Blue & Gold

Congressman Tim Murphy honored

Congressman Tim Murphy '79 ED (R-18th Congressional District) was one of 16 alumni to receive the prestigious University of Pittsburgh Legacy Laureate Award. The awards, announced at a special recognition dinner on October 14, were established in 2000 to honor University of Pittsburgh alumni for their outstanding personal and professional accomplishments. It is the highest honor bestowed on University alumni.

Due to the voting schedule for the House of Representatives, Murphy was unable to attend the Legacy Laureate

dinner. Instead, arrangements were made for him to visit the Pitt-Greensburg campus on October 21 to receive the award and meet with various members of the Pitt-Greensburg community. Representing the University of Pittsburgh were Albert Novak, vice chancellor of the Office of Institutional Advancement, and B. Jean Ferketish, secretary to the Board of Trustees and assistant chancellor.

Murphy is the third Legacy Laureate recipient to be nominated by Pitt-Greensburg, and Pitt-Greensburg remains the only regional campus to have its nominees receive this prestigious award. Other Legacy Laureate recipients nominated by Pitt-Greensburg include Gary Amelio A&S '78 LAW '81, of Half Moon Bay, CA, who received the award in 2007, and the Hon. John J. Driscoll LAW '66, of Greensburg, PA, who received the award in 2010. Both Amelio and Driscoll serve on the Pitt-Greensburg Advisory Board.

Congressman Tim Murphy has devoted his career to the betterment of his fellow citizens. He spent three decades as a practicing psychologist in Western Pennsylvania hospitals and schools. He also offered his expertise to the media. Murphy



Greensburg

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Dr. Sharon P. Smith (left) and Congressman Tim Murphy with the citation that accompanies the award.



taught at the University of Pittsburgh, where he earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree from the School of Education in 1979.

In 1996, Murphy was elected to the Pennsylvania State Senate, where, a year later, he authored the Commonwealth's historic Patients' Bill of Rights. In 2002, Murphy was elected to the U.S. Congress, where he is serving his fifth term. He is one of only a few representatives with a background in health care and leads advocacy for increasing health care affordability and accessibility for all

Americans, authoring legislation and books in an effort to advance knowledge and understanding of mental health.

In the U.S. House of Representatives, Murphy serves on a wide range of committees, including serving as chair of the Congressional Steel Caucus, co-chair of the Congressional Mental Health Caucus and GOP Doctors Caucus, vice chair of the Subcommittee on Environment and Economy, and co-founder of the Congressional Natural Gas Caucus.

Murphy joined the Navy Reserve Medical Service Corps in 2009 in order to work with wounded warriors with

traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder. His commitment to mental health treatment and practice was recognized by the American Psychological Association in 2005, when it awarded Murphy its Outstanding Leadership Award. Murphy also serves on the boards of Westmoreland Community Action and the University of Pittsburgh Institute of Politics.

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IVI essage

The Legacy Laureate is the highest award that the University of Pittsburgh can bestow on an alumnus. This year, Congressman Tim Murphy was among the 16 alumni chosen to receive this honor.

We are proud to note that Congressman Murphy was nominated by Pitt-Greensburg, which remains the only regional campus to have had its nominees win this prestigious award. Congressman Murphy is the third Pitt-Greensburg



nominee to become a Legacy Laureate, and we are particularly proud to have been able to present the award to him here on our campus.

Over the course of the past six months, Pitt-Greensburg students and organizations have also won awards. Hannah Row, a junior management major, placed first in the 2011 PICPA Student Writing Competition, Phoebe Nixon, a senior communication major, was awarded a \$6,000 scholarship from the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, and Pitt-Greensburg's chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political honor society, was one of 10 colleges and universities selected to receive the society's Best Chapter Award for 2010-2011. Those are just three recent examples of how our students are receiving recognition for their work and activities, and we look forward to seeing more accolades in the future.

Pitt-Greensburg is also pleased to share that we exceeded our recruitment goals for both freshmen and transfer students this past fall. The average GPA of incoming students increased to 3.41 and the average SAT score to 1034. Nearly 70 percent of our freshmen were ranked in the top three-fifths of their high school class and 67 percent completed Advanced Placement or Honors coursework.

