **Joel Weissfeld** and his colleagues produced benchmark data for what could be expected from large-scale use of flexible sigmoidoscopy (FSG) as a screening tool for colorectal cancer.

Published in July in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, the study revealed that women were more likely to refuse FSG than men and that the rate of non-acceptance of FSG increased with age among women but not with men.

## Health Policy & Management

The department, along with the Center for Research on Health Care, sponsored the Anne C. Sonis Memorial Lecture in May. Stephen M. Shortell, dean and Blue Cross of California Distinguished Professor of Health Policy and Management at the University of California at Berkeley School of Public Health, presented the lecture, titled "What It Will Really Take To Improve Our Nation's Health System." The lectureship honors University of Pittsburgh alumna Sonis for her personal interest in and professional commitment to the ideal of ensuring every individual's right to compassionate, high-quality health care.

**Judith Love**, department chair and head of the MHA and JD/MPH programs, was appointed to the Board on Health Care Services of the Institute of Medicine.

Assistant Professor **Samuel Friede**, director of governance initiatives at the Health Policy Institute and also with the Center for Public Health Practice, received the 2005 Regent's Award from the American College of Healthcare Executives. Friede was selected to receive the award by the regent-at-large for district two, which comprises Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

Professor **Nathan Hershey** moderated a Pitt Senate plenary session about healing the doctor-patient relationship. Margaret Smith Washington (MsHyg '74) served as the session's keynote speaker and discussed the nationwide crisis involving

communication between physicians and patients. Hershey led discussions about real-life concerns that were compiled from UPMC health plan subscribers, including: handling of patient appointments and physician availability, coordination of care among the primary care physician and specialists, referrals and copays, pharmaceutical issues, patient contact time, and cost issues.

**Beaufort B. Longest Jr.**, M. Allen Pond Professor and director of the Health Policy Institute, published two books in 2004—*Cases in Health Services Management* and *Managing Health Programs and Projects*.

## Human Genetics

In April, the department sponsored the second annual C.C. Li Memorial Lecture. Partha P. Majumder, professor and head of the human genetics unit at the Indian Statistical Institute in Kolkata, India, presented the lecture, titled “Our Footprints in the Sands of Time: A Statistical-Genetic Traceback.” Majumder was inspired to pursue postdoctoral training in human population genetics through Li’s textbook *First Course in Population Genetics*. From 1987–89, Majumder was a visiting assistant professor of biostatistics and human genetics at GSPH, where he worked and published jointly with Li. Majumder is internationally known for his contributions to the reconstruction of human evolution using genetic data and for development of novel statistical methods in genetic epidemiology. The lecture was funded by the C.C. Li Endowed Research and Education Fund—established by Dr. and Mrs. Li—which provides permanent funding for human genetics education and research at GSPH. To donate to

the fund, please contact Judith D. McConaha, director of development, at 412-624-5639 or jmconn@pitt.edu.

Along with Pitt’s Center for Bioethics and Health Law, the department cosponsored a lecture by Elizabeth Heitman, associate professor of medical ethics and with the Center for Clinical Research and Ethics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, titled “Ethical Research with Indigenous Populations: Multidisciplinary Policies and Perspectives.”

**Eleanor Feingold**, assistant professor, was appointed a member of the Biostatistical Methods and Research Design Study Section of the NIH Center for Scientific Review.

**David Finegold** was among the authors, along with **Samuel Asher**, professor in the Department of Chemistry, of “Photonic Crystal Glucose-Sensing Material for Noninvasive Monitoring of Glucose in Tear Fluid.” The paper received the Sigi Ziering Award for Outstanding Contribution for a Publication in the *Journal of Clinical Chemistry*. The award is offered to the paper published in the American Association for Clinical Chemistry’s journal that most significantly advances clinical laboratory science and laboratory medicine.

