

You've heard it before...Carnegie Mellon students work hard and play hard. Andrew Carnegie's motto "My heart is in the work" extends to the work students do outside of the classroom as well.

## Diversity

Diversity is one of the defining characteristics of our campus. The Carnegie Mellon community is rich with diversity—not just in terms of the majors students can pursue, but also in terms of the backgrounds of our students. There are students from 50 states and more than 40 foreign countries. You'll meet students from all over the world pursuing all kinds of majors. You might be a drama major from Texas and your best friend could be an engineering major from Thailand!

At Carnegie Mellon, you'll learn about different customs, cultures and lifestyles. You'll meet people whose opinions and beliefs vary greatly from yours. You'll be exposed to so many different people with so many different interests and ideas. At Carnegie Mellon, the education you receive outside of the classroom is every bit as important as the one you receive in it.

## Get involved!

Over 250 clubs and organizations offer a wide range of opportunities to get involved in everything from the arts to politics. From ballroom dancing and tutoring to rock climbing and kayaking, campus media and improv to political involvement and multicultural exploration, you'll find hundreds of ways to use your talents—or develop new ones—at Carnegie Mellon. For more information about clubs and student organizations, visit [www.cmu.edu/studentactivities](http://www.cmu.edu/studentactivities). We offer 17 Division III intercollegiate sports and compete in the University Athletic Association (UAA) against eight other leading universities committed to academic and athletic excellence. Students also participate in over 40 club and intramural sports. Crew and ultimate Frisbee are the most popular club sports. Over 80% of students participate in intramural sports! About 19% of students participate in social fraternities and sororities. There are 11 national fraternities, two Interfraternity Council colonies, five sororities, four Asian/Asian American cultural organizations as well as two NPHC groups on campus providing students with fellowship, scholarship and service opportunities. More information on Greek Life visit [www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/student-life/greek](http://www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/student-life/greek).

## Student Activities

Student Affairs sponsors various programs and events on campus including the following:

- The International Festival is an annual celebration to foster awareness and celebrate values, traditions and beliefs of world cultures. Each year focuses on a theme of global significance and usually coincides with Family Weekend in the fall.
- Carnegie Mellon's day of service, 1000plus, aims to engage 1000 students, faculty, staff, and alumni in interesting and impactful service projects throughout the city of Pittsburgh.
- Every weekend night boasts a LateNight event held in the University Center between the hours of 9 p.m. and 1 a.m. offering an opportunity for students to come together in a social and fun atmosphere.

## Pittsburgh Connections!

You can always find something happening on campus, but it's also easy to go off campus and explore all that Pittsburgh has to offer.

The Outdoor Adventure Series is an initiative coordinated by Pittsburgh Connections under the auspices of the Office of Student Activities. Generously funded by the RK Mellon Foundation, this program strives to engage students in outdoor activities throughout Western Pennsylvania. The core goals of these recreational activities are to help students develop and maintain a physically active lifestyle, build leadership skills and increase their appreciation for the Western Pennsylvania region.

Events take place on Saturdays throughout the fall and spring semesters. Guided by the highly regarded Pittsburgh non-profit organization, Venture Outdoors, each trip can accommodate up to 40 students and provides participants with the opportunity to engage in exciting activities at significantly reduced cost.

Through the ArtsPass initiative Carnegie Mellon students are provided free access throughout the year to Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center, The Andy Warhol Museum, The Mattress Factory, The National Aviary, The Frick Art & Historical Center, and Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens.

Carnegie Mellon students have access to public transportation with their ID card. Our campus is located just five miles from downtown Pittsburgh and buses frequent the area so it's easy to get downtown to check out a sporting or cultural event or try out a new restaurant. You can also explore the various neighborhoods of Pittsburgh, rich in cultural history or check out some of the new entertainment, shopping and dining venues.

The Division of Student Affairs web sites have more information on these and other opportunities, [www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/campuslife.html](http://www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/campuslife.html).

## Campus Traditions

Andrew Carnegie, the founder of the Carnegie Technical Schools (the predecessor of Carnegie Mellon), was of Scottish origin and you'll see much of that Scottish heritage on campus.

- The official school color is Tartan plaid – created at Andrew Carnegie's request and manufactured in Scotland – which consists of blue, red, green and yellow. *The Tartan* is also the name of the school's weekly student newspaper.
- A Scottish flower, a thistle, appears on the Carnegie Mellon seal. *The Thistle* is also the name of the school yearbook.
- The Carnegie Mellon Pipe Band, dressed in traditional garb, plays bagpipes at Commencement and other formal university occasions. True to our Scottish roots, a major (and minor) in bagpiping is offered.

### **Hamerschlag's Nose**

At the entrance to Baker Hall there is a bronze plaque bearing a bas-relief sculpture of Carnegie Mellon's first president, Arthur Hamerschlag. The metal is brown and tarnished except for the nose, which is shiny, polished and completely golden. For decades, students have been rubbing Hamerschlag's nose before exams for good luck.

### **Painting the Fence**

In the early days of Carnegie Tech, there was a ravine that separated the Margaret Morrison Women's College and the Carnegie Institute of Technology. A bridge, which spanned this ravine, became a popular meeting place for the women of Margaret Morrison and the men of Carnegie Tech. In 1916, the bridge was taken down when the university filled in the area. Legend has it that the senior class of 1923 put up a wooden fence to be the new meeting place. The night before the administration was going to tear down the fence, a group of fraternity brothers painted it to advertise a party they were having. The party was a huge success, and ever since, painting the Fence has become a Carnegie Mellon tradition. Strict tradition dictates that the Fence must be painted between midnight and 6 a.m. in its entirety. Only paintbrushes can be used to paint the Fence. And, if you don't want your message to be painted over, the Fence must be guarded around the clock by someone in the surrounding gravel area.

The original wooden fence was in the Guinness Book of World Records as the "most painted object in the world." In 1993, the original wooden fence collapsed under its own weight and was replaced with the concrete fence standing today.

### **Spring Carnival**

Spring Carnival is one of the oldest and most beloved campus traditions dating back to 1920. Each April, students enjoy a fun-filled four-day weekend – there are no classes the Thursday or Friday of Carnival Weekend. Aside from a midway complete with carnival rides, food and entertainment ranging from stand-up comedians to bands, the two main components to Carnival are Booth and Buggy.

*Booth:* Student organizations build one or two story carnival booths with a design and game in accordance with the overall Carnival theme. The booths are displayed on the midway where all Carnival-goers can enjoy them.

*Buggy or Sweepstakes:* Student organizations participate in a fierce competition of high tech soapbox racers. (Imagine a torpedo on wheels if you will.) Teams compete in a five-person relay race around Flagstaff Hill in neighboring Schenley Park. The drivers (Yes! There are actually people inside!) steer the buggy through the freeroll portion of the race. Buggies can reach speeds of up to 55 miles per hour!

**For more information, check out these Web sites:**

#### **Student Activities**

[www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/StudentActivities](http://www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/StudentActivities)

#### **Student Development**

[www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/student-development](http://www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/student-development)

#### **Student Life**

[www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/student-life/index.html](http://www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/student-life/index.html)

#### **Athletics**

[www.cmu.edu/athletics](http://www.cmu.edu/athletics)

#### **Official site of the Greater Pittsburgh Convention and Visitors Bureau**

[www.visitpittsburgh.com](http://www.visitpittsburgh.com)