



Fueling our Future.

Fourth Annual Internal Funding Showcase

September 21, 2023

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

University Club, Ballrooms A and B

Sponsored by the Office of the Provost
and the Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Research

At the
University of Pittsburgh,
we dare
to imagine a

**better
world. >>>>**



WELCOME TO FUELING OUR FUTURE 2023: THE INTERNAL FUNDING SHOWCASE

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,

Handwritten signature of Joseph J. McCarthy in black ink.

Joseph J. McCarthy
Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor

Handwritten signature of Rob A. Rutenbar in black ink.

Rob A. Rutenbar
Senior Vice Chancellor for Research



Forge Ahead. >>>>>>>>

AGENDA

University Club, Ballroom B

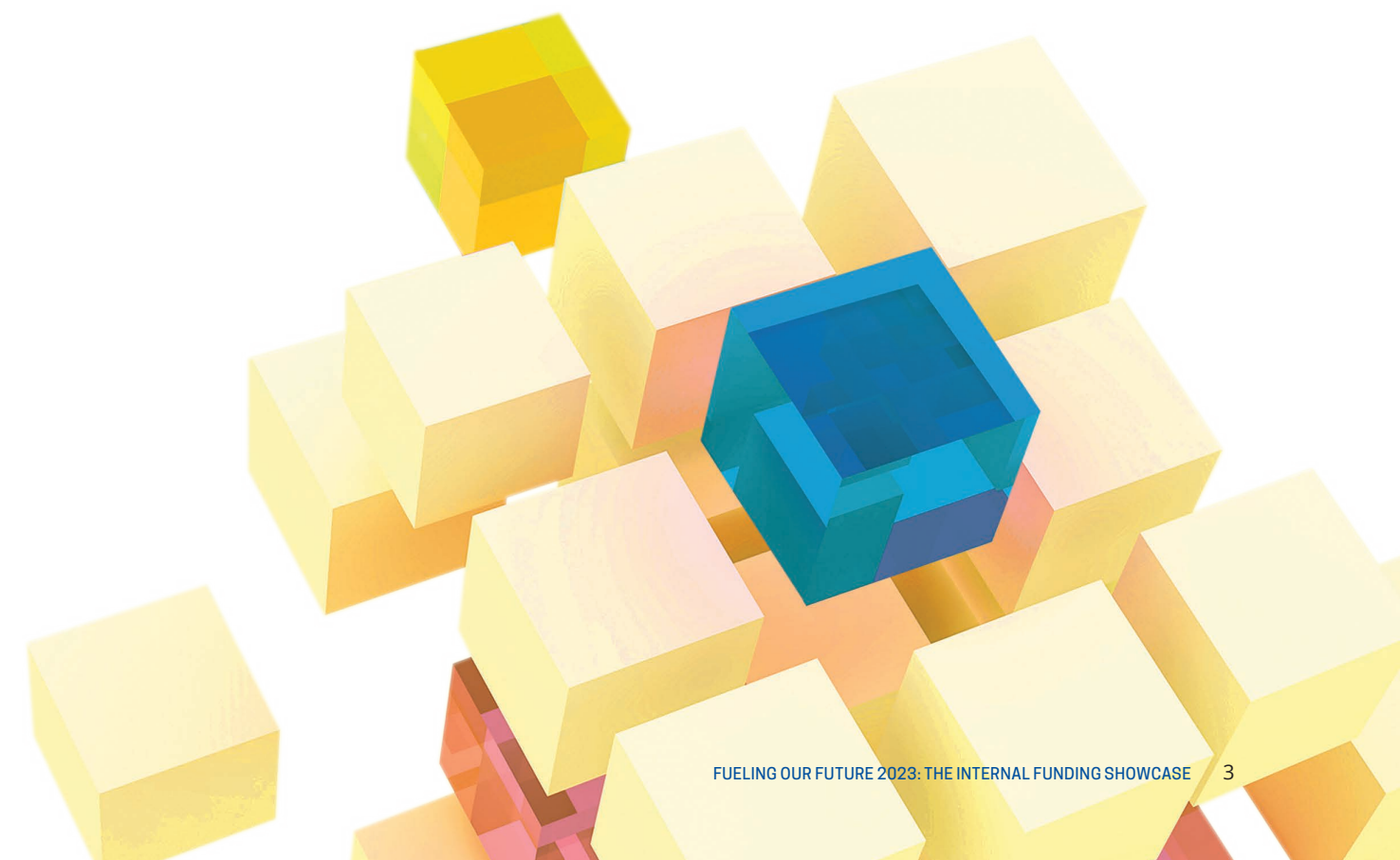
11:30-11:40 a.m. **Welcome to the Internal Funding Showcase**
Joan Gabel, Chancellor

