Specialist Lori Bell. They will review the changes for 2011.

The annual Benefits & Fitness Fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 3 in Rangos Ballroom. Stop by to speak with representatives from Human Resources, Carnegie Mellon’s benefits carriers and health organizations. The fair also features wellness screenings, raffle drawings and giveaways.

Open Enrollment for Benefits Extended to 30 Days

Heidi Opdyke

This year, Human Resources is extending its Open Enrollment period for benefits to 30 days, from Monday, Oct. 25 through Tuesday, Nov. 23.

Starting Monday, Oct. 25, employees can use HR Connection to review their 2011 benefit options and rates, and to make their elections for the upcoming year. If you don’t actively make new elections, many of your 2010 benefits will carry over to 2011. However, active enrollment is required to participate in the Health Care and/or Dependent Care Spending Accounts in 2011.

For more details about 2011 benefits and to access HR Connection, visit www.cmu.edu/hr/benefits/OE/. The Benefits Office is available at 412-268-4747 or HRhelp@andrew.cmu.edu to answer specific questions.

An L&D seminar, Understanding Benefit Changes for 2011, is being offered from noon to 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 21. Register online from www.cmu.edu/hr/learning/seminars.html.

Staff Council is hosting a Benefits Forum for staff from noon to 1 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 26 with Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer Barbara Smith, Director of Benefits Joyce Heckmann and Benefits Specialist Lori Bell. They will review the changes for 2011.

The annual Benefits & Fitness Fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 3 in Rangos Ballroom. Stop by to speak with representatives from Human Resources, Carnegie Mellon’s benefits carriers and health organizations. The fair also features wellness screenings, raffle drawings and giveaways.
Q&A: New Chair Aims To Raise Awareness of Staff Council

Bruce Gerson (Gerson is chair of Staff Council’s Communications Committee.)

After only four years at Carnegie Mellon, Joe Inimbio, an Oracle database administrator for the Computing Services Division, has quickly risen through the ranks of Staff Council. Elected to Staff Council in 2007, he became chair of the Benefits Committee in 2008, was elected vice chair in 2009 and assumed the presidency of Staff Council when Joseph Pasteurik left the university last spring. His presidency came unexpectedly, but now that he’s at the helm he aims to increase awareness of Staff Council and the work that it does on behalf of CMU staff.

The Piper caught up with Inimbio to talk about Staff Council and his goals.

What is Staff Council and what is its mission?

Staff Council serves as a voice for full- and part-time CMU employees not represented by a bargaining unit. It provides staff with the opportunity to be more involved with events on campus and provides an organized framework to communicate with senior management. President Cohon is extremely supportive in being there to listen and provides an organized framework to move things forward. It’s a way for staff to affect change on campus. It’s an important part of the university, and we wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for the efforts of everyone who volunteers his or her time on council. Our mission is to help make working at Carnegie Mellon University an even better experience than it already is.

How does Staff Council advocate for staff within senior management?

We have a number of standing committees that serve as a conduit for ideas and concerns brought forward by our constituents. As issues or ideas arise, the committees help draft communications and may even meet with the administration. As former chair and member of the Benefits Committee, I met with Barbara Smith, associate vice president and chief Human Resources officer, and her staff to lobby for a Flexible Spending Account (FSA) debit card. The Benefits Committee outlined how the debit card would make it easier for staff to utilize the FSA funds that employees set aside on a pre-tax basis.

How many people are on Staff Council, and how are they selected?

We have two kinds of representatives: at-large and divisional representatives. According to our constitution, we are required to have two members from each division and an equal number of at-large representatives. We have 17 divisions, so at full strength there are 68 representatives. (Currently there are 56 members.) At the present time we don’t have representatives from Division Six (Research) and would welcome anyone from that unit who wishes to get involved. Anyone who would like to represent the Research Division should contact me.

Representatives serve two-year terms, with at-large and divisional representatives elected every other year. Divisional representatives were instituted to ensure that all units have a voice in making Staff Council policy.

What are your goals as president?

I would like Staff Council to be seen as an organization that communicates ideas to the administration. I want it to be an organization that accepts suggestions from staff members, performs the research, and facilitates discussion. Hopefully, we will be able to present these ideas to the administration in a spirit of cooperation.

I would also like our website (www.cmu.edu/staff-council/) to be updated on a regular basis with our monthly General Body meeting minutes, information about our standing and ad hoc committees, events and discount programs. We recently obtained very generous discounts from the Pittsburgh Symphony and Pittsburgh Opera. Most importantly, I want to cultivate an atmosphere that nurtures innovation. I have indicated to our representatives that all ideas are on the table if they are within our constitutional guidelines and we have the resources to act on them. I will not hesitate to establish task forces and/or ad-hoc committees to allow for that.

What should we be looking for from Staff Council this year?

We partner with the university to deliver the Andy Awards, which this year is scheduled to occur on Oct. 20. We organize the Staff Food Drive scheduled for November, and sponsor at least one Presidential Forum so that staff can communicate directly with Dr. Cohon in a face-to-face setting. Our Benefits Committee will be conducting an Open Benefits Forum on Tuesday, Oct. 26, with representatives from Human Resources present to brief staff on benefits changes for 2011. We recently organized the Green Staff Council Committee to work closely with the university’s Green Practices Committee. We will be jointly sponsoring a “Green” Bag lunch series to raise awareness about recycling and those green practices that can be implemented within our workplace.

How can staff who are not Staff Council members get involved?

Anyone who is a full-time or part-time employee not represented by a bargaining unit is eligible to participate on Staff Council. If students want to be involved they can participate in a pre-law program or a part-time program. It is open to everyone.

