Like Father, Like Son

Andres Rodriguez, who earned his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering in December, brought his 3-year-old son, David, to Commencement. “He was an inspiration to me to work hard and maximize my productivity when I was in school so that at home I could play with him,” Rodriguez said. “I am hoping that in 20 years, we can return to CMU for his graduation with him wearing a bigger gown.” See more Commencement coverage on page six.

Persistence Pays Off

Staff Member Earns Degree After Decade of Study

Heidi Opdyke

It took classmates a while to realize that Marilú Lundeen wasn’t the teacher but rather a fellow student.

“The students received me well after their initial surprise,” she said. “And then they treated me like any of their other classmates.”

Lundeen, an administrative coordinator at the Information Networking Institute (INI), is not only a May graduate with a bachelor’s degree in Hispanic Studies and an additional major in European studies, she’s also a grandmother.

She started taking classes in 2003 while working as the coordinator of Latin American Activities for the late Paul Goodman at the Tepper School of Business.

He encouraged Lundeen, a native Portuguese speaker, to take classes in Spanish because he needed some help with international education projects. So, she started taking one or two a semester, and then kept going.

She joined the INI in 2008. Her current supervisor, Dena Haritos Tsimitis, also encouraged her to continue her studies. “Both of my bosses were wonderful,” she said.

Prior to earning her CMU degree, Lundeen earned an associate’s degree in applied science in 1989. She spent time working for different universities including the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Universities run in her family. Her two daughters, who came to see their mother receive her diploma, work at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Continued on page seven.

Fulbright Awards

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Continued on page seven.
Researchers Work To Trace How Early Modern Figures Interacted

Imagine if Sir Francis Bacon had been able to “friend” William Shakespeare on Facebook. The famous scientist and researcher’s interactions with the playwright would have created a digital imprint for all to see, giving their other networked friends and peers insights into their relationship.

It also may have left behind evidence of one of the largest questions in all of English literature: Did Bacon or someone else write some of Shakespeare’s plays?

To precisely trace the influence and ideas of Bacon, Shakespeare, Isaac Newton and more than 6,000 others from the early modern period, 16th – 19th centuries, researchers at Carnegie Mellon have created the Six Degrees of Francis Bacon project. The living project will allow scholars and students from around the world to reassemble the era’s networked culture. It pulls together centuries of books, articles, documents and manuscripts that have been scattered and divided in order to understand the role of linked connections in spreading ideas and knowledge.

“Dense accounts exist of small groups and communities, giving us partial views of the early modern network, but this is the first attempt to bring it together in one place, in a visual way,” said Christopher Warren, assistant professor of English. “Six Degrees of Francis Bacon is many things, but above all it’s a tool for asking questions. It allows people to click on this historical network to see who’s connected, re-creating this whole world and then raising even more questions about how an idea, say, religious toleration, or the circulation of blood, got from person A to person B, why it took this route and not that route, and so on.”

Warren added, “Francis Bacon may not have ‘liked’ or commented on a Facebook post by Shakespeare, but re-constructing the early modern social network gets us a long way toward understanding what he or anyone else could have known, jokes and references they would have understood, sensitive information they might have encountered.”

The project, which has support from a Google Faculty Research Award, uses data mining to develop the visual social network. Crawling through sources to create an initial list of 6,000 people from the period, the project already has investigated more than 19 million potential connections.

To make the massive re-creation work, Warren is tapping into CMU’s Department of Statistics expertise. Cosma Shalizi, associate professor of statistics, Mike Figenzol, visiting assistant professor of statistics, and Ph.D. student Lawrence Wang are developing algorithms to predict who is part of any social network and probably sub networks. They’ve also built the database to allow scholars who have studied these networks to add their input to increase accuracy and help them refine the algorithms.

“With such big numbers, it wasn’t feasible to begin with everyone who was alive during this time, so we limited it to the people who appear most in the network,” Warren said.

To get the project to its current point of visualizing this 6,000-person world, the CMU team worked with Georgetown University’s Daniel Shore, a Milton expert whose current research focuses on tracing syntax, and they are developing a partnership with London- and Cambridge-based scholars Ruth and Sebastian Ahnert, who study the shape of 16th-century letter-writing networks.

Warren will use a Wimmer Fellowship to further the project with student input next fall. “Digital Literary and Cultural Studies: Six Degrees of Francis Bacon” will allow students interested in cultural studies, history, philosophy, design, network analysis and computer science to collaboratively solve problems tied to the early modern period’s social network.

“Students who use Facebook, Twitter and Instagram understand social networks, but this is a kind of problem that needs to be addressed historically precisely because it’s so ubiquitous,” Warren said. “For example, what counts as evidence of a relationship? If someone writes in a book about a visit with a famous scholar, but the famous scholar doesn’t write about it, it’s one-sided evidence. People lie, and encounters that are important to one person are not necessarily important to the other. We need to dig into culture and motivations to understand what’s going on.”

Inaugural Mind, Brain Prize Awarded

Carnegie Mellon awarded the first Andrew Carnegie Prize in Mind and Brain Sciences to Leslie G. Ungerleider (left), a top neuroscientist at the National Institute of Mental Health, CMU Professor Michael J. Tarr (right) presented Ungerleider with a custom painting as part of the prize, which, funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, recognizes trailblazers in mind and brain sciences. A yearlong fellowship also has been established at CMU in Ungerleider’s name.

The social network: Then and now

We’ve lived networked lives for hundreds of years. New CMU research mines the original “social media.”

Today’s network

Early modern network
If the card is accepted, the rider will hear a single beep.

CMU will be the second university in the city to convert to the system. University of Pittsburgh students, faculty and staff started receiving SMART cards in 2009 with all riders using them by 2012.

Brian Fernandes, associate director of Enrollment Services, and Jenna Tracy, HUB services manager, are leading the CMU conversion.

Tracking ridership more efficiently will give PAT and CMU more reliable data for better managing the transportation relationship.

CMU entered into a new contract with PAT in January. The agreement, retroactive to Aug. 1, 2012, pays PAT $1.6 million for the first year and $1.8 million during the second year with no tie to ridership. Beginning in August 2014, CMU will pay 50 percent of a Zone 1 base fare, which at today’s prices would be $1.25 per ride.

