the PIPER

4/08 – 5/08 Issue

Carnegie Mellon

Curtis Meyer Wins Ryan Teaching Award

■ Amy Pavlak

On the outside, Curtis Meyer may look like your stereotypical physics professor. With more than 80 bowties at home, he certainly fits the mold. But what his students and colleagues have known for years is that behind those bowties is a physics teacher who is anything but typical.

Meyer is skilled, enthusiastic, dedicated and effective. And he is this year's winner of the university-wide William H. and Frances S. Ryan Award for Meritorious Teaching, Carnegie

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Commencement Preview Inside

PHOTO BY KEN ANDREYO

Carnegie Mellon will hold its 111th commencement at 11 a.m., Sunday, May 18 in Gesling Stadium, where about 2,200 undergraduate and graduate degrees will be conferred. For a look at this year's keynote speaker, Al Gore, student speaker Betty Mbom, the honorary degree recipients and a commencement weekend schedule, see the special commencement pullout section inside on pages 5-8.

New Silicon Valley Grad Programs Reflect Changing Economy

■ Chriss Swaney

As California's famed Silicon Valley economy grows stronger, the labor market is beginning to create a broader mix of better-paying jobs.

Carnegie Mellon is now poised to take advantage of this new expansion by offering additional graduate programs in software engineering, software management, security, mobile technology and engineering, and technology innovation and management at its West Coast facility.

And that's good news for Silicon Valley, where industry experts report the Valley's economy is shifting toward smaller, more nimble firms in this era of economic restructuring.

"The competition for talent, innovation and capital has increased, and that is why our Carnegie Mellon campus in Silicon Valley is adding a new mix of programs designed to make our students leaders in the global management and execution of a suite of new technologies," said Pradeep K. Khosla, dean of Carnegie Mellon's College of Engineering.

The convergence of so many new industry clusters from biotech to software engineering and nanotechnology into green technology demands a new kind of skill set.

"This changing economy needs workers with cross-disciplinary skills and the ability to create and manage technology," said Doug Henton, president and chief executive officer of Collaborative Economics, a private California-based consulting firm specializing in economic analysis of Silicon Valley and other tech-based, innovative communities nationwide.

"We are extremely excited to have Carnegie Mellon and its long history of collaborative, interdisciplinary research and educational excellence in the mix of outstanding universities scattered throughout Silicon Valley," said Henton. "Carnegie Mellon's programs in Silicon Valley remain an important step in helping define how consumers are driving the industry."

Carnegie Mellon opened classes in September 2002 at Moffett Field in Mountain View, Calif., with 56 students enrolled in programs built around unique hands-on, project-oriented,

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Robot Hall of Fame to Get a Home in Carnegie Science Center

■ Byron Spice

The Robot Hall of Fame has had not even a wall, much less a hall, since its establishment in 2003, but the hall's mix of real and science fiction robots finally will have a physical home next year.

The Carnegie Science Center, which hosted the April 9 induction of four more robots, announced that it will open "roboworld," a 6,000-square-foot robotics exhibit next year that will include a permanent home for the Robot Hall of Fame.

"Our new robotics exhibit will be the most comprehensive robotics exhibit in the country when it opens next spring," said Joanna Haas, Carnegie Science Center director and a member of the Robot Hall of Fame jury. "It is only fitting that roboworld should also include the one-and-only Robot Hall of Fame."

At this year's ceremony, emceed by Anthony Daniels of "Star Wars" fame and held in conjunction with the RoboBusiness Conference and Exhibition, the hall inducted four new members: the fictional android Lt. Cmdr. Data from "Star Trek: The Next Generation;" the one-legged Hopper that Marc Raibert developed in his Leg Laboratory, first at Carnegie Mellon and then at MIT; the LEGO Mindstorms robot kit; and Carnegie Mellon's NavLab 5, the robotic SUV that steered itself coast-to-coast on public highways during 1995's "No Hands Across America" tour.

PHOTO BY GARY KUEHN

This year's Robot Hall of Fame induction ceremony at the Carnegie Science Center was certainly a star-studded affair. Pictured above with Associate Computer Science Teaching Professor Jacobo Carrasquel (far left) is (l-r) Anthony Daniels and Mark Hamill, who played C-3P0 and Luke Skywalker in the "Star Wars" films, and Zach Quinto, a 1990 Drama School graduate who will play Spock in the upcoming Star Trek movie.

"Every time we induct new robots, people ask us, 'Where can we go to see them?'" said Don Marinelli, executive producer of the Entertainment Technology Center (ETC). "It's frankly a relief that we finally have a good answer to give them and a great place where we can send them."

Situated on the Science Center's second floor, roboworld will include three main galleries, each representing one of the core functions of robots: sensing, thinking and acting. People will have numerous opportunities to build, program and control real robots. Each visit will be personalized through the use of a programmable "passport" that ensures that the content is age-appropriate and as detailed as the individual desires.

In addition to the main galleries, the exhibit will include an area where visitors can help companies and roboticists beta-test their latest innovations. Both the ETC and the Robotics Institute are collaborating with the Science Center to develop the exhibit, as are IBM and

Continued on page four

English Professor's Web Site Tracks Shakespeare Readers

■ Kelli McElhinny

Where art thou, Shakespeare readers?

A Web site developed by Associate Professor of English Michael Witmore strives to answer that question, and so far, it's shown that the Bard's fans span the globe. "Shakespeare's Global Globe" allows any Shakespeare reader with Internet access to record the selection they're reading along with their location.

As word gets out about the site, which has already garnered attention from the Chronicle of Higher Education along with a handful of blogs, Shakespeare could show up in more — and more unexpected — places.

