Welcome to The Piper!

Just to set the record straight, this isn’t a publication about bagpipes or bagpipes. We might include the occasional story about the university’s rich piping tradition, but we won’t be all bagpipes, all the time. That’s not what we’re here for.

Instead, The Piper will be a new source for official Carnegie Mellon news. Published each month (we’ll take brief vacations in December, June and July), this newspaper will be dedicated to telling the stories that make Carnegie Mellon an educational institution like no other. We’ll include stories about the research that has propelled us to the top of the national rankings, and we’ll also feature pieces on the people who make that research happen, the students we all support, and the events and activities that make this university a vibrant place to live, work and learn.

The Piper also aims to strengthen the connection between Carnegie Mellon’s Pittsburgh campus and its programs around the world. As the university expands and becomes an institute for global learning, it’s important for people in Pittsburgh to know what their peers in Silicon Valley, Qatar or Australia are doing. We hope to bridge that information gap with The Piper by running stories that will help us all remember that regardless of our location, we all share in the rich Carnegie Mellon tradition.

Our first issue contains something for everyone — a newsy feature on campus construction, a fun Q&A with Dean of Student Affairs Jennifer Church, recaps of Homecoming and Reunion Weekend, a little bit of Carnegie Mellon lore and International Dispatches from Qatar, Japan and Australia. We hope you like what you see.

And we hope you’ll keep reading.

Architect Mack Scogin Tackles Gates Complex From the Inside Out

Bruce Gerson

It’s a good thing Mack Scogin is a problem solver. How else could he design one of the largest structures on campus in one of the most challenging sites at Carnegie Mellon, while meeting the requirements of its future inhabitants and gaining the approval of the university’s Design Review Committee? Putting a square peg in a round hole wouldn’t be totally accurate in describing the feat, but it’s pretty darn close.

Scogin, co-principal of the Atlanta-based, award-winning Mack Scogin Merrill Elam architectural firm, is accustomed to solving problems. “One of the things that distinguishes our firm is that generally when people have a big challenge on their plates, they come to us,” he said in a southern drawl.

That big challenge for Carnegie Mellon is the new $88.6 million Gates Complex for Computer Science, made possible with a $20 million lead gift from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The complex will consist of two buildings, totaling 210,000 square feet, and a 150-space underground parking garage on the western part of campus. A four-story, 50,000 square-foot structure shaped like a trapezoid will sit 180 feet off Forbes Avenue between Cyert and Hamburg halls. Research will be the theme for this yet-unnamed building, which will connect from all four levels to a seven-story, multifaceted companion building called the Gates Center, which will be nestled between the Purnell Center for the Arts, Doherty, Newell-Simon and Smith halls, and the Collaborative Innovation Center.

The two facilities will encompass 5.6 acres of the West Campus and will be surrounded by enough green space — about 120,000 square feet — to rival the Cut. Landscape architecture firm Michael van Valkenburgh Associates, part of the Scogin team, has designed a “greenscape” that will include a winter garden, tree groves, rain garden, patio, benches, pedestrian bridges, walkways and pathways. It will even have a volleyball court. A green roof on the east side of the Gates Center will be visible from the Cut.

Continued on page seven

On the Record: Jennifer Church

Jenni King

Jennifer Church took the helm as dean of student affairs at Carnegie Mellon this past April after more than a decade in various student life positions at the university. The Piper caught up with Church earlier this month to learn more about her take on Carnegie Mellon students, why she loves her job and what she likes to do when and if she has free time. You might be surprised by some of her answers.

What attracted you to a career at Carnegie Mellon?

I was actually beginning doctoral work at Pitt in 1995 and decided I also wanted to continue working. There was an opportunity in the student life office working with community standards — which is an area that I have experience in — and so I applied for the position. Right timing, right place, and luckily everything came together.

Carnegie Mellon really was the only institution that I was considering because I was really impressed with the institution and the caliber of students.

