

# CHANCELLOR PATRICK GALLAGHER

## Report to the University of Pittsburgh Senate

### STAFF MILESTONES

- Our annual **Staff Recognition Ceremony** acknowledges members of our Pitt family who are celebrating milestone years of service to the University. This year, 71 employees celebrated 20 years, 56 employees celebrated 30 years, 25 employees celebrated 40 years, and 1 employee celebrated 50 years.

### STUDENT MILESTONES

- **The Office of Cross Cultural and Leadership Development** selected five undergraduate students from a pool of 35 applicants to represent Pitt at the **Atlantic Coast Conference Leadership Symposium**. Participants will present leadership strategies and information on a prescribed social issue. This year's symposium, slated for February 24-26, 2017, will focus around maintaining a sense of well-being during a period of transformation.
- **Mayor Bill Peduto** appointed University Honors College Student Ambassador **Marcus Robinson** to the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Council this month. Marcus is one of 16 members—out of 79 applicants—who will make recommendations to both the mayor and city council about how to make our city more inclusive to the LGBTQIA community.
- **Ryan Salisbury** has won the **2016 Pitt-BNY Mellon Jazz Scholarship**. Each year, a current or incoming student receives this award, which is funded by our Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences and BNY Mellon.

### FACULTY MILESTONES

- **The American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare** has named **Dr. Shaun Eack** [School of Social Work] a fellow of the Academy. This honor acknowledges Eack's groundbreaking research in the areas of Cognitive Enhancement Therapy for Adult Autism Spectrum Disorder and Schizophrenia.
- **The American Association for the Advancement of Science** inducted professors **David Waldeck** [Chemistry], and **Hrvoje Petek** [Physics and Astronomy], as fellows. This honor recognizes both Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences professors for their success in advancing science applications that are deemed scientifically or socially distinguished.
- **The Council on Social Work Education** has honored the career achievements of **Dr. Larry E. Davis** [School of Social Work; Center on Race and Social Problems] by awarding him its **Significant Lifetime Achievement in Social Work Education Award**. Dean Davis was the first African American to earn a PhD from the dual-degree program in social work and psychology at the University of Michigan and was the first African American to be awarded tenure at Washington University in St. Louis.

### LEADERSHIP MILESTONES

- **Kornelia Tancheva** will join our **University Library System** as university librarian and director, effective May 1, 2017.

## ATHLETICS MILESTONES

- Our **football team** will participate in the **New Era Pinstripe Bowl** versus Northwestern University on December 28, 2016, at iconic Yankee Stadium.
- For the first time since 2004, our **volleyball team** earned a berth in the **NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Tournament**. The Panthers fell to Penn State in the second round.
- Cross Country student-athlete **Gillian Schriever** became the first Pitt runner to compete at the **NCAA Cross Country championships** since 2004.
- Football student-athlete **James Conner** received the **2016 Disney Sports Spirit Award**, presented to college football's most inspirational figure. James accepted the award on Dec. 8 during The Home Depot College Football Awards Show on ESPN.

## ALUMNI MILESTONES

- **The Office of the American Secretary of the Rhodes Trust** named **Bhavani Patel**, alumni of our **University Honors College and Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences**, as a Rhodes Scholarship finalist for her work on migration and issues facing immigrants. This marks the third consecutive year that a Pitt student was considered as a finalist.
- **The National Book Foundation** awarded Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences alumni **Daniel Borzutzky** the nation's highest literary honor—the National Book Award for Poetry—for his poetry collection, "The Performance of Becoming Human."

## FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENT MILESTONES

- Our Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program and our Graduate School of Public and International Affairs awarded the **2016 Iris Marion Award for Political Engagement** to **Hanifa Nakiryowa, Sheila Confer, Jackie Smith** and **Saskia Berrios-Thomas**. This award recognizes a Pitt graduate student, staff member, faculty member, and undergraduate student (respectively) for the work advancing social causes.

## PITT-JOHNSTOWN

- Last month, **Pitt-Johnstown** announced a new Coding Literacy Initiative for the Greater Johnstown region, called the **Coding and Digital Literacy Moonshot Initiative**. With the help of several community partners, Pitt-Johnstown will offer a community pilot program aimed at integrating tech skills in education and promoting digital literacy in the community. This project will work to enhance coding literacy throughout the community.

## DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

- **The Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences** has revised its general education requirements, including the addition of a diversity requirement. This action is directly in line with the University's commitment to strengthen our culture of diversity and inclusion.