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**



Poster Session Guide

Scaling

Teaming

**Engineering, Technology, Natural Sciences
and Mathematical Sciences** *(Pitt Momentum Funds)*

Health and Life Sciences *(Pitt Momentum Funds)*

Creative Arts, Performing Arts and Humanities
(Pitt Momentum Funds)

**Social Sciences, which Include Business, Policy, Law,
Education and Social Work** *(Pitt Momentum Funds)*

Microgrants *(Pitt Momentum Funds)*

Pitt Seed

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 Peciña, Department of Psychiatry

Kar-Hai Chu, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

Patricia Documét, 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.





PITT MOMENTUM FUNDS PRIMING GRANTS

Priming 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

Emission-Management for Sustainable Computing Systems

Stephen Lee, Department of Computer Science

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

Preserving Fairness of Deep Learning Under Environmental Changes

Xiaowei Jia, Department of Computer Science

Hassan Karimi, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems

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

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

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

Kearsten 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

Tuangtip 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 women 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

Dmitriy 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

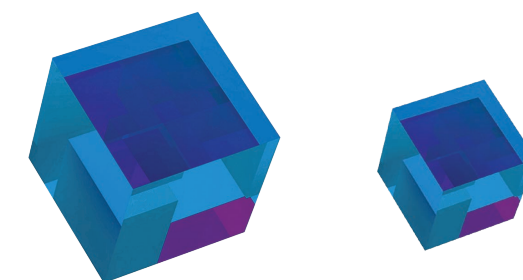
Michael Colaresi, Department of Political Science

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.



PITT MOMENTUM FUNDS ARTS and HUMANITIES MICROGRANTS (FALL and SPRING)

Arts and Humanities Microgrants support smaller-scale projects for individual faculty or teams in the arts and humanities. The microgrants are intended to support a variety of research and creative activities in the humanities specifically to enhance and expand internal funding opportunities for faculty. Microgrants function as a resource to support existing projects or those that are works in progress, or to test concepts where a smaller grant with fast decision making could be transformative. Awards are made twice per year in the amount of \$3,000.

“A Dirty, Filthy Book”

Michael Meyer, Department of English

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 prevalent 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 unveils how Buddhists in China reimagined the Indian example and how their reimagination 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 one-year National Endowment for the Humanities Translations Planning Grant to a proposal for the full 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.

“China and the Internet: Using New Media for Development and Social Changes”

Song Shi, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems

This Microgrant supports the editing and publication of Shi’s book, “China and the Internet: Using New Media for Development and Social Change.” The manuscript has been accepted by Rutgers University Press to be published in winter 2023. “China and the Internet” analyzes the impacts of new media and information and communication technologies (ICTs) on social change and development in contemporary China. Drawing on media coverage, nongovernmental Organization (NGO) project records, government policy documents, and interactions between activists online, the book investigates how these entities have engaged in new media interventions. The interventions themselves have served to bridge the digital divide, to empower NGOs, to promote government accountability, to help alleviate hunger and malnutrition, and to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak. These project and policy interventions aim to utilize new media and ICTs to promote development and social change. Second, Shi explores the complex, multidimensional, and dynamic relations among activists, NGOs, and the government in new media interventions. Third, Shi examines the role and effects of ICTs, new media, and traditional media in promoting development and social change.

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-Llebaria, Department of Linguistics

Rhythm, which refers to the sensation of isochrony conveyed by repeating patterns in speech, is key to adding emotion and pragmatic meanings to the dialogues of, for example, voice assistants such as Siri and Alexa. Despite its importance, few papers tested new promising rhythm measures due to the technical challenges involved in this research. The present project aims to ameliorate these challenges by creating a database to study prosody cross-linguistically together with a set of scripts that output more than 20 rhythm measures. With the help of undergraduate students majoring in different languages, the database will consist of TED talks in eight languages, their orthographic transcriptions, and annotated speech wave forms (words, syllables, phonemes, and pauses). Speech annotations will automatically be generated by freely available aligners and sound editing programs. This database will be the input to the scripts that output more than the 20 rhythm measures. Both tools, the database and scripts, together with a manual will be made available to the research community worldwide in order to promote international dialogue in this field.