What does this mean to you, an alumnus of Pitt-Greensburg? It means that as we continue to raise our standards, your degree will become even more valuable. It means that we will continue to move forward in developing programs that will enable us to fulfill our vision of being a liberal arts college for the 21st century.

Hail to Pitt!

Sharon P. Smith Sharon P. Smith, PhD

Sharon P. Smith, President

University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

Blue & Gold is published by the Office of University Relations and Institutional Advancement.

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Winter 2011

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Photo credits: University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

The *Blue & Gold* is published for alumni and friends of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. Questions and comments should be directed to the Office of University Relations and Institutional Advancement.

The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.

Advisory Board welcomes PBS CEO Michael D. Jones

M ichael D. Jones, chief operating officer for the Public Broadcasting System (PBS), recently was appointed to the Advisory Board of the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

Members of the Advisory Board are leaders from business, government, and the non-profit sector. Selection to this board is heavily weighted to the local area, but the group also includes people from significant areas of expertise. This contributes to a broader diversity



of opinion, impact, and geographical representation that further advances the University and its programs.

In January 2009, Jones joined the staff of PBS, a network of 356 member stations reaching more than 65 million people. He is charged with ensuring that all PBS services and activities are strategically aligned with the organization's vision and mission and that resources are allocated effectively to meet financial objectives, system priorities, and marketplace challenges and opportunities. Prior to joining PBS, he was senior executive vice president and chief administrative officer of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). An attorney, Jones also has served as deputy director/counsel for the Securities and Exchange Commission and has worked for two U.S. Senators.

Jones also served as a public affairs counselor with one of the nation's largest public relations firm, Burson-Marsteller, and as national director of public relations for the March of Dimes national headquarters. He was also a partner in the Washington, DC, law firm of Hayes & White, where he specialized in communications, corporate, and general litigation law.

Jones received his bachelor's degree from Boston College, where he was selected as a Scholar of the College. He earned his *juris doctor* from Boston College School of Law. He is a member of the Bars of the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia. Active in community affairs, Jones has been a member of the Board of Trustees of Boston College and the Board of Advisors of Boston College Law School. He also is a member of the board of Jumpstart and the President of the Alliance for Investor Education.

Two Honor Societies earn recognition

Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science) Honor Society



The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg's Alpha Epsilon Kappa Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political honor society, was one of 10 colleges and universities selected to receive the society's 2010-2011 Best Chapter Award.

Out of 730 Pi Sigma Alpha Chapters, Pitt-Greensburg's Alpha Epsilon Kappa Chapter was one of four schools selected for the award in the category of schools with enrollments of fewer than 6,000 students. Also earning recognition in the same category were Union College, Providence College, and the University of Minnesota, Morris.

"Because we are included in the category of schools with enrollments of fewer than 6,000 students, we are competing with schools that have larger political science departments and chapters," explained Paul Adams, PhD, assistant professor of political science and chapter advisor. "That's what makes this such a distinguishing honor."

The awards are intended to recognize local chapters that are particularly active in their departments and exhibit high levels of energy and creativity in furthering the honor society's goals. Pitt-Greensburg's chapter received a cash prize of \$250 and was among the winners announced in the fall 2011 issue of "Pi Sigma Alpha Newsletter" and in the American Political Science Association's quarterly journal "PS: Political Science and Politics."

Pi Sigma Alpha is one of 12 national honor societies at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. ▲

Pitt-Greensburg senior awarded \$6,000 scholarship



Phoebe C. Nixon, a senior communication major at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, is the recipient of a \$6,000 scholarship from the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society. Nixon, from Pittsburgh, was inducted into

Pitt-Greensburg's chapter of Phi Eta Sigma in spring 2009.

The honor society has awarded \$300,000 in endowed scholarships or awards to outstanding members of their organization for undergraduate or graduate study. Phi Eta Sigma was founded to recognize and reward academic excellence among full-time, first-year students who have received a 3.50 QPA in their first or first two semesters. It is the nation's oldest and largest honor society for first-year college and university students in all disciplines.



Friday, September 30 Greensburg Country Club

RIGHT: Taking first place and the Arnold Palmer autographed prints was the Papini's Lawn Care & Landscaping Team. From left:



Steeler Robin Cole, Jay Papini, of Somerset; Marty Mudry, of Somerset; Mike Svonovec, of Johnstown; Steeler Louis Lipps, Dr. Sharon P. Smith, and Bruce Long of Somerset.