Ryan Wolfe, director of Campus Services, said the university has been experiencing rapid growth in the use of public transportation, but the data has relied on drivers manually counting riders carrying CMU IDs.

“The big unknown has been how accurate those manual taps have been,” Wolfe said. “If they’re accurate, the university could easily be paying 40 percent more [annually] to the Port Authority.”

Wolfe said despite the anticipated increase, the service is important to the university community.

“When we had town halls in 2012, the community voiced its support of the Port Authority’s [financial] troubles, we’re willing to pay a fair market rate for that kind of service.”

Wolfe said the new system also would generate data for specific community groups.

“We’re expecting the ability to look at ridership from a student perspective and staff perspective,” he said. “That’s something we’ve never had before. We’re excited about getting that data.”

Because the cards will be more expensive to produce, the new versions for faculty, staff and undergraduates will have a four-year shelf life. Graduate student cards will continue to be valid for two years.

“If it’s a stronger card that’s double laminated,” Fernandes said. “We’re hoping to have less plastic waste and fewer students losing their cards.”

With the change Tracy said there have been many questions regarding personally identifiable information, such as what information the Port Authority will receive when cards are tapped at fare collection boxes.

“The only information that’s being pulled from that transaction is the chip ID number, which is not tied to anyone’s name, Andrew ID or personal information,” Tracy said.

SMART card holders have the choice of using their current ID photo or submitting a new photo online at www.cmu.edu/idplus/idcards/idphotos.html. The deadline for faculty and staff to submit photos is June 15.

The changes will only affect the PAT system. Sponsored or affiliate ID cards will remain the same.

**Refreshed Look**

Along with the added technology, the updated cards will have a new design. Samuel Sanders, who will be a fifth-year architecture student, received the most votes in the CM-yoU ID Card Design Contest and his design will be the look of the new Carnegie Mellon Pittsburgh campus SMART card.

One of more than 70 submissions, Sanders’ design was unanimously selected as one of the top three designs by a review committee representing Student Affairs, the School of Design, the School of Art, Campus Affairs Information Technology and Enrollment Services Administration.

Nearly 2,500 votes were received between April 15-26. Sanders’ design, Design B in the contest survey, received 55.5 percent of the votes.

**Distribution**

**Faculty:** SMART cards will be delivered to departments on July 12, and a coordinator from each department will handle the distribution process. Only benefits-eligible faculty at the Pittsburgh campus will receive new SMART Cards.

**Staff:** Benefits-eligible staff members at the Pittsburgh campus can pick up SMART cards from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. during the week of July 15-19 at Andy’s Alcove, lower level of the University Center. They will need to turn in their current ID card at that time. SMART cards will be distributed alphabetically by last name:

- A-F: Monday, July 15
- G-L: Tuesday, July 16
- M-R: Wednesday, July 17
- S-Z: Thursday, July 18
- All remaining: Friday, July 19

SMART cards not picked up during distribution week will be returned to The HUB, located in the lower level of Warner Hall, for pick up.

**Students:** For new students who submit photos prior to July 12, undergraduate students will receive cards during orientation, and graduate students will receive cards from their departments. Students who do not send photos in advance will need to visit The HUB during regular business hours for their ID cards.

Returning undergraduate and graduate students will receive the new cards during the week of Sept. 23-27.
“The Road Goes Ever On and On” for St. Clair

May Day has always been an auspicious day for celebration, and this year was no exception. Friends, colleagues, students, faculty and staff surrounded Gloriana St. Clair in person and in spirit on May 1, when the campus community packed Posner Center to celebrate her 15-year tenure as dean of University Libraries.

The parade of well-wishers extended out the door for much of the party as all were warmly welcomed by the guest of honor. In lieu of a guestbook, people lingered to write notes on cards and stones.

A surprise guest, the wizard Gandalf of “The Lord of the Rings” trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien, initiated the speaking segment of the celebration, in which many spoke briefly about St. Clair’s vision and passion for the library as the intellectual and social centerpiece of the university, her commitment to the digital future and their own relationships with her.

University Libraries’ Ona Taylor and Denise Novak talked about the quality of St. Clair’s leadership. Michael Shamos summed up in a few pictures St. Clair’s repeated far-flung trips on behalf of the Million Book Project. She visited India, China, Italy, Egypt and Qatar among other nations. Provost and Executive Vice President Mark S. Kamlet touched on St. Clair’s listening and laughter, which she used successfully for team building with students as well as faculty, staff, fellow deans and university administrators. Trustee Tod Hunt shared personal reflections on St. Clair’s devoted stewardship of his family’s gift to the university, Hunt Library.

President Jared L. Cohon spoke about St. Clair’s lifetime of service to her profession, generous legacy of service and philanthropy to the CMU community and remarkable track record with the National Science Foundation (grants for the Million Book Project made her NSF’s ‘most-funded’ librarian), before neatly segueing into their shared passion for the writings of Tolkien.

Concluding his remarks, Cohon presented St. Clair with “an uncommon gift for an uncommon individual” — a replica of the Arkenstone of Thrain, a large gem treasured by the Dwarven Longbeards clan of the Lonely Mountain and sought by Thorin Oakenshield in “The Hobbit”: “A globe with a thousand facets; it shone like silver in the firelight, like water in the sun, like snow under the stars, like rain upon the moon!”

When Cohon invited St. Clair to say a few words, he brought the house down by likening their joint stepping down next month to the characters in “Thelma & Louise” sailing off the cliff into whatever the future may bring.

For St. Clair, “the road goes ever on and on” at CMU: She will become dean emerita effective July 1, but will remain engaged with the university as the official liaison to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, an active student and teacher in Osher; and as director of the Olive Archive for Executable Content, a project with the School of Computer Science funded through 2015 with grants from the Institute for Museum and Library Services and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

Many of those who could not attend the party in person were represented in the current Posner Center exhibit, which opened to coincide with St. Clair’s fete. “CMU READ, 2000-2013” is a series of about two dozen READ cards and posters featuring past and present members of the CMU community with their favorite books. Commissioned in homage to the American Library Association’s perennial celebrity READ poster campaign, St. Clair created cards that she used for informal correspondence with colleagues and donors, and posters displayed in the libraries and elsewhere on campus — highlighting the symbiosis of reading, libraries and the university.

New Dean of the Libraries Has International Experience

Keith Webster will be Carnegie Mellon’s next dean of University Libraries, effective July 1. He succeeds Gloriana St. Clair, who is stepping down after serving as dean for 15 years.