Continued on page eight
The Tartan Turns 100

By Brittany McCandless, Tartan Reporter

After dedicating itself to reporting on local and campus news, Carnegie Mellon’s student newspaper is making headlines of its own: The Tartan is turning 100.

Since its first issue in October 1906, The Tartan has chronicled the university’s history in its pages. From the merger between Carnegie Tech and the Mellon Institute, to the students who attacked Strom Thurmond with marshmallows during his campus appearance, The Tartan has covered it all.

For its editors, managers, writers and designers, making the newspaper has evolved dramatically since 1906. Students no longer put the issues “to bed” by hand, and editors don’t have to drive downtown to pick up the papers fresh from the printer. Gone are the days of hanging typestyle paragraphs up to dry, waxing blocks of copy, pressing out Letraset headlines and inserting hand-drawn illustrations.

Today’s staff creates the paper on in-office computers and goes to press by sending electronic files to the printer. The weekly publication now appears in full form on The Tartan’s Web site, and a collection of digital cameras has replaced the office darkroom.

The office itself has also been transformed since The Tartan was born. The paper’s first office was in Porter Hall, the only building on campus when The Tartan was founded, then it moved to the south mezzanine of the College of Fine Arts. The paper relocated to the Carnegie Union building, formerly the Andrew Mellon mansion and now the location of Doherty Apartments.

The Tartan’s fourth office was in Skibo and the fifth in the Old Student Center. Now, the newspaper makes it home on the third floor of the University Center. To celebrate The Tartan’s 100th anniversary, its staff members joined forces with Alumni Relations to host several events during Homecoming and Reunion Weekend earlier this month. Alumni had the opportunity to tour The Tartan’s office and feel the pulse of student editors, managers, writers and designers making its pages.

As it enters its second century as a campus publication, The Tartan will continue to improve and expand. As it enters its second century as a campus publication, The Tartan will continue to improve and expand. It will allow visitors to submit their own story ideas and photographs for publication. It will include several leadership forums, including the Grable Foundation and an anonymous donor.

United Way Campaign

Carnegie Mellon’s annual United Way campaign began earlier this month and runs through Nov. 17. United Way of Allegheny County connects people and organizations, streamlining the process of getting funds to agencies that impact critical community needs. Last year, United Way partner agencies assisted nearly one million individuals in Allegheny County alone. Donations can be made at www.unitedwaypittsburgh.org/carnegie Mellon or via a pledge card distributed through campus mail.

To do this, the staff is establishing relationships with the university’s radio station, WRCT, and its television station, cmuTV. By joining forces with campus media outlets, The Tartan can broadcast university and local news via the airwaves and stream up-to-date video on the paper’s Web site, www.theratan.org.

The Tartan staff is also forging relationships with students at sister campuses in Silicon Valley and the Middle East. In time, The Tartan will boast regular correspondents from Carnegie Mellon West and Carnegie Mellon Qatar, so all Carnegie Mellon students will always know what their peers are doing thousands of miles away.

Heinz School Creates Institute of Social Innovation

The Heinz School has created the new Institute of Social Innovation (ISI) to foster creativity and entrepreneurship in the social sector. Funded by a two-year grant from The Grable Foundation and an anonymous donor, the institute will focus on creating new courses, conducting research and establishing outreach programs aimed at promoting innovation and societal change. The institute is being led by Denise Rousseau, the H. John Heinz II Professor of Organizational
Dear Andrew, Why is “the Cut” called “the Cut?” It doesn’t look like anything of the sort to me. J.P., H&SS

Dear J.P.,

Carnegie Mellon’s main campus wasn’t always flat and lush with grass, like it is today. Well, it was lush — but not with neatly manicured lawns. Instead, it was “all hills and valleys,” as Ted Fenton writes in his “Carnegie Mellon 1900–2000: A Centennial History.” He also offers a direct answer to your question: “Until 1917, a ravine or ‘cut’ extending from the present site of the tennis courts to the deep ravine on the Forbes Street side of Wean Hall marked the edge of campus. Hornbostel [Carnegie Mellon’s original architect] had planned to build a bridge across the valley, but instead the ravine was filled in by 1917 after Tech acquired the land that separated the campus from Forbes Street. About one million cubic feet of earth from a nearby hill filled the Cut. In 1928 moving one’s way from Forbes Street to the existing campus across what is now a level lawn (the Cut) would have meant a scramble down one side of a steep, brush-covered slope and another scramble up the other side.”

