



03/22/17

## STUDENT MILESTONES

- **Marjorie Tolsdorf** earned a **2017 Fulbright U.S. Student Program English Teaching Assistantship in Russia**. The Fulbright Program awards merit-based grants for international educational exchange. Marjorie is a Bachelor of Philosophy candidate, majoring in political science and Russian and Eastern European studies.
- **Emily Hoover** and **Bhavini Patel** each earned a **Rotary Global Grant** to attend the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford, respectively. This grant funds graduate-level coursework or research up to four years.
- Forbes Hall and Litchfield Towers residence hall communities teamed up with the nonprofit **Rise Against Hunger** to package more than 100,000 meals kits for local residents in need. The **Kraft-Heinz Foundation** donated 100,000 meal kits for the event.

## FACULTY MILESTONES

- The business journal **Pennsylvania Business Central** named **Pitt-Johnstown President Jem Spectar** one of its top 100 local leaders who have learned through failures.
- **The National Science Foundation** awarded CAREER grants to five faculty members in our Swanson School of Engineering, totaling more than \$2.5 million in research funding. Recipients include: **John Keith**, **Giannis Mpourmpakis**, **Christopher Wilmer** [Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering], **Kyle Bibby** [Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering] and **Ervin Sejdic** [Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering].
- The **American Psychological Association** honored emeritus faculty member **Nancy Elman** [School of Education] with its Distinguished Career Contributions to Education and Training in Psychology Award.

## STAFF MILESTONES

- Our **Benefits Department** earned the Fred C. Ford Award from the **College and University Professional Association for Human Resources**. The award recognizes the department's launch of **MyHealth@Work Health and Wellness Center**.

## REGIONAL CAMPUS MILESTONES

- The website **College Choice** recognized **Pitt-Bradford** for offering one of the most affordable nursing degrees in the state. Pitt-Bradford ranked 10th most affordable out of 57 colleges and universities in Pennsylvania that currently offer a bachelor's degree in nursing.

## GIFTS AND GRANTS

- Our inaugural **Pitt Day of Giving**, which commemorated our University's 230th anniversary, raised more than \$5.5 million. Donors participated from 50 states, 22 countries and six continents and made more than 5,500 gifts to Pitt. Our young alumni [Classes 2013-2017] netted 577 gifts—more than doubling the campaign's participation goal for this group.

## ATHLETIC MILESTONES

- We have officially named our new athletic director: **Heather Lyke**. She currently serves as the vice president and director of athletics at **Eastern Michigan University** and will begin her career at Pitt next week.
- The **Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC)** honored three of our student-athletes—women’s swimmer **Kinga Cichowska**, women’s soccer player **Taylor Francis** and football player **Dontez Ford**—with its prestigious **Weaver-James-Corrigan Postgraduate Award**. This award recognizes student-athletes who plan to pursue a graduate degree and who have excelled in the classroom, sports and the community.

## INSTITUTIONAL MILESTONES

- **The Association of International Educators** honored Pitt with its prestigious **Senator Paul Simon Award for Comprehensive Internationalization**. Our University is one of just four institutions to receive the honor, which recognizes colleges and universities that are successfully integrating international education throughout all facets of a campus life.
- The 2018 edition of **U.S. News and World Report’s** “Best Graduate Schools” released national rankings featuring many of our programs. Notable mentions include:
  - In our **School of Nursing**
    - Doctor of Nursing program: 7<sup>th</sup>
    - Master of Science in Nursing program: 8<sup>th</sup>
    - Clinical nurse leader specialty: 3<sup>rd</sup>
    - Administration specialty: 4<sup>th</sup>
    - Adult gerontology: acute care specialty for nurse practitioners: 6<sup>th</sup>
  - In our **School of Information Sciences**
    - Master of Library and Information Science program: 10<sup>th</sup>
    - Health librarianship specialty: 1<sup>st</sup> (tie)
    - Archives and preservation specialty: 6<sup>th</sup>
    - Information systems specialty: 9<sup>th</sup>
    - Digital librarianship specialty: 11<sup>th</sup>
  - In our **School of Medicine**
    - Primary care category: 13<sup>th</sup>
    - Research category: 15<sup>th</sup> (tie)
    - Deans and senior faculty nationwide also ranked our pediatrics program (8<sup>th</sup>) and our women’s health program (6<sup>th</sup>) among the best in the country.
  - Our **School of Education**: 27<sup>th</sup> (tie)
  - Our **Swanson School of Engineering**: 42<sup>nd</sup> (tie)
  - In our **Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business**
    - Master of Business Administration program: 53<sup>rd</sup>
    - Part-time MBA program 71<sup>st</sup> (tie)
  - Our **School of Law**: 82<sup>nd</sup> (tie)
- Our **Center for Protein Conformational Diseases** is set to launch in April and will be only one of two such centers in the nation. The virtual center will aim to improve the health of millions of people who are diagnosed with diseases caused by mutations in the structure of specific proteins.