Welcome to the annual University of Pittsburgh Internal Funding Showcase. Once again, we are excited to bring resources and recognition to faculty members who are brimming with innovative ideas. We congratulate this year’s awardees and hope that this showcase helps to spread their enthusiasm for interdisciplinary scholarship and teaching across our campuses, our communities, and beyond.

Pitt’s Momentum Funds offer a tiered set of awards designed to support ambitious projects across multiple scales:

- Priming Grants support scholarly projects by individuals or small groups of faculty members.
- Teaming Grants support the team formation, strategic planning, and building of partner ecosystems essential for the success of large multidisciplinary projects.
- Scaling Grants support the detailed project planning, gathering of proof-of-concept results, and reduction of technical risk that positions teams to competitively pursue large, complex extramural funding.
- In the fall of 2022, we added an additional program, Arts and Humanities Microgrants. These $3,000 one-year awards will expand internal funding opportunities for arts and humanities faculty by supporting existing projects or works in progress or to test project ideas where a smaller grant with fast decision making could be transformative. The fall and spring award cycles for microgrants support these rapid decisions.

Every cycle, we welcome research projects related to the Year Of theme selected by the Office of the Provost for each academic year. In 2022, that theme was Emotional Well-Being. We are happy to report that the recipients of the two Teaming Grants and three of the Priming Grants are studying self-expression, physical movement, or psychological resilience as qualities that contribute to well-being. Given that some of these awards include community partner organizations, we are confident these projects will yield learnings that better people’s lives well beyond the boundaries of the University. As we kick off the upcoming Momentum Funds cycle, we hope to receive competitive proposals that address 2023-24’s theme of Discourse and Dialogue.

We also want to highlight the Pitt Seed program, another important source of internal funding. With a new phased approach launched in January 2022, Pitt Seed wrapped design thinking, project management training, and coaching around nascent projects with the potential for institutional transformation. Included in our showcase is a second cohort of five semifinalists selected to launch their pilot projects. In spring 2024, these semifinalists will present their pilot project data for Phase Five of the competition—and the opportunity to win up to $500,000.

We extend our deep appreciation and thanks to the reviewers of all the proposals we received and to the members of the University Research Council, who play a central role in coordination of the Momentum Funds. Without their dedication and hard work, these awards would not be possible.

With thanks and best wishes,

Joseph J. McCarthy
Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor

Rob A. Rutenbar
Senior Vice Chancellor for Research
AGENDA

University Club, Ballroom B
11:30-11:40 a.m.  Welcome to the Internal Funding Showcase
Joan Gabel, Chancellor

11:40 a.m.-noon  Panel Discussion: Humanities Research Across the Spectrum
Joseph J. McCarthy, Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor
Rob A. Rutenbar, Senior Vice Chancellor for Research
Mrinalini Rajagopalan, Department of History of Art and Architecture, Microgrant Awardee
Caitlin Bruce, Department of Communication, Priming Grant Awardee
Mari Webel, Department of History, Teaming Grant Awardee

University Club, Ballroom A
Noon-1 p.m.  Reception and Poster Session
PITT MOMENTUM FUNDS SCALING GRANTS

Scaling Grants, which provide up to $400,000 over two years, support detailed project planning, the gathering of proof-of-concept results, and the reduction of technical risk so that teams can competitively pursue an identified large extramural funding opportunity. Scaling Grants are specifically designed to further the goal of the Plan for Pitt to engage in research of impact by positioning the University to participate in large research collaborations.

Examining Psychosocial Correlates of Loneliness and Perceived Isolation Among Marginalized Youth

- César Escobar-Viera, Department of Psychiatry
- Xu Qin, Department of Health and Human Development
- Robert W.S. Coulter, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences
- Nadine Melhem, Department of Psychiatry
- Sophia Choukas-Bradley, Department of Psychology
- Marta Paciña, Department of Psychiatry
- Kar-Hai Chu, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences
- Patricia Documet, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

Adolescents and emerging adults from marginalized groups (e.g., racial/ethnic, sexual, and gender minorities; rural living) have disproportionately higher risk of mental health problems (e.g., depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts and behaviors) and substance use than their peers from nonmarginalized groups. Loneliness and perceived isolation are well-known predictors of mental health problems, and their prevalence among youth and emerging adults has significantly increased in the last decade. However, there is limited research to identify modifiable psychosocial, familial, interpersonal (in person and on social media), and structural factors that could reduce loneliness and perceived isolation in this population. The team will partner with community-based organizations that serve marginalized youth and emerging adults with lived experience to contextualize the experiences of feeling lonely and isolated. Then, leveraging mixed methods (longitudinal survey study, focus groups/individual interviews) and social media data, the project will uncover psychosocial, familial, interpersonal, and structural correlates of loneliness and perceived isolation, which can be used as targets for behavioral interventions for reducing loneliness, isolation, and associated mental health problems. This project aligns with National Institutes of Health funding calls directly related to loneliness and isolation.

Linking University-Community Initiatives to Promote a Children’s Thriving Pipeline Across Early Developmental Stages

- Shannon Wanless, Department of Health and Human Development
- Daniel Shaw, Department of Psychology
- James Huguley, School of Social Work
- Elizabeth Votruba-Drzal, Department of Psychology

Supporting child thriving is most effective when prevention programs are delivered at sequential developmental periods and evaluated for long-term impacts, using a sustained, cohesive, and community-engaged approach. In the proposed study, the project links three distinct yet aligned programs that support child thriving (0-4; 5-8; 9-11-year-olds). All three have been part of The Pittsburgh Study, a community-partnered and anti-racist initiative, for the past three years. This Scaling Grant will support interdisciplinary staff, students, and expert consultants to (1) design an overarching theory of change across all three programs; (2) track current and future participants to assess sample and demographic characteristics for children who pass through one, two, or all three programs; and (3) create systems for integrated measure and data analytics to assess the interplay between multiprogram enrollment and child outcomes. These deliverables will prepare us to present a cohesive conceptualization for scholarly and public dissemination and to present persuasively to national and federal follow-on funding officers. Ultimately, such large external funding will situate Pitt as a national leader in university-community partnerships for child thriving.
PITT MOMENTUM FUNDS TEAMING GRANTS

Teaming Grants, which provide up to $60,000 per year, support the formation of new multidisciplinary collaborations to successfully pursue large-scale extramural funding. Team-and community-building activities may include, but are not limited to, inviting external speakers, creating a working paper series, and organizing a workshop. Teaming Grants, like Scaling Grants, are specifically designed to further the goal of the Plan for Pitt to engage in research of impact by positioning the University to participate in large research collaborations.

Supporting Mental and Physical Wellbeing in Autistic Adults through Community-Based Mindful Movement

Rachel Robertson, Department of Teaching, Learning and Leading
Marissa Vogel, Open Up
Caitlin Conner, Department of Psychiatry
Carla Mazefsky, Department of Psychiatry
Sally Sherman, Department of Health and Human Development

Autistic adults experience greater mental, emotional, and physical health (MEPH) challenges and engage in less physical activity than non-autistic adults. One approach to supporting MEPH is yoga or mindful movement. The aim of this teaming project is to develop and evaluate a community-based mindful movement program with and for autistic adults to support their MEPH. In phase one, we will create a development team consisting of [1] our community partner, Open Up; [2] autistic adults who currently participate in Open Up’s mindful movement programming; and [3] an interdisciplinary team of University of Pittsburgh researchers specializing in autism and MEPH and will use a mixed-methods approach to gather evidence on the features of Open Up’s ongoing mindful movement classes that are most beneficial for supporting MEPH in autistic adults. The team will use those findings to develop a mindful movement program specifically for supporting autistic adults’ MEPH. In phase two, the pilot mindful movement program will be tested at Open Up in a randomized, waitlist-controlled trial. Further, we aim to develop a program that is manualized, feasible to implement in person and online, and rigorously evaluated for potential effectiveness.

