

# 1.4 OVERVIEW Students



### Pit Stop

The roar of the racetrack is never far from the hearts and minds of Carnegie Mellon mechanical engineering students. For the past several years, engineering and industrial design students at Carnegie Mellon have taken their creativity and ingenuity to the races with the design of a Formula 1-style racecar. The students, members of the university's Society of Automotive Engineers club, have become top-notch designers and pit crews. Under the direction of John Wiss, adjunct professor in Mechanical Engineering, the students compete yearly in the Silverdome in Pontiac, Mich. They have also competed in Pittsburgh's famed Vintage Grand Prix special collegiate races.

Carnegie Mellon encourages students to think outside the bubble of academia. Our students come from all 50 states and 90 countries, and thanks to our Undergraduate Research Initiative, they've helped design robots for NASA, invented information-access tools for people with disabilities and analyzed the pollution on the surfaces of skyscrapers. This hands-on approach serves students well. Upon graduation, they already know how to make waves in the world. In recent years, alumni have conducted symphonies, written the new language of the Internet, served as national news correspondents and won the Nobel Prize in Physics. And with over 57,000 Carnegie Mellon grads spread throughout the world, alumni are able to provide mutual support, guidance and friendship no matter where they are.

### Degree students

Undergraduate: 5,459  
 Master: 2,674  
 Doctoral: 1,619

### Gender

Male: 6,589  
 Female: 3,531

### Continent of origin

Africa: 36  
 Asia: 1,940  
 Australia/Oceania: 49  
 Europe: 196  
 South/Central America: 73  
 North America: 7,451

### Freshman admissions

Applied: 23,131  
 Admitted: 6,348  
 Enrolled: 1,477  
 Admitted %: 27%

### Freshman SAT scores (average range)

Math: 650-800  
 Verbal: 650-750  
 Writing: 610-750  
 Total: 1910-2300

### Total degrees granted

Bachelors: 1,286  
 Masters: 1,650  
 Doctorates: 245  
 Total: 3,18

Source: Carnegie Mellon/Factbook



Meeting of the Minds student research symposium

### Carnegie Mellon Office of Government Relations

Pittsburgh office: 412.268.7778  
 Washington, D.C. office: 202.547.8515  
 email: governmentrelations@cmu.edu  
 Web: www.cmu.edu/govrel



### **NICHOLS' RESEARCH IN EDUCATION POLICY RESULTS IN PRESTIGIOUS TRUMAN AWARD**

Amelia Nichols, a junior in Carnegie Mellon University's College of Humanities and Social Sciences, has been named a 2009 Harry S. Truman Scholarship recipient. Sixty Truman Scholars are selected nationwide each year based on leadership potential, intellectual ability and their "likelihood of making a difference." The scholarship, established by Congress in 1977, provides up to \$30,000 for graduate study leading to a career in government or public service. In addition, they receive leadership training, career and graduate school counseling, and special internship opportunities within the federal government. Nichols, a double major in psychology and urban history/education policy, plans to pursue graduate studies in social work and public policy. Nichols' policy statement advocated for increased federal funding for home visitation programs designed to prevent child mistreatment. This statement was an extension of a home visitation research project she completed in a graduate-level "Educational Goals, Instruction and Assessment" class.

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### **RAMESH RECIEVES CARNEGIE MELLON'S FIRST MARSHALL AWARD**

Sheela Ramesh, a mezzo-soprano who studies with Mildred Miller Posvar in Carnegie Mellon's School of Music, is the first student from Carnegie Mellon to receive the prestigious and highly selective Marshall Award, which funds up to two years of graduate study at a university in the United Kingdom. The award of \$34,347 a year covers university fees, tuition, books, a thesis grant, research and daily travel, including airfares. Ramesh intends to attend the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London or the Royal Academy of Music.

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### **SARAH RUBIN RECEIVES FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP TO HONG KONG**

Sarah Rubin, who received a master's degree in rhetoric from Carnegie Mellon's College of Humanities and Social Sciences in May 2008, served as an English teaching assistant at the University of Hong Kong and worked with Radio Television Hong Kong. Rubin taught an American media course and researched the role of Hong Kong's public radio network in establishing a deliberative democracy that encourages citizen participation in civic affairs. She hopes that this work will form the basis of a doctoral dissertation, most likely at Carnegie Mellon. Rubin focused her undergraduate and graduate theses on how disasters affect individuals and communities. Her undergraduate thesis, "Moving Toward the Sun," was named the Best Undergraduate Thesis in Creative Writing and Poetry from the University of Michigan in 2004. It focuses on interviews she conducted with victims and volunteers recovering from an oil spill off the coast of Galicia. The graduate thesis Rubin wrote at Carnegie Mellon analyzes New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin's speeches while drawing upon her personal experiences volunteering during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

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### **DOCTORAL STUDENT USES COMPUTER MODELS TO CURB DEADLY ILLNESS**

Now a fourth year Ph.D. student in Carnegie Mellon's Engineering and Public Policy Department, Sean Green is already making a difference. Using a series of computer modeling tools, he's identifying the best ways to curb the spread of diarrheal illness — which kills 2.2 million people each year in more than 192 countries. In an article published in the *Environmental Science & Technology* journal, Green — along with Carnegie Mellon professors Mitchell J. Small and Elizabeth A. Casman — estimated that improving rural sanitation by 65 percent worldwide would save the equivalent of 1.2 million lives. They also found that countries with a lower literacy rate and less economic stability had more frequent outbreaks. Green is spending this summer in India at the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), where he's using his research to develop a series of surveys to help communities and agencies measure the affect of poor water and sanitation.

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### **TEPPER SCHOOL TEAM TAKES TOP HONORS AT GLOBAL MOOT CORP® COMPETITION**

For the ninth time, a team of students from the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University has landed the top prize at the Moot Corp® business plan competition at the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas at Austin. This year's winning venture business, at what is considered to be the "Super Bowl" of business plan competitions, was NeuroBank, which has developed a breakthrough proprietary technology to extract and preserve adult neural stem cells. The winning team of MBA candidate Dr. Raymond Sekula and Sasha Bakhru, a Ph.D. candidate at Carnegie Mellon's College of Engineering, beat out 37 teams from leading business schools and universities worldwide. NeuroBank has developed cutting-edge technology to harvest, isolate, expand and store neurologic stem cells from cerebrospinal fluid. NeuroBank's technology allows minimally invasive extraction, isolation, expansion and cryopreservation of these stem cells, which could be used to develop treatments for Alzheimer's disease, stroke or traumatic brain injury, among others. In addition, the technology will allow patients to store healthy neural stem cells to receive cutting-edge