BELOW: Eighteen teams participated in the ninth annual Bobcat Invitational Cross Country held at the Westmoreland County Fairgrounds. The meet "went teal" to support ovarian cancer awareness, with each athlete wearing a teal ribbon to promote the cause. Also occurring later in the day were





men's and women's soccer matches against Penn State Behrend.

BELOW IEFT: Prospective students received a glimpse of campus life during the Admissions Open House Saturday morning.

BELOW RIGHT: The Pancake Breakfast was a hit with students Saturday morning.





With thanks to our Golf Outing sponsors: Elliott Company (Fairway Sponsor) * Fotorecord (Eagle Sponsor) * UPMC Health Plan (Eagle Sponsor) * The Pawn and Jewelry Exchange (Birdie Sponsor) * Limbach, Inc. (Par Sponsor) * Hampton Inn (Refreshment Sponsor) * Integrative Staffing Group, LLC (Cart Sponsor)

Saturday, October 1 - Pitt-Greensburg





Alumni Receptions









Homecoming King & Queen





8. Colorful inflatables turned the gym into a playground.

9. The Celebration of Life service remembered those who are no longer with us.

With thanks to our 5K sponsors: UPMC Health Plan (Race Sponsor) + Elliott Company/Ebarra Group (Finish Line Sponsor) • Excela Health (Blue Sponsor) + Westmoreland Foot and Ankle (Gold Sponsor) + Limbach, Inc. (Gold Sponsor)

1. They're off . . .

2.... and the winner is Rich Romano!

3. Alumni attending the RA Alumni Reception included: (Front) Dave Campbell '03; Laura Colosimo '03; Cindy (Likar) Vislay '03; Lindsay (Day) Learn '04; Amanda Flaus '03; Brian Root '04. (Back) Larry Stouffer '99; Ryan Learn '03; Matt Rahuba '03; Troy Ross '08.

4. Participating in the SPSEA Reception were: Row 1: Dr. Vickilyn Barnot; Colleen Ellig '07 and daughter. Row 2: Mike Krzanowski '11; Sarah Fitzpatrick '10; Michelle Timothy '07; Chelsea Knetzer (student); Kayla Clark (student). Row 3: Keith Gwillim (student); Jen Komenda '03; Dr. Melissa Marks, Megan Morrison (student).

5. Tom McGee '06;Heather Gustine '07; and Stacey Lowe '06; were among the alumni who joined the students at the Sigma Tau Delta Reception.

6. JP Hilzendeger and Meghan Edge were crowned Homecoming King & Queen, respectively.

7. The Hospitality Tent offered the chance to win great prizes!



Alumni Profile: Brian Root '04

Brian Root '04, majored in English Writing when he attended the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. He recently was elected to the PGAA Executive Committee. Hometown: Transfer, PA, (Mercer County).

The thing that drew me to Pitt-Greensburg was... a simple brochure in the mail that made me

want to look into Pitt-Greensburg. I had never heard of the place until the brochure arrived in my mailbox.

My first impression of Pitt-Greensburg was... awe. I was in awe of the physical features of the campus. It was such a beautiful place. When I visited, I felt at home.

My favorite thing as a student/fondest memory was... I have great memories of living on campus. My experience living in campus residence halls was life-changing; that's why I believe so strongly in the on-campus experience. I also have great memories being involved in various student organizations.

The faculty member(s) who had the greatest influence on me were . . . Lori Jakiela who taught me great things that influenced the way I write and think about writing. She's amazing at her craft and has the great ability to teach it to others. Mary Beth Spore, who taught all of the children's literature classes at the time, was an amazing instructor. She was a great person to talk to and learn from. She was so very down-to-earth and enjoyable.

After Pitt-Greensburg, I went on to ... Indiana University of Pennsylvania to earn my master's degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education. Afterwards, I returned to Pitt-Greensburg to work in the Office of Housing & Residence Life. I'm now in my 5th year working at Pitt-Greensburg, and am the Assistant Director of Housing & Residence Life. I work with current Pitt-Greensburg students on a daily basis, and I love it!