David vs. Goliath – Tartan Basketball Looks To Slay Big Opponent

The two universities are located just a mile apart, yet in recent decades Pitt and Carnegie Mellon’s basketball programs have rarely crossed paths. But Nov. 1, the Tartans will lace up and do battle with the Panthers — a perennial Big East powerhouse — in a preseason exhibition game at the Petersen Events Center on the Pitt campus.

“It’s a daunting task,” said Carnegie Mellon Head Coach Tony Wingen, who is in his 17th season at the helm of a program that captured its first University Athletic Association (UAA) Championship last year. “Yet we want to go in with the mindset that there are things we can do and have success with — things we can do that will give the Panthers some trouble.”


The conference the Tartans belong to, the UAA, consists of eight Division III schools, and most of Carnegie Mellon’s opponents in recent years have been these “smaller” colleges. Although they’re members of the NCAA, Division III schools do not offer athletic scholarships, unlike their Division I counterparts — including Pitt.

Despite the programs’ differences, the 7:30 p.m. matchup will not be the first time the Tartans and Panthers square off. Pitt owns a 106-18 historic 20-6 run, Carnegie Mellon defeated the Panthers since a 68-64 win in 1969, the Tartans are no stranger to Division I play, or success versus bigger national programs. Since 1993, the Tartans have played 12 games against seven different Division I opponents. And during last season’s historic 20-6 run, Carnegie Mellon defeated Princeton 51-46 on the Tigers’ home court.

“Pitt is much better than Princeton was last year, but it does give us confidence that we can beat a Division I team,” Wingen said.

The Tartans enter the contest with several returning members from last season’s squad, but this year’s edition will look different from the team that lost to Baldwin-Wallace in the opening round of the NCAA Division III tournament last season.

“We have a very inexperienced team, we are young,” Wingen said.

“We’re still trying to find our identity, but I think we’re all very confident that we are going to have a very good season.”

Beyond the exposure for the program and the seasoning the Tartans will get by playing one of the top teams in the national rankings, the game with Pitt offers to be a thrilling experience.

“It’s fun for the players to play in a big arena against guys you see on TV all year and read about in the national magazines,” Wingen said.

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While Carnegie Mellon has not defeated the Panthers since a 68-64 win in 1969, the Tartans are no stranger to Division I play, or success versus bigger national programs. Since 1993, the Tartans have played 12 games against seven different Division I opponents. And during last season’s historic 20-6 run, Carnegie Mellon defeated Princeton 51-46 on the Tigers’ home court.

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Dear Andrew, I read somewhere that Margaret Morrison Carnegie College turns 100 this year. What were the original majors in the college and how many women were enrolled in the first class? S.C., University Advancement

Dear S.C.,

Even before the Carnegie Technical Schools had a president, it had a vision. The original trustees imagined a learning institution divided into four units, among them the Margaret Morrison Carnegie School for Women (eventually renamed Margaret Morrison Carnegie College). In 1908, the college had 16 faculty members — nine women and seven men — and enrolled 395 women (221 day students and 174 night students). Margaret Morrison originally offered three-year diploma programs and two-year certificates, and the courses were “planned to develop womanly attributes and give a foundation on which to build a career in distinctly feminine fields.” The college offered programs in bookkeeping and office work, cooking, millinery, stereotyping, and sewing. These girls weren’t all about traditional women’s roles, though. As early as 1906, they had plans to start a basketball team.

