

# CHANCELLOR PATRICK GALLAGHER

## Report to the University of Pittsburgh Senate

### PROVOST'S OFFICE:

- **Year of the Humanities:** This year is designed to highlight the important role that humanistic thinking plays in research and education throughout the University. Across our campuses, with support from the Provost's Office, we have already launched or planned film festivals, theater, discussions on race, language, digital computing, academic competitions and more, including programming with the School of Health Sciences' annual celebration of science and technology, *Science 2015: Unleashed!*, which will mark its 15th anniversary this year and include a section titled "We're Only Human." Athletics will also be running spots on the Year of Humanities during games.
- **Transitions:** Arjang Assad has begun his new role as the Henry E. Haller Jr. Dean of the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business and College of Business Administration. He served most recently as Dean of the School of Management at the University at Buffalo, SUNY.

### FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- David Birnbaum, Professor and Chair of Slavic Languages, received the Marin Drinov Medal from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the highest honor the Academy awards to foreign scholars.
- Thomas Kensler, Professor of Pharmacology and Chemical Biology, was named an Outstanding Investigator by the National Cancer Institute and awarded \$6.3 million for studying how food can lower cancer risks.
- Jeremy Levy, Professor of Physics, was selected as a National Security Science and Engineering Faculty Fellow by the U.S. Department of Defense.
- Sally Morton, Professor and Chair of the Department of Biostatistics, received the American Statistical Association's Founders Award in recognition of her distinguished service to the Association.
- Adriana Ramirez, a Lecturer in the English Department, was selected to receive the inaugural PEN/Fusion Emerging Writers Prize for her essay collection – "Dead Boys."
- Martin Votruba, Head of the Slovak Studies Program, received the Milan Hodža Award of Honor from the Prime Minister of Slovakia in recognition of his significant scholarship on Slovak history and culture.

### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Two doctoral candidates were awarded 2015 Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies Dissertation Completion Fellowships.
- Sixteen graduates have been awarded 2015 Fulbright U.S. Student Program Grants.
- Two graduates of the Swanson School of Engineering received 2015 Whitaker International Fellowships.
- Four undergraduates received David L. Boren Scholarships from the National Security Education Program.

### INSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

- **The Princeton Review:** In its 2016 edition of its annual college guide, *The Princeton Review* listed Pitt as one of the best 380 universities in the nation for undergraduate education. *The Princeton Review* also recognized Pitt-Bradford and Pitt-Johnstown on its list of "Best Colleges in the Northeast."
- **Going Green:** Pitt was recognized last year in *The Princeton Review's* 2015 Guide to Green Colleges (earning a score of 90 points out of 99); by *Sierra Magazine's* 2015 Cool Schools (ranked 77th of 153 participating schools); earned the top spot in Sustainable Pittsburgh's Green Workplace Challenge; and ranked 11<sup>th</sup> in the national RecycleMania contest for total recycling (308 schools participated).
- **National Cancer Institute:** The University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI) has been renewed as a National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. The \$25.6 million five-year grant comes as UPCI celebrates its 30th year as a leader in research to develop new methods of diagnosing, treating and preventing cancer. Also, UPCI, in partnership with the Graduate School of Public Health, received an \$18 million grant from National Institutes of Health for research in developing drugs that provide protection in the event of accidental exposure to radiation.

### FACILITIES MANAGEMENT:

- **Environmental and Energy Leadership:** Facilities Management has completed construction and launched the operation of the campus' first Energy and Operations Control Center.
- **David Lawrence Hall Re-opens:** Following extensive renovations, David Lawrence Hall now has two large lecture halls with active learning capabilities and three new classrooms that incorporate some of the most innovative active learning design for classrooms on campus.
- **Salk Hall Pavilion Opens:** Features state-of-the-art research facilities that will be shared by the School of Pharmacy and the School of Dental Medicine. Also houses The Commons, which will connect the Pavilion to Salk Hall and provide an elegant and functional gathering space.

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:

- **Legacy Luncheon:** The Pitt Alumni Association hosted the second annual Legacy Luncheon for families of incoming students whose parents or grandparents are Pitt alumni. More than 225 students and their family members attended the luncheon on the Cathedral Lawn on August 25.
- **National Networking Day:** 3,000 alumni gathered in June at locations around the globe for networking on Pitt's second annual National Networking Day. Eight of the 71 events were abroad, including Dubai, Frankfurt, and Tokyo.

### INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT:

- **Major Gifts:** In the summer, Pitt attracted the following notable gifts and grants:
  - **Ovarian Cancer Research Fund:** \$1.2 million to UPCI.
  - **Anonymous Donor:** \$1 million to the Swanson School of Engineering.
  - **Spencer Foundation:** \$1 million to the School of Education and Center on Race and Social Problems for their project called "In Spite of Parents? Examining the Value of Family Involvement in Educating African American Adolescents."
  - **RK Mellon Foundation:** \$450,000 to the School of Social Work to support the Homewood Children's Village.

### MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES FOUNDATION:

- **Major Gifts:**
  - **The Institute for Transfusion Medicine (ITxM):** \$20 million in support, with a matching gift of \$5 million from the University of Pittsburgh Physicians. Funding for the University's Vascular Medicine Institute from ITxM and the Hemophilia Center of Western Pennsylvania now totals \$50 million.
  - **Rebecca and Lawrence Stern:** \$2.5 million to launch a novel center to be known as The Stern Center for Evidence-Based Policy.
  - **Barbara and Herbert Shear:** \$2 million to create the Shear Women's Cancer and Personalized Medicine Research Fund at UPCI.
  - **School of Dental Medicine:** \$1.5 million bequest from an anonymous School of Dental Medicine alumnus to support students directly associated with the U.S. Armed Forces or who require financial assistance related to Dental School or residency programs.

### COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS:

- **Commonwealth Relations:** There appears to be incremental progress on the Pennsylvania State Budget, though a resolution does not appear to be close and discussions will likely continue through September.
- **Community Relations:** The office will sponsor "Be a Good Neighbor" Block Parties on September 22 and 30 to connect off-campus students, police, Oakland residents, University officials and others. The goal is to strengthen relationships in our "home" community.