Professor **Susanne Gollin** presented a keynote lecture “The Mechanism of Gene Amplification in Oral Cancer” at the 10th International Congress on Oral Cancer on the Island of Crete, Greece. Gollin and her colleagues are examining cell lines from oral squamous cell cancer (OSCC) and normal cells, and preliminary data suggest that breakage at fragile sites—due to environmental stress, chromosomal fragility, and defective DNA repair—may play a role in gene amplification in the

OSCC cells. A member of the conference organizing committee, Gollin also chaired a symposium on “Frontiers in Molecular Biology” and presented a talk on “The Human Genome Project and Oral Cancer.”

In September, Gollin was also honored “for inspiring and innovative work in the sciences” at the Women and Girls Foundation of Southwestern Pennsylvania event at the Carnegie Science Center. She was also named to the editorial board of the journal *Cytogenetics and Genome Research*.

**Daniel Weeks**, professor and former acting chair, is a member of the Genomics, Computational Biology, and Technology Study Section of the NIH Center for Scientific Review. This study section reviews research applications on fundamental and applied aspects of genes, genomes, and the genetics of humans and other organisms.

Weeks, who is a professor in the Departments of Biostatistics and Human Genetics, was a co-organizer of the Paris Workshop on Molecular and Statistical Genomic Epidemiology in May. The workshop introduced researchers to new methodologies that deal with high-density linkage disequilibrium mapping with single nucleotide polymorphisms. The methodologies are now possible on a genomic-wide basis thanks to technologies that permit characterization of several hundred thousand polymorphisms simultaneously.

## Infectious Diseases and Microbiology

Assistant professors **Linda Frank** and **Richard Day** were awarded a Global Academic Partnership grant from the Office of the Provost and the University Center for International Studies to convene the international workshop

HIV/AIDS East of the Urals: A Global Academic Partnership this spring. The workshop brought together six Russian scientists/clinicians concerned with controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS in the eastern region of the Russian Federation with an interdisciplinary group of behavioral, medical, and public health scientists from the University of Pittsburgh.

## Centers

The Center for Healthy Aging (CHA) received a five-year grant renewal from the CDC to fund the center’s operations through 2009.

CHA, the American Association of Retired Persons, and Eastern Area Adult Services are sponsoring a Walking Promotion program to educate older adults about the health benefits of exercise—one of the center’s “10 Keys to Healthy Aging.” All walkers receive a free pedometer and t-shirt and are asked to report their pedometer readings for 10 weeks so researchers can determine the physical activity level of older adults.

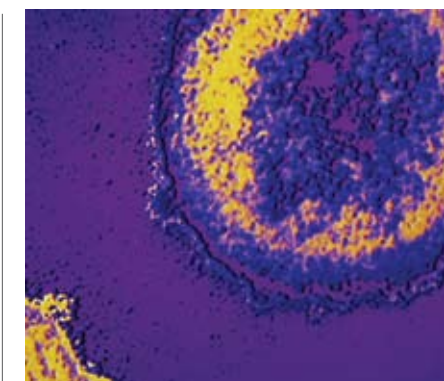
The Center for Healthy Environments and Communities, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, and GSPH cosponsored the first regional meeting of the Collaborative on Health and the Environment in Pennsylvania this spring, titled Pittsburgh 2005: Health and the Environment. The meeting brought together students, health professionals, scientific researchers, patient groups, advocacy organizations, and others interested in protecting the health of current and future generations from environmental harm.

**Stephen Thomas**, director of the Center for Minority Health (CMH) and Philip Hallen Professor of Community Health and Social Justice, is the third recipient of the David Satcher Award,

presented jointly by the CDC and the Directors of Health Promotion and Education to an individual whose leadership in reducing health disparities has resulted in the improvement of health promotion and health education programs at the state or local level. “I am honored that Stephen is receiving this award. I take great pride in his outstanding work and in knowing that he is such a great human being,” said David Satcher, who was surgeon general of the United States from 1998–2002.

Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Calvin B. Johnson, on behalf of Governor Ed Rendell, appointed CMH Associate Director **Angela Ford** to the Governor’s Advisory Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. The council assists the state in developing new statewide programs that promote physical fitness and serve as an example for Pennsylvanians to be more active. Nicole Johnson Baker, government affairs consultant for the American Diabetes Association, Miss America 1999, and a student in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, was also appointed to the council.

CMH, in conjunction with UPCI and the American Cancer Society (ACS), sponsored prostate cancer awareness sessions in four barbershops in predominantly African American neighborhoods during National Men’s Health Week in June. The education sessions were part of the center’s Health Advocates in Reach (HAIR) program, in which barbershop and salon operators are trained as lay health advocates, host health professionals, and distribute health education materials in their businesses. Two teams, each consisting of a physician, public health professionals, an ACS representative, and prostate cancer survivors, visited the barbershops to discuss the importance of screening and early detection. The barbershop visits were also a part of the “Let’s Talk About It”



program of the ACS, the CDC, and 100 Black Men of America to increase awareness and address health disparities.

The Pennsylvania/MidAtlantic AIDS Education and Training Center (PA/MA AETC) received a grant renewal for more than \$19 million over the next five years from the Health Resources and Services Administration HIV/AIDS Bureau to continue its operations. PA/MA AETC provides clinical HIV/AIDS education and training programs for primary healthcare providers in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, and the District of Columbia. **Linda Frank**, assistant professor of infectious diseases and microbiology, directs the center.

In March, the PA/MA AETC sponsored The 11th Retrovirus Conference Update: New Horizons for HIV Disease.

The Centers for Public Health Preparedness and Rural Health Practice, along with the Harvard School of Public Health Center for Public Health Preparedness and other collaborators, released an independent report “Preparing for Public Health Emergencies: Meeting the Challenges in Rural America” this past spring. The report detailed the challenges and concerns of rural public health preparedness, including rural America’s vulnerability to bioterrorism, natural disasters, and other public health emergency threats.

# Profile

## Five Receive Distinguished Graduate Awards at GSPH's Annual Alumni Dinner



Distinguished Alumni Award recipients (left to right) Constance Husman, Gerald Katz, Joseph P. Costantino, Samuel Koilpillai, and Marc Hiller with Theresa Chalich and Dean Bernard D. Goldstein

Each spring, the GSPH Alumni Society recognizes graduates who have made outstanding contributions to the field of public health by presenting the Distinguished Alumni Award and the Margaret F. Gloninger Service Award. The 2005 awards were presented during the annual alumni dinner in April.

Recipients of this year's Distinguished Alumni Award, given to graduates who have made a significant contribution to the field of public health, GSPH, or both, were:

**Joseph P. Costantino** (MPH '74, DrPH '76) of Murrysville, Pa., is professor of biostatistics at GSPH and director of the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project Biostatistical Center, where he has served as the primary statistician for several landmark studies in the treatment of breast cancer. "Faculty members such as Drs. William Hammon, Monto Ho, Lewis Kuller, C.C. Li, Howard Rockette, and Russell Rycheck taught us with an intense fervor of involvement that enhanced one's in-depth understanding of the topic and stimulated one's desire to learn more. Their teaching style and dedication to student learning were factors that solidified my commitment to become a

public health professional and instilled in me a lasting motivation to resolve public health problems," said Costantino.

A nurse practitioner and instructor with the University of Maryland School of Medicine's Department of Pediatrics, **Constance Husman** (MsHyg '74), of Timonium, Md., has served as principal or coprincipal investigator on numerous

studies in reproductive health and is licensed or certified in several states as a nurse practitioner, obstetrics/gynecology nurse practitioner, and advanced nurse practitioner. Husman has also served in different capacities with the Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Reproductive Health, developing culturally specific health education and prenatal health programs. "It is unfathomable to travel to a developing country to try to impact maternal-child health without the credibility, credentials, and mentoring I received at GSPH," said Husman.