Readers with a question for Andrew? Send it to cribbs@andrew.cmu.edu.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 1 Interactive Theater
“The Fix,” focusing on conflict management
11 a.m., Rangos 1
Register at https://acis.as.cmu.edu/galato/servlet/HILearn

Nov. 2-4 International Festival
*Body, Mind & Spirit: Prescriptions for Global Health*
University Center

Nov. 2 Health and Benefits Fair
11 a.m.–5 p.m., Rangos Ballroom

Nov. 2 International Festival Lecture
“Epidemic Vulnerabilities in a Connected World”
Dr. Donald S. Burke, dean of the Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh
4:30 p.m., McConomy Auditorium

Nov. 3 Adamson Visiting Writer Series
Marshall Klimasewiski, (HS’88), author of fiction collections
“Cottagers” and “Tyants.”
8 p.m., Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A

Nov. 4 Carnegie Mellon Football
The Tartans vs. Bethany College
1 p.m., Gesling Stadium

Nov. 4 International Festival
“The Mystical Arts of Tibet: Sacred Music Sacred Dance”
Tibetan Monk Singers of Drepung Loseling Monastery
7 and 9 p.m., Rangos Ballroom

Nov. 5 University Center
“Conversations with the Comfort Counselor”
Dr. Katherine Lamoreux, clinical social worker, The Pitt Care Center
4:30 p.m., H&SS Auditorium

Nov. 6 University Lecture Series
“The Health Care Crisis in the Developing World: Spotlight on Nicaragua”
Oscar Aragon, ophthalmologist and founder of an education and training center in Nicaragua
4:30 p.m., Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A

Nov. 7 University Lecture Series
“Fish School”
Dean Fowler and son, Kyle
4:30 p.m., Adamson Wing, Baker Hall 136A

Nov. 9 CAUSE Speaker Series
“She Would Be Better Off in the South: Working-Class Black Women and Their Families Response to New York State’s Use of Southern Parole”
Cheryl D. Hicks, assistant professor of history, Williams College
5 p.m., H&SS Auditorium, Baker Hall

The Tartans, who won their first UAA title and advanced to post-season play last year, will take on the Pitt Panthers Nov. 1.
And the Andy Goes To...

- Susie Cripps

Each October, Carnegie Mellon pauses in the midst of the busy fall semester to bestow its annual Andy Awards on individuals or teams of staff members whose outstanding dedication and performance have made a significant impact on the university. The awards are open to all non-faculty university employees and are presented in five categories: enthusiasm, innovation, dedication, culture and citizenship.

Without further ado, this year’s winners are...(Drum roll, please.)

ENTHUSIASM
Honors staff members who bring a positive and productive perspective to work, building morale within groups or organizations on campus.

INNOVATION
Recognizes thinkers and doers who have developed new approaches, methods and systems to improve organizational effectiveness, find solutions to problems or foster change that benefits the entire Carnegie Mellon community.

DEDICATION
Celebrates employees who take pride in their work and unfailingly serve their customers through an unyielding commitment to getting the job done right.

CULTURE
Recognizes staff who foster a balanced, inclusive workplace culture and are committed to providing a welcoming environment.

WINNERS:

John Sengenberger
Title: Director of Alumni Relations
School: Tepper School of Business
Praise From Peers:
“John’s enthusiasm and drive has resulted in a truly outstanding alumni relations program that would not be half as successful if not for him.”

John displays the contagious! ... I admire his fortitude and spirit of anyone that I have ever met. If not for him.

Lori Bell
Title: Benefits Specialist
Department: Human Resources
Praise From Peers:
“Lori has consistently been a star service provider during her tenure at Carnegie Mellon, committed to advocating on behalf of Carnegie Mellon faculty and staff and their families, [and] working through the bureaucracies of numerous vendors...”

Lori is immediately responsive — always willing to go the extra mile, listening with care to requests for assistance to understand the underlying need. ... Lori’s service orientation makes faculty and staff feel that she is their ally and can and will help them get through the red tape of the benefits world.”

Leslie Rhodes
Title: Pre-Award Administrator
Department: Office of Sponsored Programs
Praise From Peers:
“Her leadership has inspired others to work with her and, at times, to take the lead. Leslie has always been supportive of the work of her coworkers and constituents.”