“Il Palazzo,” a Novel

Angie Cruz, Department of English

“Il Palazzo” is a novel that works as a fictional translation from an Italian who confesses his wish for a “morte bianca” (a workplace death) so he can leave his son an inheritance. The novel reveals the tensions between the new immigrants in Italy and the impact on the global economy on small businesses and families.

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 from 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 where the pieces wouldn’t be connected but juxtaposed 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”

Mrinalini 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 were key to her elevated social, political, and financial station. “Marks She Made” will be the first full-length monograph on a South Asian female patron of art and architecture. The begum (title for a noblewoman in India) rose from modest beginnings as a courtesan in Mughal Delhi to become the commander of her own mercenary army and later the ruler of her independent territory of Sardhana (60 km northwest of Delhi). She was a trusted ally to the Mughal emperor and the English East India Company (two dominant political powers in north India at the time) and maintained diplomatic relations with two popes and King Louis Philippe of France by exchanging portraits, architectural drawings, and letters with these powerful men. Her patronage of art and architecture played a key role in establishing the begum as a powerful but nonthreatening 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 (Spearlt) 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 tractates, 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 tractates. The traditional order of the treatises is quite clearly random, and in Wildberg’s translation, the tractates 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 Hermetica, 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.

Past and Future Tense: Using AI/NLG to Rebuild Sophocles' "The Searchers"

Jeremy Justus, Humanities Division, Pitt-Johnstown

Mark DiMauro, Humanities Division, Pitt-Johnstown

The team will make use of textual generation software powered by artificial intelligence from openai.org. With Generative Pre-trained Transformer Three, (GPT-3) the team will amend and repair an ancient text, partially lost to history: Sophocles' "The Searchers." This repaired version of the text will allow current students of classical and world literature, as well as those within the newly proposed class Humanities Data Science, to read as full a version of the original text as can be reasonably reconstructed, as well as to dissect, discuss, and reflect on the AI generation process.

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.

"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 McKelvey, 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 ideas about care, dependence, and deservingness did these organizations institutionalize, and how did they change over time? What racial, gender, sexual, and class norms did they propagate? How did they interact with institutions of public welfare? To what extent have these organizations fomented disability activism? Throughout, McKelvey is especially interested in querying the relationship between theatrical welfare and Black, queer, and feminist disability history.

The Burma Trilogy: An Account of the Monkhood and Other Sorrows in the Golden Land

William Lychack, Department of English

This year's Pitt Momentum Funds will support the final research and writing of a series of general audience novels set in contemporary Burma (Myanmar). The purpose and goal will be a completed book manuscript consisting of three companion novels based on Lychack's experiences in Burma as a Buddhist monk. The deliverable will be a finished submission to publishers by the spring of 2024.

The Churata Papers

Elizabeth Monasterios, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures

The Churata Papers is a collaborative project aimed at transcribing and publishing critical and annotated editions of two unpublished manuscripts by Andean writer Gamaliel Churata (1897-1969). This is a literary corpus written over the first half of the 20th century in a literary style that can be nearly impenetrable without critical annotation. The participants are Andean scholars Riccardo Badini (University of Cagliari, Italy) and Elizabeth Monasterios. The project has three major phases: planning, preparation of critical and annotated editions, and publication. The planning phase has been completed and the project is entering its second phase, which involves: (a) transcription of manuscripts, identifying ambiguous linguistic structures, odd expressions, and problems with the logical coherence of the text; (b) workshops to discuss progress and solve difficulties understanding Andean thinking; (c) archival research; and writing introductory essays. An Arts and Humanities Microgrant will allow Monasterios to conduct a seven-day research trip to the Centro Interdipartimentale di Studi sull'America Pluriversale at the University of Cagliari, which holds a collection of letters, notes, and other primary sources crucial to complete the annotated edition of the manuscript assigned to her. To date, no comprehensive scholarly examination of these materials has been undertaken.