**Gerald Katz** (MSHyg '63) of Philadelphia, Pa., is president of Katz Consulting Group, a management consulting firm serving the healthcare industry and related businesses. He has held administrator positions in various hospitals, including St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia, the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, and the Beth Israel Medical Center in New York City. "I'm very honored to have received this award and so thrilled that GSPH is in such great condition and standing in the world of public health," said Katz.

The Margaret F. Gloninger Award is named after the late Margaret Fitzgerald Gloninger (MSHyg '66), a former faculty member in maternal and child health. Recipients of this year's

award—GSPH alumni who have made a significant contribution to GSPH or to the community through volunteer service—were:

**Marc Hiller** (MPH '74, DrPH '78) of Dover, N.H., is associate professor of health management and policy at the University of New Hampshire (UNH). Hiller also received UNH's Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Public Service, the New Hampshire Public Health Association's Presidential Citation, and the Margaret Sanger Award (for his work with Planned Parenthood). On receipt of the Gloninger award Hiller said, "Having known Professor Gloninger when I was a student and knowing her dedication to public service, I am truly honored to receive this award that bears her name. I'd like to share this recognition with two of my most respected teachers and role models, John C. Cutler and M. Allen Pond."

As president of Community Uplift Projects International, **Samuel Koilpillai** (MSHyg '76), of Olney, Md., helps fund the Anantha Ashram Trust of Hosur, India. The Anantha Ashram Trust operates a hospital and a home for abandoned children, and conducts health education and community health outreach programs in 26 villages. Koilpillai served as a statistician and health information consultant with the Pan American Health Organization for 26 years, where he focused on the needs of maternal and child health in the Caribbean and Washington, D.C. "The knowledge I gained while at GSPH inspired me to pursue and fulfill a lifelong dream of international public health service," he said. "I'm so pleased to have been selected for this honor."

For complete biographies of this year's recipients, visit [www.publichealth.pitt.edu/specialevents/convocation2005/biographies](http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu/specialevents/convocation2005/biographies).

## Former Alumni Society President Receives Pitt's Volunteer Excellence Award



William Green (left) with Keith Schaefer, president of the 2005–06 Pitt Alumni Association Board of Directors

"When I see an opportunity to get involved, I'm certainly going to take it and run with it," says William Green (MPH '01), who recently received the Pitt Alumni Association's Volunteer Excellence Award in recognition of his outstanding volunteer service to both the GSPH and University alumni organizations.

After earning his MD from Harvard University in 1960, Green came to

Pittsburgh in 1970 as assistant professor of orthopedic surgery in the School of Medicine. In 1988, his interest in dealing with the rising costs of health care led him to the Executive MBA program at Pitt's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business. Green retired from orthopedic surgery in 1997, at which time he was designated professor emeritus. After his retirement, he joined

GSPH—not as a professor, but as a student. In 2001, Green graduated from GSPH's Multidisciplinary Master of Public Health (MMPH) program.

When asked why he returned to school, Green said "Ever since serving as medical director for the U.S. Public Health Service in the late '60s, I had been interested in learning more about the intricacies of public health." (Green conducted research for the National Institutes of Health from 1968 to 1970.)

Upon completing his GSPH degree, Green became active with the school's

alumni society and was instrumental in helping to revitalize the group. He worked to facilitate communication among alumni and helped to draft updated bylaws for the society. In recognition of his valuable contributions to the society, Green's fellow alumni elected him society president for 2003–04, during which time he was also nominated GSPH's representative to Pitt's Alumni Association Board. This past spring, Green agreed to continue his service to the alumni board beyond his term as past president by chairing a committee to help the society acclimate to the Pitt Alumni Association's banner program. Green represents the school at various Alumni Association activities such as board of directors meetings, Homecoming festivities, the alumni networking fair, and the annual Banner Breakfast. During his presidency, Green also served as an alumni representative to GSPH's accreditation committee.