"My greatest hope is that some day I open up the site and find someone who has logged in from above the Arctic Circle," Witmore said. "The idea that someone might be up there reading, say, King Lear in the long dark Arctic night, wondering who else is reading too, that's a situation where having a 'map' of other readers might be quite reassuring."

Witmore's idea for creating Shakespeare's Global Globe was partially rooted in his academic perspective. He wanted to explore a way to document cultural events that cannot be made into permanent exhibits or displays and to record people's current reading habits for future study. Witmore also is interested in a specialty known as the history of reading, and he notes that maps are rarely used as tools by scholars in that field. He believes that they could be quite useful.

A more personal curiosity played a part in developing the site as well.

"Reading a play — as opposed to performing one or seeing a performance — is essentially a private experience, but many people do it, especially with Shakespeare," Witmore said. "It struck me that since you can put plays in your luggage or your pocket, they can be taken virtually anywhere. So, there might be people reading plays by Shakespeare in locations that I could never imagine."

Last fall, Witmore mentioned his brainstorm to his colleague, Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Communication Design Suguru Ishizaki, who suggested that a group of senior information systems majors might be willing to build the site as part of a project course. He was right. Lauren Balderston, Jason Choi, Audra-Breanne Dove and Ji Yeon Yoon rose to the challenge and soon became just as enthusiastic about the idea of finding Shakespeare readers as Witmore was.

Officially launched in February, the site shows a reader's location and play for two weeks after he or she initially submits that information. It can be searched by region or by play and can be viewed in six languages — English, Chinese, French, German, Japanese and Korean — so that people who don't speak English but are reading translations in their native language can still use the site as well. Its URL, www.orbismundi.org, means "circle of the world" in Latin, the international language of the Renaissance.

The site can be used in a variety of ways, as a screensaver or to track reading habits in a particular region during a particular timeframe, for example. However, one way that the site can't be used (at least not yet) is for communications between readers.

"We deliberately kept it simple, so the only thing the site does is take a location from you and the name of a play. That's it," Witmore said. "I did get some feedback from users, however, asking how readers could get in touch with one another. In fact, I have always wanted to know who's reading the play near Lake Balaton in Hungary."

Witmore's solution for addressing that issue was to create a Facebook page for the site (http://www.facebook.com/pages/Shakespeares-Global-Globe/24354812720), where people can communicate with each other or just leave messages on a bulletin board.

Kanaskie Mentors Students on the Business of Hollywood

Unique Program Combines Business, Entertainment Industries

■ Eric Sloss

Mindy Kanaskie is one of those small-town girls who made it big in Hollywood. Kanaskie is the program director for Carnegie Mellon's Master of Entertainment Industry Management (MEIM) program in Los Angeles. As the story goes, she got there by way of hard work — and a little bit of luck as well.

Kanaskie started her journey at Carnegie Mellon's School of Drama as a self-described "provincial 20-year-old from Pittsburgh," hired to work in an administrative position. To her, the Drama Department — as it was called at that time — was a worldly and sophisticated place. There, she worked with people from around the world, coordinating various fundraising activities with alumni, faculty and students.

It turns out that her clutch work on a fundraising event produced by acclaimed writer, producer and Carnegie Mellon alumnus John Wells would give her the big break she needed. When things started going haywire at the last minute at an event held at the Mellon Arena in Pittsburgh, Wells' team, which included Kanaskie, did what they could to make the event successful — and indeed it was.

A few years later, in 1988, Kanaskie received a call from an alumna who was working in Los Angeles. The alumna, who was working with Wells, said Wells needed an assistant. "I said no. I'm engaged. I'm a Pittsburgh girl. No thank you," Kanaskie recalls.

But, the alumna kept calling, prompting Kanaskie to ask for an official letter for proof. "I really didn't think it was real. How could a young girl with little experience really get this opportunity?" Kanaskie says.

But, it was true. Wells had been impressed with Kanaskie's work at that alumni event. He wrote to offer her the opportunity to work with him on the television show "China Beach."

Reluctantly, Kanaskie accepted Wells' offer. The School of Drama threw her a party, bought her a plane ticket and sent Kanaskie on her way to Hollywood. Thanks to a strong alumni network and hard work, this Pittsburgh girl quickly established herself in the entertainment industry as a producer.

Even when working in the industry, Kanaskie found ways to reach out to Carnegie Mellon alumni who made their way to LA. Carnegie Mellon acknowledged her support of other students by giving her an honorary degree in 2005. And last year she was appointed director of the MEIM program.

Kanaskie is a quick talker — she has a lot to say and gets straight to the point. She delivers in such a way that people listening are convinced that what she has to say is true.

"Mindy is a mature, confident individual who is not rattled easily," said Dan Martin, director of the Institute for the Management of Creative Enterprises (IMCE) at Carnegie Mellon and the one who appointed Kanaskie to her current position.

PHOTO BY ERIC SLOSS

Mindy Kanaskie (far left), director of the Master of Entertainment Industry Management program in L.A., discusses the program over lunch at the Aroma Café in Studio City, Calif., with (l-r) MEIM faculty member Dan Green, former president of Carnegie Mellon's Alumni Association, and students Roxanne Benjamin and Brie Gallagher.

"She is not afraid to admit that she doesn't have all of the answers, and she shows no timidity in pursuing new opportunities for the students. She's always eager to jump into the fray," he said.

The MEIM program is one of a kind. A unit within the IMCE, it is a collaborative academic initiative of the College of Fine Arts and the Heinz School that combines an essential management background with a year immersed in the entertainment industry in Los Angeles. The MEIM program has been up and running since 2004. With enrollment more than doubling next year, students around the country are starting to recognize the importance of this combination of skills and the value of relocating to Los Angeles.

