Neuroscience People

Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg names
Anthony A. Grace
Distinguished Professor of Neuroscience

As reported in the PittChronicle, September 20, 2010, the rank of Distinguished Professor identifies extraordinary, internationally recognized scholarly attainment in an individual discipline or field.

In addition to his research and duties on Pitt's Center for Neuroscience's Executive and Faculty Admissions committees and on the MD and PhD Degree Supervisory Committee Dr. Grace teaches NROSCI 1030 —Psychiatric Disorders and Brain Function for the department each spring. Congratulations and Thanks for all you do!

Student Spotlight

Congratulations... Peter Adams

As of September 22, 2010 Neuroscience Major; Peter Adams accepted an appointment as a Student Representative to the Health Sciences Committee of the Board of Trustees for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. The mission of the committee is general oversight of the Schools of Hearth Sciences' education and research activities in cooperation with the Academic Affairs Committee which has oversight of all academic matters for the entire University. Additionally, it shall oversee the affiliations of the University of Pittsburgh through its University of Pittsburgh Medical Center division and the Schools of Health Sciences with related hospitals, institutions, organizations, laboratories, and clinics involved in health care, teaching, and research.

Peter will serve until June 30, 2011 along with faculty representatives Professor Ellen Cohn from the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Professor Steven D. Shapiro, Chair of the Department of Medicine, staff representative Ms. Monica Costlow, Graduate School of Public Health, community representatives Mr. David Fawcett Jr. Senior Partner, Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote and Mr. David A Tilstone, Greensburg Campus Advisory Board, and one other student representative Ms. Melanie Rodrigues, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly.

Peter feels his participation in the Hesselbein Global Academy this summer was a key factor in his appointment to the Committee. As posted on the website “The Hesselbein Global Academy for Student Leadership and Civic Engagement aims to produce a cadre of experienced, ethical leaders equipped to address critical issues throughout the world.” According to Peter, the Academy fulfilled the stated goals of its mission: “To inspire, develop, and reward accomplished student leaders to meet the challenges of tomorrow.”

Tell us your good news! Click here To remove your name from our mailing list, please click here.
Important Dates

Fall Term 211

October 11, 2010  
October 12, 2010  
October 29, 2010  
November 1, 2010  
November 12, 2010  
November 24–28, 2010  
December 10, 2010  
December 12–18, 2010  
December 18, 2010  
December 19, 2010  

Fall Break—Monday classes meet Tuesday  
Monday classes meet today  
Monitored Withdrawal Deadline  
Spring Term Registration Begins  
Deadline to apply for May graduation  
Thanksgiving Recess  
Deadline to register w/o penalty  
Finals Week  
Fall Term Ends  
Residence Hall Close  

October 2010

1 2

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

10 11 12 Mon classes meet today 13 14 15 16

17 18 19 20 21 22 23

27 25 26 27 28 29 30

31

Halloween

Happy Halloween

Newsletter Spotlight

- Neuroscience People
- Major Requirements/ Fellowships
- Course Offerings
- Employment/Volunteer Opportunities
- More Opportunities
Major Requirements
Students must complete BIOSC 0150, BIOSC 0160, CHEM 0110, and CHEM 0120 with a grade of C or better (not C-) in order to declare Neuroscience as a major. Students must earn a B– or better in Intro to Neuroscience in order to continue in the major. To graduate with a BS degree in Neuroscience, students must maintain a 2.0 GPA in major courses and in co-requisite courses.

Departmental Honors
Departmental Honors are awarded to students who have achieved outstanding academic success. To qualify for this distinguished honor, a minimum overall GPA of 3.25, a minimum Neuroscience GPA of 3.25, and a substantial amount of approved Neuroscience research must be conducted. Additionally, students are required to give a public presentation of their research. Eligible students must then pass a faculty review.

Capstone Requirement
Students who have matriculated to A & S since Fall of 2007 must complete a capstone experience. For more information, please contact the advising office via email or call 412-624-5156.

Fellowship Opportunities
University of Pittsburgh Fellowships

Brackenridge Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship
Research participants receive a monthly $800 stipend to assure their freedom from the need to work during the summer.

Chancellor's Undergraduate Research Fellowship
$600 one-term stipend for undergraduate students engaged in research.

Chancellor's Undergraduate Teaching Fellowship
$600 one-term stipend for undergraduate students engaged in teaching with a faculty member.

STUDENTS
Please remember to request a grade change form be submitted upon completion of course work in classes where a “G” grade was entered. Also, a course repeat form must be submitted when courses are taken more than once.