Do you know who your Staff Council representatives are? Here’s a list to help.

Name

Mark Banister
Sylvia Barry
Sharon Blaziewicz
Jamie Brandon
Krista Campbell
Deborah Carvich
Leonard Chan
Darisea Chronic
Kenneth Chu
Kristin Colley
Desiree Cronkright
Natalie Cress
Suzanne Cribbs
Linolee Droula
Christine M. Ferguson
Matthew Forrest
Michael Foucault
Shawn Fruscio
Karli Garrett
Bruce Garski
Emily Ida Half
Shannon Haithall
Jeffrey H. Harms
Joe Inimbio
Shalynn Jarrett
Robin Karlin
Lauren Ashley Lamar
Katharina Lampman
Lindie Loh
Michelle Martin
Dolores Matthews
Shanice McKinley
Sarah McMullen
Mivella Midby
Julie Mull
Kelly Mullins
Christina Nafis
Cathy O’Domes
Mari Ann Palchik
Kaycoa Palko
Carole Pannino
John Papinchak
Eric Pezisek
Janet Peters
Victoria Poproch
Barbara Price

Division (Office Held)

Office of General Counsel
School of Computer Science
At-Large
At-Large (Archivist)
At-Large (Secretary)
At-Large
At-Large
At-Large
College of Fine Arts
College of Humanities & Social Sciences
College of Engineering
At-Large
At-Large (Chair, Communications Committee)
At-Large
At-Large
College of Engineering
Office of General Counsel
At-Large (Chair)
At-Large
At-Large
Campus Affairs
Academic (Co-Chair, Food Drive Committee)
At-Large
Academic Development (Chair, Benefits Committee)
At-Large
At-Large
Advancement
Alumni Relations
At-Large
At-Large (Chair, Green Committee)
School of Computer Science (Chair, Gleevanice Committee)
Campus Services
Student Life
Software Engineering Institute
At-Large (Chair, Rewards & Recognition Committee)
At-Large (Co-Chair, Food Drive Committee)
Campus Affairs (Parliamentarian)
At-Large (Webmaster)
At-Large
At-Large
At-Large
Tepper School of Business (Treasurer)
(Chair, Kennywood Committee)
Finance (Vice Chair) (Chair, Elections Committee)
Software Engineering Institute
Mallon College of Science
University Libraries
College of Humanities & Social Sciences
At-Large
At-Large
Heinz College
President’s Office
At-Large

10/11 Staff Council Representatives
Glowing Balloons Provide Hints to Air Quality

Due to CO2 emissions, air quality concerns have been increasing worldwide. Carnegie Mellon University's Human-Computer Interaction Institute (HCII) has developed new visual cues to help with air quality monitoring. In collaboration with the Living Environments Lab and the CMU School of Architecture, they have created a system where LED balloons are used to indicate air quality levels. These balloons are equipped with sensors that detect various pollutants, such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and soot. The LED balloons shine green, yellow, or red to indicate the level of pollution, ranging from low to high.

The system was tested in Pittsburgh, where CMU students set up stations to show the public how the balloons work. People would stop and explore the installations, raising their awareness of environmental concerns.

As a field, human-computer interaction is evolving to encompass technology at large and the creation, use, and interpretations of technology. Kuznetsov said, "Our work lies at the intersection of expressive technologies, environmental sensing and political activism," she added.

She loves the freedom and resources available at CMU to pursue creative and provocative projects, particularly in the Living Environments Lab run by Eric Paulos, assistant professor in the HCI.

As an adviser, Eric Paulos is a great inspiration to me. Here at the Living Environments Lab, we are always encouraged to make and build things, to question the current state of the world, and to explore new, evocative and even "risky" ideas," she said.

Rankings

CMU Places

Carnegie Mellon is ranked 20th in the world, 15th in the U.S. for the second consecutive year, Carnegie Mellon is ranked 13th in the annual Power Rankings released by the National Collegiate Scouting Association (NCSA). CMU placed 13th out of 447 NCAA Division III institutions and was 24th out of nearly 1,100 NCAA schools across the three divisions.

"This ranking signifies that Carnegie Mellon student-athletes are excelling at everything they do. It really is a great indication of the wonderful balance our student-athletes have throughout their collegiate experience at Carnegie Mellon," said Director of Athletics Susan Bassett.

The power rankings are determined by combining the U.S. Sports Academy Directors' Cup rating, which evaluates the strength of NCAA athletic departments, the U.S. News & World Report undergraduate academic rankings and student-athlete graduation rates.

For more on the NCAA Power Rankings, go to www.ncaasports.com/2010/ncaapowerrankings/
Inspired by base pairs in a DNA molecule and words such as "respect, creativity, collaboration, and mentoring," the Bill Brown Gathering Area is a fitting memorial to the longtime educator who died July 15, 2007, after brain surgery. Brown was a member of the Carnegie Mellon community since 1973, when he joined the faculty as an assistant professor of biological sciences at the Mellon College of Science. In 1995, he became professor and served as acting head of the Department of Biological Sciences from 1993 to 1995. He subsequently served as department head from 1995 to 2000 and worked as a visiting professor and special assistant to former Dean Chuck Thorpe at Carnegie Mellon Qatar. In addition to his distinguished academic career, Brown was an avid cyclist and world traveler. The gathering area was built by Larry Cartwright's Civil Engineering Project course, which has been building projects on campus for more than 20 years. Brown’s wife, Linda, and their sons assisted in the design process of the memorial.
Show+Tell

YOUNG ALUMNI RETURN TO CAMPUS TO SHARE EXPERIENCES

Heidi Opdyke

A new speaker series brings alumni back to talk about their experiences after graduation. Show+Tell had its first installment at the end of September and featured three alumni, Allen Lu (H’01), Evan Tahler (CIT’06, CMU’08) and Jay Palat (HNZ’04), working at ModCloth, the indie fashion site growing in leaps and bounds.