Students spend the first year of the program in Pittsburgh taking core management classes, including financial analysis, statistics, economics and professional speaking. The next year they head to L.A. to participate in an internship Monday through Thursday and take classes Friday and Saturday. The classes the students take in Los Angeles complement their internships. Classes include television and film business, legal affairs and business development, film production and finance, and creative producing and intellectual property rights. They also work on a thesis or capstone project.

The MEIM headquarters is located less than two miles from Universal City on the palm tree-lined street of Lankershim Boulevard, conveniently just 20 minutes from Hollywood and 30 minutes from the beach.

As MEIM program director, Kanaskie is really doing what she has always done — helping students.

"I was raised that giving back is what you do. Now, I get to help the students directly. I never thought for one moment that this was something the university was asking me to do. I love it. I love helping the students," she said.

Not bad for a small-town girl from Pittsburgh.

Ondeck Wins Prestigious Churchill Scholarship

■ Chriss Swaney

Courtney Ondeck will be packing her bags, giving her dog a pat on the head and blowing farewell kisses to her family. She is one of 13 students nationwide to receive the prestigious Churchill Scholarship for graduate work at Cambridge University in England for the 2008-2009 academic year.

"I'm really excited about this new opportunity to learn and work with top international researchers. It's going to be a big thrill just to be attending the same institution where the famed Sir Isaac Newton once studied," said Ondeck, a double major in biomedical engineering and materials science and engineering.

The 21-year-old senior from McMurray, Pa., who has also studied concert piano, is the first Churchill Scholar at Carnegie Mellon since 1992. She plans to pursue a graduate degree and her research interests in the biomedical applications of nanoparticles in the Department of Chemistry at Cambridge. Medical school is also in her sights.

Since 1963, The Winston Churchill Foundation of the United States has sent more than 400 Churchill Scholars to the University of Cambridge. The one-year, $50,000 scholarship pays for Ondeck's tuition and fees, living expenses and round trip airfare to Churchill College, one of the 31 colleges specializing in engineering and science studies at the historic University of Cambridge, founded in 1209.

"Competition was especially intense this year with the number of applications up 62 percent, and with applicants including some of the strongest scholars in the country," said Peter C. Patrikis, executive director of the New York-based Winston Churchill Foundation. "Courtney joins an astonishing elite group of young men and women whose academic talents and achievements are matched by their personal qualities and contributions to their communities."

PHOTO BY KEN ANDREYO

Courtney Ondeck

Continued on page four

McWilliams Cosmology Center To Shed Light on the Dark Side

■ Jocelyn Duffy

The dark part of the universe has mystified scientists for years. But, now answers may soon be in sight as the stars are aligning at Carnegie Mellon, thanks to the generosity of Bruce and Astrid McWilliams.

The McWilliams have donated more than $5 million to the university, including funding toward a new Cosmology Center bearing their name in the Mellon College of Science. Researchers at the center will strive to unravel the mysteries of the universe through multidisciplinary efforts in astrophysics, particle physics, computer science and statistics.

"Ingrained into the basic DNA of Carnegie Mellon is its ability to work across the boundaries of its departments and schools to form cohesive teams toward a common goal. For this reason the Cosmology Center will thrive at Carnegie Mellon because like few other universities, the interdisciplinary research that will be needed to understand the Cosmos can work better here than at any other institution I know of," said Bruce McWilliams.

A member of Carnegie Mellon's Board of Trustees, Bruce McWilliams earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in physics at Carnegie Mellon. He is chairman and CEO of Tessera Technologies, the world's leading provider of miniaturization technologies for the electronics industry. He and his wife, Astrid, are dedicated supporters of science education in public schools and at Carnegie Mellon.

Astrid and Bruce McWilliams

"Although he has spent much of his career founding and running successful businesses in the Silicon Valley, Bruce McWilliams has maintained a very active interest in astrophysics and cosmology, and in fundamental questions about the origins of the universe," said President Jared L. Cohon. "By endowing this Center for Cosmology, Bruce and Astrid McWilliams have created a remarkable resource for our faculty, for graduate students and for undergraduates, for now and for far into the future."

The Bruce and Astrid McWilliams Center of Cosmology (www.cmu.edu/cosmology) will support research that endeavors to advance our understanding of the dark part of the universe. Visible matter — from the smallest star to the largest galaxy — is a small fraction of the matter in the universe. Dark matter plays a key role in the formation of galaxies and the clustering of galaxies in the universe, while an even more mysterious dark energy is responsible for accelerating expansion of the universe. Together, elusive dark matter and dark energy make up 95 percent of the mass-energy budget of the universe.

"With our combined expertise in physics, computer science and statistics, we at Carnegie Mellon are uniquely poised to tackle some of the toughest questions of cosmology," said Mellon College of Science Dean and Buhl Professor of Theoretical Physics Fred Gilman. "The McWilliams have enabled us to capitalize on Carnegie Mellon's strengths and, through their generosity, given us the opportunity to become a world-class center of cosmology."

The center will be housed in Carnegie Mellon's Wean Hall, where renovations will be made on existing space to provide a sense of unity among researchers and to enhance intellectual interactions.

In addition to supporting the activities and infrastructure of the center, the McWilliams' gift will fund postdoctoral fellowships in cosmology and graduate fellowships for Mellon College of Science students pursuing research in cosmology and other emerging fields.

Ondeck Wins Churchill Scholarship

Continued from page three

Universities could nominate two candidates each for the prestigious award. At Carnegie Mellon, the selection process was handled by the university's Fellowships and Scholarships Office.