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 Buchanich, 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, 2019
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 Groffman, 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
Raúl Hernández Sánchez, 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
Samannaaz 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, 2019
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 Shamdasani, Department of Economics, 2019
Kay Shimizu, Department of Political Science, 2018
Jason Shoemaker, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2018
Michelle Sobolak, 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 Braxter, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2020
Kay Brummond, Department of Chemistry, 2018
Thistle 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 Kolarcik, 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 Osai, 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 Wanless, 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

Jules Gill-Peterson, Department of English, 2020
Michael Hatridge, Department of Physics and Astronomy, 2021
Peng Liu, Department of Chemistry, 2020
Jill E. Millstone, Department of Chemistry, 2018
Rebecca Price, Department of Psychiatry, 2021
Ervin Sejdik, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2018
Matiangai Sirleaf, School of Law, 2019
Cecelia Yates, Department of Health Promotion and Development, 2022
Aidan G.C. Wright, Department of Psychology, 2023

Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award: Senior Scholars

Derek C. Angus, Department of Critical Care Medicine, 2019
Hülya 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

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 Spagnoletti, Department of Medicine, 2020
Richard Steinman, Department of Medicine, 2019
Alan Sved, Department of Neuroscience, 2018
Liann Tsoukas, Department of History, 2023
Götz Vesper, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2022

Innovation in Education Award

Mai Abdelhakim, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2023
Dmitriy 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 Bowser, 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
Annmarie Duggan, Department of Theatre Arts, 2018
Erika Faselow, 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 Gharaibeh, Department of Biological Sciences, 2023
Jessica Ghilani, Humanities Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2019
Susan Graff, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, 2020
David Grinnell, University Library System, 2020

Reem Hannun, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2022
Karthik Hariharan, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, 2022
Prema Iyer, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 2022
Leah Jacobs, School of Social Work, 2018
Lauren Jonkman, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2022
Robin Kear, University Library System, 2020
Robert Kerestes, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2019
Ryan Kerrigan, Energy and Earth Resources Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2020
Kirill Kiselyov, Department of Biological Sciences, 2023
In Hee Lee, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2023
Peng Liu, Department of Chemistry, 2020
Paul Lucas, Humanities Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018
Tommy Mayberry, Biological and Health Sciences Division, Pitt-Bradford, 2018
Elaine Morner, Department of Communication Science and Disorders, 2019
Emily Murphy, Department of Physician Assistant Studies, 2018
Diane Nicodemus, Humanities Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018
Linda O'Reilly, Department of Biological Sciences, 2022
Helen Petracchi, School of Social Work, 2018
Marcelle Pierson, Department of Music, 2020
Joanne Prasad, Department of Oral and Craniofacial Sciences, 2020
Sarah Ruffell, Biological and Health Sciences Division, Pitt-Bradford, 2018
Zuzana Swigonova, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020
Patty Wharton-Michael, Humanities Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2018
Amy Williams, Department of Music, 2022

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

Dmitriy 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 Bridgen, 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 Dostilio, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs, 2019, 2020

Gianni Downs, Department of Theatre Arts, 2020

Dawn Drahnak, 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

Brian Galla, Department of Health and Human Development, 2019

Jennifer Ganger, Department of Psychology, 2020

Casey Garrow, Department of Athletics, 2019, 2020

Jessica Ghilani, 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 Holler, Behavioral Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020

Elizabeth D. Katrancha, 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

Martha 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, 2020

Derek McDonald, College of Business Administration, 2019

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 Orłowski, 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

Jenette 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 Sporrer, 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, 2019

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

Dmitriy Babichenko, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019

Alexa Bakalarski, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2021

Mackenzie Ball, 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 Belczyk, 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 Carryer, 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 Chitiyo, Management and Education Division, Pitt-Bradford, 2021

Cara Ciminillo, Trying Together, 2021

Susan Cohen, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2021

Jeremiah Coldsmith, 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 Delnore, European Studies Center, 2021

George Dougherty, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2020

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Kerry Empey, Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, 2020

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Ravi Patel, Department of Radiation Oncology, 2020

Jon Pearlman, Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, 2021

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Amanda Poholeka, Department of Pediatrics, 2021

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Bailey Tobias, Pitt Interprofessional Center for Health Careers, 2021

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Belkys Torres, University Center for International Studies, 2022

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Sheila Velez Martinez, School of Law, 2021, 2022