“We looked for some really exciting, intriguing stories of what younger alumni have been up to,” said Andrea Shockling (A’01, HNZ’02), an Alumni Relations staff member in charge of the program. “Stories that haven’t been told that we thought students especially would want to hear across all the various academic disciplines.”

The series is designed to be interactive. For example, the ModCloth staff discussed using crowdsourcing techniques within their company to name different products. The alumni brought items for the audience to name and then gave them away.

“We’re appealing about Show and Tell as a kid, was it something you were really excited about and you wanted to share that story with the classmates,” Shockling said. “And often, you had a tangible thing to bring and you were trying to capture that personal excitement. That’s what these alumni have and what they are doing is coming and sharing the story that Carnegie Mellon played in getting to that point to where they are coming back and sharing a story that’s very real.”

Each session of the series has a different focus, but all have elements of interest to students. Shockling said. In November, Deep-local founder Nathan Martin (A’99) will speak about being an artist and entrepreneur with his local technology company.

In February, government will be the focus. Pittsburgh City Council member Natalia Rudik (HNZ’06) and Mark Chambers (A’01, HNZ’02) will present.

“She’s very engaging. It’s a phenomenal opportunity for students and alumni in the area to connect with someone who’s out there in the public eye using what she learned at Heinz Field very much. That’s a great chance for students to have to make those connections,” she said.

The final lecture has broad appeal for consumers. Nitya Chambers (F’01) works as an online producer for ABC News and Frank Janesh (A’01) works in the Los Angeles entertainment industry.

Together, they’ll touch on topics of process and what it means to be a consumer receiving a product.

“Whether it’s the entertainment or news industry, it’s valuable to know what goes into that process as well as looking at two very diverse stories,” Shockling said. “Frank’s company does technology, production and design, and he does a lot of virtual simulations for the armed forces for training. Nitya works for ABC News in Washington, D.C.”

The common theme for all of the talks is engagement.

“The role that Alumni Relations plays here is developing those relationships with alumni and encouraging them to get involved with what’s happening on campus. Most of the times when younger alumni come back, it might be for a single talk with current students in their department. So the idea of having this broader access across the university community is why we and the alumni are so excited,” Shockling said.

Homecoming Highlights, Nov. 3-6

Carnegie Mellon’s Homecoming will take place Nov. 3-6. For a complete list of events visit www.cm.edu/homecoming.

Some of the highlights are:

Wednesday, Nov. 3

Homecoming Kick-off BBQ

Sponsored by the Student Homecoming Committee

11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., The Fence

Thursday, Nov. 4

Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award Recipient Lecture

Stuart Card (TR’75, MS’81, PhD’81) is a leader in human-computer interaction and a pioneer in animation and virtual reality. He teaches at the School of Informatics and Computing at Indiana University.

4:30-6 p.m., Rangos Ballroom, University Center (UC)

Online registration is required at www.cm.edu/homecoming.

Alumni Awards Ceremony

Join in this celebration as the Alumni Association honors outstanding contributions by alumni, faculty and students to Carnegie Mellon and the world.

5-9 p.m., Rangos Ballroom, UC

Online registration is required at www.cm.edu/homecoming.

Scotch’n’Soda Production: The Rocky Horror Show

Let’s get the Time Warp started! Join Scotch’n’Soda Theatres’ foray into the bizarre in the Homecoming production of the cult-classic rock musical The Rocky Horror Show! But don’t expect to just sit back and relax — dressing up and audience participation are highly encouraged.

11:30 p.m., and Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and 8 p.m., Mckinney Auditorium, UC

Friday, Nov. 5

Institute for Software Research Wean Hall Space Dedication & Open House

The Institute for Software Research (ISR) in the School of Computer Science will be dedicating its newly renovated space. The event will open with a ribbon cutting ceremony and will include tours of the new office and lab space as well as presentations and demos of ongoing work by the department’s faculty, students and staff in areas including software engineering, security, privacy, social networking, and mobile commerce.

Refreshments will be provided.

3-5 p.m., fourth and fifth floors, Wean Hall

You Eat Your Pride

Decorate your own Tartan themed cookie on the way to the Alumni Awards.

Sponsored by the Student Homecoming Committee.

4 p.m., Kirr Commons, UC

Alumni Homecoming Kick-off BBQ

Sponsored by the Student Homecoming Committee

11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., The Fence

Saturday, Nov. 6

President’s Address & Student Life Panel

President Fantz, student Cabinet, Alumni Board, students and faculty, staff, friends, and students on the current state of the university and what lies ahead. Current students will share their perspectives on Carnegie Mellon life today.

10-11:30 a.m., Connon Room, UC

Carnegie Clark’s Annual Homecoming Chili Cook-Off

The Carnegie Clark invites alumni to come interact and mingle with students while enjoying the best chili Carnegie Mellon has to offer! For a complete list to offer at the 6th annual chili cook-off.

11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Plaza between the UC & Weir Wing, Rain Location: UC Loggia

Friday, Nov. 5

Carnegie Mellon Tartans vs. University of Chicago Maroons

1 p.m., Gasing Stadium

Bhangra in the Burgh

Bhangra in the Burgh is an annual intercollegiate dance competition featuring Bhangra, the fastest-paced energetic dance that originates in India. With a sold-out crowd for the past three years, more than $50,000 has been raised for a local charity, The Children’s Home of Pittsburgh. For a sample of the energetic dance that originates in India.