"This prestigious award is a reflection of the quality students our top-ranked engineering program attracts, and the leading-edge, global research our students are exposed to," said Pradeep K. Khosla, dean of Carnegie Mellon's College of Engineering. "We congratulate Courtney for being named a Churchill Scholar as she prepares to begin using all the important problem-solving skills she honed so successfully during her past four years at Carnegie Mellon."

Materials Science and Engineering Professor Michael McHenry praised Ondeck for her dedication to academics and research.

"She has received more A grades from me than any other undergraduate student that I have instructed in the past 18 years at Carnegie Mellon. These grades reflect a particular persistence and patience in learning," McHenry said.

Ondeck admits that her persistence in learning began as a child. She recalls spending hours playing doctor and using her stuffed toys as patients.

In addition to being named a Churchill Scholar, Ondeck is an Andrew Carnegie Society Scholar, and a member of the Lambda Sigma Honor Society, the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, the Mortar Board Honor Society and the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society. She has worked as a volunteer at the Hillman Cancer Institute and was a clinical volunteer for a month in Vietnam.

This year's Churchill Scholars represent 11 institutions. In addition to Carnegie Mellon, the other schools receiving the honor are Harvard University, California Institute of Technology, the Johns Hopkins University, Haverford College, Michigan State University, Princeton University, the University of Chicago, the University of Colorado at Boulder, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of Rochester.

Hall of Fame Gets Home

Continued from page two

robot-builder Aethon Inc.

"Building machines that do what science fiction robots such as R2D2 or Data can do is just incredibly hard," said Matthew Mason, director of the Robotics Institute. "Once people see roboworld, they will appreciate just how hard it is. More importantly, however, we hope they will come away sharing the excitement roboticists feel for what already can be accomplished and for what soon will be possible."

The Science Center estimates roboworld will attract more than 500,000 visitors each year. An exhibit produced by the Science Center in 1996, called "Robotics," has traveled to 23 cities and delighted 3.5 million people thus far.

The Robot Hall of Fame was established in 2003 by James H. Morris, then the dean of the School of Computer Science and now dean of Carnegie Mellon West in Silicon Valley.

Campaigning on Campus

Photo by Ken Andreyo

Michelle Obama

Photo by Glenn Brookes

Chelsea Clinton

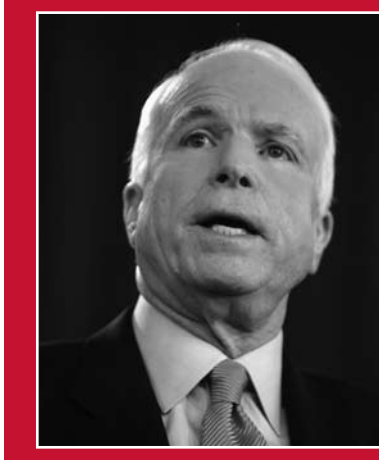

Photo by Annie O'Neill

Senator John McCain

Carnegie Mellon seemed a bit like campaign headquarters last month as Michelle Obama, Chelsea Clinton and Senator John McCain stumped on campus. Michelle Obama, the first to arrive, held a rally in Skibo Gym. Next up was Chelsea Clinton, who spoke to students on the Spring Carnival Midway. McCain delivered a speech on the economy in the University Center's Wiegand Gym. Prior to the Pennsylvania primary, Carnegie Mellon extended invitations to speak on campus to all the presidential candidates on the ballot — Senator Hillary Clinton, Senator Barack Obama, Senator John McCain and Congressman Ron Paul. The university does not support or oppose any particular candidate.

COMMENCEMENT

Commencement Goes "Green" With Keynote Speaker Al Gore

■ Teresa Thomas

Graduates may be feeling a little "green" at this year's commencement, but it won't have anything to do with a nervous stomach. Instead the feeling will come from this year's keynote speaker, Al Gore, one of the world's leading environmentalists.

Gore, the former U.S. Vice President and 2007 Nobel Peace Prize winner, will give his address during the 11 a.m. commencement ceremony, Sunday, May 18 in Gesling Stadium. He will also receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters as one of six honorary degree recipients.

"We are very pleased that Al Gore, the nation's leading advocate for the environment, will speak to our graduates at commencement," said Carnegie Mellon President Jared L. Cohon. "He is an inspiring and committed leader, whose beliefs fit well with our university, an institution committed to sustainable, green practices. His impassioned campaigns have led him to some of the world's greatest honors. We are greatly honored to have him at Carnegie Mellon."

"He is an inspiring and committed leader, whose beliefs fit well with our university, an institution committed to sustainable, green practices." — Jared L. Cohon

Gore is the author of the bestsellers "Earth in the Balance" and "An Inconvenient Truth," which was the subject of an Oscar-winning documentary that detailed the devastating effects of global warming. He is the co-winner, with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for "informing the world of the dangers posed by climate change." Carnegie Mellon Engineering and Public Policy Professor Ed Rubin was a member of that panel.

"Carnegie Mellon graduates are equipped with strong, interdisciplinary problem-solving skills that will allow them to be the entrepreneurs and innovators who, with hard work and creativity, meet the serious needs facing our world. I'm pleased to accept an honorary degree from such a prestigious and 'green' university along with so many leaders from diverse fields," Gore said.

Gore was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1976, 1978, 1980 and 1982 and the U.S. Senate in 1984 and 1990. He was inaugurated as the 45th vice president of the United States on January 20, 1993, and served eight years. He was s a central member of President Clinton's economic team and served as president of the Senate, a Cabinet member, a member of the National Security Council, and as a leader of a wide range of administration initiatives.