This project supports the Year of Emotional Well-Being theme.

Testing the Effectiveness of Faculty as Facilitators of Psychological Resilience Interventions for Students in Professional and Graduate Programs

Ann Sinsheimer, School of Law
Omid Fotuhi, Learning Research and Development Center
Andrele St. Val, School of Law
Ming-Te Wang, University of Chicago

This team seeks to better understand the efficacy of intervention strategies at the graduate and professional school level. The project, piloted at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law over the last six years, involves putting into place a tailored and targeted set of interventions for graduate and professional school students. The inventions are based on a solid understanding of students’ experiences and draw upon research involving the role of mindset in student success. There have been many evidence-based programs designed to study and mitigate K-12 and undergraduate students’ maladaptive mindsets and outcomes, but there have been few research programs that examined graduate and professional schools, considered graduate and professional students’ mindsets, or addressed the needs of graduate and professional students. This project has sought to fill this gap, with an eye toward modernizing and humanizing the legal education system, making it more inclusive, and helping students maintain balance. The research aims to create more successful students and, in turn, make Pitt the desired location for training high-achieving professionals. This program will serve as a model for other law schools and professional and graduate school programs.

This project supports the Year of Emotional Well-Being theme.
Primming Grants provide up to $25,000 per year to support significant and innovative scholarship by individual or small groups of faculty at all ranks at the University of Pittsburgh. In constructing each year’s portfolio of awards, attention is given to supporting early career faculty and areas where opportunities for extramural funding are extremely limited. Proposals are reviewed in four tracks: [1] Creative Arts, Performing Arts, and Humanities; [2] Engineering, Technology, Natural Sciences, and Mathematical Sciences; [3] Health and Life Sciences; and [4] Social Sciences, which include the fields of business, policy, law, education and social work.

Anthropocene Stewardship: Linking Ecological Sustainability, Social Justice, and Well-Being in Settler-Colonial Hawai‘i
Tomas Matza, Department of Anthropology
This project supports the Year of Emotional Well-Being theme.

Archive of Pittsburgh Language and Speech
Daniel Villarreal, Department of Linguistics

Bringing Mobile Health to the Underdeveloped World
Longfei Shangguan, Department of Computer Science

Distributional Equity Analysis of Residual Risk for National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) and Stakeholder Engagement
Christina Ndoh, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

Enhancing Resilience and Healthspan Through Listening Sessions with Community Engagement Centers
Rose Constantino, Department of Health and Community Systems
Willa Doswell, Department of Health Promotion and Development
Betty J. Braxter, Department of Health Promotion and Development
Mario C. Browne, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics
Claudia M. Kregg-Byers, Department of Health and Community Systems
This project supports the Year of Emotional Well-Being theme.

Experimental Studies and Kinetic Modeling of Co-pyrolysis of Biomass and Plastic Wastes with the Combined Scheme of Kinetics and Machine-Learning
Hui Liu, Engineering and Computer Science Division, Pitt-Johnstown

Exploring New Metallic Quantum Spin Liquid in Intermetallic Compounds
Xin Gui, Department of Chemistry

Freshwater Bivalve Shells as Monitors of River Contaminant Sources Over Time: Application of Barium isotopes
Brian Stewart, Department of Geology and Environmental Science

Hemispheric Conversations Urban Art Project
Caitlin Bruce, Department of Communication
Oreen Cohen, Independent Artist
Shane Pilster, Rivers of Steel
Max Gonzales, Rivers of Steel

Imagination PLAYce: Towards Critical Liberatory and Digitally Mediated Pedagogies of Higher Education
Veena Vasudevan, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading
Bea Dias, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading
Tinukwa Boulder, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading

Improving Quantum Sensing Using Variational Quantum Optimization Algorithms
Kaushik Seshadreesan, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems
Gurudev Dutt, Department of Physics and Astronomy

Investigating the Environmental Exposure Risks of Asthma
Peng Gao, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

Measuring the Prevalence of Earnings Manipulations: A Novel Approach
Nicole Cade, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business
Joshua Gunn, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business

FUELING OUR FUTURE 2023: THE INTERNAL FUNDING SHOWCASE
University of Pittsburgh

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University of Pittsburgh
Preserving Fairness of Deep Learning Under Environmental Changes
Xiaowei Jia, Department of Computer Science

Reconstructing the Early Career of Jorge Luis Borges as a Public Speaker: Talks and Courses from 1949 to 1955
Daniel Balderston, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures

Resisting Racist Police Violence: An Oral History of the Ferguson Rebellion
Joshua Bloom, Department of Sociology

Synthetic Tuning of Ligand Field for Precise Control of Molecular Zero-Field Splitting
Wesley Transue, Department of Chemistry

The Geochemistry and Petrogenesis of the Braganca and Morais Massifs of Northern Portugal: Examining Islands of Rock to Understand How Mountains are Built
Ryan Kerrigan, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown

The Labor of Commoning: Women Against Authoritarian Populism in Hungary
Gabriella Lukacs, Department of Anthropology

The “New” New York: Race, Space, and Power in Gentrifying Brooklyn
Amanda Boston, Department of Africana Studies

Toward the Two-Way Coupling of Swimmer and Surface Gravity Waves
Lei Fang, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Training Health Sciences Faculty to Deliver the Pitt Personal Wellness Program to Graduate Students
Laura Dietz, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology

Unpacking Racial Disparities in the Involuntary Psychiatric Commitment of Youth and Young Adults in Allegheny County
Catherine Greeno, School of Social Work
Nev Jones, School of Social Work

War Risks: Understanding War Trauma through a Comprehensive Study of War Risk Insurance Claims by American Veterans of the First World War
Bridget Keown, Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program

PITT SEED GRANTS
SUPPORTING THE PLAN FOR PITT

Pitt Seed works in parallel with the University’s strategic plan and is predicated upon engagement across the University. Established in 2018, Pitt Seed is an annual internal funding mechanism open to faculty and staff. Pitt Seed supports the Plan for Pitt by building proofs of concept with potential to improve University of Pittsburgh business operations through broad, impactful, and sustainable ideas. Funded projects span vast activities, including process improvement, diversity and inclusion, community and industry partnership development, and outreach.

Phase Five: Big PittCh
The inaugural Big PittCh winners moving on to Phase Five have received $500,000 each to fully execute their projects within three years and to further the Plan for Pitt. One project will be selected to advance to the Chief Financial Officer’s Strategic Planning and Performance Office for possible integration at the institutional level.

CUPID: Fostering an Inclusive Community in the Schools of the Health Sciences
Susan Graff, Department of Physician Assistant Studies
Kathryn Reed, Department of Physician Assistant Studies
Karthik Hariharan, Department of Physician Assistant Studies
John Guinane, Center for Teaching and Learning
Lindsey Aranson, Film and Media Studies Program
Caleb Bender, Film and Media Studies Program
Heather McCambly, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy
Gaetan Sgro, Department of Medicine

The CUPID project is an asynchronous curriculum for health sciences educators and students that uses documentary-style video interviews of Pitt faculty, staff, and students, supplemented with academic literature on concepts such as social identity and intersectionality, to guide the learner in fostering an inclusive environment at Pitt. The CUPID project hopes to contribute to the creation of an inclusive and equitable campus environment in the Schools of the Health Sciences by serving as an entry point into the University diversity, equity, and inclusion space. Data collection will assess both individual learner engagement and the broader impact of the program on the University.

Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Survivor Support on Campus
Carrie Benson, Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Lynissa Stokes, Department of Pediatrics
Rachel Gartner, School of Social Work
Katie Pope, formerly of the Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Dev Hayostek, Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
Willa Campbell, School of Public Health
Chancellor’s Advisory Council on the Prevention of Sexual Misconduct

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in five women experiences attempted or completed sexual assault during her college years, as do 6% of men. There’s an urgent need to implement these findings to new data-driven, inclusive prevention initiatives. Current funding does not position Pitt to comprehensively respond to this crisis in ways that will significantly reduce the rates of sexual misconduct victimization. Funds requested through Pitt Seed will be used to facilitate new and innovative educational programs, wide-sweeping awareness-building campaigns, and crucial prevention research all designed to reduce sexual misconduct victimization.
**Phase Four: Pitt Seed Invited Proposals**

A new cohort of semifinalists selected for Phase Four will receive up to $75,000 each to further develop their concepts over the course of a year. In earlier phases, these teams made 90-second videos pitching how their proposed project addresses one or more of the three pillars in the Plan for Pitt and were then selected to participate in program empowerment training workshops.

**CommUniversity Initiative**

Keith Caldwell, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs
Kelly Protho, Hill District Community Engagement Center
Marlo Hall, Hill District Community Engagement Center
Ervin Dyer, Department of Africana Studies
Jennifer Keating, Department of English
Stephanie Dangel, School of Law

CommUniversity classes were first developed by the Africana studies department to introduce more voices of the African diaspora into our students’ learning. When the Community Engagement Centers were launched, Africana studies brought back the format to enhance student learning and forge community connections. Since 2020, these classes also have been offered in partnership with faculty from several disciplines, including English, law, and business. These courses require significant planning and application of best practices in community engagement and innovative instruction. This initiative will work with a transdisciplinary team of faculty, staff, and residents to develop a framework to support the expansion of these courses.

**Planting SEEDs—Growing Teachers: Creating a Pipeline**

Melissa Marks, Behavioral Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg
Jessica McCormick, Behavioral Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg
Beth Tiedemann, Office of the Registrar, Pitt-Greensburg
Ke airstrikes Adams, Academic Advising, Pitt-Greensburg

Planting SEEDs fulfills the mandates of Pennsylvania Senate Bill 99 while tackling the disparity among schools, promoting diversity in teaching, and increasing enrollment in teacher education programs. Pennsylvania Senate Bill 99 mandates that local districts create “agreements with an institution of higher education, ... in order to allow resident students to attend the institution of higher education while the resident students are enrolled in the school district.” Planting SEEDs will accomplish this by: [1] analyzing the newly approved Educators Rising curriculum for consistency within our own Education Program’s state-mandated competencies to promote a high school-to-university teacher/education pipeline, [2] working with local districts to develop a means of implementation per Senate Bill 99 mandates, and [3] providing university credits for introductory Pitt-Greensburg education courses to promote equity and opportunity for a wide range of high school students in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

**Project SOAR: Fostering Leadership, Resiliency, and Network for Students at Pitt-Johnstown**

Manisha Nigam, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown
Tuanhtip Klinbubpa-Neff, Humanities Division, Pitt-Johnstown
Cynthia Ofori-Boateng, Engineering and Computer Science Division, Pitt-Johnstown

Project SOAR will work with the academic and student affairs offices, admission and financial aid offices, local high schools, and local organizations to engage with students from Pitt Success programs as well as marginalized students in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields. Project SOAR will offer these students an enrichment program that creates a safe environment encompassing peers and faculty mentors. Students will strengthen their leadership skills via professionals who train them and build a solid foundation for their future career paths. This will foster a sense of community service in these students, with the expectation that they will help other students like them on campus and in neighboring high schools.

**STEM Through Games Program for High School Students**

Dmitry Babichenko, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems
Jacob Biehl, Department of Computer Science
Tinukwa Boulder, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading
Jessica Fitzpatrick, Department of English
Veena Vasudevan, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading

STEM through Games will develop and pilot an immersive media design and research program that introduces high school students to computational thinking, foundations of programming, and cross-disciplinary academic STEM research through the implementation of digital games and immersive technologies such as augmented and virtual reality.

**TC²: True Co-equal x Transformative Collaborations**

Melissa Lenos, Humanities Engage
Jon Woon, Department of Political Science
Colin Allen, Department of History and Philosophy of Science
Aaron Brenner, University Library System
Michael Colaresi, Department of Political Science
Alison Langmead, Department of Information Culture and Data Stewardship
Adam Lee, Department of Computer Science
Annette Vee, Department of English

TC²: True Co-equal x Transformative Collaborations seeks to stimulate, guide, and support interdisciplinary projects between the humanities and other graduate programs. This project will provide opportunities and resources to graduate students and faculty mentors dedicated to pushing the boundaries and inherent limitations of discrete academic fields to develop the collaborative relationships—and resulting skills—of fully interdisciplinary research.
This nonfiction book takes readers into Victorian London, where the first great battle over access to birth control played out at the heart of the establishment. In an era of repressed sexuality and sex education, a brave single mother dared to publish an American pamphlet teaching contraception, welcomed her arrest, and defended herself against the Crown in a Westminster Hall trial some four decades before the first woman was allowed to pass the British bar. Newspapers from Devon to Dublin to Edinburgh covered the trial, bringing her message to breakfast tables across the United Kingdom. Sales of the pamphlet itself rocketed to 250,000 in a matter of months. Annie Besant would win her case but lose custody of her children as well as her reputation. Today her sacrifice and pioneering campaign is all but forgotten.

Art History in the Age of Artificial Image Generation
Christopher Nygren, Department of History of Art and Architecture
Alison Langmead, Department of Information Culture and Data Stewardship

Over the last few months, the state of field has changed dramatically with the release of new techniques for advanced computing. Certain forms of artificial intelligence and machine learning have begun producing images with recognizable artistic "styles." These image-generation algorithms raise serious questions for the discipline of art history, which has spent more than two centuries studying the question of style from diverse angles. The team aims to convene a group of scholars at the University of Pittsburgh who are willing and able to think openly and generously about how art history can participate in these culture-critical conversations about artificial image generation and the humanities for a daylong workshop.

“Automating Writing from Androids to AI”
Annette Vee, Department of English

This project connects recent developments in AI and writing (natural language generation, or NLG) to a longer history of automation. Vee's book project, "Automating Writing from Androids to AI," asks: What does it mean to be a human writer in the midst of faster and more prevalently machine writing? How must we change our writing and teaching practices to account for these new forms of computational writing? Drawing on histories of 18th-century automata; 19th-century science and fiction; accounts of amanuenses in the 19th and 20th centuries; poetic, business, and computing experiments in the 20th century; and contemporary developments in NLG, "Automated Writing" provides a humanistic and historical context for the quest to automate writing.

“Black Anaesthetics: African American Narrative Beyond Man”
Shaun Myers, Department of English

This book project, “Black Anaesthetics: African American Narrative Beyond Man,” argues that writers such as Toni Morrison, Octavia Butler, and Andrea Lee invented literary techniques of radically obscuring Blackness to trouble the racial logics requiring that it always be uttered or seen. In the 1970s and 1980s, Black women writers gained unprecedented visibility in a U.S. cultural marketplace shaped, on the one hand, by the Black Arts Movement’s demand that Black artists represent lived racial experience and, on the other, by the historical white demand that Blackness reliably take its appointed form: embodied and spectacular. Yet, even as these contending forces intersected, certain Black women writers refused these expectations. Studying these women’s narrative racial experiments, “Black Anaesthetics” tells the story of how their integration of the mainstream publishing world conditioned the development of what Shaun Myers terms Black anaesthetics, narrative practices figuring Blackness as indeterminate but always in the shadow of the racialized world. The project contends that this neglected archive of Black women’s experimentalism answered calls to transform humanism. In doing so, it illuminates the disavowed Black past of what now goes by the name of “posthumanism.”