Provost and Executive Vice President Mark S. Kamlet announced the appointment in an email to the university in late May. Webster will hold the rank of principal librarian and will have a courtesy academic position at the H. John Heinz III College.

Prior to his appointment at Carnegie Mellon, Webster was vice president and director of academic relations and strategy for the global publishing company John Wiley and Sons. He was formerly dean of libraries and university librarian at the University of Queensland in Australia, one of the largest libraries in the southern hemisphere, where he supervised a staff of 250. Prior positions include university librarian at Victoria University in New Zealand, and head of information rights at HM Treasury in London.

Webster obtained his bachelor’s degree in library studies and computer science from Loughborough University in the United Kingdom, a master’s degree in management of libraries and information services from the Graduate School of the University of Wales (Aberystrwyth), and is completing a master’s degree in international economics and finance from the University of Queensland.

He has been a principal investigator on significant government and foundation grants in Australia, England and Scotland, one of them supporting the creation of a digital archive, Text Queensland, which he directed. Webster is a member of the board of directors of the National Information Standards Organization, and among many other professional contributions was a trustee of the John Campbell Trust, and chair of the deans and directors of libraries of the Universities21 consortium.

In his email, Kamlet also thanked the members of the search committee for an outstanding job, not only in terms of outcome but also in terms of process.

The search committee was chaired by Vice Provost Amy Burkert and included:

- Shelley Anna, associate professor of mechanical engineering;
- Martin Aurand, head of the Arts Library and Special Collection;
- John Lehoczky, dean of the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences;
- Denise Novak, head of Acquisitions;
- Richard Randall, assistant professor of music;
- Kenneth Rose, system manager;
- Michael Shamos, distinguished career professor of the Language Technologies Institute;
- Stephen Spear, professor of economics; and
- Rahul Telang, professor of management information systems.

Edna Jackson, director of the Provost’s Office, staffed the committee.
**Dennis Schebetetta Wins Film Competition**

**His Romantic Comedy Will Be Filmed This Summer; To Premiere in the fall**

**Pam Wigley**

Dennis Schebetetta, communications coordinator for the School of Drama, has a new title: Winner of the 2013 Stiefelhohn Film Factory Competition.

His script, “My Date With Adam,” received the Ellen Weiss Kander Award, which provides $20,000 to produce and film his short movie this summer. The movie, which he plans to shoot locally, will debut at Pittsburgh’s Three Rivers Film Festival in November.

“My Date With Adam” is a romantic comedy about a woman looking for the perfect man. She finds him, but her great guy turns out to be a robot that’s part of a graduate student’s work in artificial intelligence. Schebetetta calls the script a love story — one that highlights what people are looking for when they seek perfection. It’s also a story about people’s relationships with technology, such as close ties to a smartphone, iPad or, in this case, a robot.

“I was inspired by the CMU roboticsists I was working with in the Gates-Hillman Center when I look out my office window,” said Schebetetta, who also serves as an adjunct faculty member in Carnegie Mellon’s creative writing program (screenwriting). “I thought about what they do, and I thought about people looking for the perfect mate, and it all came together.”

Schebetetta is a playwright, director and actor whose work has been seen off-off-Broadway and regionally at theaters such as Ensemble Studio Theater, 13th Street Rep, fringeNYC, Gallery Players, Portland Theatre Works, Northwest Playwrights Alliance and Bricolage Theater. Last year his play, “W@STE,” was in The Road Theatre’s Summer Play Festival in Los Angeles and had a staged reading by 12 Peers Theater in Pittsburgh.

His play, “Dog Park or Sexual Persuasion in Magnuson,” was published in “Ten 10-Minute Plays Volume III” and has enjoyed several productions after its premiere in Seattle, including as far away as Iceland, Australia and Morocco.

As an actor, he recently appeared in “August: Osage County” at the Pittsburgh Playhouse and in “Shining City” at Off The Wall.

He earned his MFA from Virginia Commonwealth University, studied acting with Bill Esper in New York and was the Dramatist Guild Regional Representative for Seattle.

Carnegie Mellon also was represented in the competition by Laci Corridor, who is pursuing a master’s degree in dramatic writing. She holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology with a minor in creative writing from Central Connecticut State University. Her script about a boy’s struggle to deal with his father’s death, “Two Thousand Bridges,” made it to the quarterfinals.

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**LT. TIMOTHY LEONARDI (LEFT) RECEIVED THE NATIONAL DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION "COLONEL LEO A. CODO MEMORIAL AWARD" FROM NROTC COMMANDING OFFICER CAPT. THOMAS CALABRESE EARLIER THIS YEAR.**

**CMU’s Leonardi Named Nation’s Top NROTC Instructor**

**Kelly Solman**

Lt. Timothy Leonardi (TPR’13), executive officer and senior class adviser and mentor of the NROTC unit at Carnegie Mellon, was selected from more than 300 instructors as the Most Outstanding U.S. NROTC Instructor for 2012 by the National Defense Industrial Association.

An E2C-Hawkeye naval flight officer, Leonardi also is a graduate of the Tepper School’s Flex Time MBA program.

“Mentorship is definitely a focus of my job. The real reason we’re here as naval officers is to mentor midshipmen. Our commanding officer would not have nominated me for the NDIA award if he didn’t feel I exceeded the standard,” Leonardi said.

In addition to all of the support and guidance he provides during class, Leonardi answers his phone regardless of the time of day or night.

“Sometimes it’s a crisis situation, but sometimes it’s just a simple request for reassurance,” Leonardi said.

As a naval flight officer, Leonardi is particularly proud to have played a part in mentoring the first female naval aviator to graduate from the CMU NROTC unit.

“She didn’t really know it was even an opportunity for her. She was a math major and she didn’t know she could even fly,” Leonardi said. “The day that she passed her exam that allowed her to become an aviator, and the day she received word from our headquarters, I don’t think I have seen that much pure joy on someone’s face since I was a kid.”

Leonardi added, “Part of your job is teaching, but where you really get the reward is seeing them reach their goals and knowing you had a little piece in that.”

Leonardi tells his midshipmen that his goal for them is that, at some point in their career, they think back on something they learned in NROTC at CMU that can use to make the lives of the individuals in their fleet better or help someone come home safely.