Apply for Fellowships Early!
The Spring Term 2011 **Neuropharmacology** course will be offered on **Tuesday and Thursday from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm in BSTWR 1395**. This course will count as an advanced elective for Neuroscience majors. Please contact Betsy at eog1@pitt.edu for permissions.
Science2010-Transformations

Undergraduate Research Poster Reception
Thursday, 7 October
5-7pm
Connolly Ballroom, Alumni Hall
(no cost to register or attend)
Research performed either on campus with a University of Pittsburgh mentor or off campus at another institution is appropriate.

http://www.science2010.pitt.edu/

S.M.A.R.T. Scholarships

The SMART Scholarship Program is a highly-selective, prestigious, national program that fully supports their education, including full tuition and a very generous stipend while they are in school.

The Science, Mathematics, And Research for Transformation (SMART) scholarship-for-service Program fully funds undergraduate and graduate degrees in a wide range of technical areas, including all fields of Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Brain and Cognitive Sciences, and Mathematics.

The SMART application web page is at www.asee.org/SMART. The application deadline is December 2010 for the 2011 school year. SMART provides:

- Full Tuition – to any accredited U.S. University
- A very generous stipend while in school
  - $25,000 for undergraduates
  - $33,000 for masters candidates
  - $33,000 to $41,800 for doctoral candidates
- Book allowance – $1,000
- Health Insurance
- Paid Summer internships
- All required student fees
- Travel fees for internships

Summer internships at the facility/laboratory are required. In return for fully funding their education, students are required to work as a civilian employee at a Service (Army, Navy, Air Force) or DoD Agency (NSA, DIA, DARPA, etc.) laboratory, or similar activity, for a period equal to the time the program paid for their school. Students must be U.S. Citizens, able to obtain a DoD Security Clearance, and be willing to work in a defense facility/laboratory upon graduation.

There will be approximately 300 new awards this year. A list of SMART fellows from previous years is listed by University at:

http://www.asee.org/fellowships-smart/schools/scholar%5Fdirectory/list%5Fby%5Fschool/

Interested students should visit:

www.asee.org/SMART. There are links to the application portal and other program related information. Additional applicant and SMART related questions can be answered via:

Email: smart@asee.org

Get Involved

Students MUST meet with an advisor to have their ADV Holds lifted prior to registering for the spring term.

Registration for the spring term begins Monday, November 1, 2010. Check your student center for your enrollment appointment time.

Email Betsy at eog1@pitt.edu for an appointment.
Internship positions (unpaid) in the Biobehavioral Medicine Program of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute (UPCI) are available immediately on a project studying the psychobiological responses to stress in daily life and under controlled laboratory conditions. We are seeking two students to potentially volunteer (or earn academic credit if interested and able) up to 10 hours a week, depending on which roles they fill. We are looking for people to be trained in handling and analyzing cardiovascular data, sleep data, laboratory slides, as well as other administrative tasks as needed. This will depend on both your interest, skills, as well as availability.

Candidates should possess good computer skills, dedication to research, attention to detail, good organizational skills, strong work ethic, and the ability to work autonomously or in a group. Regular weekly availability is necessary.

Interested individuals should contact Shane Belin at belinsc2@upmc.edu. Please provide a resume and a brief statement of your background and goals.

Student Research/Clinical Assistant- Volunteer

UPMC Sports Concussion Program at the UPMC Center for Sport Medicine

Title: Student Research/Clinical Assistant- Volunteer

Duties: Responsibilities include both research duties such as: subject recruitment, data collection, conducting informed consent procedures, entering and analyzing data, assisting in the development of manuscripts/reports and presentations, and participation in Grand Round discussions; and clinical duties such as: administering computerized neurocognitive concussion tests; interacting with concussion patients; “shadowing” clinical neuropsychologists, physicians, and fellows; and observing and recording data during clinical evaluations.

Qualifications: Juniors/Seniors and Graduate/Professional students only; preference for applicants from Neurosciences, Psychology, Pre-Medicine, Medicine, and Kinesiology programs; applicants should have basic word processing, spreadsheet and related skills; applicants should have strong interpersonal and written and oral communication skills, and be comfortable interacting with subjects, patients, researchers, and clinicians.

Start Date: Fall Semester 2010- week of August 30, 2010 preferred

Time Commitment: 1-5 days per week; hours (7:30am-3pm) and days (Mondays-Fridays) vary; minimum commitment of 5 weeks- semester-long commitment preferred

Location: UPMC Sports Concussion Program, UPMC Center for Sports Medicine 3200 South Water Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203

To Apply: Send a resume and cover letter indicating your interest- both research and clinical- in the position to the contact person below. Interviews will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled.

Contact: Dr. Anthony P. Kontos, Assistant Research Director UPMC Sports Concussion Program, UPMC Center for Sports Medicine email- akontos@pitt.edu
The Arts and Sciences Advising Center
is Recruiting for Peer Advisors!