“Buddhism in Court: Religion, Law, and Jurisdiction in China”
Cuilan Liu, Department of Religious Studies

What happens to Buddhist monks or nuns who commit crimes? The book “Buddhism in Court” explores how Indian Buddhists campaigned for clerical immunity to prevent state courts from prosecuting and punishing ordained Buddhist offenders. It unravels how Buddhists in China reimagined the Indian example and how their reimagining continued to define Buddhism’s place in the Chinese jurisdictional landscape from the fourth century to the present. Drawing on archives, court documents, Chinese laws, official histories, law case books, Buddhist monastic codes, institutional announcements, memoirs of retired magistrates, and private writings circulated on social media, this book traces the legacy of the campaign for clerical privilege from its origin in India to its transformation in China and its continuing impact in the Chinese courtroom to the present day. Diverting from the dynasty-centered approach to studying religion, law, and history in China, “Buddhism in Court” expands our understanding of this legacy of early Chinese Buddhism and challenges the notion that the passage between imperial and postimperial China was one of disruption.

Chilean Parlamentos: Expanding the Pedagogical Profile of a Digital Humanities Project
Pilar Herr, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg
William Campbell, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg
Sean DiLeonardi, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg
Elizabeth Contreras, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg

This Digital Humanities project will provide scholarly English translations of and bilingual commentary on colonial Spanish treaties with Indigenous peoples of Chile. To position the team to leverage its current three-year NEH Translations Grant for the main part of the project, the members of the team will expand their vision for what they can do with their materials in a digital environment. They seek to take greater advantage of digital media to create a website that is more accessible and attractive to college students in general and to engage their own students’ creativity in creating it. However, identifying the tools, content, design, and strategies best suited to their material and their team is a significant challenge. Momentum funding will enable the team to spend a week in July at the Institute for Liberal Arts Digital Scholarship to workshop the project with other Digital Humanities scholars and teams.
Comprehensibility and Accentedness in Second Language Pronunciation
Amanda Huensch, Department of Linguistics

The recent “multilingual turn” in applied linguistics, which rejects dominant monolingual ideologies and “the idealized native speaker” while prioritizing multilingual competencies and repertoires, is in lockstep with broader discussions in the arts and humanities focused on social justice and celebrating diversity. Within the field of second language pronunciation, this shift means focusing on goals of intelligibility and comprehensibility rather than accent elimination. A critical line of inquiry has become to differentiate between speech features that impede communication from those that, while potentially salient, do not. This project directly contributes to this area of inquiry by examining how listener perceptions of pronunciation impact their evaluations of second language speech. Recent studies by Huensch and Nagle suggest that having listeners transcribe learner speech might act as an awareness-raising tool because when they write down what they hear, they can differentiate speech that is difficult to understand from that which is merely accented. The proposed study will test this by collecting listener ratings of learner speech via Amazon Mechanical Turk and comparing them to previously collected ratings of the same speech samples, which were also transcribed. The findings have the potential to inform the design of training modules to reduce accent discrimination.

Creating a Cross-Linguistic Database to Investigate Speech Rhythm
Marta Ortega-Liebaria, Department of Linguistics

Rhythm, which refers to the sensation of isochrony conveyed by repeating patterns in speech, is key to adding expression and meaning to language. Rhythm is understood and experienced differently across languages, and the nature of rhythm is influenced by the sounds of a language. Thus, investigating speech rhythm in a cross-linguistic perspective could inform the design of training modules to reduce accent discrimination. This project aims to create a database of audio recordings of speech from different languages, with annotations of rhythm, to investigate how rhythm is produced and perceived across languages. The database will be used to explore the relationship between rhythm and language and to understand how rhythm is influenced by linguistic and cultural factors.

In Between
Omid Shekari, Department of Studio Arts

The core research of this project is to create a series of artworks to examine the in-between status of people of Iran, trapped between a duality in the formation and perpetuation of the politics in the Middle East, where the postcolonial politics bounce back and forth between pseudo-democracy supported by the imperial West, specifically the United States, and a super nationalist dictator that justifies his failures by portraying himself as a hero of anti-imperialism and anti-West. The forms of the pieces start form the portraits of Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, the last monarch before the 1979 revolution, and Ali Hosseini Khamenei, the current supreme leader. Shekari plans to create a few relief sculptures that the pieces wouldn’t be considered next to each other, something like a puzzle, to create the whole image. The pieces would be a combination of two- and three-dimensional. The main materials would be plaster, concrete, paper, and clay in addition to a few large paintings and drawings.

“Marks She Made: The Art and Architecture of Begum Samru”
Mirinalini Rajagopalan, Department of History of Art and Architecture

Rajagopalan’s forthcoming book, “Marks She Made: The Art and Architecture of Begum Samru, 1803-1836,” offers a creative biography of an Indian woman ruler whose choreography of art and architecture was key to her elevated social, political, and financial status. “Marks She Made” will be the first full-length monograph on a South Asian female patron of art and architecture. The book’s purpose is to establish the begum as a powerful but non-threatening ruler, as an upholder and patron of the Catholic faith in India, as a political ally to several European and Indian factions, and as a woman of great wealth coupled with remarkable charity.

Muslim Prison Litigation: Advancing the Rule of Law through Litigation Praxis
Edward (SpearIt) Maldonado, School of Law

This project examines Muslim prison litigation through the lens of Outcrit Jurisprudence. At its core, the work is about racial and religious repression and the difficulties of incarcerated people to access justice. The work lays a foundation for the Muslim contribution to prison law jurisprudence, which includes some monumental achievements, from the early days, when Muslims played a central role in the evolution of the prisoners’ rights movement, to the present, when they are undoubtedly the most litigious religious group in prison. Muslims have expanded the rights of all people in prison and have impacted prison culture positively by importing more law and accountability into prison administration. The primary focus of this project is to underscore this legacy in litigation and recognize the immense influence of Muslims on the development of prison law and policy.

New Edition and Translation of the Corpus Hermeticum
Christian Wildberg, Department of Classics

Seventeen Hermetic tracts, most of them complete, are preserved in approximately 28 medieval manuscripts, of the so-called Corpus Hermeticum. The publication proposed here offers a substantially revised text and new English translation of all tracts. The traditional order of the treatises is quite clearly random, and in Wildberg’s translation, the tracts are ordered in a different way so as to make the entire collection, and the remarkable thoughts it contains, more accessible to readers. This project will help to bring out the overall cultural and philosophical significance to this body of text. The aim of the publication is to show that scholars must depart from the traditional approach to the Hermetic, which reads them as poor derivatives of Western Greco-Roman philosophy. Appreciating the non-Greek character of core commitments Hermetic doctrine allows them to be assigned to an ancient Egyptian provenance.
Throughout, McKelvey is especially interested in querying the relationship between theatrical welfare and Black, interact with institutions of public welfare? To what extent have these organizations fomented disability activism? how did they change over time? What racial, gender, sexual, and class norms did they propagate? How did they addiction recovery programs, assistive technology grants, and supportive housing for people with HIV/AIDS. “Supporting Actors” is grounded in the archives of the fund and allied organizations. These include the Edwin Forrest Home for Retired Actors (1873-1986), the Katharine Cornell Foundation (1931-62), the Negro Actors Guild of America (1938-82), and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS (1988-present). A series of questions animate the book: What do stories about care, dependence, and deservingness tell us about the historical context? What role did they play in shaping perceptions of disability and social welfare? How did they reflect and reinforce broader social and political dynamics? 