Gore is chairman of Current TV, an Emmy award winning, independently

Continued on page six

PHOTO COURTESY OF AL GORE

Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change were winners of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for "informing the world of the dangers posed by climate change."

First Class Graduates in Qatar

Monday, May 5, 2008, will go down as a date of distinction for Carnegie Mellon as the first class to enroll at the Qatar campus received their degrees. Thirty-five business administration and computer science students from Qatar, Egypt, Syria, Canada, Jordan, India, Lebanon, the U.K. and the U.S. received their diplomas, tossed their mortarboards and made the transition from students to alumni.

The graduation ceremony took place in tents on the grounds of Education City. Speakers included President Jared Cohon, Carnegie Mellon Life Trustee Ray Lane, Provost and Senior Vice President Mark Kamlet, Dean Chuck Thorpe and student speaker Nora Al Subai, who earned her bachelor's degree in computer science.

Work on Carnegie Mellon's new building in Qatar continues with an expected opening next fall. Here workers place Andrew Carnegie's words, "My heart is in the work," on the building. The words are carved in stone.

Student Speaker Urges Classmates To Lift As They Climb

PHOTO BY KEN ANDREYO

BERTRADE "BETTY" MBOM

Abby Houck

Mentorship has been a way of life for this year's student commencement speaker, biological sciences major Bertrade "Betty" Mbom.

In her speech, "Lift as We Climb," Mbom will reflect on her own life at Carnegie Mellon. She'll speak about the changes students experience. She'll talk about how the interdisciplinary culture and commitment to learning at Carnegie Mellon leaves graduates uniquely prepared for their careers. She'll note the impact faculty and staff have on students, and she'll remind her classmates of the impact students can have, too.

A native of the Bronx, N.Y., Mbom leaves behind a mentoring legacy at Carnegie Mellon. In addition to her studies and research in Professor John Woolford's yeast genetics lab, Mbom has been a mentor to students from local school districts through the Physics Concepts Outreach Program and a volunteer judge at science fairs through the Biological Sciences Student Advisory Council. She was a resident assistant for Carnegie Mellon's Summer Academy for Math and Science and vice president of public relations for Alternative Break.

In 2007, with support from the Mellon College of Science's Dean's Office and the Carnegie Mellon Advising Resource Center (CMARC), Mbom founded COMPASS, short for COaching Minority Progress and Academic Success in Science, a support program for first-year minority students.

"We receive a distinct preparation at Carnegie Mellon, and our talents should also be used to help others," Mbom said. "I am very passionate about this because of the impact that various mentors have had on me, simply because they cared."

She says many individuals from the university have inspired and supported her, especially Vice President for Research Rick McCullough, Amy Burkert, Eric Grotzinger, Beth Jones and John Woolford of the Biological Sciences Department, and the CMARC advisers.

After graduation, Mbom will head west to Stanford University, where she plans to pursue a Ph.D. in molecular and cell biology on a prestigious Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Gilliam Fellowship for Advanced Study. She was one of five recipients nationwide to earn the fellowship, which provides her with up to five years of full funding for graduate study towards a doctorate in the sciences.

At Stanford, Mbom will continue to study a group of compounds called Eg-5 inhibitors, which she first researched during a HHMI Exceptional Research Opportunities program at Stanford with Professor Tim Stearns. Eg-5 inhibitors disrupt cell division, and Mbom hopes to see if there is potential for the inhibitors to be used as a cancer therapy.

After completing her studies at Stanford, Mbom says she wants to become a university professor, continue to pursue her research interests and inspire students to enter the field of science.

The student commencement speaker selection process is coordinated by the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs.

Al Gore To Give Keynote Address at Commencement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE

owned cable and satellite television network for young people based on viewer-created content and citizen journalism. He also serves as chairman of Generation Investment Management, a firm that is focused on a new approach to sustainable investing. He is a member of the board of directors of Apple and a senior adviser to Google. He is a visiting professor at Middle Tennessee State University and chairs the Alliance for Climate Protection, a non-profit organization designed to help solve the climate crisis.

Approximately 2,200 undergraduate and graduate degrees will be conferred during this year's commencement. The ceremony will be broadcast live at http://www.cmu.edu/commencement.

Gore will share the commencement platform with five other honorary degree recipients. They are:

Norman R. Augustine, Doctor of Public Policy

Now retired, Augustine was president and CEO of Martin-Marietta and Lockheed Martin. He was the chair of the National Academies Committee that produced the influential report, "Rising Above the Gathering Storm," which spoke about ensuring American competitiveness through science, engineering and education. Augustine is a recipient of the National Medal of Technology, the Joint Chiefs of Staff Distinguished Public Service Award and the Department of Defense's Distinguished Service Medal. Among his many professional positions, Augustine was chairman and principal officer of the American Red Cross for nine years and chairman of the National Academy of Engineering. He is a former president of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and the Boy Scouts of America.

NORMAN AUGUSTINE

Jeff Bezos, Doctor of Science and Technology

In 1994, Bezos created a business model that leveraged the Internet's unique ability to deliver huge amounts of informa-

JEFF BEZOS

tion rapidly and efficiently, and founded Amazon.com Inc. Today, it is the leading online retailer. Before heading west to start Amazon.com, Bezos worked at the intersection of computer science and finance, helping to build one of the most technically sophisticated quantitative hedge funds on Wall Street for D.E. Shaw & Co. He also led the development of computer systems that helped manage more than $250 billion in assets for Bankers Trust Company. In addition to receiving an honorary degree, Bezos will be the speaker for diploma ceremonies at the Tepper School of Business on Saturday and the School of Computer Science on Sunday.