“Then we’ve done something,” Leonardi said.

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**Biegler To Head Chemical Engineering**

**Chris Swaney**

Carnegie Mellon has named University Professor Lorenz (Larry) T. Biegler, the Bayer Professor of Chemical Engineering, as the new head of its Chemical Engineering Department, effective Nov. 1. He succeeds Andrew J. Gellman, who has been department head since 2003.

“This is a wonderful honor for me and I pledge to work diligently with all my esteemed colleagues to continue the leading edge research so endemic to our outstanding Chemical Engineering Department,” Biegler said. “CMU is a unique place where we continue to solve some of the world’s most pressing challenges, including the ongoing debate about energy independence for the U.S.”

Biegler is internationally renowned for his research in computer-aided process engineering and his projects in design research and systems analysis. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

“I am very pleased that Larry Biegler will join the college leadership team as the new head of the Chemical Engineering Department,” said James H. Garrett Jr., dean of the College of Engineering and the Thomas Lord Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at CMU.
‘Enrich the Lives of Others’

Commencement Messages Share Values, Priorities

Piper Staff

The will to love can help people overcome obstacles in life.

That was the message of alumnus Aron Ralston (E’97), who saved his own life while trapped in a Utah canyon, to the more than 4,200 graduates at Carnegie Mellon’s 116th Commencement.

Ralston and CMU President Jared L. Cohon, who is stepping down on June 30, delivered keynote addresses.

This year marked the 10-year anniversary of Ralston’s rescue after six days alone in the Utah desert with his arm trapped under a boulder.

“Many of our faculty and staff, who knew Aron during his time as a student leader here, know he is a young man whose intellect, character, curiosity, humor and determination embody the very best of this university,” Cohon said of Ralston, whose book, “Between a Rock and a Hard Place,” was made into the Oscar-nominated Hollywood movie “127 Hours.”

“Referring to the courage it took to amputate his own arm, Ralston said, “If you doubt for one second that you would do it for yourself, ask: what wouldn’t you do to get back home to your closest loved ones.”

Sharing memories of his rescue, Ralston pointed out that the will to love triumphs the will to live. “Because the will to love says we’re not just here on this earth to enrich our own lives; we’re here to enrich the lives of others. So get out there and save the world.”

During his 16-year tenure, Cohon guided the university to unprecedented success and growth as a global university.

In addressing the class of 2013, Cohon remarked on the past. “I figured back in 1997 that I had 16 years to get ready for all of you graduating today: the Harry Potter, South Park, tech-savvy, Star Wars, Men in Black generation. People who are genuine, committed, open, smart and caring,” Cohon said. “So, I got busy.”

While noting that CMU has changed, Cohon pointed out that “what is more important is what hasn’t changed in these 16 years. That is, our core values as a university: problem-solving, hard work, innovation and collaboration. These are well known to you. These values have infused your experiences here, and they will be guideposts and important touchstones for you throughout your lives.”

Six received honorary degrees during the ceremony in recognition of being exemplary leaders whose life and work serve as an inspiration for CMU students, faculty and staff. The diversity of this year’s candidates represented the intersection of business, technology and the arts, a university hallmark, and they included:

CONTINUED ON PAGE SEVEN
University of Chicago. It wasn’t until her son and daughters were grown that she started taking classes. “I loved the contact with people and classes that were creative, such as ‘Political Drama in Spain’ and ‘Acting for Nonmajors’ as well as art classes such as ‘Picasso’ and the ‘Ballets Russes.’ It was a fresh breath to do something so different and self-fulfilling in my life,” she said. “Of course I’ve taken all the requirements. I’ve been very happy with all the courses I’ve taken at CMU. It’s been challenging, but very fun.”

Susan Polansky, head of Modern Languages, said that Lundeen has been a joy to know and brought energy into group work. “In my classes she did excellent work. I would say she was an extremely enthusiastic and engaged participant and really conscious of community. She really bonded with the other students in the class and was a great team member,” Polansky said. “She has a very positive, can-do attitude, and she has a confidence in what she is doing.”

Polansky also has directed two independent study courses for Lundeen on Spanish writers of the 19th and 20th century. She said Lundeen has a special relationship with the Modern Language faculty, who see her wearing different hats as a staff member and a student. “She has become one of us in our department,” Polansky said.

Lundeen credits teachers such as Polansky, Kenya Dworkin and Therese Tardio for helping her along the way. “They were wonderful and always encouraged me to continue my studies,” she said. “The teachers in Modern Languages have been wonderful. They’re like my family.”

Lundeen said she also is grateful for the times her husband, Lester, took charge of cooking, doing laundry and driving her to night classes so that she could devote herself to studying during the past 10 years.
Six recent Carnegie Mellon graduates have received grants to research, study and teach across three continents through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

In addition, a rising sophomore has been selected to participate in the U.S.-U.K. Fulbright Commission’s Queens University Belfast Summer Institute.

“We are so proud of our finalists and awardees and the Herculean effort each student invested in cultivating a compelling proposal. The Fulbright application process requires tenacity, confidence, drive and a person who is both internally and externally organized,” said Helen Wang (DC’99), 2012-2013 Fulbright adviser for CMU’s Fellowships and Scholarships Office and associate director of Student Life for First-Year Houses.

The U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs sponsors the U.S. Student Fulbright Program to “increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.”

This year marks the highest number of Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships from CMU in a single year.

“It’s pretty extraordinary that we have three ETAs, particularly given that our university doesn’t have a school of education. Our students are competing against peers who are majoring in teaching,” Wang said.

Carnegie Mellon has been home to 42 Fulbright student scholars since 1994. The following are profiles of this year’s recipients:

**Christian Aponte (DC’13)**

**Fulbright Grant:** English Teaching Assistantship in Brazil

**Aponte on his award:** “While teaching English to Brazilians preparing to host the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Summer Olympics, I plan to connect with ‘Coleção Bicicleta Brasil’ to promote health and nutrition, mentoring and sustainable city access through urban cycling. I also will conduct an ethnographic research project on affirmative action and the construction of racial identity among young adults.

“I was inspired to apply for the Fulbright program because of my 2011 study abroad experience in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and my time teaching ESL [English as a Second Language] with the Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council.”