Queer Nightscapes: Performance and Afterglow of Queer Mexicanidad”

David Tenorio, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures

“Queer Nightscapes: Performance and the Afterglow of Queer Mexicanidad” examines how queer and trans cultural practices of relajo (i.e., playfulness), dancing, cruising, and longing shape underground material infrastructures that enable queer and trans worldmaking during nighttime and beyond. “Queer Nightscapes” illustrates how performance and play enable circuits of queer and trans contact among affects, spaces, and bodies. By focusing on queer affective economies in the global South, Tenorio decenters the United States based queer optic and the geopolitical configurations of queer epistemology in the Americas. In conversation with queer and trans cultural workers and producers, “Queer Nightscapes” contributes to a nuanced understanding of the everyday affective negotiations with bodily consumption. In doing so, Tenorio’s book traces alternative modes of consumption and affective networks of joy and care amidst capitalist extraction.

Supporting Actors: A Disability History of Theatrical Welfare in the United States”

Patrick Mc Kelvey, Department of Theatre Arts

This award funds the first phase of archival research for McKelvey’s second book, “Supporting Actors: A Disability History of Theatrical Welfare in the United States.” This book will offer a history of social services for disabled actors since the late 19th century. At the center of this history is The Actors’ Fund of America, an organization that has financed an impressive range of disability supports, including a retirement home, health clinics, addiction recovery programs, assistive technology grants, and supportive housing for people with HIV/AIDS. “Supporting Actors” is grounded in the archives of the fund and allied organizations. These include the Edwin Forrest Home for Retired Actors (1873-1986), the Katharine Cornell Foundation (1931-62), the Negro Actors Guild of America (1938-82), and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS (1988-present). A series of questions animate the book: What do stories about care, dependence, and deservingness tell us about the historical context? What role did they play in shaping perceptions of disability and social welfare? How did they reflect and reinforce broader social and political dynamics? 

Pitt Studio Arts Presents: Duos

Aaron Henderson, Department of Studio Arts

This curatorial project by the Department of Studio Arts Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee consists of a screening and an exhibition. Each showcase will present two artists from the Pittsburgh community, with a focus on highlighting underrepresented and emerging artists. These events will provide much-needed support to these artists and connect the University and its studio arts department to the broader Pittsburgh arts community.

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PRIOR INVESTIGATORS AND COINVESTIGATORS
(2018-23)

Central Research Development Fund
Elizabeth Arkush, Department of Anthropology, 2019
Ryan Bird, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018
Ioannis Bourmpakis, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2019
Bryan Brown, Department of Bioengineering, 2019
Jeanine Buchanan, Department of Biostatistics, 2018
Gerard Campbell, Department of Biological Sciences, 2018
Anne Carlson, Department of Biological Sciences, 2018
Deborah Chapman, Department of Biological Sciences, 2018
Sophia Choukas-Bradley, Department of Psychology, 2018
Youngjae Chun, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2019
Nicole Coleman, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, 2019
Christopher Coughenour, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018
Gina Garcia, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2018
Hayley Germack, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, 2019
Leanne Gilbertson, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2018
Andres Gomez Escobar, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2018
Brandon Grainger, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2019
Marsha Grimminger, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018
Joshua Gromov, Division of Communication and the Arts, Pitt-Bradford, 2019
Sarah Haig, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2019
Sarah Hainer, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019
Marquis Hawkins, Department of Epidemiology, 2019
Jill Henning, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018
Raul Hernandez Sanchez, Department of Chemistry, 2019
Tina Hershey, Department of Health Policy and Management, 2019
Katherine Hornbostel, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2019
Jingtong Hu, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2018
Geoffrey Hutchison, Department of Chemistry, 2018
Katharine Jacobs, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading, 2019
Leah Jacobs, School of Social Work, 2018
Tevis Jacobs, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2019
Paul Johnson, Department of Communication, 2018
Shirin Fozi Jones, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2018
Chae Ryon Kang, Department of Biostatistics, 2018
Samannaza Khoja, Department of Physical Therapy, 2019
Kevin Kohl, Department of Biological Sciences, 2018, 2019
Adriana Kovashka, Department of Computer Science, 2018
Mangesh Kulkarni, Department of Bioengineering, 2019
Daniel Lambrecht, Department of Chemistry, 2018
Miler Lee, Department of Biological Sciences, 2018
Young Ji Lee, Department of Health and Community Systems, 2019
Lei Li, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2018
Steven Little, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2018
Rebecca McHugh, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Pitt-Bradford, 2018
Patrick McKelvey, Department of Theatre Arts, 2019
James Mckone, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2018
Rachel Miller, Department of Epidemiology, 2018
Kevin Mollen, Department of Surgery, 2019
Carla Ng, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2018
Tagbo Niepa, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2019
Shyamal Peddada, Department of Biostatistics, 2018
Barbara Petrosky, Humanities Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018
Louis Picard, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2018
Shanti Rabindran, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2019
Michele Reid-Vazquez, Department of Africana Studies, 2018
Zhao Ren, Department of Statistics, 2019
Margaret Rosenzweig, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, 2019
Armin Schikorra, Department of Mathematics, 2018
Yogita Shamdasi, Department of Economics, 2019
Kay Shimizu, Department of Political Science, 2018
Jason Shoemaker, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2018
Michelle Solobak, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading, 2019
Max Stephens, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2018
Jessica Stephenson, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019
Brian Thomas, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2018
Teresa Thomas, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2018
Yiming Wang, Department of Chemistry, 2018
Josef Werne, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2019
Emily West, Department of Political Science, 2018
Eugenia Wu, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2019
Feng Xiong, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2018
Wei Xiong, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2018
Corinne Zawacki, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019
Chancellor’s Distinguished Public Service Award
Betty Brazer, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2020
Kay Brummond, Department of Chemistry, 2018
Thistie I. Elias, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2019
Rosta Farzan, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2022
Richard Garland, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2022
Paul Harper, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2021
Kent Harries, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020
David Harris, School of Law, 2023
Timothy Holler, Behavioral Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2021
Ray Jones, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2020
Christi Kolarick, Department of Pathology, 2020
Mark Kramer, Department of English, 2019
Sera Linardi, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2023
Steven Little, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2019
Jules Lobel, School of Law, 2020
Esohe Osei, Department of Health and Human Development, 2023
Margaret Rosenzweig, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, 2021
Doris Rubio, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2021
John Sebastian, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2022
Shannon Manless, Department of Health and Human Development, 2022
Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award: Junior Scholars
Salah Al-Zaiti, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, 2023
Heath Cabot, Department of Anthropology, 2021
Anne-Ruxandra Carvunis, Department of Computational and Systems Biology, 2022
Maria Chikina, Department of Computational and Systems Biology, 2020
Nathan Clark, Department of Computational and Systems Biology, 2019
Greer Donley, School of Law, 2023
Gina Garcia, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2022
Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award

Salah Al-Zaiti, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, 2020
Jeff Aziz, Department of English, 2020
Barbara Barnhart, Division of Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Engineering, Pitt-Greensburg, 2019
Chris Bonneau, Department of Political Science, 2021
Lisa Borghesi, Department of Immunology, 2021
Brenda Cassidy, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2022
Jim Coons, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2023
Jennifer Cousins, Department of Psychology, 2020
Lori Delale-O’Connor, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2021
Samuel Dickerson, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2022
Peter Drain, Department of Cell Biology, 2022
Philip Empey, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2018
Sara Goodkind, School of Social Work, 2018
Robin E. Grubs, Department of Human Genetics, 2019
Tammy Haley, Department of Biological and Health Sciences, 2019
Andrea Hergenroeder, Department of Physical Therapy, 2022
Zsuzsa Horvath, Department of Dental Public Health, 2021
Jana Iverson, Department of Psychology, 2018
Ray Jones, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, 2018
Daniel Lambrecht, Department of Chemistry, 2019
Jeremy Martinson, Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, 2023
Michael Meyer, Department of English 2023
Barry M. Mitnick, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2021
Joanne Prasad, Department of Oral and Craniofacial Sciences, 2023
David Sanchez, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020
Carla Spagnolotti, Department of Medicine, 2020
Richard Steinman, Department of Medicine, 2019
Alan Sved, Department of Neuroscience, 2018
Liam Tsoukas, Department of History, 2023
Götz Vester, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2022