Elizabeth Catlett

Elizabeth Catlett, Doctor of Fine Arts

A famed artist and sculptor, Catlett's distinguished career in art and academia spans seven decades. Her body of work expresses her dedication to social justice, especially the rights of minorities and women. Catlett earned her undergraduate degree from Howard University and her master's from the University of Iowa, where she studied with the iconic American artist Grant Wood, who encouraged her interest in the medium of sculpture. Known for her abstract sculpture in bronze and marble as well as prints and paintings, Catlett is unique for distilling African American, Native American and Mexican art in her work. Her works have been exhibited around the world and are found in the most distinguished art museums in the nation.

Suh Nam Pyo, Doctor of Science and Technology

Since becoming president of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) in 2006, Suh has continued the transformation of KAIST into a world-class institution. His distinguished academic career has included posts at the University of South Carolina and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as well as an assistant directorship for the National Science Foundation.

Suh Nam Pyo

Patrick Colonel Suppes, Doctor of Science and Technology

Suppes is the Lucie Stern Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus, at Stanford University, where he was director of the Institute for Mathematical Studies in the Social Sciences. He has made significant contributions to many fields of science, and has explored such diverse areas as the foundations of physics, the theories of measurement, decision theory, the foundations of probability and causality, the foundations of psychology, the philosophy of language, education and computers, and philosophy and science. He was president of the National Academy of Education and he is a member of a number of international and national professional societies. Suppes is a recipient of numerous awards for his contributions in education and science.

Patrick Colonel Suppes

Schedule of Events

Commencement weekend at Carnegie Mellon involves much more than the ceremony itself. Below is a list of events, ranging from department breakfasts to the "Zero-Year Reunion," that will keep campus humming May 17–18.

Saturday, May 17

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Phi Beta Kappa Welcome Breakfast
Connan Room, UC

8 a.m. - 3 p.m., 6 - 8:30 p.m.
Commencement Welcome Area open
Kirr Commons, UC

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society Initiation Ceremony
McConomy Auditorium, UC
Caps and gowns are required.

9:30 a.m.
ROTC Commissioning Ceremony
Naval Science (Navy)
Banquet Hall, Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall (off campus)

10 - 11 a.m.
Honors Ceremonies
Various locations across campus.
Seniors receiving university and college honors will be recognized and presented with honors medallions and cords, which should be worn during commencement on Sunday. Caps and gowns are not required.

2 - 8:30 p.m.
Diploma Ceremonies and Department Events
Specific times and locations are listed on page 8.

4 - 6 p.m.
Carnegie Mellon Advising Resource Center Reception
Singleton Room, Roberts Engineering Hall

5 - 7 p.m.
Pre-Commencement Jazz Reception for graduating seniors and their families
Regina Gouger Miller Gallery, Purnell Center for the Arts
To attend, RSVP by May 13 to handring@andrew.cmu.edu or 1-800-226-8258.

8 p.m.
Doctor's Hooding Ceremony
Wiegand Gym, UC
Doctor's candidates will be recognized and hooded individually on stage. Caps and gowns are required. A reception for candidates, ceremony participants and their families and friends will immediately follow the ceremony in Rangos Hall, UC. No tickets are necessary.

Sunday, May 18

7:30 - 10 a.m.
Diploma Ceremonies and Department Events
See page 8.

7:45 - 8:30 a.m.
Baccalaureate Celebration
Wright-Rogal Chapel, UC
The Carnegie Mellon Interfaith Council will lead an interfaith baccalaureate ceremony. A light breakfast will be served at 7:45 a.m. Attendance is optional.
No tickets are necessary.
Caps and gowns are not required.

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Commencement Welcome Area open
Kirr Commons, UC

8:30 - 10 a.m.
School of Computer Science Breakfast
Perlis Atrium, Newell-Simon Hall
This is a breakfast for School of Computer Science graduates and their families. Reservations are required. Please email Catherine Copetas, copetas@cs.cmu.edu.

10 a.m.
Robing for Faculty, Degree Candidates and members of the Platform Group
TV Rec Room, West Wing

10:15 - 11 a.m.
Procession of Graduates
Various locations across campus

11 a.m.
COMMENCEMENT
Gesling Stadium

12:30 - 5 p.m.
Diploma Ceremonies and Department Events
Specific times and locations are listed on page 8.

9 p.m. - 2 a.m.
Zero-Year Reunion for all graduating seniors
Pittsburgh Deli Company
728 Copeland Street, Shadyside
Free snacks and cash bar (bring your ID)
Sponsored by Alumni Relations

Diploma Ceremonies

Graduating students receive their diplomas at department or college ceremonies held throughout commencement weekend. Complimentary shuttle service will be provided on Sunday afternoon to diploma ceremonies taking place off campus. Written directions to off-campus sites will also be available in the Commencement Information Area. Unless otherwise indicated, the reception will follow the ceremony.

Bachelor of Humanities & Arts and Bachelor of Science & Arts
Ceremony: 8:30 a.m., Sunday, May 18
Kresge Recital Hall, College of Fine Arts
Reception: 9:30 a.m., Sunday, May 18
Alumni Concert Hall, College of Fine Arts

Carnegie Institute of Technology

Biomedical Engineering
Ceremony and Reception: 8:30 a.m., Sunday, May 18
Room 2210, Doherty Hall

Chemical Engineering
Ceremony: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Carnegie Lecture Hall, Carnegie Museum (off campus)
4400 Forbes Avenue
Reception: following ceremony
Hall of Architecture, Carnegie Museum

Civil & Environmental Engineering
Ceremony and Reception: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18 (reception prior to ceremony)
Holiday Inn Select (off campus)
100 Lytton Avenue

Electrical & Computer Engineering
Ceremony and Reception: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Wiegand Gymnasium, University Center