Green lives in Pittsburgh with his wife, Dorothy. He is congregational chair of the Mt. Lebanon Christian Church and assists his wife with her many leadership activities in the Pittsburgh Chinese community.

## GSPH Top State-Related School in NIH Funding

For the second consecutive year, GSPH was the top state-related school among the nation's 36 schools of public health in total funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). GSPH received nearly \$47.6 million in funding from NIH in 2004, ranking the school third in total funding among all schools of public health—behind only Johns Hopkins and Harvard Universities, both private institutions. For the fourth consecutive year, GSPH also ranked third among all schools

of public health in the amount of research grant funding from NIH, at \$45.3 million in 2004.

During the past five years, the school's total NIH funding—which includes training grants, fellowships, and other awards in addition to research grants—has increased by nearly 45 percent, and GSPH's total external research funding from NIH and other sources also has doubled, reaching close to \$80 million in 2004.

"Our faculty continues to be incredibly productive in regards to research, averaging more than \$600,000 in funding per faculty member," said Bernard D. Goldstein, dean of GSPH. "I am very proud of the consistent hard work, dedication, and quality of ideas generated by the faculty members whose individual grants sum up to such an impressive total."



# Notebook

## GSPH Grads Share News and Notes

### New Alumni Society Officers Elected

At the GSPH Alumni Society Annual Meeting in June, new officers were elected for the 2005–06 term. **Ursula McKenzie** (MPH '97) will serve as this year's president, and **Kristi Riccio** (MPH '02) will act as secretary/treasurer. **Chad Rittle** (MPH '03) will continue as member-at-large. New members to the committee this year are **John Zanardelli** (MPH '79), vice president, and **Jesse Warnick** (MHA '94), corresponding secretary. Also, **Nancy Sussman** (PhD '79) will begin a two-year term as member-at-large.

*Biographies of each officer are available on the GSPH Alumni Society Web page at [www.publichealth.pitt.edu/alumni/society\\_committee.html](http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu/alumni/society_committee.html).*

### 1970s

**Gary Eddey** (MSHyg '78) is working with disabled children and adults at the Matheny Center of Medicine and Dentistry, a partnership with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-New Jersey Dental School. Eddey obtained his MD degree from Cornell University Medical College, now Weill Medical College of Cornell University, in 1983.

**George Tarr** (MSHyg '72, ScD '75) is director of vaccine clinical materials at SAIC-Frederick, Inc., a federally funded research and development center and subsidiary of Science Applications International Corp (SAIC). Tarr is constructing a government-owned, contractor-operated pilot plant for the production of clinical trial materials in support of the Vaccine Research Center and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. He is also interested in providing internships to students wishing to pursue a career in biopharmaceutical product development or manufacturing.

### 1980s

**Robert W. Kocent** (MHA '86) has been appointed assistant executive director at the Masonic Village at Sewickley in Sewickley, Pa. In his position, Kocent is responsible for planning and directing all facets of operation for the community's nursing care and assisted living facilities, participating on the executive team to develop and implement the strategic plan for the Masonic Village at Sewickley, and providing leadership to staff in quality assessment and regulatory compliance.



Robert W. Kocent

### 1990s

**Kimberly Harper Black** (MPH '93) was married in May and relocated to Philadelphia from Tallahassee, Fla. She is now a research and evaluation coordinator at Temple University's Institute on Disabilities.

**Cindy Koenig** (HPM '96) has accepted a position with Olson Zaltman Associates, a research and consulting firm, and is relocating to Phoenix, Ariz.

**Brian Rudolph** (MHA '94) was named administrative director of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Department of Pathology. Rudolph has worked at UPMC in the area of clinical administration and for University of Pittsburgh Physicians in corporate finance and administration since 1994. He has been responsible for pathology administration since 1999.