3-5 p.m., the Cut

UPCOMING

Sustainability & Government

Sustainability and Government: The Means to the End

Sometimes the story of the process is as exciting as the product itself. Nitya Chambers (F’01) and Frank Janesh (A’01) working in the entertainment industry in Los Angeles and the news industry in Washington, D.C., talk about what it takes to go from an idea to a completely polished work.

6:30-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 31

Rangos Hall, UC

Meet and network with alumni for casual conversations during a dessert reception before each presentation. Stories begin at 7 p.m. Show+Tell is free and open to all members of the Carnegie Mellon community.

For more information about the program, contact Shockling at andrea@andrew.cmu.edu or 412-268-7389, or visit www.cm.edu/alumni/students/show-and-tell.html.

DeepLocal: Mobile Technology & Design

It’s more than just a phone. Take a closer look at the way mobile technology is changing the way we interact with the world around us with Nathan Martin (A’99), founder and CEO of DeepLocal, Inc.

6:30-9:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 18

Peter/Wright Rooms, UC

www.cm.edu/homecoming
Stephanie Meyer’s “Twilight,” Harper Lee’s “To Kill a Mockingbird” and J.D. Salinger’s “Catcher in the Rye” may be loved by many, but their appeal is not universal. The books, which individuals or groups argue that are too controversial for widespread audiences, are among the most challenged titles of 2009 as tracked by the American Library Association (ALA).

Since the launch of the ALA’s Banned Books Week in 1982, more than a thousand books have been challenged by school districts and other groups for their content. The ALA event has become an international occasion that draws attention to controversial books and promotes intellectual freedom.

English Professor Kathy M. Newman, who is writing a book on the 1950s — a period of anti-Communist censorship — rolled out a new class this semester, “Studies in Print Culture: Censored Texts,” that examines book censorship from the mid-20th century through the present.

“These students, many of them born in the late 1980s and early 1990s, have no connection to something like McCarthyism, but they have their own unique experiences with censorship,” Newman said. “I was surprised to learn on the first day of class how many of the students had battled their own high school administrations over issues like gay rights and theatrical censorship. These students are fighting new battles, and this class will hopefully give them a historical perspective on their own efforts.”

The class, in high-demand from English and drama students, focuses on three types of censorship during America’s mid-century: political, racial and sexual. The students will read texts such as Arthur Miller’s “The Crucible,” Lee’s masterpiece, which celebrated its 50th anniversary this year, and James Baldwin’s “Giovanni’s Room” as well as written excerpts from both sides of the controversies.

“I want the students to learn how to empathize with those doing the censoring,” Newman said. “If we dismiss the perspective of the censors of the past, we won’t be able to prevent the worst kinds of censorship from taking place in the future.”

As creative writing major Clare McKendry (H’12) explains, she had her own reasons for enrolling in this class. “I come from a very small town in California where cultural censorship was common. Certain plays weren’t performed at my high school, for example,” McKendry said. “I am hoping to gain a better understanding of censorship in the ways I have experienced it in other parts of the country.”

Like McKendry, professional writing major Jessica Hersh (H’12) has had her own brushes with the censor. “My freshman year of high school the school board debated removing several works closely with a dynamic roster of services and online applications. CAMT provides Heinz College’s Masters of Arts in Management (MAM) students, who have the ability to participate in multiple professional development webinars for arts management and online technology, with the dual goals of providing valuable resources and information to the field and helping clients to meet organizational efficiency and productivity needs. Some innovations that have emerged as a result of client relationships include eGrant, a project developed jointly in the late 1990s with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts to streamline grant applications, reviews and awards; as well as CueRate, an online artist application and panel review system designed to simplify adjudication needs.”

“CueRate is a great example of how the visual arts industry can adapt and thrive in the midst of immense technological shift,” Dombrosky noted. “Responding to the obsolescence of analog slide projectors, the longtime standard for adjudication panels, CAMT and key client partners developed a digital method by which organizations can efficiently manage panel reviews of content. All of a sudden, panelists now have the ability to participate in multiple locations. Efficiency and productivity have nowhere to go but up.”

But perhaps the most unique aspect of CAMT’s work is the benefit it provides Heinz College’s Masters of Arts Management (MAM) students, who work alongside staff as they research timely issues in the field and recommend technology-based solutions. The students also contribute articles to the Technology in the Arts blog, Dombrosky values CAMT’s partnerships with Heinz students, and sees the center increasing its focus on student-led research and consulting projects.

“Classes at Heinz College introduce you to the broader structure and context of policy-making and arts issues. Doing research on specific arts and technology issues and writing about them for CAMT has been the perfect complement to those classes,” said MAM student Amelia Northrup. “The CAMT staff knows the capabilities of Heinz College students. They know how to push you to achieve your full potential while still taking into account the commitments of being a full-time student.”

When asked about his long-term vision for the center, Dombrosky highlights an emphasis on growing the research side of the organization. He notes a specific focus on center-initiated research that will benefit the industry as a whole, such as a recent survey conducted to analyze arts organizations’ needs and use cases of electronic ticketing software.

Where the future will take CAMT is as unpredictable as the broader technology landscape. But one thing is certain — it is a very exciting time to be working at the intersection of art and technology.
At 51 years old, Barbie is starting a new career as a computer engineer. The result is a ponytailed doll in all shapes, sizes and wardrobes." "What computer engineer Barbie will do is broaden the realm of not only what is possible, but also what feels accessible — being smart, confident and tech-savvy without sacrificing femininity and fun," Fitzgerald said. "Engineers come in all shapes, sizes and Wardrobes." Computer Engineer Barbie will be available before and she can be pre-ordered online. Mattel first introduced Barbie in 1959. "It’s important to let our aspiring women engineers celebrate this recognition of their career as inspiration for modern girls. Women like the engineers at CMU are breaking the mold of past stereotypes," said Dena Haritos Tsamitis, director of the Information Networking Institute and director of education, training and outreach for Carnegie Mellon CyLab.