... When the people who coordinated Carnegie Mellon’s Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day decided to drop their involvement, Leslie — who was already an active member of Staff Council — just picked it up and ran with it. ... There were only six weeks left to pull it all together and she built a team and was able to pull off a great day for the children.”

“Leslie simply takes requests and if she can’t get them done, she finds the person who can and then helps. ... She is a wonderful giver, server and person.”

Open Enrollment Runs Through Nov. 10

Open Enrollment for health care benefits will take place through Nov. 10. This is an opportunity for university employees to make changes to their benefits for 2007. Because a new vision carrier has been added to Carnegie Mellon’s list of benefits vendors, this year’s open enrollment will also be a special, one-time open vision election year. Faculty and staff should soon receive Open Enrollment packages at their home addresses that outline new monthly rates and plan features for the benefits programs.

The annual Benefits and Fitness Fair will be held in conjunction with Open Enrollment from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 2. Dozens of vendors will be on hand to provide benefits information, conduct demonstrations and health screenings, and answer questions. For more information on health care benefits, visit http://hrweb.cmu.edu.

International Festival Explores Rx for Global Health

Carnegie Mellon will hold its annual International Festival Nov. 2-4 in the University Center. Organized around the theme, “Body, Mind and Spirit: Prescriptions for Global Health,” the festival will feature a keynote lecture by Dr. Richard Heindl, founder of Doctors Without Borders and North America.

Free tickets to the lectures are available at the University Center (UC) Information Desk. Other events scheduled for the weekend include a student cultural food fair, a keynote lecture by Dr. Richard Heindl, founder of Doctors Without Borders and North America.

For more on the team, visit www.tartanracing.org.

DARPA Picks Tartan Racing for Funding

Carnegie Mellon’s Tartan Racing is one of 11 teams that will receive technology development funds from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to help prepare for the agency’s Urban Challenge event for autonomous vehicles. The Urban Challenge, scheduled for Nov. 3, 2007, will require driverless vehicles to negotiate 60 miles of streets in a mock-urban setting somewhere in the western United States. Each of the 11 “track A” teams will receive up to $1 million from DARPA, with monies paid out in increments as the teams achieve milestones over the next year. More than 60 teams submitted proposals to DARPA for track A funding. Tartan Racing, with General Motors as its premier sponsor, will prepare two driverless Chevy Tahoes, though only one can be entered in the competition. Other sponsors of Tartan Racing include Caterpillar, Apartments, Continental AG, Google and Intel. For more on the team, visit www.tartanracing.org.

News Briefs
Continued from page two

Behavior at the Heinz School and the Tepper School; Tim Zak, president of the Pittsburgh Social Innovation Accelerator and an adjunct professor at the Heinz and Tepper schools; and Marie Coleman, senior director of development and special projects at the Heinz School.

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Newspapers

Continued from page two

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Praise from Peers:

“Pat’s energetic ‘can do’ attitude about getting this important job done is never daunted despite the less-than-enthusiastic reception of his directions and reminders on the subject. … He is unfailingly cheerful and maintains a warm sense of humor. His certainty that the work can be done and done right is contagious.”

“He engenders a spirit of common effort and purpose for what can easily be misinterpreted as a tedious and seemingly unnecessary task of annually reviewing and accounting for our space.”

“Pat exhibits a positive approach, deals with requests in a most positive way, and never daunted despite the less-than-enthusiastic reception of his directions and reminders on the subject. … He is unfailingly cheerful and maintains a warm sense of humor. His certainty that the work can be done and done right is contagious.”

citizenship

Rewards staff who have committed time and energy to working with others to improve and enhance the Carnegie Mellon community.