Innovation in Education Award

Mai Abdelhamim, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2023
Dmitry Babichenko, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019, 2023
Joanne Baird, Department of Occupational Therapy, 2022
Sara Baumann, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2018
Julie Beaulieu, Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program, 2020
Gretchen Bender, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2023
Lucas Berenbrok, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2019
Amy Bosser, Department of Health and Community Systems, 2022
Neil Brown, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2020
Peter Brusilovsky, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2023
Abigail Carroll, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2022
Renee Clark, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2018
Samuel Dickerson, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2018
Gianni Downs, Department of Theatre Arts, 2018
Dawna Duff, Department of Communication Science and Disorders, 2019
Annamarie Duggan, Department of Theatre Arts, 2018
Erika Fanselow, Department of Neuroscience, 2023
Nicholas Farnan, Department of Computer Science, 2019
Elizabeth Felter, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2018
Ashley Firm, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2018
William Garrison, Department of Computer Science, 2019
Burhan Gharabibeh, Department of Biological Sciences, 2023
Jessica Ghiani, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2019
Susan Graf, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, 2020
David Grinnell, University Library System, 2020

Chancellor’s Distinguished Research Award: Senior Scholars

Derek C. Angus, Department of Critical Care Medicine, 2019
Hulya Bayir, Department of Critical Care Medicine, 2018
David Brent, Department of Psychiatry, 2022
Jeffrey Brodsky, Department of Biological Sciences, 2022
Peter Brusilovsky, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2023
Daniel Buysse, Department of Psychiatry, 2020
Yvette Conley, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2020
Yan Dong, Department of Neuroscience, 2020
JoAnne Flynn, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 2019
Robert Friedlander, Department of Neurological Surgery, 2021
Sarah L. Gaffen, Department of Medicine, 2018
Heng Huang, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2021
J. Jeffrey Inman, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business, 2022
Jeanne Marie Laskas, Department of English, 2023
Edouard Machery, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, 2018
Mary Phillips, Department of Psychiatry, 2019
Anuradha Ray, Department of Medicine, 2023
Lise Vesterlund, Department of Economics, 2021
Forge Your Own Path Grant, formerly known as Personalized Education Grant (2018-20)

Andrea Abt, Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers, 2019
Liz Adams, College of Business Administration, 2019
Ryan Alvarado, Department of Mathematics, 2019
Dmitry Babichenko, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2020
Jordan Ariel Barria Pineda, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019
Paul Barto, Department of Athletics, 2019, 2020
David A. Beck, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, 2020
Christine Berliner, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019, 2020
Sean Bridge, School of Computing and Information, 2020
Peter Brusilovsky, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019, 2020
Kim Hung Chau, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019
Susie Chen, Department of Psychology, 2019
Denise Chisholm, Department of Occupational Therapy, 2020
Kar Hai Chu, Department of Medicine, 2019, 2020
Leigh A. Coogan, School of Law, 2019, 2020
Sheila Confer, Student Life and Success, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020
Colleen Culley, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2020
Candice Damiani, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020
Shelby Dawkins-Law, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2020
Linda DeAngelo, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2019, 2020
Samuel Dickerson, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2019
Laura Dietz, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2020
Lina Distillo, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs, 2019, 2020
Gianni Downs, Department of Theatre Arts, 2020
Dawn Drachnak, Nursing and Health Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2020
Annmarie Duggan, Department of Theatre Arts, 2020
Benjamin Espinoza, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020
Rebecca Farabaugh, Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2020
Mallory Ferguson, Nursing and Health Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2020
Kenrick Fernandes, Department of Computer Science, 2019
Beth Fields, Department of Occupational Therapy, 2020
Julie Fiez, Department of Psychology, 2019
Cassidy Fischer, Film and Media Studies Program, 2019
Derek Fisher, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2019
Omid Fotuhi, Learning Research and Development Center, 2019, 2020
Daniel Hitt, Department of Human and Development, 2019
Jennifer Ganger, Department of Psychology, 2020
Casey Garrow, Department of Athletics, 2019, 2020
Jessica Ghihani, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020
Lorin Grieve, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2019
Kelly Hammonds, Department of Athletics, 2018, 2019, 2020
Kent Harries, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020
Daqing He, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2020
Kayla A. Heffernan, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2019, 2020
Erin Higgins, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2019
Daniel Hitt, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020
Timothy Hoiller, Behavioral Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020
Elizabeth D. Katранча, Nursing and Health Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2020
Ellen Kelsey, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019
Robert Kerestes, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2019
Katherine Kinsinger, Academic Success Center, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019
Martina Koehler, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020
Emily Koren, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2020
Jamie Kulzer, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2020
Eliza Beth Littleton, Department of Surgery, 2019, 2020
Lingfeng Liu, Department of Chemistry, 2020
Kelli Maloy, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2019
Derek McDonald, College of Business Administration, 2020
Rebecca McHugh, Behavioral and Social Sciences Division, Pitt-Bradford, 2020
Rami Melhem, Department of Computer Science, 2019
Dana Miller-Cotto, Learning Research and Development Center, 2019
Janelle Moody, Department of Occupational Therapy, 2020
Daniel Mossé, Department of Computer Science, 2020
Mary Mulcahy, Biological and Health Sciences Division, Pitt-Bradford, 2020
Emily Murphy, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, 2020
Mary Napoli, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2020
Tim Nokes-Malach, Department of Psychology, 2019
Marie Norman, Department of Medicine, 2020
Nathan Ong, Department of Computer Science, 2020
Sam Orlowski, Film and Media Studies Program, 2020
William Pamerleau, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020
Ravi Patel, School of Pharmacy, 2019, 2020
Karen Pater, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2020
Cheryl Paul, Swanson School of Engineering, 2020
Anita Persaud, Swanson School of Engineering, 2019
Jennifer Phillips, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2020
Caleb Porto, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2019
Chelsea N. Proulx, Institute for Clinical Research Education, 2020
Michael Pry, Information Science Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020
Cassie Quigley, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading, 2020, 2021
Stephen F. Robar, Behavioral and Social Sciences Division, Pitt-Bradford, 2020
Juleen Rodakowski, Department of Occupational Therapy, 2020
Ben Rottman, Department of Psychology, 2019
Joseph Samosky, Department of Bioengineering, 2020
Jake Savitz, Department of Communication and Film and Media Studies Program, 2019
Armin Schikorra, Department of Mathematics, 2019
Kristine Schonder, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2020
Ann Sinsheimer, School of Law, 2020, 2021
Liam Sporer, Department of Athletics, 2019, 2020
Sybil Streeter, Department of Psychology, 2019
Pamela Toto, Department of Occupational Therapy, 2020
Chun-Hua Tsai, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019
Natalie Vazquez, Department of Medicine, 2020
Jessica Wandelt, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019, 2020
Kevin Wheeler, Department of Athletics, 2019, 2020
Frank Wilson, Office of Academic Affairs, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020, 2021
Eben Witherspoon, Learning Research and Development Center, 2020
Kevin Wu, Department of Biological Sciences, 2019, 2020
Lauren Yaich, Biological and Health Sciences Division, Pitt-Bradford, 2020
Michelle Zuckerman-Parker, Department of Medicine, 2020