**Major:** Global studies, concentrations in education and Latin America

**Hometown:** Kingston, Pa.

**Sarah Ceuvorst (BXA’13)**

**Fulbright Grant:** English Teaching Assistantship in the Maha Sarakham Province of Thailand

**Ceuvorst on her award:** “I will be teaching English using art-making as a central aspect to my pedagogy, and I hope to create community arts programs outside of the classroom.

“I fell in love with Thailand when I studied there earlier this year and am thrilled to get to return to the ‘Land of Smiles’ with all of the opportunities that the Fulbright program provides.”

**Major:** Bachelor of Humanities and Arts, concentrations in art and psychology

**Hometown:** Westford, Pa.

**Missy Dunaway (BXA’10)**

**Fulbright Grant:** Study/research in Istanbul and Konya, Turkey

**Dunaway on her award:** “For the past year, I have been studying textile design with a focus on rare carpets from the Seljuk Empire, which ruled Anatolia from the 11th to 14th centuries. When the empire fell to the Ottomans, all but 18 of these carpets were destroyed.

“I intend to study these rugs in person, as well as design principles exhibited in Seljuk architecture, art and artifacts, to make paintings of what the lost Seljuk carpets may have looked like.”

**Major:** Bachelor of Humanities and Arts, concentrations in painting, material and visual culture

**Hometown:** Annapolis, Md.

**Kimberly Josephson (DC’13)**

**Fulbright Grant:** English Teaching Assistantship in Argentina

**Josephson on her award:** “I first traveled to Argentina with the help of CMU’s Jennings Family Brave Companions Fund in the summer of 2011, and I’m excited to return to the country to strengthen my experience with global education.

“I’ve worked closely with a refugee family in Pittsburgh for the past four years; taught English in Seville, Spain, last spring; and led a spring break trip to the Dominican Republic where we ran an English-language day camp for children.

“This summer I’ll be an intern at a nonprofit in Washington, D.C., researching education programs and policy in low- and middle-income countries.”

**Major:** International relations and politics, Hispanic studies

**Hometown:** Columbia, Md.

**Carolyn Supinka (BXA’13)**

**Fulbright Grant:** Study/research in Pondicherry, India

**Supinka on her award:** “I will be conducting a poetry and art project titled ‘Dreaming of Worship,’ taken from a stanza from Allen Ginsberg’s ‘India Journals.’

“I’ll be interviewing spiritual tourists at Sri Aurobindo’s Ashram and the residents of Auroville, a ‘universal city’ in the area to create a book exploring the nature of a modern day ‘spiritual journey’ and how this journey affects both parties.”

**Major:** Bachelor of Humanities and Arts, concentrations in creative writing and fine art

**Hometown:** Indianapolis, Pa.

**Zhang on her award:** “I’m working out of Peking University, and I’m interested in looking at the evolution of atmospheric peroxides and their effect on Beijing residents, as well as learning about air pollution policy in China.”

**Major:** Chemical engineering

**Hometown:** Columbia, Md.

**Kaytie Nielsen (BHA’13)**

**Fulbright Award:** Queens University Belfast Summer Institute in Northern Ireland

**Nielsen on her award:** “Rachel Oppenheimer, a graduate student and one of my favorite teachers, taught an Irish History class last semester and inspired me to learn more about Northern Ireland and its conflicts.

“I will be participating in a four-week program focused on understanding the differing perspectives in Northern Ireland.”

**Major:** Bachelor of Humanities and Arts, concentrations in creative writing and directing

**Hometown:** Flower Mound, Texas
A Taste for Innovation

Notion Restaurant, CIT Create Class

Chris Swaney

Students who took “Culinary Mechanics” this spring may not look at a sandwich the same way again.

Culinary Mechanics, a nine-credit course taught by Mechanical Engineering Professor Phil LeDuc, is a new way of thinking about food by analyzing its mechanics. For example, the toughness, texture and consistency of foods can be altered through controlled mechanics such as cutting, chopping and mixing. Furthermore, novel mechanics-based approaches can be integrated to create new food products.

The final project involved a presentation of foods developed by the students with the help of top chef and owner Dave Racicot of the East Liberty-based Notion Restaurant.

Racicot helped student teams develop new textures, flavors and luster for foods that included an on-the-go pancake with syrup using the mechanical properties of spherification to encapsulate syrup with pancake bites; a cheesecake with nuts used to replace the cream cheese; and a three-course, egg-like meal that included an appetizer, meal and dessert that looked like eggs.

“This class is a great way for students to learn about the mechanics of preparing modern American food,” Racicot said.

This isn’t the first time LeDuc has delved into the culinary world. LeDuc won a competitive Grand Challenge Exploration Award in 2011 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to explore nutrition for healthy growth of infants and children in third world countries. He and CMU biomedical engineering Ph.D. candidate Mary Beth Wilson are adjusting cell mechanics of certain leafy vegetables in Africa to make the vegetation more palatable for malnourished infants and children.

Apt App

Students at CMU-Australia Equip State Agency To Gather Water Data in the Bush

Kelly Solman

Seven Carnegie Mellon-Australia students recently developed Water2Mobile, a mobile/tablet app to aid the South Australian Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR).

The new app allows DEWNR staff to record and carry detailed information on the quality of groundwater monitoring samples in remote areas. This information can then be accurately passed on to users such as agricultural and mining industry personnel.

“Aiming to produce a more general tool for field personnel,” Holmes said. “The app provides data validation to reduce entry errors,” said DEWNR program manager Aaron Osterby, “which is an important step to perform in the field — it could be six months or a year before a monitoring site is visited.”

The capstone team project was part of a collaborative course aimed at delivering practical software applications for government and private enterprise. The students were briefed by the DEWNR, and then researched, designed, tested and delivered the app within 90 days. Allan Holmes, DEWNR chief executive, said the department is responsible for reporting the state of groundwater resources across South Australia.

With so many sectors of the community, including mining and agriculture, relying on accurate groundwater information, it’s crucial we get it right,” Holmes said.

Holmes added the students should be commended not only for the high quality product produced, but also the short time frame in which it was completed.

“This app has real potential for expansion and may also prove a step toward a more general tool for field staff to capture data wherever they are working in the state,” he said.

Fitting Farewell

Morosky Made CMU a Healthier Place

Bruce Gerson

She’s synonymous with fitness, the picture of health, a true Carnegie Mellon icon.