Earn academic credit in the spring leading to potential paid employment in the summer!
Gain leadership experience
Prepare for summer employment helping freshmen during PittStarts
Gain insight into academic and career planning
Obtain valuable professional work experience

Peer Advisor Internship hours include:
Formal training every Wednesday from 3-5 p.m. during spring term
Five flexible hours per week working on specific projects for the Advising Center

Requirements to apply:
Minimum 2.75 GPA
Available to work at summer 2011 PittStarts

For more information and to apply for the Peer Advisor Internship, stop by the Arts and Sciences Advising Center in 201 Thackeray Hall or call 412-624-6444.

Application deadline is November 8, 2010

NCUR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS
Arts and Sciences undergraduates doing research in humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences:

Apply for awards to attend
NCUR 25
the National Conference on Undergraduate Research
Ithaca College, March 31-April 2, 2011

• Students choose one presentation method for the conference—
  Oral presentation; poster presentation; performing arts (dance, music, drama/theater); or visual arts/gallery presentation.

• The research project must have been undertaken at the University of Pittsburgh with a Pitt faculty member.

To Apply
Submit an abstract via e-mail attachment to oel@pitt.edu.
In the e-mail, include your phone number, e-mail address and the name of your faculty mentor.

Application Deadline: Monday, November 15, 2010

Guidelines for Abstracts
Abstracts should be formatted in Microsoft Word.
State in clear terms the central research question and purpose of the research.
Provide a brief discussion of the research methodology.
State conclusions, either final or anticipated.
Be well organized.
Abstracts should be 250-350 words in length, including title.

View samples of discipline-specific abstracts
www.ithaca.edu/ncur2011/abstracts/sample
CCNMD Undergraduate Research Fellowship

The National Institute of Mental Health Conte Center for the Neuroscience of Mental Disorders (CCNMD) Undergraduate Research Fellowship provides highly talented undergraduate students with early-career, hands-on engagement in cutting edge neuroscience research. Research opportunities focus on schizophrenia and related disorders, and the neurobiological systems behind these illnesses. Fellows begin the program during the summer following the freshman or sophomore year with a full-time, 10-week research experience supported by a $4,000 stipend.

Full details of the program and application information can be found on the CCNMD Undergraduate Research Fellowship website.

Virtual Poster Session

Competition continues until November 2010. Interested students should make a video of themselves discussing a scientific poster and upload their submission to YouTube. Details about the competition, including a flyer and official entry form, can be found at: http://www.jyi.org/competitions/virtual_poster_2010/.

Last year’s participants and winning entries can be viewed at http://www.youtube.com/JYIJournal.

Rabbits help lower cholesterol. Cats may lead to a breakthrough in the AIDS epidemic. And dogs have taught doctors new heart surgery techniques. Even lobsters help scientists understand Parkinson's disease. Since the turn of the century, animal research has helped wipe out such diseases as smallpox and polio while increasing the human lifespan by 28 years. Whether it's fighting epilepsy, finding a cure for Alzheimer's or making progress in brain and spinal cord trauma, the link between human health and animal health is absolutely crucial.

The University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine provides an outstanding environment for the training of future veterinary scientists through our combined VMD-PhD program. It's an excellent way for you to continue your education while impacting the future of medicine - for humans and all species.

Who knows what today's research could do for future generations?

Find out more by visiting www.PennVetPhD.org
Neuroscience Club

The Neuroscience Club will be hosting a movie night on Wednesday, October 6th from about 7:30-9:30 PM in Langley 219B. We will be watching Awakenings, a movie based on a book written by British neuroscientist Oliver Sacks.

Here is a synopsis of the movie from Netflix.com:
Based on the true story, medical researcher Dr. Malcolm Sayer (Robin Williams) attempts to treat a group of patients who've laid comatose in a Bronx hospital for 30 years. Sayer prescribes an experimental drug, and it works. Robert De Niro co-stars as a patient unconscious since adolescence who must come to terms with life as an adult.

And here is a trailer of the movie:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FURflBxeTyI

Come by Langley to relax with us for a great, FREE movie... See you there!

Pittsburgh Scientific

Pittsburgh Scientific is a student publication featuring research at the University. The goals of this organization are two-fold: to publish an online magazine that will showcase current undergraduate research at the University of Pittsburgh and to enlighten current students of practical opportunities within their fields. Through this, we hope to formally recognize significant scientific endeavors by the undergraduate community, and to promote awareness of the importance of science and research.

Our website, pittscience.org, publishes articles that highlight research being done at the University. In addition, the website will post research positions available to undergraduates. We eagerly welcome anyone interested in becoming part of our team. Many aspects of our journal are still open to change for students interested in leadership. For those currently conducting research under the direction of a Pitt researcher, and have or are interested in writing a manuscript for publication, please contact us. Once you have submitted your manuscript to us, our editors will write an article summarizing the research you conducted. This article must then be approved by you and your Principal Investigator prior to official publication. We are also currently looking for those who are interested in scientific writing, if you have an interest in writing for a student publication please contact us.

Contact Information: pittscience@gmail.com