Women@INI Begin Countdown for Computer Engineer Barbie

At 51 years old, Barbie is starting a new career as a computer engineer. For the first-time ever, Mattel polled fans online to solicit the popular doll’s 126th birthday and can be pre-ordered online. Mattel introduced Barbie in 1959. "It’s important to let our aspiring women engineers celebrate this recognition of their career as inspiration for modern girls. Women like the engineers at CMU are breaking the mold of past stereotypes," said Dena Haritos Tsamitis, director of the Information Networking Institute and director of education, training and outreach for Carnegie Mellon CyLab.
Qatar Building Hosts INJAZ

Mohamed Dobashi, associate teaching professor, is helping the youth of Qatar as a board member for INJAZ al-Arab. It’s something he feels strongly about and he doesn’t have far to go to contribute. It’s literally down the hall in the Carnegie Mellon Qatar building.

INJAZ, which is an Arabic word for achievement, is a member of Junior Achievement (JA) Worldwide. The program works with business community members, educators and volunteers to inspire young people to dream big and reach their potential. Started in 1919 in Massachusetts, JA has spread to 123 countries.

“I had heard about Junior Achievement while in the U.S. and started researching to see if they had any activities in the region. I came to find out through INJAZ, that there was a substantial operations headquartered out of Qatar,” he said.

Since 2007, Carnegie Mellon has provided in-kind contributions in the form of space, office furniture and office equipment. INJAZ started in Education City’s Liberal Arts and Sciences building and moved into the current building in August 2008.

“We try to support them as much as possible. Carnegie Mellon Qatar will certainly gain from this outreach as we will see more students interested in studying business, computer science and information science,” Dobashi said.

INJAZ harnesses the mentorship of Arab business leaders to help inspire a culture of entrepreneurship and business innovation among Arab youth.

“INJAZ or Junior Achievements worldwide, we will see more students interested in participating in the programs are more likely to become entrepreneurs,” he said. “The Gulf Region and the entire Middle East is going to have to create millions of jobs otherwise the unemployment rate will rise. That level of unemployment might lead behind areas occupied by objects in the foreground. That level of detail would be important, for instance, if a robot needed to plan a route where it might walk, it noted.

Q&A With Staff Council Chair

Council. Our Food Drive effort on behalf of the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank is open to anyone who wishes to help. You don’t have to be a representative to help with the Food Drive. Participation in other committees in a non-voting capacity is also allowed if approved by the Executive Committee. This permits involvement with a particular issue or cause without the time commitments and duties required of Staff Council representatives.

Staff Council recently conducted an awareness survey. What were the findings?

Despite all of the activities Staff Council sponsors or partners with the administration, it is surprising to see that 58 percent of those responding to the survey, were either “not familiar” or “a little familiar” with Staff Council. We would like to change that by doing a better job of communicating with staff on a regular basis. We are looking to improve the website and do more mailings.

For the first time, we will be establishing focus groups to obtain staff input. The first focus groups will occur in Computing Services. We hope to do more of these in the future if staff are receptive to this type of forum. I also was surprised to see that more than 50 percent of those responding to our survey were not aware of their Staff Council representatives.

Where do you see the Staff Council going in the future?

The Staff Council is interested in all of the above. We would like to see the number of focus groups grow and the number of issues and concerns that we receive increase.

Poll Focuses on Local Government

the day answering a detailed survey. The results will be presented to public officials later this fall.

Emily Unikel of Friendship participated in the poll and thought the discussions were interesting and necessary. “Having the opinions of citizens is a piece of the puzzle,” she said. “There are a lot of good ideas, but it will depend on the people in power and if they will use this feedback and take it seriously.”

Robert Cavalier, teaching professor of philosophy and co-director of the PDD, has previously conducted deliberative polls on topics such as marriage in America, public art, community collaboration and climate change. Cavalier was pleased with the turnout and overall event.

“It was an extraordinary spectacle,” he said. “Once everyone gets started, the conversations began in a friendly manner. The entire room was fully engaged; they were looking at their background documents and telling stories. It was an excellent example of deliberative democracy in action.”

For more information about the PDD, visit http://hos.cmu.edu/pdd/. To watch a short video of Cavalier discussing the deliberative poll, visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QsrHdftVZdc;
Cuban architecture expert Julio Cesar Perez Hernandez describes his home-land’s buildings as “magical and poeti-cal” with character and charm. “Cuban architecture tells about the people’s idiosyncrasies, the culture, the way of living, the foreign influences and the passage of time,” Hernandez said. “It’s timeless and unique disregarding styles.”

Hernandez will discuss his ideas on “Sustainable Urbanism” at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 26, in Porter Hall 100 (Gregg Hall). His lecture is part of the University Lecture Series.

“We need to live in a new way so that the planet is given a chance to recover,” Hernandez said. “Sustainable urbanism is the philos-ophy that corresponds — in terms of place making and city building — to our digital age. [It means to seek a way of living that reconciles human needs with ecological imperatives. Sustainability encompasses the whole human activ-ity and sustainable urbanism must help create healthy places with economic valance and social integration.”

An internationally recognized architect, consultant and urban planner, Hernandez has lectured widely in the United States, Canada and Europe about Cuban architecture.