Engineering & Public Policy
Ceremony and Reception: 8 a.m., Sunday, May 18
Rangos Hall, Rooms 2 and 3, University Center

Information Networking Institute
Ceremony and Reception: 5 p.m., Saturday, May 17
Rodef Shalom Congregation (off campus)
4905 Fifth Avenue

Materials Science & Engineering
Ceremony and Reception: 1 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Winchester Thurston School Auditorium (off campus)
555 Morewood Avenue

Mechanical Engineering
Ceremony and Reception: 2 p.m., Saturday, May 17
Wiegand Gymnasium, University Center

Carnegie Mellon Advising Resource Center (CMARC)
Reception: 4 – 6 p.m., Saturday, May 17
Singleton Room, Roberts Engineering Hall

College of Fine Arts

School of Architecture
Ceremony: 1:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Heinz Memorial Chapel,
University of Pittsburgh (off campus)
Reception: 3 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Frick Fine Arts Building,
University of Pittsburgh

School of Art
Reception: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Regina Gouger Miller Gallery, Purnell Center
Ceremony: 2:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Philip Chosky Theatre, Purnell Center

School of Design
Ceremony and Reception: 3 p.m., Saturday, May 17
Rangos Hall, University Center

School of Drama
Ceremony: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Philip Chosky Theatre, Purnell Center
Reception: following ceremony
Purnell Center lobby

School of Music
Ceremony: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Kresge Recital Hall, College of Fine Arts
Reception: following ceremony
Alumni Concert Hall, College of Fine Arts

College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Economics (joint ceremony with Business Administration)
Ceremony and Reception: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18 (reception prior to ceremony)
Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall (off campus)
4141 Fifth Avenue

English
Ceremony: 2:30 p.m., Saturday, May 17
McConomy Auditorium, University Center
Reception: following ceremony
Schatz Dining Room, University Center

History
Reception: 8 a.m., Sunday, May 18
Giant Eagle Auditorium/Lower Level Coffee Lounge, Baker Hall
Ceremony: 9 a.m., Sunday, May 18
Giant Eagle Auditorium, Baker Hall

Information Systems
Ceremony: 6 p.m., Saturday, May 17
Philip Chosky Theatre, Purnell Center
Reception: 7:30 p.m., Saturday, May 17
Purnell Center lobby

Modern Languages
Ceremony: 8:30 a.m., Sunday, May 18
Rangos Hall, Room 1, University Center
Reception: following ceremony
Skibo Coffeehouse, University Center

Philosophy
Ceremony and Reception: 8:30 a.m., Sunday, May 18
Adamson Wing, Baker Hall

Psychology
Ceremony and Reception: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18 (reception prior to ceremony)
Rangos Hall, University Center

Social & Decision Sciences
Reception: 8 a.m., Sunday, May 18
Schatz Dining Room, University Center
Ceremony: 9 a.m., Sunday, May 18
McConomy Auditorium, University Center

Statistics
Ceremony: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Connan Room, University Center
Reception: following ceremony
Skibo Coffeehouse, University Center

Student-Defined Majors
Ceremony and Reception: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Lower Level Coffee Lounge, Baker Hall

Entertainment Technology Center
Ceremony and Reception: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
East End Lounge, Heinz Field (off campus)
100 Art Rooney Avenue
NOTE: Shuttle service not provided.

The Heinz School

Ceremony and Reception: 2 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Rodef Shalom Congregation (off campus)
4905 Fifth Avenue

Master of Information Systems Management & Master of Science in Information Technology
Ceremony and Reception: 2 p.m., Saturday, May 17
Philip Chosky Theatre, Purnell Center

Mellon College of Science

Biological Sciences
Ceremony: 2 p.m., Saturday, May 17
Mellon Institute Auditorium (off campus)
Reception: following ceremony
Mellon Institute Social and Conference Rooms

Chemistry
Ceremony: 2 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Mellon Institute Auditorium (off campus)
Reception: following ceremony
Mellon Institute Social and Conference Rooms

Mathematical Sciences
Ceremony: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Room 2315, Doherty Hall
Reception: following ceremony
Perlis Atrium, Newell-Simon Hall

Physics
Ceremony and Reception: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Room 7500, Wean Hall

School of Computer Science

SCS Breakfast: 8:30 – 10 a.m., Sunday, May 18
Perlis Atrium, Newell-Simon Hall
Ceremony and Reception: 1 p.m., Sunday, May 18
Carnegie Music Hall, Carnegie Museum (off campus)
4400 Forbes Avenue

Tepper School of Business

Business Administration
(Bachelor's joint ceremony with Economics)
Ceremony and Reception: 12:30 p.m., Sunday, May 18 (reception prior to ceremony)
Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall (off campus)
4141 Fifth Avenue

Master's and Doctor's Business Administration
Ceremony and Reception: 2 p.m., Saturday, May 17
Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall (off campus)
4141 Fifth Avenue

ROTC

Military Science (Army)
Ceremony and Reception: 10 a.m., Sunday, May 4
Heinz Chapel, University of Pittsburgh (off campus)

Naval Science (Navy)
Ceremony and Reception: 9:30 a.m., Saturday, May 17
Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall (off campus)
4141 Fifth Avenue

Commencement 2008 — General Information

Cap and Gown Information

Distribution:
McKenna/Peter/Wright Room, second floor, UC
Wednesday, May 14: 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Thursday, May 15: 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Friday, May 16: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Saturday, May 17: 7 a.m.–3 p.m., 6–8 p.m.
Sunday, May 18: 7:30–11 a.m.