Pitt Seed Grant

Kearsten Adams, Academic Affairs, Pitt-Greensburg, 2021
Alaine Allen, Swanson School of Engineering, 2020
Hisham Alrubaye, Department of Biological Sciences, 2021
Lindsey Aranson, Film and Media Studies Program, 2022
Gisselle Arce, Global Experiences Office, 2021
Christopher Drew Armstrong, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2019
Kevin Ashley, School of Law, 2021
Angela Athanas, Department of Mathematics, 2020
Dmitry Babichenko, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019
Alexa Bakalarski, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2021
Mackenzie Bail, Department of Computer Science, 2020
Riyue Bao, Department of Medicine, 2021
Brandon Barber, Swanson School of Engineering, 2021
Paul Barto, Department of Athletics, 2020
April Belback, Office of the Provost, 2021, 2022
Lisa Belczky, Office of the Provost, 2021
Caleb Bender, Film and Media Studies Program, 2022
Carrie Benson, Office for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, 2022
Nehal Bhojak, Department of Otolaryngology, 2020
Kevin Binning, Department of Psychology, 2021
Alex Bittner, Admissions, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020
Jennifer Bohland, Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers, 2021
Christopher Bonneau, Department of Political Science, 2019
David Boone, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2020
Tinukwa Boulder, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading, 2021
Jon Boyle, Department of Biological Sciences, 2021
Ronald Brand, School of Law, 2019
Melissa Brandes, Department of Athletics, 2020
Luis Vanfossen Bravo, Center for Latin American Studies, 2021
Betty Braxter, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2022
Aaron Brenner, University Library System, 2020
Michael Bridges, University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2022
Wayne Brinda, Management and Education Division, Pitt-Bradford, 2021
Amanda Brodish, Office of the Provost, 2022
Zachary Brodt, University Library System, 2020
Neil Edmond Brown, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2021
William Brustein, Global Studies Center, 2022
Jacqueline Burgette, Department of Dental Public Health, 2021
Matt Burton, Department of Information Culture and Data Stewardship, 2021
Stephen Butler, University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2022
Laty Cahoon, Department of Biological Sciences, 2021
Keith Caldwell, Community Engagement Centers, 2022
Judy L. Cameron, Department of Psychiatry, 2020
John Camillus, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2020
John Cannon, David C. Frederick Honors College, 2021
Babs Caryer, Innovation Institute, 2020
William Carter, School of Law, 2021
Ana Paula Carvalho, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, 2021
Rakie Cham, Department of Bioengineering, 2019
Uma Chandran, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2021
Melanie Cherry, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2021
Cynthia Chew, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2021
Jonathan Chityo, Management and Education Division, Pitt-Bradford, 2021
Cara Ciminillo, Trying Together, 2021
Susan Cohen, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2021
Jeremiah Goldsmith, Social Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019
Nancy Condee, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, 2019
Sheila Confer, Student Life and Success, Pitt-Greensburg, 2022
Rory Cooper, Human Engineering Research Laboratories, 2021
Vaughn Cooper, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 2021
Jamie Craig, Information Technology, 2022
Christine Dahlin-Schuster, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019
T. Elon Dancy, Center for Urban Education, 2022
Stephanie Dangel, School of Law, 2021
Esa Davis, Department of Medicine, 2021
Paula Davis, Health Sciences, 2021
Alene D’Alesio, UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, 2021
Jennifer Decima, Information Technology, 2022
Lori Delale-O’Connor, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2020
Allyson Delmore, European Studies Center, 2021
George Dougherty, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2020
Lina Dostilio, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs, 2021
Ervin Dyer, Office of University Communications and Marketing, 2020
Jonathan Duval, Human Engineering Research Laboratories, 2021
Stephen Emery, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences, 2019
Kerry Empey, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2020
Madison Eveland, Pitt-Greensburg, 2022
Rich Fann, Division of Student Affairs, 2022
Max Fedor, Department of Otolaryngology, 2020
Goeran Fiedler, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2020
Müge Finkel, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2020
Carrie Finkelstein, Office of Government Relations, 2022
Marie Fioravanti, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2022
Alex Francette, Department of Biological Sciences, 2021
James Gallaher, Office of Human Resources, 2022
Jennifer Ganger, Department of Psychology, 2021
Umeka Gani, School of Public Health, 2021
Gina Garcia, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2021
Rachel Gartner, School of Social Work, 2022
Jada George, Department of Biological Sciences, 2021
Ahmed Ghumman, University Counseling Center, 2021
Ann Gleason, Center for Military Medicine Research, 2020
George “Skip” Glenn, Business and Enterprise Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2021
Mary Goldberg, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2021
Cynthia Golden, Office of the Provost, 2021, 2022
Becky Gonda, Department of Biological Sciences, 2021
Benjamin Gordon, Department of Religious Organizations and Policy, 2021
Bob Gradeck, Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center, 2022
Susan Grath, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, 2022
Aaron Graham, University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2021
Victoria Griewe, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2021
Keila Grinberg, Center for Latin American Studies, 2021
Garrett Grindle, Human Engineering Research Laboratories, 2021
John Guinne, University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2022
Sarah Hainer, Department of Biological Sciences, 2021
Kelly Hammonds, Department of Athletics, 2020
Karthik Hariharan, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, 2022
Kayla Heffernan, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2021
Dwight Helfrich, Information Technology, 2022
Mark Henderson, Information Technology, 2022
Jill Henning, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019
Andrea Hergenroeder, Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers, 2021
Everett Herman, Frederick Honors College, 2021
David Herring, School of Law, 2021
Beth Hoffman, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2022
Leigh Hoffman, Student Life and Success, Pitt-Greensburg, 2022
Kirk Holbrook, Hill District Community Engagement Center, 2022
Jackie Horrall, Academic Affairs, Pitt-Greensburg, 2022
Zach Horton, Department of English, 2020
Melanie Hughes, Department of Sociology, 2020
James Huguley, Center on Race and Social Problems, 2021
Ahmed Ibrahim, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2021
Ron Idoko, Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, 2021
Jennifer Ingram, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2022
Jennifer Iriri, Learning Research and Development Center, 2020
Stephanie Jimenez, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2019
Lorie Johnson-Osho, Office of the Provost, 2021
Hassan Karimi, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2021
Lynn Kawaratan, Asian Studies Center, 2021
Lorna Kearns, University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2019
Chaz Kellem, Office of PittServes, 2021
Scaling Grants
Paul Abernathy, Neighborhood Resilience Project, 2021
James Anderson, RAND Corporation, 2022
Kevin Ashley, School of Law, 2022
Danial Bain, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2022
Josefina Bañales, Department of Psychology, 2021
Aaron Barcowsky, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, 2022
Kayhan Batmanghelich, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2020
Eric Beckman, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2020
Wendie Berg, Department of Radiology, 2020
Jamil Bey, Urban Kind Institute, 2021
Melissa Bilec, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020, 2022
LuAnn Brink, Allegheny County Health Department, 2022
Jeanine Buchanan, Department of Biostatics, 2022
Shaniece Campbell, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2021
Rivka Colen, Department of Radiology, 2020
Patricia Documét, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2021
Emily Elliot, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2022
Jalyn Evans-Williams, School of Education, 2021
James Fabissiak, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, 2022
Omid Fotuhi, Learning Research and Development Center, 2021
Joshua Galperin, School of Law, 2020
John Gilbertson, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2020
Sarah Haig, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2022
Daqing He, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2022
Harry Hochheiser, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2022
Rebecca Hwa, Department of Computer Science, 2022
Seong Jae Hwang, Department of Computer Science, 2020
Vikas Khanna, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2022
Diane Litman, Department of Computer Science, 2022
Peng Liu, Department of Chemistry, 2020
Louis Maraj, Department of English, 2021
Judy Martin, Department of Pediatrics, 2021
Dara Mendez, Department of Epidemiology, 2022
Elizabeth Miller, Department of Pediatrics, 2021
Carla Ng, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2022
Robert Nishikawa, Department of Radiology, 2020
Esohe Osai, Department of Health and Human Development, 2021
Ashok Panigrahy, Department of Radiology, 2020
Maya Ragavan, Department of Pediatrics, 2021
Daniel Rosen, School of Social Work, 2021
Khirsten Scott, Department of English, 2021
Götz Vesper, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2020
David Vorg, Department of Bioengineering, 2020
Amy Wildermuth, School of Law, 2020
Shandong Wu, Department of Radiology, 2020