Along with a group of his contem-poraries that graduated in the 1980s, he is a proponent of a movement for the renovation of Cuban architecture that was built prior to and during the 1980s.

While a Loeb Fellow at Harvard University from 2001-2002 in Advanced Urban and Environmental Studies, Hernandez completed a master plan for 21st Century Havana with the goal of preserving the city’s urban legacy, while remaining true to its people and encouraging future development. He

**Lecture Spotlight:** **CUBAN BUILDINGS CAPTURES ARCHITECT’S IMAGINATION**

**WHO:** Julio Cesar Perez Hernandez  
**WHAT:** “Sustainable Urbanism”  
**WHEN:** 6 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 26  
**WHERE:** Porter Hall 100 (Gregg Hall)

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Bruce Gerson:  

If the megahit reality television show “Dancing With the Stars” has got you tapping your feet, you’re not alone. Now in its 11th season, the live ballroom dancing competition among celebrities and professional athletes has piqued interest in ballroom dancing at studios and clubs around the U.S. And the dancing fever has hit Carnegie Mellon as well.

“We see a big upswing in begin-ners with every new season of the show. It keeps ballroom dancing in people’s minds,” said Andrew Pueschel (FS00), artistic director of the Absolute Ball-room Dance Club of Pittsburgh and a visiting instructor for Carnegie Mellon’s Ballroom Dance Club.

Senior business administration major Jackie Zhang, a four-year mem-ber, instructor and president of CMU’s Ballroom Dance Club that has nearly 200 members, agrees.

“One of my friends, who is now an officer in the club, joined because of ‘Dancing With the Stars,’ and I think a lot of people have joined because of the show. It has brought a lot of awareness and interest in ballroom dancing. Before it was more middle-aged women danc-ing, but now there are a lot of collegiate dancers,” she said.

The Ballroom Dance Club, which is open to all students, faculty and staff at CMU and other area colleges and universities, offers six hourlong lessons each week in Rangos Ballroom and the University Center (UC) Activities Room. Half of the lessons are taught by visiting professional dance instructors, like Pueschel, and half are taught by advanced students, like Zhang.

For a $25 membership fee per semester, instruction is offered in about 20 ballroom and social dances, such as the cha cha, paso doble, foxtrot, waltz, tango, Argentine tango, salsa, swing and hustle. Zhang said there are differ-ent styles and steps to the social and ballroom versions of each dance.

“It’s the most affordable way to dance. You get 54 hours of instruction per semester. And the first lesson is free,” Zhang said.

The club also hosts events through-out the year, including its annual Valen-tine’s Day Ball. A Hallowen Dance is on the schedule for later this month, and Zhang is working to get four-time world champions Iveta and Gherman to give a workshop sometime this academic year.

In addition to the lessons and events, about 50 to 60 members travel to competitions several weekends through-out the year. Last semester the team placed fifth at the Arnold Schwarzeneg-ger DanceSport Challenge in Ohio. This year there are two competitions in No-vember, two in March and two in April.

“All of the schools we’re up against academically have huge teams. MIT, Harvard, Princeton, Penn and Michigan all have big teams,” Zhang said.

If you’re interested in giving ballroom dancing a try, visit the club’s website at www.cmubdc.org for the class schedule and local dance events.

**Chicken Swing**

If ballroom’s not quite your thing, but you still have that urge to swing, CMU’s Swing Dancers Anonymous, better known as Chicken Swing may be right for you.

Led by Madeleine Robson, a sopho-more architecture major, and Forrest Rogers-Marcovitz, a robotics engineer at the National Robotics Engineering Center in Lawrenceville, Chicken Swing gets together Thursday nights for a one-hour lesson in swing from an area dance instructor, followed by two hours of open dancing. Sessions are held at either Rangos Hall or in the lower level of the UC next to the FedEx store.

Swing includes the East Coast swing, also known as the jitterbug, the Lindy Hop, the Charleston, the West Coast swing and the balbo. It also of-fers lessons in blues dancing.

“Ballroom is very formal and struc-tured, but swing is much more improvi-sational,” said Rogers-Marcovitz, who prefers the Lindy Hop and the slower tempo of blues dancing.

In addition to Thursday night ses-sions, the group of about 50 regular participants from CMU and other area universities, attends local and tri-state area swing exchanges. CMU will help to host the PittStop Lindy Hop Exchange Nov. 19-21 (www.pittstoplindyhop.com).

“We have about 350 people coming to our Lindy Hop Exchange. We help with housing and some of the dances will be in Rangos. We’ll have seven dances, 28 hours of dancing and six or seven bands. It’s the biggest event of the year,” Rogers-Marcovitz said.

Last summer while traveling in Europe, Rogers-Marcovitz attended a swing dance camp in Herang, Sweden, two hours north of Stockholm. “The week I was there they had roughly 1,200 people from 45 countries. I took classes there for a week and danced every night,” he said.

Robson, also a member of the CMU Ballroom Dance Club, likes the casual-ness of Chicken Swing. “If you mess up nobody will care. If you spectacularly mess up, people will applaud you. The odder things you do, the better,” she said.

For more information about Chicken Swing and to get on its 380-member mailing list, go to www.chickenswing.com.
“First, we never ask for email account or username information when we email the community,” Blair said. “Additionally, Computing Services posts copies of its messages to the Computing Services website for verification. If anyone in the campus community has a question, we encourage them to call the Help Center or send email to advisor@andrew.cmu.edu.”

Computing Services has mail filters in place that both detect and discard spam emails or emails that contain viruses. Blair says Computing Services is collaborating with Carnegie Mellon’s own researchers to both detect phishing emails more quickly and prevent phishing attacks.