### 2000s

**Kara Levri** (MPH '04) now works for Indian Health Services in Tucson, Ariz., as an officer with the Public Health Service Corps.

**Rajesh Pandav** (MPH '01) works with the World Health Organization (WHO) South-East Asia Regional Office. He is responsible for planning and implementing epilepsy control activities in member countries and for providing support to mental health initiatives in countries affected by the tsunami in December 2004.

**William Pewen** (MPH '01, PhD '03) recently accepted a position as legislative advisor for health care for Senator Olympia J. Snowe (R-Maine). Pewen completed an American Society of Microbiology Congressional Fellowship in 2003–04.

### Keep In Touch!

Have you changed jobs? Earned another degree or special award? Did you get married or have a baby? Did you relocate? Keep your alma mater and fellow graduates informed of the changes in your life. Simply return the enclosed reply card; visit the alumni information section of the Web site, [www.publichealth.pitt.edu](http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu); or send us an e-mail at [contact@gsphean.gsphe.pitt.edu](mailto:contact@gsphean.gsphe.pitt.edu). We'll publish your updates in the next issue of *PublicHealth*.



## Student Profile: Rovshan Ismailov

Rovshan Ismailov is finishing his doctoral research in epidemiology. During the day, no matter what he's doing—having a conversation, eating lunch, walking down the street—90 percent of his brain is still running through his analyses on cardiac trauma and vascular injury. It's not much better at night, he says. When he sleeps, he keeps a notepad and pencil by his bed so if he wakes up with an idea, he can jot it down to use the next day. Then he falls back to sleep again.

Research is why Ismailov came to GSPH—via a medical degree in his home country of Uzbekistan and an MPH in epidemiology and biostatistics from the Boston University School of Public Health. He believed that GSPH's ranking of third nationally in NIH

funding could translate into opportunities to work on research projects and hone his practical and theoretical skills. Ismailov has been a graduate student researcher in epidemiology and with the Center for Injury Research and Control for the past four years.

Ismailov has experienced other things during his time at GSPH. For example, he was a student representative to the Educational Policies and Curriculum Committee. "I wanted to know how the courses are brought into life," he says. "I'd like to be a member of academia some day. It's very interesting to see how people present their class and the kinds of questions someone on the committee might ask."

While Ismailov welcomes the opportunity to continue working in cardiovascular research or injury prevention, he believes diversifying is vital. Many areas are important to public health, he says. "I think the trickiest thing is to find the interesting moments that exist in your research. Then any work can be truly interesting and outstanding."

Ismailov expects to spend the next year as a postdoctoral or research associate in a practical training program. Beyond that, he says, he isn't sure.

"I follow the philosophy that was given to me by my grandparents," he says. "My grandfather was always saying, 'You can't foretell what will happen tomorrow.' You can always plan, but you have to live this moment and try to be perfect and successful at this moment of your life."

## On the Road Again: Regional Alumni Reception

Representatives of the alumni relations office for the schools of the health sciences hit the road beginning in September with a series of regional alumni receptions. So far, events have been held in Lancaster and Johnstown, Pa.; Tucson, Ariz.; and Dallas, Texas. Early October saw events in Altoona, Pa. and Hackensack, N.J. The inaugural Schools of the Health Sciences Winter Academy will be held in Naples, Fla., on February 17, 2006.

Alumni from all of the schools of the health sciences are invited to these engaging social events. Catch up with friends from GSPH along with colleagues from the other health sciences schools—the School of Dental Medicine, the School of Pharmacy, the School of Nursing, the School of Medicine, and the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. Each reception features light refreshments and presentations designed to bring you up to date on the latest cutting-edge research and educational advances at Pitt. There is no charge for these programs, however reservations are requested.