Kelsey Voltz-Poremba, Department of Occupational Therapy, 2022

David Vorp, Department of Bioengineering, 2020

David Wallace, Department of Critical Care Medicine, 2019

John Wallace, Center on Race and Social Problems, 2022

Jessica Wandelt, Department of Biological Sciences, 2021

Y. Ken Wang, Management and Education Division, Pitt-Bradford, 2020

Anna Wang-Erickson, Department of Pediatrics, 2021

Carl Wang-Erickson, Department of Mathematics, 2022

Karin Warner, Department of Nurse Anesthesia, 2020

Katherine Watson, Department of Pediatrics, 2021

Nina Watters, Counseling Services, Pitt-Greensburg, 2022

Kurt Weiss, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, 2019

Dan Wetzel, Department of Biological Sciences, 2021

Ginger White, Institute for Clinical Research Education, 2021

Geoffrey Wood, Social Sciences Division, Pitt-Greensburg, 2020

Jennifer Woodward, Office of Sponsored Research, 2019, 2022

Raymond Wrabley, Social Sciences Division, Pitt-Johnstown, 2021

Gabby Yearwood, School of Law, 2022

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Joseph Yurko, School of Computing and Information, 2021

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Haihui Zhang, University Library System, 2019



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Kayhan Batmanghelich, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2020

Eric Beckman, Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, 2020

Wendie Berg, Department of Radiology, 2020

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Melissa Bilec, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, 2020, 2022

LuAnn Brink, Allegheny County Health Department, 2022

Jeanine Buchanich, Department of Biostatistics, 2022

Shanyce 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 Fabisiak, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, 2022

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Joshua Galperin, School of Law, 2020

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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

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David Boone, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2021

Jaime Booth, School of Social Work, 2021

Richard Boyce, Department of Biomedical Informatics, 2020, 2021

Jerome Branche, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, 2020

Thuy Bui, Department of Medicine, 2020

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Heath Cabot, Department of Anthropology, 2022

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Sung Kwon Cho, Department of Mechanical Engineering, 2021

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T. Elon Dancy, Center for Urban Education, 2021

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Lori Delale-O'Connor, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2021

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Emily Elliott, Department of Geology and Environmental Science, 2021

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Deborah Galson, Department of Medicine, 2022

Gina Garcia, Department of Educational Foundations, Organizations, and Policy, 2020, 2022

Tiffany Gary-Webb, Department of Epidemiology, 2020

Marcela Gonzalez Rivas, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2021

Sara Goodkind, School of Social Work, 2021

Balasubramani Goundappa, Department of Epidemiology, 2020

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Ghady Haidar, Department of Medicine, 2020

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Rebecca Hwa, Department of Computer Science, 2021

Seong Jae Hwang, Department of Computer Science, 2021

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Arif Jamal, University Library System, 2022

Valerian Kagan, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, 2020

Lorna Kearns, University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2020

Sarah Krier, Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, 2020

Geoff Kurland, Department of Pediatrics, 2020

Seema Lakdawala, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 2020

Hang Lin, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, 2021

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Diane Litman, Department of Computer Science, 2021

Edouard Machery, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, 2022

Ravi Madhavan, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2022

Martha Mantilla, University Library System, 2020, 2022

Noble Maseru, Health Sciences, 2021

La'Tasha Mayes, New Voices for Reproductive Justice, 2020

Erica McGreevy, Department of Biological Sciences, 2020

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Dobrawa Napierala, Department of Oral and Craniofacial Sciences, 2022

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Shilpa Sant, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 2021, 2022

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Matiangai Sirleaf, School of Law, 2020

Jackie Smith, Department of Sociology, 2021

John Stoner, Department of History, 2022

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Luis Van Fossen Bravo, Center for Latin American Studies, 2020

Wilbert Van Panhuis, Department of Epidemiology, 2020

Daria Van Tyne, Department of Medicine, 2020

John Wallace, Department of Sociology, 2022

Anna Wang-Erickson, Department of Pediatrics, 2020

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John Williams, Department of Pediatrics, 2020

Dannai Wilson, Allegheny County Health Department, 2020

Steve Wisnieski, Department of Epidemiology, 2020

Priming Grants

Malihe Alikhani, Department of Computer Science, 2022

Yomna Badawi, Department of Neuroscience, 2022

Jenna Baron, ARYSE (Alliance for Refugee Youth Support and Education), 2021

Mostafa Bedewy, Department of Industrial Engineering, 2020

Benjamin Benosman, Department of Ophthalmology, 2020

Yodit Betru, School of Social Work, 2022

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Gerard L. Campbell, Department of Biological Sciences, 2022

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Organizations, and Policy, 2022

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Anna Marsland, Department of Psychology, 2020

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Andrew McCormick, Department of Pediatrics, 2022