“We work with researchers to study attack profiles, design detection and prevention, and measure the success of such initiatives,” Blair said. “We want our users to be part of the solution and need to be cautious when replying to or clicking links in emails. To that point, CMU researchers in the CyLab Usable Privacy and Security Laboratory (CUPS) created an interactive game called “Anti-Phishing Phil” that teaches people how to identify and avoid phishing websites. The game helps users see how phishers arrange content on the Web to make it look legitimate, even when it’s not. The game is available to the campus community on the ISO website: www.cmu.edu/iso/aware/phish/index.html.

“General awareness is so important because filtering technology and other tools are not completely accurate and phishers adapt their techniques. Human judgment is the last line of defense,” she said.

The ISO conducts training sessions for faculty and staff on computer security and related topics. For more information on classes, visit www.cmu.edu/iso/events/index.html.

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Silicon Valley Students Create SurveyMonster iPhone App

Linda Kloth

A Carnegie Mellon Silicon Valley student team created an iPhone app picked up by the iPhone store that allows users to create surveys and view results. Reggine Nair, Vineet Nair and Ganesh Kaveripakam designed the Survey-Monster 1.0 for their class “Real World Software Engineering for Entrepreneurs.”

Todd Sedano, director of the Software Engineering Department, teaches the course that requires students to launch a software product onto either Facebook or Apple’s iPhone/iPad. Students need to hit the ground running to get feedback from users quickly and put their entrepreneurial skills to the test.

“The team listened to the marketplace and refined their original idea into an exciting project,” Sedano said. “Typically, engineers don’t see beyond their laptop. I’m proud of how they responded to feedback from customers.”

A free iPhone app, SurveyMonster 1.0 enables iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch users to create surveys, respond to surveys and view survey results. Surveys can be responded to via the app at http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/surveymonster/id381417792?mt=8 or via Web server at www.fidamedia.com. Surveys can be published using this server, email and the users’ Facebook wall. Results are updated to iPhone instantly.

Whether the plot involves jilted lovers, unfaithful spouses, unrequited love or be- trothed sweethearts, operatic love stories are usually much more entertaining than reality TV. Love plays a central role in many a stage production, and the School of Music’s fall opera “Mozart Scenes: The Trials of Love” is no exception.

In the 18th century, a young Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart dazzled the classical music world with his brilliant compositions. He branched out into theatrical writing, and left a legacy of hilarious, dramatic operas.

“The Trials of Love” will showcase scenes from some of his most popular operas, including “Cosi fan tutte,” “The Marriage of Figaro” and “The Magic Flute” — all written toward the end of Mozart’s career.

The production will take place Oct. 21-24 in the Purnell Center for the Arts’ Philip Chosky Theater. Andrea Cladera serves as music director, and guest director Linda Brockway will lead the production’s stage direction. Shows run nightly at 8 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee performance Sunday, Oct. 24. General admission is $15, senior citizens are $12, and college students are $10 with valid ID. To buy tickets, call the box office at 412-268-2407.

“Children’s School Gates Need To Stay Closed

With CMU’s Children’s School back in session, members of the university community who pass through the schoolyard or through the tennis courts are encouraged to close the gates to help keep the school children safe.

Staff Council Offers Discount Opera Tickets

Staff Council has negotiated discount tickets for CMU staff members for the upcoming Pittsburgh Opera season, which includes “The Barber of Seville” (Oct. 9, 12, 15, 17), “Ludia di Lammermoor” (Oct. 13, 14, 19, 21), “Tosca” (March 26, 29, April 3 and 5) and “Dialogues of the Carmelites” (April 30, May 3 and 6, 8). For tickets go to https://tbrn.pitpatron.com/tbri?__module__=1877.
Check Local Listings To See CMU Alumni in Primetime

Grab a snack and settle in as your favorite stars from the School of Drama light up primetime TV.

New this fall on NBC is “The Event,” a conspiracy thriller starring Blair Underwood (A’88). Aaron Sta-ton (A’04) is back on screen in AMC’s award-winning drama “Mad Men.” Tamara Tunie (A’81) returns to NBC’s hit series “Law and Order: SVU,” as does Cote DePablo (A’00) to “NCIS” on CBS.

More fall highlights include:

• Ted Danson (A’72), “Bored to Death,” HBO
• Ming-Na (A’86), “Stargate Universe,” Syfy
• Abby Brannumell (A’01), “Lie to Me,” Fox
• Anthony Carrigan (A’06), “Law and Order: Criminal Intent,” NBC
• Josh Gad (A’03), “The Daily Show,” Comedy Central
• Katy Mixon (A’03), “Mike and Molly,” “Two and a Half Men,” CBS
• Rhys Coiro (A’02), “Entourage,” HBO; “Dark Blue,” TNT; “Burn Notice,” USA
• David Horshay (A’98), “It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia,” FX
• Joe Manjiamello (A’04), “True Blood,” HBO

Also keep an eye on the credits. CMU has plenty of stars behind the scenes including:

• Rustin Davis (A’96), key set production assistant, “Cougar Town,” ABC
• Kourtney Kang (A’00), supervising producer, “How I Met Your Mother,” CBS
• Kristen Hwang (A’01), production associate, “CBS News New York”
• Becky Frey (A’05), costume production assistant, “Late Night with Jimmy Fallon,” NBC
• Clark Perry (A’02), writer, “V,” ABC
• Sallie Patrick (A’02), writer, “Life Unexpected,” The CW
• Kyle Bellinga (A’04), Foley mixer, “Flash Forward,” “Castle,” “Brothers & Sisters,” ABC
• John Shaftner (A’76), production designer, “Mike and Molly,” “Big Bang Theory,” “Two and a Half Men,” CBS; “The Conan O’Brien Show,” TBS
• Michael Mayer (A’75), production designer, “Bones,” Fox
• Jessica Kender (CMU’97), production designer, “Dexter,” Showtime
• Alex Fullen (A’92), art director, “The Defenders,” CBS
• Mark Worthington (A’91), production designer, “True Blood,” HBO
• Joe Stewert (A’77), production designer, “The Conan O’Brien Show,” TBS