Faculty, staff and students at Carnegie Mellon, as well as many CMU alumni, are much healthier today thanks to the efforts of Coordinator of Fitness Donna Morosky, who recently announced her retirement, effective June 30.

Since 1989, Morosky has worked to create, develop and grow the university’s fitness, recreation and health programs. She built the group exercise program from scratch, initiated various fitness challenges and triathlons, and she has played an instrumental role in raising awareness of and participation in the many fitness and health programs offered at CMU. Today, about 1,000 individuals swipe their ID cards daily to use the fitness and recreation spaces in the University Center and Skibo Gym.

“Donna’s passion for teaching and running the fitness programs has certainly inspired all of us to make this place better and healthier,” said Sara Gauntner, assistant director of Athletics for Instructional Programs and Recreation. “Donna is a very caring and genuine person, she truly cares for her students, faculty and staff at Carnegie Mellon. She has always been the person who would volunteer to do anything extra for our department and this campus. Her energy was contagious — I loved taking her classes. She will certainly be missed.”

Morosky joined CMU 38 years ago in 1975 as the Tartans’ head men’s and women’s swimming coach and produced several All-America performers. She has the distinction of being the first woman to serve as head coach of a men’s NCAA Division III swimming team.

In 1986, she joined the Division of Student Affairs as a health educator before returning to the Department of Athletics in 1989.

Joan Maser, coordinator of Athletics Support Services, has worked with Morosky since the late ’70s.

“Donna and I have worked together for 32 years and we’ve been through lots of changes, both personally and professionally,” Maser recalled. “I will miss Donna’s support and laughter that is for sure — and the university at large will surely miss her energy and dedication.”

While Morosky is retiring from her full-time duties at CMU, she’s not hanging up her spinning bike or yoga mat just yet.

“I plan to continue to teach and to continue to spread wellness and fitness. I want to teach people how to stay fit, not just to be fit. The world is my classroom,” she said.
Launch|CMU

Research, Entrepreneurship Showcase Kicks Off in California

Mark Burd and Byron Spice

The entrepreneurial ecosystem at Carnegie Mellon generates an average of 15-20 new companies each year, introducing new products, services and technology into the marketplace. In celebration of these ongoing achievements and to bring the entrepreneurship and venture capital communities together, the Carnegie Mellon Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship has created Launch|CMU, a new semiannual event that will showcase technology, cutting-edge research and some of the most promising startup companies.

The inaugural event focused on “big data and machine learning” on May 21 at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, Calif. The next event will be held Oct. 31 in Pittsburgh.

“The faculty, students and their research at Carnegie Mellon are ideally suited for addressing extremely complex and emerging issues like big data and machine learning,” said Lenore Blum, co-director of the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and distinguished career professor of computer science.

Faculty presenters at the inaugural event were: I. Zico Kolter, assistant professor of computer science and software research, who spoke about computational methods for sustainable energy; Noah Smith, the Finnmeccanica Associate Professor of Language Technologies and Machine Learning, who explored the relationship between text and social context; Ian Lane, research assistant professor at the Silicon Valley campus, who discussed machine learning approaches for accelerating speech analytics; and Adrien Treuille, assistant professor of computer science and robotics, who presented his experiences creating large-scale crowdsourcing projects and discussed the impact and challenges of crowdsourcing on the future of labor.

“We see Launch|CMU as a vehicle that reaches out to the greater entrepreneurial community and brings together academic experts, researchers, community development officials, startup entrepreneurs, and venture capitalists to share the latest information in innovation and technology,” Blum said.

Breakout sessions included interactions with the founders of five big data and machine learning startup companies. They were: Lumator founder Prashant Reddy, a Ph.D. student in the Machine Learning Department; 3 Gear Systems founders Rob Wang (CS’04) and Christopher Twigg (CS’08); Peekabay, Inc. founder Henry Hongwen Kang, who recently received his Ph.D. from the Robotics Institute; Solyv founders Justin Betteridge, a Ph.D. student in the Language Technologies Institute, and Mehdi Samade, a Ph.D. student in computer science; and FlipTop founder Doug Camplength, an electrical engineering and MBA alumnus.

“At CMU, we have a vibrant network of alumni entrepreneurs, thanks to how the university fosters a productive environment for teaching entrepreneurship, conducting bold research and creating commercial ventures,” said Dave Mawhinney, co-director of the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. “In the past 15 years, we’ve had more than 300 new companies come out of our university, transferring knowledge from an academic setting to the marketplace. We thrive on interdisciplinary collaboration and developing strong community ties. The new Launch|CMU program is a logical step for us in connecting our community and expanding our network.”

CMU Kenneywood Picnic Set for July 13

Carnegie Mellon’s Employee Picnic at Kenneywood Park, presented by Staff Council, will be held Saturday, July 13.

Pavilions 8 and 9 will be reserved all day for CMU employees and their families. A prize giveaway for children 10 years of age and younger will be held at 4 p.m. followed by an adult raffle at 4:15 p.m. You must present your CMU ID to claim a prize. Ice cream will be given away to everyone beginning at 4 p.m.

Employees can purchase one ticket for $10 with their CMU ID (valid on the July 13 picnic day only), up to four additional tickets for $15 each and up to five more tickets for $20 each. Sandcastle ($7) and Toddle ($24.99) tickets also will be available.

The following are dates, times and locations for the ticket sales. Tickets must be purchased with cash only.

• June 11, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., University Center (UC)
• June 12, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., UC
• June 13, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., UC
• July 1, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., UC
• July 2, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Mellon Institute
• July 3, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., UC
• July 10, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., UC
• July 11, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., UC
• July 12, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., UC

Czech Republic

Honors Dadok

The Central European Institute of Technology in Brno, Czech Republic, has named its national NMR center after Carnegie Mellon Emeritus Professor of Chemistry Josef Dadok, who is often referred to as the “founder of NMR in Czechoslovakia.”

The Josef Dadok National NMR Centre, one of the most advanced centers of its kind in Central and Eastern Europe, focuses on using nuclear magnetic resonance to study the atomic structure of biologically significant molecules.

Credit Union Loan Rates

The Carnegie Mellon Credit Union is offering the following loan rates:

• New Vehicle, 2.25 percent
• Used Vehicle, 2.99 percent
• Personal loans, 9.99 percent
• Computer loans, 9.50 percent
• Home Equity Loans, as low as 3.50 percent

For more information visit www.cmcu.org.

