STUDENT MILESTONES

- Margaret Farrell became the second student in Pitt’s history to be named a Beinecke Scholar. This national scholarship supports graduate work in the arts, humanities and social sciences.
- The Washington Center awarded junior David Leftwich its prestigious Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship to help him prepare for a career in the foreign service. Leftwich is one of only 10 juniors who earned this award.

LEADERSHIP MILESTONES

- We announced Kathleen Blee as the Bettye J. and Ralph E. Bailey Dean of our Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences and College of General Studies. Kathy—who is currently our Dietrich School’s associate dean and a distinguished professor with our Department of Sociology—will begin her deanship in August.
- We announced Paul Cohen as the dean of our new School of Computing and Information. Paul serves as a program manager at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. When he begins his deanship in August, he will become the first founding dean at Pitt in more than 20 years.
- Gerald Holder announced his intent to step down as dean of our Swanson School of Engineering. Dean Holder, who has led the Swanson School for 21 years, plans to return to teaching in the fall of 2018.

ATHLETIC MILESTONES

- The NCAA awarded four Pitt programs—men’s basketball, women’s cross country, women’s softball and women’s tennis—with Public Recognition Awards for exemplary Academic Progress Rates. To earn this award, teams must finish among the top 10 percent of their respective sport based on a wide range of academic performance indicators. The four winning programs mark the most NCAA Public Recognition awards that Pitt has earned in a single year.
- Five Pitt football players were selected in the 2017 NFL draft: James Connor (Pittsburgh Steelers), Dorian Johnson (Arizona Cardinals), Nathan Peterman (Buffalo Bills), Adam Bisnowaty (New York Giants) and Ejuan Price (Los Angeles Rams).
ALUMNI MILESTONES

• The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation awarded a German Chancellor Fellowship to alum Susie Pisarcik [A&S ‘16]. The award gives graduates from five countries an opportunity to live in Germany and work on a project of their choosing that will help strengthen ties to Germany. For her project, Pisarcik will examine refugee resettlement and integration practices in rural Germany.

INSTITUTIONAL MILESTONES

• More than 2,500 graduates and guests attended our University’s graduate commencement ceremony on Saturday, April 29, 2017. Capacity topped 10,000 for our undergraduate ceremony the following day.
• For the second consecutive year, The Princeton Review included Pitt in its Colleges That Create Futures: 50 Schools That Launch Careers By Going Beyond The Classroom. Of the eight universities selected from Pennsylvania, Pitt is the only public institution to make the list.
• Our School of Social Work and Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business has announced plans to offer a joint degree master’s program.