My reason for becoming active with the PGAA... Pitt-Greensburg gave me so much and has played such a huge role in my life. Therefore, it's important to me to be involved with the PGAA.

In my spare time, I like to . . . dabble in photography and social media. I've also picked up a new hobby, geocaching. And, of course, I enjoy spending time with my two-year-old niece.

I enjoy volunteering in the community and am the president of the Kiwanis Club of Greensburg, which provides me with many opportunities to give back to the local community. I also volunteer with the local Habitat for Humanity chapter and various other nonprofit agencies in the area.

Would you, or an alum you know, be interested in sharing your story? The PGAA wants to hear from you! Email pgalum@pitt.edu and tell us why you or someone you know would like to be interviewed, and you, he, or she could be our next Alumni Spotlight.

Update your information & receive a coupon for the Campus Bookstore

The Office of University Relations and Institutional Advancement encourages alumni to update their contact information any time they move, change email addresses, or change their telephone numbers. An easy way to do this is on-line at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/alumni/win.



Take a few moments today to update any changes or submit new information. Your reward: a 20 percent off coupon that can be used at the Pitt-Greensburg Bookstore through December 22. Anyone

who updates their information between now and **December 16** will also be entered into a drawing for a Pitt Spirit Basket that will be drawn on **December 19.** Update your information and treat yourself to Pitt gear at a discount for the holidays.

Matching Gifts Program gives your gift greater impact



Did you know that you can double or even triple your contribution to Pitt-Greensburg? The Corporate Matching Gifts Program provides

a way for alumni, parents, and friends of Pitt-Greensburg to maximize their contributions to the Greensburg campus. Companies who participate in Pitt's matching gifts program "match" their employee's contribution to Pitt-Greensburg by donating an equal amount of money to the same allocation as the employee's original contribution. This additional support is extremely meaningful to the students and to Pitt-Greensburg.

Your employer may already be a part of the corporate matching gifts program within the University! A list of currently known matching gift partners is posted on the Pitt-Greensburg web site. Just click on the **Giving tab** and then **Matching Gifts** to view the list. If your company is not listed simply check with your human resources department to see if your company is a matching gifts provider. For more information about matching gifts and other ways to financially support Pitt-Greensburg, contact **Cletus McConville, development coordinator, at 724-836-7039 or pggiving@pitt.edu.** ▲

CAMPUS NEWS

Joan Chambers Concert Series:

Elizabeth Tomlin, piano

The second performance in the Joan Chambers Concert Series will feature Elizabeth Tomlin, pianist, on February 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center. This event is open to the public at no charge.

Tomlin is an active piano soloist, chamber musician and new music advocate. A recent performance of the Schumann Piano Concerto received high praise with John Lambert of Classical Voice of North Carolina declaring it "so good, indeed, that I'd urge anyone to go out of the way to hear Tomlin again."



A sought-after collaborative pianist with more than 200 works in her repertoire, she has performed throughout the United States. Coordinator of the piano accompanying programs at Indiana University and the Harid Conservatory of Music, Tomlin has been a chamber coach at the UNC Chamber Workshop, American String Workshop, and Depauw University.

Her solo appearances have taken her to the Irving S. Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, Dudley Profile Series at Harvard University, and concerto performances with orchestras in Illinois, Indiana and North Carolina.

Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Co. Fall Production

The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company's 2011-2012 season opens with the Greek tragedy *Hippolytus* by Euripides. It will be performed at 7:30 p.m. in Ferguson Theater (Smith Hall) on November 17, 18, & 19 and at 2 p.m. on November 20. Tickets are \$10 (regular) and \$5 (students, seniors, Pitt ID).

In this production directed by Stephen Schrum, PhD, Pitt-Greensburg associate professor of theater arts, ghostly spirits appear and re-enact their guilty deeds. The audience watches a family driven to passion and death through the hatred of the gods. Each performance will be followed by a talkback/discussion with the actors and production staff.

Interdisciplinary Arts (IA) major Meghan Edge, cast as Phaedra, will use her role in this production as her Capstone Project in Theatre. IA major, and production stage manager Melissa Raichel also has her Capstone Project connected with *Hippolytus*. In January, the Company will do a mini-tour of the show to other venues, and Raichel's capstone involves the role of stage manager in a touring production.