Libraries Launch Article Processing Charges Fund

The University Libraries have established a fund to help Carnegie Mellon authors pay Article Processing Charges (APC) to publish in open access journals.

Supporting open access to peer-reviewed journal articles is strategic for Carnegie Mellon. Effective immediately, the Libraries will contribute up to $1,500 per article, with a cap of $3,000 per author per fiscal year. Ideally, the corresponding author’s department also will contribute to paying the APC.

Conditions for funding are:

• The faculty member, research scientist or graduate student cannot have grant funding that could be used to pay the APC.
• The journal must provide immediate open access to all peer-reviewed articles and have a publicly available standard article fee schedule; and
• The journal publisher must be a member of the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association or adhere to its Code of Conduct.

Authors must submit a Request for Funding to Pay Article Processing Charges and the invoice for the APC. Requests for funding will be accepted and processed on a first-come, first-served basis until the University Libraries’ annual allocation to the APC fund is depleted.

Miller Gallery Opens Exhibit in L.A.

“IIntimate Science,” the art exhibit that premiered at the Miller Gallery last year, opened at the Williamson Gallery Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, Calif., on May 30.

This is the fourth iteration of the touring exhibition and the Miller Gallery’s first show in Los Angeles. Intimate Science features School of Art Professor Rich Pell (Center for PostNatural History and multiple CMU professors, alumni and students in the exhibitor’s accompanying publication “New Art/Science Affinities,” including Golan Levin, Robin Hewlett, Ben Kirsey, Jonathan Mnard and Michael Pisano.

The exhibit runs in LA through Aug. 18. Read more at www.williamsonartcenter.net/intimatescience.

Athletics Offers Summer Camps for Kids

The Department of Athletics is hosting basketball, fitness, soccer and swimming camps for kids this summer. Dates are:

• Basketball Tariffs Elite Camp: June 15-16
• FTT Camp: June 17-21, 24-27, July 8-12, 15-18
• Boys Soccer: July 25-27 (overnight); July 29-Aug. 2 (day camp); Aug. 5-9 (day camp)
• Girls Soccer: July 7-10, 14-17 (overnight)
• Swimming: June 17-21; 24-28

For more information, go to http://athletics.cmu.edu/athletics/camps-clinics.

Andy Award Nominations Due July 10

Nominations for this year’s Andy Awards, the university-wide staff recognition program, are due July 10. 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 given in six categories: Dedication, Commitment to Students, Innovation, Culture, University Citizenship and Community Contributions.

For more information on the awards program, the nomination process and the nomination form, go to www.cmu.edu/andyawards/nomination/index.html.

Miller Awarded Knuth Prize

Carnegie Mellon Computer Scientist Gary Miller was awarded the 2013 Knuth Prize for algorithmic contributions to theoretical computer science.


It was presented at the Symposium on Theory of Computing in Palo Alto, Calif., June 1-4, where Miller delivered the Knuth Prize Lecture.

Miller’s innovations have had a major impact on cryptography as well as number theory, parallel computing, graph theory, mesh generation for scientific computing and linear system solving.

Miller earned a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. He previously held faculty positions at the University of Waterloo, the University of Rochester, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Southern California.

The Knuth Prize is named in honor of Donald Knuth of Stanford University who has been called the “father” of the analysis of algorithms.

It is given annually by ACM SIGACT and the IEEE Computer Society TOMS and includes a $5,000 award.

News Briefs
Amir Rahnamay-Azar, senior vice president for Administration and Finance at the Georgia Institute of Technology, has been selected as Carnegie Mellon’s new vice president for Finance and chief financial officer. Rahnamay-Azar will join Carnegie Mellon in mid-August.

“Both President-elect Subra Suresh and I are delighted with this appointment,” President Jared L. Cohen wrote in an email to faculty and staff. “Amir is an extraordinarily talented professional who exemplifies the university’s very best qualities of hard work, collaboration and innovative problem-solving. His experiences at Georgia Tech, and previously at the University of Southern California, provide an excellent foundation for the many facets of the vice president and chief financial officer position. His commitment to fostering the success of our faculty, staff and students was evident throughout the selection process.”

In his current role at Georgia Tech since 2010, Rahnamay-Azar managed a wide range of functions, such as the institute’s overall budget, capital planning and space management, institutional research and planning, organizational development, sustainability, real estate development, and financial services, which included treasury services and grants and contract accounting.

At USC from 1999 to 2010, Rahnamay-Azar rose through the ranks from staff associate and associate director of Operations in the Office of Budget and Planning, to associate senior vice president for Operations in the Office of the Senior Vice President for Administration. His tenure at USC provided him experience in leading a major research university in linking strategic directions to budgeting, resource allocation and financial reporting.

Rahnamay-Azar earned his Ed.D in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania, and his MBA and bachelor’s degree in business administration from the California State University, Sacramento.

Associate Vice Provost of Sponsored Programs Named

Rochelle Athey has been named associate vice provost of Sponsored Programs. Athey’s appointment will begin Aug. 1. She will oversee the operations of the Office of Sponsored Programs and the Office of Research Integrity and Compliance.

Athey has served as a research administrator for 24 years, with extensive experience in pre- and post-award research administration, and in research compliance. She has expertise in federal contracting, corporate contracting, business process review and design, negotiation of F&A rate agreements, sponsored programs office management, and policy development.

Compositions by Galbraith Featured on New CDs

Two new CDs are featuring the compositions of the School of Music’s Nancy Galbraith, professor of composition. The album “Five in the Sun” by the Keystone Chamber Players will feature Galbraith’s “Incarntation and Allegro” for oboe, bassoon and piano. The album “Metalmorphosis” by bassoonist Nicolisa Kuster will include her “Sonata for bassoon and piano.”

Discovery Could Lead To Better Memory, Understanding

Students preparing for final exams might want to wait before pulling out all-night cram session — at least as far as their neurons are concerned.

It’s well known that synapses in the brain, the connections between neurons and other cells that allow for the transmission of information, grow when they’re exposed to a stimulus. However, new research from the lab of Associate Professor of Biological Sciences Alison L. Barth has shown that in the short term, synapses get even stronger than previously thought, but then quickly go through a transitional phase where they weaken.