Invitations are mailed in advance to alumni and friends of the University who live in the cities and surrounding areas where an event is being held. If you would like to help plan a regional health sciences alumni reception in your hometown, please contact Judith D. McConnaha, director of development, at 412-624-5639 or [jmconn@pitt.edu](mailto:jmconn@pitt.edu). We would be delighted to talk with you about bringing an alumni event to your area!

# In Memoriam

## GSPH Celebrates the Life of Herbert Rosenkranz



“Herbert Rosenkranz, my dear friend and colleague, had a titan intellect wrapped in a gentle soul. His contributions to the science of environmental toxicology were nothing

short of landmarks. Herb guided the school with a quiet firmness, an open door, and an atmosphere of complete inclusion,” said Arthur S. Levine, senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Levine was one of many people who spoke with great fondness for Herbert Rosenkranz during a memorial reception this past March at the Concordia Club in Pittsburgh.

Colleagues, friends, and family gathered to remember Rosenkranz—former interim dean, professor emeritus, and chair of the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health—who died last November at age 71. In addition to Rosenkranz’s many scientific achievements, which included developing an expert system that was used to predict the toxicity of new compounds based on their chemical structure, he was also remembered as a man who significantly impacted the lives of those he taught and considered part of his family.

“Dr. Rosenkranz was an eminent scientist who worked tirelessly toward the goal of bettering the public’s health. Part of this work, a part he loved, was training the next generation of public health scientists. He was a wonderful teacher.”

—Former student **Albert R. Cunningham**  
Assistant Professor of Environmental Toxicology, Louisiana State University

“Herb was the rare person for whom the title ‘a gentleman and a scholar’ fit perfectly. His career—one characterized by high achievement and wide-ranging impact—earned him great respect, here and in distant locations. But he was admired every bit as much for his kind, caring, and compassionate nature. By the way he presented himself and dealt with others, he regularly reminded us that each of us can be strong and exacting and also gentle and understanding.”

—**Mark A. Nordenberg**  
University of Pittsburgh Chancellor

Dean Bernard D. Goldstein remembered Rosenkranz as “our friend, our mentor, and our leader. He had the unique combination of being a fierce scientist and a gentle man. GSPH’s success in the past four years ... is due to the groundwork he built.”

Rosenkranz won numerous awards during his distinguished career, including a 10-Year Career Development Award from the National Institutes of Health, the Distinguished Alumnus Award and Aaron Bendich Lectureship from Cornell University, the Corporate Recognition Award from Xerox Corporation, and the Recognition Award of the International Association of Environmental Mutagen Societies.

In 2002, GSPH established the Herbert S. Rosenkranz Award in honor of Rosenkranz’s dedication to improving student research. The award, which recognizes the creative contribution to public health research, practice, or education by a GSPH student, is given annually at GSPH’s Dean’s Day program, which was established by Rosenkranz in 1999.

To contribute to the Rosenkranz Award, or for more information about the fund that supports the award, please contact Judith D. McConnaha, director of development, at the University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health, A631 Crabtree Hall, 130 DeSoto Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261. You can reach her at 412-624-5639 or jmconn@pitt.edu.

**Nino Nanitashvili**, a doctoral student in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, died March 30, 2005. Nanitashvili earned an MD from the Tbilisi State Medical University in Tbilisi, Georgia, and an MPH from the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam, Netherlands. Her studies at GSPH were funded in part by the highly competitive Edmund S. Muskie Graduate Fellowship Program, which was established to encourage economic and democratic growth in Georgia, the Russian Federation, and the Ukraine. Prior to arriving at GSPH, Nanitashvili was a program planning officer at the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) North Caucasus Area Office in Tbilisi. She was also a national consultant for the World Bank-supported primary healthcare project in Georgia, a medical officer for the International Committee of the Red Cross, a medical officer for Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders), and a medical doctor in Tbilisi. Nanitashvili is survived by her husband, Nikoloz Nazgaidze, and a daughter.