Before you know it, January will arrive to find Matt Bomer (A’00) starring in a new season of “White Collar” on USA. Ian Harding (A’09) and Chuck Hittinger (A’05) also return to the screen in January with “Pretty Little Liars” on ABC Family. Meanwhile, be on the lookout for Pablo Schreiber (A’00) who will be co-starring in “Lights Out,” a new drama about an aging heavyweight boxer on FX.

Check your local listings for dates and times.

Grant To Fund Study of Nanotechnology’s Impact

Researchers at Carnegie Mellon and Howard University in Washington, D.C., have received a five-year, $5.15 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to launch a new interdisciplinary program in the environmental affects and policy implications of nanotechnology.

Funding comes from a new NSF program called the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT), which enables the creation of interdisciplinary programs educating U.S. Ph.D.s in science and engineering.

“The IGERT program at Carnegie Mellon and Howard will operate at the interface of science and environmental policy to produce an environmentally and policy literate generation of nanoscience professionals with the skills needed to create novel nanotechnologies and to assess and manage environmental risks associated with nanomaterials,” said Jeanne M. VanBriesen, professor of civil and environmental engineering, who will lead the program.

Startup Partners With Robotics

Carnegie Robotics LLC, a new firm recently announced, will develop, create, manufacture and service robotic components, systems and products based upon technology licensed from CMU’s highly successful National Robotics Engineering Center (NREC), an arm of CMU’s Robotics Institute that performs applied research and prototype development for industrial and government organizations. John Bares, director of the NREC since 1997, has taken a leave of absence from the university to lead the startup company. Anthony Stentz, who has served as associate director since 1997, will take over leadership of the NREC.

Bares said Carnegie Robotics will initially concentrate on producing extremely reliable components that other manufacturers can use to automate machines used in such fields as mining, agriculture, petroleum production and defense. But as the company develops its own production expertise, plans call for manufacturing and servicing entire robotic systems. Both the company and NREC might also benefit from jointly marketing their services, he added.

CMU Joins DOE Research Team

Carnegie Mellon is part of a research team that will receive up to $122 million over the next five years from the Department of Energy (DOE) to establish an Energy Innovation Hub focused on developing technologies to make buildings more energy efficient. The Energy Innovation Hub will be at the Philadelphia Navy Yard Clean Energy campus and will bring together leading researchers from academia, two U.S. national laboratories and the private sector in an ambitious effort to develop energy efficient building designs that will save energy, cut pollution and position the United States as a leader in this industry.

Soccer Team Earns Its Highest National Ranking

CMU men’s soccer team received its highest national ranking in school history in September when the National Soccer Coaches Association of America ranked the Tartans third in the nation in NCAA Division III. CMU, 8-0 (as of Oct. 1), are led by Head Coach Aron Lujan. Last year the Tartans finished with a 16-3-1 record and advanced to the round of 16 of the NCAA Division III Championships for the first time in school history.
The Andy Awards, named for Andrew Carnegie and Andrew Mellon, are a tribute to the spirit of teamwork and dedication embodied by the staff at Carnegie Mellon University. Individual staff members and teams of colleagues whose work has had a significant impact on the university are recognized for their outstanding performance and commitment to excellence through the Andy Awards program. Awards are presented in five categories: Dedication, Commitment to Students, Innovation, Culture and University Citizenship.

As part of the Andy Awards, Staff Council will award more than 600 staff members with certificates for their years of service. During the ceremony, President Jared L. Cohon will present 35 staff members with framed certificates recognizing their 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of service. Robert Anderegg, a senior facilities safety analyst with the Environmental Health and Safety Department, will be honored for 45 years of service to CMU. Another 320 staff members will be able to pick up their certificates for their 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service at the reception, and 264 staff members will receive letters in campus mail recognizing their five years at CMU. The awards ceremony will take place at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 20 in McConomy Auditorium, University Center. A reception will immediately follow in Rangos Hall, UC. This year’s nominees are:

**Outstanding Dedication**
- Ann English, Heinz College
- Vera Mellor, Accounting
- Michelle Pierson, Eberly Center for Teaching Excellence
- Julia Fernandes, Tepper School of Business
- James A. Mercolini, Office of the General Counsel
- Sushma Rad, Heinz College
- Nicholas Fisel, Desktop Support
- Carrie Nelson, International Finance
- Kari Samuelis, Institute for Software Research
- Gretchen Hunter, Heinz College
- Janet Nepells, Sponsored Projects Accounting
- Ginnie White, President’s Office

**Outstanding Commitment to Students**
- Mike Danko, ROTC
- Chris Sharp, Office of Undergraduate Admissions
- Nicole Willis, Human-Computer Interaction Institute

**Outstanding Innovation**
- Kim Axel, Housing & Dining Services
- Electronic Health Records System Team:

**Outstanding Culture**
- Pat Kleyle, Enrollment Services
- Mary L. Pretz-Lawson, Computing Services
- Varvara Pyros, Human Resources

**Outstanding University Citizenship**
- Carole M. Panno, University Advancement
- Andy Wasser, Heinz College