“When you think of learning, you think that its cumulative. We thought that synapses started small and then got bigger and bigger. This isn’t the case,” Barth said. “Based on our data, it seems like synapses that have recently been strengthened are particularly vulnerable — more stimulation can actually wipe out the effects of learning.”

CMU Joins Alliance To Mentor Computer Scientists

Carnegie Mellon has joined Clemson University and five other university partners to launch the Institute for African-American Mentoring in Computing Science, a U.S. resource for increasing African-American participation in computing.

A member of the leadership team is CMU Research Professor of Computer Science David Touretzky, who will direct a robotics competition at the annual meeting of students, educators and computing professionals that promotes diversity in computing. In the competition students will use a robot developed by Touretzky’s lab and RoPro Design, called the Calliope2SP.

The alliance is supported by a $5 million grant from the National Science Foundation.

Hug Honored as Stellar Young Engineer

Gabriela Hug will receive the Outstanding Young Engineer Award from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers’ (IEEE) Power and Energy Society (PES) July 23 in Vancouver, British Columbia, at the IEEE PES annual meeting.

Hug, an assistant professor in electrical and computer engineering and engineering and public policy, has been working on various topics in the field of optimization and control in electric power systems with the overall goal to provide the computational methods required for the integration of large scale renewable generation.

Hug recently received the National Science Foundation’s Early Career Development Award, its most prestigious award for junior faculty.

WRTC-88.3 Wins Radio Competition

Carnegie Mellon’s radio station WRTC-FM (88.3) recently beat out 64 college stations to win the intercollegiate radio competition Soundcheck Madness 2013, which calculated stations listening time over 12 days.

The competition included the University of Chicago’s WHPK, Harvard University’s WHRB, Columbia University’s WCRN and Rice University’s KTRU. CMU defeated Rice in the finals with a collective listening time of 3,387 hours.

“Winning the Soundcheck competition was an indicator of our really strong audience base. We have very loyal fans, and they’re the ones who helped us win the whole thing,” WRTC General Manager Allison Cosby told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

University Store Sale

The University Store is having a special sale in which you can take an additional 50 percent off clothing and gifts already on clearance. The sale runs through Saturday, June 22.

Oakland Farmers Market Moves to Schenley Plaza

Help support local farmers by grabbing lunch and shopping for fresh produce at the Oakland Farmers Market, which opened its season June 7. The market will take place this summer at Schenley Plaza, 4100 Forbes Ave., and will be open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. every Friday.

CMWA To Host Summer Brown Bag Lunches

The Carnegie Mellon Women’s Association (CMWA) will hold a Membership Mixer from noon to 1 p.m. on Friday, July 26 in Darflor Lounge. Members and newcomers are invited to bring a brown bag lunch. Water and cookies will be provided.

RSVP to Alexa Hansen at ahansen@cmu.edu. For more information about the CMWA visit www.cmu.edu/cmwa/.

Siewiorek Named QoLT Center Director

Following a nine-month national search, Daniel P. Siewiorek has been named director of the Quality of Life Technology (QoLT) Center — a National Science Foundation (NSF) Engineering Research Center at Carnegie Mellon and the University of Pittsburgh that is focused on creating intelligent systems that improve quality of life for everyone while enabling older adults and people with disabilities.

Siewiorek, the Buhl Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science at CMU, is a world-leading expert in computer system architecture and design of intelligent human-computer interfaces. He served as the QoLT Center’s acting director since fall 2011.

“I am honored to take up leadership of the Quality of Life Technology Center as I have long been enthusiastic about the personal opportunities QoLT provides to help our older adults retain their dignity and independence,” Siewiorek said. “The challenges of aging and disability are inspiring a whole cadre of interdisciplinary-minded researchers — engineers, scientists, and clinicians — who are highly collaborative, well-integrated, and driven to produce QoLT’s exciting new field of intelligent systems that will ultimately enable better quality of life for all.”

Centor Named Interim Athletics Director

Josh Centor has been named interim director of Athletics and Physical Education, effective July 1. Centor will be assuming the duties of Susan Bassett, who has announced she will be leaving CMU to become director of Athletics at Ithaca College, her alma mater.

Centor joined CMU five years ago as assistant director and was promoted to associate director of Athletics in July 2012.

“He is deeply committed to the vision and mission of the department, while exemplifying our core values and being of profound support throughout to our students, staff and coaches,” Murphy said a search committee for Bassett’s full-time successor will be established and that he hopes the search will be finalized, by March 2014.
Many Thanks

President Jared L. Cohon thanks staff during the annual staff picnic. Staff, in turn, had a chance to thank him for his 16 years of leadership. For a video from the staff picnic and from staff members around the world, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=ksNUz1ub38.

Online: For more information on Cranor and her quilting, visit http://lorrie.cranor.org/blog.

Computer Scientist Lorrie Cranor is creating quilts during a yearlong sabbatical. In front of her is a quilt using CMU’s Tartan plaid that was presented to CMU’s First Lady Maureen Cohon.

Cranor built a tool to draw out her interleaved quilt designs that allows her to play with colors and shapes quickly. “I can very easily run through many different visual designs. When I find the one I like, I can make life-size paper templates that let me cut the fabric and actually make the quilt,” she said. One recent creation, a commission from CMU’s President’s Office, used an algorithm to produce curves based on mathematical expressions that incorporated Carnegie Mellon’s Tartan plaid.

When you first think about the Tartan plaid and sine waves they don’t seem to really go together,” she said. “It was really helpful to have the computer program because I photographed the Tartan and put it into my program. I could experiment with the exact positioning of the plaid in the quilt. One of the things I figured out is that the frequency of the plaid is nine inches, so therefore the frequency of the sine waves better be nine inches or it’s not going to look good.”

The finished project was so nice, that art prints of it were given to the partners of the University Trustees members who participate in Maureen Cohon’s Partners Program.

During her fellowship, she has made 10 quilts, but she’s not done yet. Six of those were on display at the Pittsburgh Children’s museum. The exhibit came about after a chance meeting with the director of the museum. She is looking into having another exhibit and will be offering a talk about the experience in the next year.

Cranor started quilting while she was a graduate student at Washington University in St. Louis. “I was looking for something artistic that I could do where I could see immediate, tangible results when I was getting frustrated with my thesis and feeling like I didn’t have tangible results there,” she said.

Her first big purchase after completing her Ph.D.? A sewing machine.