Michael Meyer, Department of English, 2020, 2022

Elizabeth Miller, Department of Pediatrics, 2020

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Nathan Youngblood, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2022

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Social Sciences Research Initiative

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Melanie Hughes, Department of Sociology, 2018

Prashant Krishnamurthy, Department of Informatics and Networked Systems, 2019

Carrie Leana, Katz Graduate School of Business, 2019

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Sera Linardi, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, 2019

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Jules Gill-Peterson, Department of English, 2018, 2019

Laura Gotkowitz, Department of History, 2018



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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

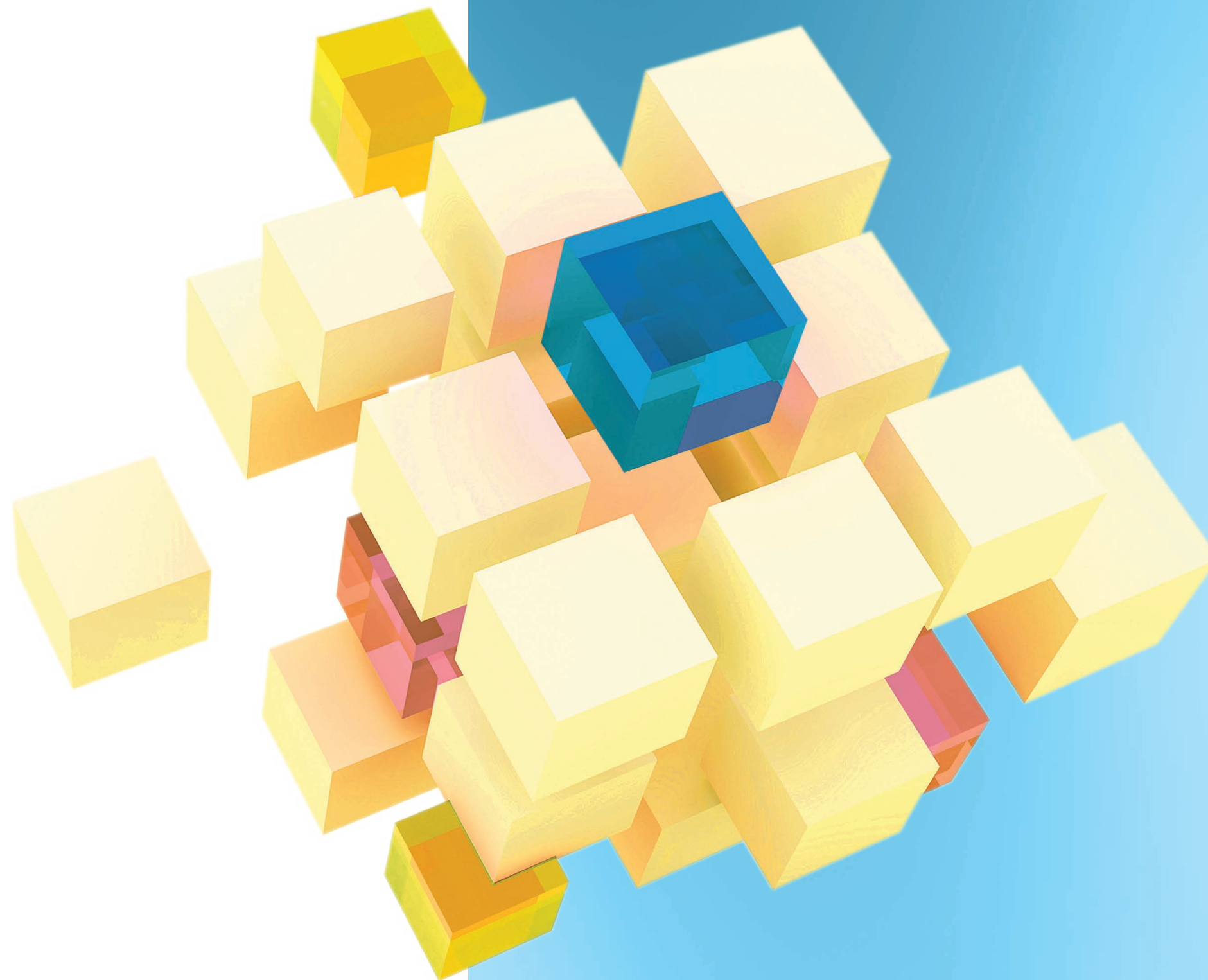
Gayle Rogers, Department of English, 2018

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





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