This year, the Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company will join the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival as a Participating Member, which allows the production to be considered for Festival Invitation, once judges are sent from KC/ACTF to adjudicate the show.

Winter Events

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February 4, 2012

The **Center for Professional Growth** at Pitt-Greensburg, in collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, presents **"Heart Failure"** as part of the 2011-2012 Pharmacology Update Series. Presented by teleconference, the session runs from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Millstein Library (Room 250), and nurses earn three CNE contact hours. Registration is \$60 per session and may be done online at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/about/cpg.

February 17, 2012

The Joan Chambers Concert Series presents Elizabeth Tomlin, pianist, in a solo recital featuring works by Scarlatti Beethoven, Chopin, and Debussy at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel & Lecture Center. This event is free and open to the public.

March 3, 2012

The **Center for Professional Growth** at Pitt-Greensburg, in collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, presents "**GI Disorders**" as part of the 2011-2012 Pharmacology Update Series. Presented by teleconference, the session runs from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Millstein Library (Room 250), and nurses earn three CNE contact hours. Registration is \$60 per session and may be done online at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/about/cpg.

March 22-24, 2012

The **Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company** presents the world premiere of the musical *Dog Assassin* at 7:30 p.m. in Ferguson Theater. This new post-Progressive Rock musical was created by Pitt-Greensburg faculty member Stephen Schrum (book and lyrics) and Jeremy dePrisco (music). Tickets are \$12 (regular) and \$6 (students/seniors).

March 25, 2012

The **Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company** presents a special matinee performance of the musical **Dog Assassin** at 2 p.m. in Ferguson Theater. This new post-Progressive Rock musical was created by Pitt-Greensburg faculty member Stephen Schrum (book and lyrics) and Jeremy dePrisco (music). Tickets are \$12 (regular) and \$6 (students/ seniors).



Pitt-Greensburg Alumni



Go to http://www.youtube.com/pittgreensburgvideos, and check out what's happening on the Pitt-Greensburg YouTube Channel, too!

Get the most current information about what's happening at Pitt-Greensburg. From your Facebook account, "Like" the Official Pitt-Greensburg Page (http://www.Facebook.com/pittgreensburgofficialpage)

and the Official Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Page (http://www.facebook.com/PittGreensburgAlumni).

Winter Events

Events are free and open to the public unless indicated.

November 17-19

The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company presents **"Hippolytus"** by Euripides at 7:30 p.m. in the Ferguson Theater (Smith Hall). A talk-back/discussion with the actors and production staff will follow each performance. Tickets, available at the door, are \$10 (regular) and \$5 (students, seniors, Pitt ID)

November 20

The Pitt-Greensburg Theatre Company presents a special matinee performance of "**Hippolytus**" by Euripides at 2 p.m. in the Ferguson Theater (Smith Hall). A talk-back/discussion with the actors and production staff will follow the performance.

November 24 - 27

Pitt-Greensburg is closed for Thanksgiving Recess.

December 2

Plan to attend the **PGAA's Holiday Wine Tasting event** at 7 p.m. in Lynch Hall. Early registration by November 18 is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Registration between November 19 and November 30 is \$20 per person or \$30 per couple. Call 724-836-7497 to register.

December 3

The **Center for Professional Growth** at Pitt-Greensburg, in collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, presents **"Diabetic Management with Insulin"** as part of the 2011-2012 Pharmacology Update Series. Presented by teleconference, the session runs from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Millstein Library (Room 250), and nurses earn three CNE contact hours. Registration is \$60 per session and may be done online at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/about/cpg.

December 9

The **Pitt-Greensburg Chorale & Chamber Singers** present **"The Raven and the Light: A Choral Collage"** at 7:30 pm. in the Mary Lou Campana Chapel and Lecture Center. This event is free and open to the public.

December 23 - January 2, 2012 Pitt-Greensburg is closed for **Winter Recess**.

January 4, 2012 Spring term classes begin.

January 7, 2012

The Center for Professional Growth at Pitt-Greensburg, in collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, presents "Hyperlipidemia" as part of the 2011-2012 Pharmacology Update Series. Presented by teleconference, the session runs from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in Millstein Library (Room 250), and nurses earn three CNE contact hours. Registration is \$60 per session and may be done online at www.greensburg.pitt.edu/about/cpg.

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