Winner: Pat Roach
Title: Assistant Manager
Department: Property and Space Accounting

Smart People® To Be Filmed on Campus

“Smart People,” starring Dennis Quaid as an eccentric Carnegie Mellon English professor, Rachel Weisz as the former student he falls in love with, and Mary Steenburgen as the English department head’s assistant, will be filmed on campus in early November. The film’s producer is Michael London, whose credits include “Sideways,” “House of Sand and Fog” and Mini-Feed, news aggregators that made by Facebook — which is rumored to be preparing itself for sale to Yahoo! or another suitor — sent many users into an uproar last month.

First came the rollout of News Feed and Mini-Feed, news aggregators that announced when members added or dropped a friend, broke up with a lover or posted new photos. It’s not that the same information wasn’t previously available by visiting a member’s page, or posted new photos. It’s not that the same information wasn’t previously available by visiting a member’s page, or posted new photos. It’s not that the same information wasn’t previously available by visiting a member’s page, or posted new photos. It’s not that the same information wasn’t previously available by visiting a member’s page, or posted new photos. It’s not that the same information wasn’t previously available by visiting a member’s page, or posted new photos. It’s not that the same information wasn’t previously available by visiting a member’s page, or posted new photos. It’s not that the same information wasn’t previously available by visiting a member’s page, or posted new photos. It’s not that the same information wasn’t previously available by visiting a member’s page, or posted new photos.
Alumni Discuss Public Art in Campus Crawl

Jonathan Potts

The 30 or so alumni who went on the Campus Art Crawl, sponsored by the Center for the Arts in Society during Homecoming and Reunion Weekend, were rather bemused to learn that recent public art installations had stirred up controversy on campus.

In their minds, the only real scandal was the lack of public art at Carnegie Mellon.

“For a school so rich in art and art history, why aren’t we arguing over how few pieces of art there are?” said Richard Fieler (E’56).

“For a school so rich in art and art history, why aren’t we arguing over how few pieces of art there are?” – Richard Fieler (E’56)

“Look at this room,” Fieler said, referring to the Danforth Lounge in the University Center during a discussion after the art tour. “There’s not a single piece of art on the walls.”

The Campus Art Crawl was led by Professor of Architecture Doug Cooper, who started the tour inside the University Center in front of the murals he designed for the building’s rotunda. From there, Cooper took the group to the Kraus Campo and then to “Walking to the Sky.” Along the way, he offered his candid critique of both installations, and described the reactions that both had elicited on campus.

“On a university campus, is it almost an obligation for a public art work, on some level, to be controversial? … It’s a very important question to consider,” Cooper said as he led the group out of the University Center.

The alumni were particularly surprised to hear that “Walking to the Sky” provoked such strong protest. Most of them liked the striking, 100-foot-tall sculpture designed by alumnus Jonathan Borofsky (A’64), and like Cooper, appreciated the perspective it offers the students who stream onto campus every day from Forbes and Morewood avenues. The figures on the pole seem to move in the same direction as the students, Cooper said.

“I think it gives humanity to a place that some people might see as cold and sterile,” said Elizabeth Heltsley Hoyle (MM’56). “At night, when it’s lit, it really gets your attention.”

One man joked that the only problem with the sculpture is that it presents a bit of a traffic hazard.

“The only thing that I can think of that someone would object to is that it’s such a dramatic piece that someone might drive into a telephone pole coming down Forbes,” said Jim Feldman (S’57, E’58, E’60).

“A lifetime of service

Architecture Professor Doug Cooper led alumni on a tour of campus art during Homecoming and Reunion Weekend. Stops included Cooper’s own mural in the University Center Rotunda (bottom left), the Kraus Campo atop the Posner Center (top) and “Walking to the Sky” (bottom right).
Several new faculty members are teaching at Carnegie Mellon Qatar this fall, including John Bani, associate teaching professor of computer science; Lynn Robert Carter, principal fellow; Itano Crescenzato, researcher; Erik Helin, visiting lecturer of Spanish; Sharm Khems, associate teaching professor of business; Ian Lacey, associate teaching professor of management and information systems; Andrew Leung, course assistant; Alan Montgomery, associate professor of marketing; Douglas Perkins, instructor; Silvia Pessa, visiting lecturer of Spanish; and Paul Zagebovsky, instructor in computer science. David Stanfield and Caryl Tuma joined the Student Services staff.

