



1/24/18

INSTITUTIONAL MILESTONES

- **The Princeton Review** profiled the University of Pittsburgh in its “**Colleges That Pay You Back: The 200 Schools That Give You the Best Bang for Your Buck.**” The book and online resource provide a guide to the nation’s best academic and most affordable colleges that also have excellent employment records.
- **Kiplinger’s Personal Finance** recognized Pitt as the best public value in Pennsylvania. It also added us to the list of the **100 best value public colleges nationwide** for the 13th consecutive year. This ranking includes four-year schools that combine exceptional education with affordable cost.
- Our **College of Business Administration (CBA)** improved to **No. 11** among U.S. public business schools and **No. 26** among all U.S. business schools, according to **Poets & Quants**. CBA is now the No. 1 ranked public business school in Pennsylvania.
- *PreLaw Magazine* named our **School of Law one of the nation’s best law schools for tax law**. The magazine judged schools based on curricular offerings, taking into account different factors such as concentrations, clinics and externships. Pitt Law was one of only 40 schools ranked.

REGIONAL MILESTONES

- **Victory Media** recognized our campuses at Bradford, Greensburg, Johnstown and Oakland as **2018 Military Friendly Schools**. This list includes universities across the country that go above and beyond to embrace military students and ensure their success both in the classroom and after graduation.

FACULTY MILESTONES

- **Dr. Rory Cooper** [School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences] was named as one of *O Magazine’s 2018 Health Heroes* for his innovations that assist disabled individuals, some of which include a light-weight manual wheelchair, a chair that can be submerged in water and a power wheelchair that negotiates curbs.
- **The National Institute of Health** awarded **Lee Fisher** and **Doug Weber** [School of Engineering] a \$5.3 million **Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies award**. Fisher and Weber will use the award to investigate how electric stimulation may counter phantom limb pain and improve movement and balance in amputees.
- **The Medieval Academy of America** elected Distinguished Professor of French **Renate Blumenfeld-Kosinski** [School of Arts and Sciences] as an officer. She will serve on the Academy’s Council until 2021 when she will serve as president of the Academy. The Medieval Academy of America is the largest organization in the world promoting excellence in the field of medieval studies.
- **Dr. John Jakicic** [School of Education] will serve as chairperson of the **Psychosocial Risk and Disease Prevention Studies Section, Center for Scientific Review**.

STUDENT MILESTONES

- **Chengcheng Huang** [School of Arts and Sciences] was one of just two individuals in the United States to earn the **Swartz Foundation Fellowship**. Huang is a computational neuroscientist and will continue to study how the brain perceives information in the external world—particularly focusing on perception of pitch in hearing.
- **Joanna Rivero** [Swanson School of Engineering] was one of just six recipients of the **Universities Space Research Association's (USRA) annual USRA Scholarship Award**. The USRA grants scholarships to undergraduate students who tackle challenging scientific questions in the areas of space research and exploration and create solutions that will positively influence people's lives.

ALUMNI MILESTONES

- **Theresa Taylor** [ENGR '82] earned the **Society of Women Engineer's prestigious Resnik Challenger Medal** in recognition of her contributions to spin-bearing technology for attitude control systems that steer, stabilize and point a spacecraft. The Resnik Medal is only awarded as merited for visionary contributions to space exploration and was last given in 2013.

PITT SEED PROJECTS

- This week we announced **Pitt Seed Projects**—a new initiative funded through the Office of the Chancellor that will give faculty and staff members an opportunity to propose projects that support the Plan for Pitt. Submissions will close March 5, and chosen applicants can receive up to \$50,000 to advance their project. Visit chancellor.pitt.edu/pitt-seed-project for more information.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

- Approximately 150 volunteers from nearly every Pitt department participated in this year's **Christmas Day at Pitt**—an annual event hosted in conjunction with the **Salvation Army** and **Sodexo** that provides a warm meal for those in need on Christmas Day. Volunteers served up more than 2,200 meals and distributed gifts to children and warm winter apparel to all guests.
- Pitt community members honored Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s incredible legacy by spending their day off volunteering in our **Office of Cross Cultural and Leadership Development's** annual **MLK Day of Service**. More than 750 students, staff, faculty and alumni volunteered at 30 sites across the region.

HILLMAN LIBRARY

- This year marks **Hillman Library's 50th Anniversary**. The library opened its doors to students on January 8, 1968, and our library staff will be holding events all year long to celebrate this milestone. For more information, please visit library.pitt.edu/hillman50.

CAMPUS RENOVATION

- As part of ongoing renovations, three classrooms on the first floor of **Posvar Hall** have been transformed into lecture halls equipped for interactive teaching and learning. Updates include whiteboards, video screens and an outside-the-classroom learning environment that serves as an informal collaborative study area.