Teaming Grants
Steven Albert, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2020
Peter Alexander, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, 2022
Shawn Alfonso-Wellis, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2020
Malihie Alikhani, Department of Computer Science, 2021
James Anderson, RAND Corporation, 2021
George Reid Andrews, Department of History, 2020
Kevin Ashley, School of Law, 2021
Daniel Bain, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2021
Josefina Bañales, Department of Psychology, 2021
Bopaya Bidana, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2022
Kevin Binning, Department of Psychology, 2020
Jennifer Bomberger, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 2020
David Boone, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2020
Jaime Booth, School of Social Work, 2021
Richard Boyle, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2020, 2021
Jerome Branche, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, 2020
Thuy Bui, Department of Medicine, 2020
Yuri Bunimovich, Department of Dermatology, 2020
Heath Cabot, Department of Anthropology, 2022
Rabikar Chatterjee, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2021
Sung Kwon Cho, Department of Mechanical Engineering, 2021
Vaughn Cooper, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 2020
Tim Corcoran, Department of Medicine, 2020
T. Elon Dancy, Center for Urban Education, 2021
Esa Davis, Department of Medicine, 2020
Linda DeAngelo, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2020
Lori Delale-O’Connor, Department of Education Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2021
Michael R. Dietrich, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, 2020
Patricia Documét, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, 2021, 2022
Yohel Del, Department of Medicine, 2020
Emily Elliott, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2021
Diana Escobar-Rivera, Casa San José, 2021
Abimbola Fapohunda, Department of Africana Studies, 2020, 2022
Morgan Frank, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2022
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Tiffany Gary-Webb, Department of Epidemiology, 2020
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Balasubramani Goundappa, Department of Epidemiology, 2020
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Benjamin Gutschow, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2021
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Graham Hatfull, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020
Daqing He, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2021
Kirk Holbrook, Hill District Community Engagement Center, 2021
James Huguley, School of Social Work, 2021
Seong Jae Hwang, Department of Computer Science, 2021
Alina Iovleva, Department of Medicine, 2020

Ravi Madhavan, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2020
Lisa Maillard, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2020
Steve Manuck, Department of Psychology, 2020
Anna Marsland, Department of Psychology, 2020
Loreta Matheo, Department of Pediatrics, 2022
Andrew McCormick, Department of Pediatrics, 2022
Michael Meyer, Department of English, 2020, 2022
Elizabeth Miller, Department of Pediatrics, 2020
Eric Moe, Department of Music, 2020
Lanre Morenikeji, Division of Biological and Health Sciences, Pitt-Bradford
Carla Ng, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2022
Diana Khoi Nguyen, Department of English, 2022
Shan Niuand, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2022
Marlo Perry, School of Social Work, 2022
James Pickett, Department of History, 2020
Tomar Pierson-Brown, School of Law, 2022
Shane Pilster, Rivers of Steel, 2021
Elizabeth Pitts, Department of English, 2020
Xu Qian, Department of Health and Human Development, 2022
Shanti Rabindran, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2021
Amin Rahimian, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2022
Mary Elizabeth Rauktis, School of Social Work, 2021
Rebecca Reed, Department of Psychology, 2020
Todd Reeser, Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, 2021
Sylvia Rhor Samaniego, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2021
Laura Ritchey, Natural Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2021
Eric Roberts, Department of Health Policy and Management, 2020
Rachel E. Robertson, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading, 2021
Andrea Rosso, Department of Epidemiology, 2020
Shervin Sammak, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, 2020
Mitzy Schaney, Social Science Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2020, 2021

Khristen L. Scott, Department of English, 2022
Paul Scott, Department of Health and Community Systems, 2021
Aimee Sgourotakis, University Library System, 2021
Alison Stones, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2020
Heather Szabo Rogers, Department of Oral Biology, 2020
Fengyan Tang, School of Social Work, 2020, 2021
Xulong Tang, Department of Computer Science, 2021, 2022
Monique C. Tardif, Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition, 2022
Teresa Thomas, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2021
Gelsy Torres-Oviedo, Department of Bioengineering, 2020
Martin Turcotte, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020
Daniel Villarreal, Department of Linguistics, 2021
Emily Wanderer, Department of Anthropology, 2020
Meng Wang, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2022
Ming-Te Wang, Department of Health and Human Development, 2022
Yanshan Wang, Department of Health Information Management, 2022
Carl Wang-Erickson, Department of Mathematics, 2020
Andrea Weinstein, Department of Psychiatry, 2020
Emily West, Department of Political Science, 2020
Feng Xiong, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2020
Nathan Youngblood, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2022
Trevor Young-Hyman, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2020

Social Sciences Research Initiative
Raja Adal, Department of History, 2019
Chris Belasco, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2018
Paola Buitrago, Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, 2019
Heath Cabot, Department of Anthropology, 2018
Michael Colaresi, Department of Political Science, 2019

Michael R. Dietrich, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, 2018
Müge Finkel, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2018
Michael Goodhart, Department of Political Science, 2018
Jamie Hanson, Department of Psychology, 2018
Melanie Hughes, Department of Sociology, 2018
Prashant Krishnamurthy, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019
Carrie Leana, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2019
Yu-Ru Lin, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019
Sera Linardi, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2019
Elizabeth Miller, Department of Pediatrics, 2019
Scott Morgenstern, Department of Political Science, 2019
Maureen Porter, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2018
Cassie Quigley, Department of Teaching, Learning, and Leading, 2019
Jennifer Silk, Department of Psychology, 2019
Matiangai Sirleaf, School of Law, 2018
Lu-in Wang, School of Law, 2019
Ming-Te Wang, Department of Health and Human Development, 2018

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Erin Anderson, Department of English, 2018
Mark Lynn Anderson, Department of English, 2018, 2019
David Birnbaum, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, 2018
Jerome Branche, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, 2019
Caitlin Bruce, Department of Communication, 2018
Paola Buitrago, Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, 2019
Peter Campbell, Department of English, 2019
Angie Cruz, Department of English, 2018
Charles Exley, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, 2018
Jules Gill-Peterson, Department of English, 2018, 2019
Laura Gotkowitz, Department of History, 2018

Robert J. McDermott, Department of History, 2018
Philip Williams, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2019
Jonathan Woon, Department of Political Science, 2019
Joshua Groffman, Division of Communication and the Arts, Pitt-Bradford, 2019
Randall Halle, Department of German, 2018
Cory Holding, Department of English, 2019
Zachary Horton, Department of English, 2019
Tracee Howell, Division of Communication and the Arts, Pitt-Bradford 2018
Aaron Johnson, Department of Music, 2018
Neepa Majumdar, Department of English, 2018
Ryan McDermott, Department of English, 2018
Patrick McKelvey, Department of Theatre Arts, 2019
Michael Meyer, Department of English, 2019
Elizabeth Monasterios, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, 2018, 2019
Christopher Nygren, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2018
David Pettersen, Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, 2018
James Pickett, Department of History, 2018, 2019
Elizabeth Pitts, Department of English, 2018, 2019
Shalini Puri, Department of English, 2019
Mrinalini Rajagopalan, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2018
Todd Reeser, Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, 2018
Pernille Roege, Department of History, 2018
Gayle Rogers, Department of English, 2018
Mathew Rosenblum, Department of Music, 2018
Alexander Taylor, Department of History of Art and Architecture, 2018
David Tenorio, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, 2019
Molly Warsh, Department of History, 2019