Robert P. Kall, senior associate dean in Qatar, retired after 37 years with the university, most notably with the College of Engineering.

The Master of Science in Information Technology — Information Security (MSIT-IS) program in CyLab Japan just welcomed its second class, bringing the total number of students on the Kobe campus to 17. The diverse class includes students from Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom and India. The program also welcomed Justin Zhan, from the Heinz School, and Atsushi Inoue as new faculty members.

The MSIT-IS program provides numerous opportunities for faculty and student exchanges. One second-year student spent this past summer in Pittsburgh for his master’s project and is completing his curriculum in Pittsburgh this fall. Recent faculty visitors to the Kobe campus include Adrian Perrig, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, engineering and public policy, and computer science; Tania Wong, Information Networking Institute faculty; and Ramayya Krishnan, the William W. and Ruth F. Cooper Professor of Management Science and Information Systems in the Heinz School. Alessandro Acquisti, assistant professor of information technology and public policy at the Heinz School, will visit this semester.

While the interior design has exceeded all expectations, the contemporary exterior shape, sustainability and consistency of the Gates Complex — a combination of dark zinc, light zinc and glass — also meets expectations, even though they have raised a few concerns. Belloch noted that an additional requirement of the building was that it be distinctive to reflect the School of Computer Science’s status in the world. “Even in our original proposal to the [Bill & Melinda] Gates Foundation [for initial funding] we had always stated that we wanted something distinct,” Belloch said.

Scogin, who has made some modifications to the initial design in response to concerns, said the final plans meet the criteria presented to him.

“The way we work is rooted in the understanding of the objective put on the table in front of us,” Scogin said. “It’s an attempt to provide all 300 or so individuals in the building with an office with a window, and an attempt to respond to the dynamics of the site, the surrounding buildings, the grade and the entry points. It’s a very complex set of circumstances that helped shape the buildings.”

“While we’re excited that what we’ve done is a very rational approach to the challenge given us,” he added. “We do a lot of research, and we look at a lot of choices. There have been critiques that have changed this project and have brought to the table very good opinions, very good ideas that we have responded to. We have also tested a lot of ideas that we’ve rejected for very good reasons,” Scogin said.

The outer “skin” of the Gates Complex will be a combination of materials. Thirty percent will be a dark-colored zinc, called “anthra-zinc,” and about 10 percent will be a light-colored “preweathered” zinc and a bright metal that will border the windows. Fifty percent of the buildings will be glass and the remaining 10 percent will be other materials such as louvers and concrete. Scogin said the preweathered zinc and metal will act as reflectors and bring light into the buildings, making the Gates Complex a lively pair of buildings 365 days a year.

“No matter what the sky and sun conditions are, the buildings will have a lot of sparkle and brightness to them,” Scogin said.

The new home for SCS will seek Gold Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council for its sustainability and efficiency. Other campus facilities that have earned LEED certification for their green design include the Collaborative Innovation Center, the New House and Henderson House residence halls, the Posner Center and 407 South Craig Street.

“I understand that some people want more than gold certification, but this is too large and complicated a project to be the showcase of sustainable buildings. There are too many constraints,” Belloch said. “LEED Gold is more than we’ve accomplished before.”

In fact, “more than we’ve accomplished before” could be the motto to describe the entire project. It’s a good thing Mack Scogin is a problem solver.

Scogin worked with an eight-member SCS faculty committee, chaired by Guy Belloch, and designed the buildings using an inside-out approach. Belloch explained that the major requirements presented to Scogin included private offices for all faculty, plenty of space for collaboration, lots of natural light, and pedestrian-friendly traffic patterns both inside and outside the buildings.

“There were requirements in regards to making connections between different parts of campus, in particular to Newell-Simon Hall, since we’ll be keeping space there, and also to the Cut to help us get to the main part of campus and for people coming from the Cut to get to the buildings. Also connections within the building were important so it will be easy for people to get from place to place to visit their colleagues and to make it easy for undergraduates to work with faculty on research projects. It’s a collaborative thing,” Belloch said.