**Frances Drew** (MPH ’60) passed away March 22, 2005. Born in Pittsburgh, Taylor attended Vassar College, where she majored in music. Taylor received her medical degree from McGill University in 1942, her MPH from GSPH in 1960, and an MFA in creative writing from Pitt in 1987. In 1975, she was named a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania. As former associate dean of student affairs at Pitt’s School of Medicine, Taylor supervised a community medicine program and encouraged consumer health education. She served as a board member of the Visiting Nurses Association, Three Rivers Community Fund, Planned Parenthood of Western Pennsylvania, and WQED. She is survived by her husband, Floyd, five children, and five grandchildren.

## Mark Your Calendar

*November 17, 2005*

### Jay L. Foster Memorial Lecture in Alzheimer’s Disease

Dale Schenk, Chief Scientific Officer, Elan Pharmaceuticals  
Community lecture: “Treatment of Alzheimer’s Disease: The Beginning of a New Era”

IBEW Conference Center  
5 Hot Metal Street, Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.  
Scientific lecture: “What Abeta Immunotherapy Has Taught Us About the Role of Abeta and Alzheimer’s Disease”  
GSPH, A115 Crabtree Hall, 4 p.m.  
Contact: Gina McDonell, 412-648-1294, mcdonell@pitt.edu

*December 10–14, 2005*

### ASPH/APHA 133rd Annual Meeting

Philadelphia, Pa.

*December 12, 2005*

Reception for Alumni and Friends  
Hosted by David P. Hunter (MPH ’70)  
Philadelphia, Pa.  
Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Salon J, 6:30–8 p.m.  
Contact: Gina McDonell, 412-648-1294, mcdonell@pitt.edu

*January 20, 2006*

### GSPH Open House for Prospective Students

GSPH, 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.  
Contact: Diane Kline, 412-624-5200, dkline@gsphdean.gsph.pitt.edu

*February 17, 2006*

### Winter Academy Regional Health Sciences Alumni Event

Naples, Fla.  
Contact: Judith D. McConnaha, 412-624-5639, jmconn@pitt.edu

*April 11, 2006*

### Jay L. Foster Memorial Lecture in Alzheimer’s Disease

Claudia Kawas, Professor of Neurology, University of California, Irvine College of Medicine  
Community Lecture: “TBA”  
IBEW Conference Center  
5 Hot Metal Street, Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.  
Scientific lecture: “TBA”  
GSPH, A115 Crabtree Hall, 4 p.m.  
Contact: Gina McDonell, 412-648-1294, mcdonell@pitt.edu

*April 29, 2006*

### GSPH Convocation

IBEW Conference Center  
5 Hot Metal Street, Pittsburgh  
Contact: Diane Kline, 412-624-5200, dkline@gsphdean.gsph.pitt.edu

# In Response to Hurricane Katrina

We extend our deepest sympathy to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. All of us have been powerfully affected by Hurricane Katrina's damaging toll in New Orleans and across the entire Gulf coast. GSPH, working with the Association of Schools of Public Health, has taken in eight displaced students from the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. As you can imagine, these students have had to meet many challenges—not the least of which has been entering our classes already under way. Additionally, Larry Keller and Conrad Volz from the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health are involved in discussions concerning the response to the environmental health issues arising from the tragedy.

C.E.A. Winslow was one of the great public health authorities of the first half of the 20th century. He frequently wrote about the challenge of giving voice to the silence of public health—the adverse outcomes that do not happen because



of public health research and practice. This most recent tragedy unfortunately has made it easy for us to teach our students about the importance of public health basics—shelter, food, clean water, vulnerable populations, and the role of planning. Katrina has made the silent

aspects of public health noisily evident and has highlighted the need for public health practitioners to ensure the health of the community both in times of tranquility and times of disaster.



University of Pittsburgh

*Graduate School of Public Health*

*A624 Crabtree Hall*

*130 DeSoto Street*

*Pittsburgh, PA 15261*

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