Scogin said.

The Carnegie Mellon Australia Joint Advisory Board met for the first time this fall. Composed of representatives nominated by South Australia and Carnegie Mellon, the board members reflect extensive leadership capabilities and diverse expertise. The advisory board is charged with providing strategic advice, networks and ideas to contribute to the ongoing development of Carnegie Mellon in Adelaide.

Members of the Advisory Board include Michael Moore, former minister of New Zealand and head of the World Trade Organization (chairman); Peter Wylie, chairman of Advertiser Newspapers and representative of Rupert Murdoch; H. L. Kam, group managing director of Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings; Tim Fischer, former deputy prime minister of Australia; Margaret Jackson, chairperson of Qantas Airways Ltd.; Baroness Susan Greenfield, director of the Royal Institution of Great Britain; Grant Oliphant, associate director of The Heinz Endowments; Gary Wigmore, senior partner for the global law firm Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy; and Scott Bates, vice president and senior fellow at the Center for National Policy in Washington, D.C.
I'm interested in further developing the university experience. It's influenced by our ability to help them maintain with them even after they've been able to build with students and to see these qualities in themselves because to them this is normal. It's just who they are, what they do. I think that is unique in terms of their peer set across college students and people their age in our country.

Through various roles here, what have you accomplished that was most meaningful to you?

The thing that stands out to me as the most satisfying part of my job is the kind of relationships I feel like I've been able to build with students and to maintain with them even after they've graduated. This has made the job very meaningful for me.

What would you like to accomplish during the next five years?

I'm very interested in the freshman experience and in actively helping students acclimate and adjust to life at Carnegie Mellon. A student's ability to achieve success after Carnegie Mellon is influenced by our ability to help them establish a strong foundation during the university experience. I'm interested in further developing the sense of community on campus and helping students engage faculty and staff in shaping the kind of community we want to have. I'm very interested in continuing to engage students in more intentional ways in discussions about diversity and the global community where we live, and helping them explore their own ideas and perspectives.

Other than campus, what's your favorite spot in Pittsburgh?

I think I would probably identify Schenley Park, because I spend a lot of time there with my children. I think that one of the great aspects of Pittsburgh is that there are these wonderful parks and places to go to hike and relax. I didn't experience that growing up and I really value the opportunity to do that here in the city.

What's your favorite vacation spot?

I like to go to the beach and be near water. ... Just being near the ocean gives me a chance to put things into perspective. It's a good opportunity for me to reenergize, and it is great family time.

What would people be surprised to know about you?

[Long pause]. Wow. I don't know if I have an answer for this one.

What you see is what you get?

Pretty much. I don't think people would be all that surprised with me. Maybe one thing, if I had to say something, is that I'm probably more artistically inclined than I let on. I do play the flute — I've been able to build with students and help them develop their own experiences. I finished up my degree in journalism and I immediately went on to graduate school to look at the opportunities in education.

Based on that experience, what advice would you have for students who are not sure what they want to do?

I think that one piece of advice is that whatever you're studying here, whether it's what you think you're ultimately going to do as a career, everything you do in college is somehow relevant to who you become. Time is not wasted taking an extra course or playing intramurals or just hanging out with your friends. Each of these experiences is relevant to your future in ways that still may be unknown.

What's coming up this school year that you're really excited about?

I'm really excited about the ways the campus community is shaping itself. You know, just a few weeks ago students were out walking in Gesling Stadium to raise money for cancer research — and that's not an anomaly. Our students are beginning to seize all the possibilities that are open to them. ... When I think about the new year, I think, “What are the new things that we're going to be able to accomplish this year in partnership with faculty, staff and students to be even better than we were last year?” And that goes back to the question about what is it that I like about Carnegie Mellon. I think it's that we are always changing for the better. The whole environment engenders that sense of possibility to do something new, to be a little bit better and to evolve. And we do that better than anyone else.