Return:
McKenna/Peter/Wright Room, second floor, UC
Sunday, May 18: Noon–6 p.m.
Monday, May 19: 9 a.m.–6 p.m.
After Monday, May 19 and until Monday, June 2, returns can be made directly to The University Store. No returns will be accepted and no refunds will be issued after June 2.

The University Store, Entropy+ and Art Store

These retail stores offer art/office supplies, books, clothing, film, memorabilia, snacks and soda.

Hours of operation:

Entropy+
First floor, UC
Friday, May 16: 7:30 a.m.–midnight
Saturday, May 17: Noon–9 p.m.
Sunday, May 18: 8 a.m.–6 p.m.

The University Store
First floor, UC
Friday, May 16: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday, May 17: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, May 18: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Art Store
Basement level, UC
Friday, May 16: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday, May 17: Closed
Sunday, May 18: Closed

Dining

The dining facilities below offer hot and cold beverages, snacks and light meals.

Hours of operation:

Sí Señor
First floor, UC
Friday, May 16: Closed
Saturday, May 17: 10:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday, May 18: Closed

Skibo Café
Second floor, UC
Friday, May 16: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Saturday, May 17: Closed
Sunday, May 18: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Complementary water service will be available at various locations in the stadium during the main commencement ceremony. Complementary coffee and tea at the Commencement Welcome Area in the UC will also be provided. To help protect the stadium track and field surface, food, chewing gum and beverages other than water are not permitted in the stadium.

Special Needs

Seating for guests with special needs and their families will be available in special sections on the field surface, which will be indicated with signage. Up to three guests are permitted to sit with disabled guests. Volunteers will be stationed in these areas to assist guests with seating. A sign language interpreter will be positioned in front of each seating section. A wheelchair-accessible ramp to the field is near the stadium entry closest to the UC. All campus buildings and parking areas are also wheelchair accessible. A seating map will be available in the Commencement Welcome Area, or ask any commencement staff member for assistance. No reservation is required for this seating.

Wheelchair Rental

A limited number of wheelchairs and electric scooters will be available for rental on campus on Sunday of commencement weekend ONLY. To ensure availability, please call Wheelchair Exchange at 412-241-5121 to reserve your rental. Two-day rates, hotel and home delivery are available.

Meyer Wins Ryan Award Continued from page one

PHOTO BY KEN ANDREYO

Curtis Meyer is "a special teacher at all levels" who has a "thorough knowledge of the subject and enthusiasm for teaching and communicating what he knows to students."

Mellon's most prestigious teaching honor.

Over the past 15 years, Meyer has taught the introductory physics courses for all student groups, including Physics I and II for engineering students, Physics I for science students, and Matter and Interactions I, the intensive version of Physics I for science students. These introductory classes aren't easy and are often dreaded by students. But Meyer helps them overcome their fears of the complex subject matter. His enthusiasm, organization and ability to relate challenging concepts in a straightforward manner helps students to learn while his creative demonstrations keep students interested and excited about physics.

"It's tough enough to get motivated for a physics class, let alone one that starts at 8:30 a.m., but [Physics I] proved different thanks to the teaching of Professor Meyer," wrote a former student in a supporting letter. "I really loved this class because he treated all questions as valid and visibly liked physics."

Another student commented that Meyer "had a particular gift of making nervous freshmen at ease by explaining physics in terms that we could understand."

He is also well known for teaching Electronics, a class for which he literally wrote the book.

"We always lamented the lack of a proper textbook for the course, so Curtis simply wrote his own!" said Roy Briere, associate professor of physics, who co-taught the Electronics course with Meyer. The book, which Meyer put together over only one semester, has been used successfully at Carnegie Mellon for the past two years as well as at several other universities.

Meyer's nominators call him "a special teacher at all levels" who has a "thorough knowledge of the subject and enthusiasm for teaching and communicating what he knows to the students." He also has an outstanding international reputation in medium energy physics, which translates to the classroom.

"His being a leader in research enhances his teaching by bringing examples of contemporary research into the classroom. Even more importantly, he has guided many undergraduates in research, involving them in frontier research problems and helping them to make contributions of real significance to projects that Curtis is engaged in," wrote his nominators.

Meyer joined the Mellon College of Science in 1993, becoming a full professor in 2002. In 2006, Meyer received the Julius Ashkin Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Mellon College of Science for his unusual devotion and effectiveness in teaching undergraduate students.

Says Meyer, "Teaching in itself is very rewarding, so to get feedback like this makes it all the more worthwhile. It is a big honor for me to receive the Ryan Award."

18 Earn Teaching Honors

Ryan Award winner Curtis Meyer was one of 18 faculty members honored for their teaching excellence at the "Celebration of Teaching" on April 23. He was joined by the teaching award winners from Carnegie Mellon's seven schools and colleges as well as five Wimmer Fellowship recipients. Wimmer Fellows, supported by the Wimmer Family Foundation, are given annually to junior faculty to help them enhance their teaching through concentrated work designing or re-designing a course, innovating new materials, or exploring a new pedagogical approach. This year's teaching winners are:

College of Engineering
Sridhar Seetharaman, professor of materials science and engineering

College of Fine Arts
Diane Shaw, associate professor of architecture

College of Humanities & Social Sciences
Oded Meyer, associate teaching professor of statistics

Heinz School
Lowell Taylor, professor
Kathleen Smith, associate teaching professor
Karyn Moore, lecturer

Mellon College of Science
Amy Burkett, teaching professor and associate head of the Biological Sciences Department
Paul Karol, professor of chemistry

School of Computer Science
Luis von Ahn, assistant professor

Tepper School of Business
Burton Hollifield, associate professor of financial economics
Marvin Goodfriend, professor of economics
Robert Dammon, professor of financial economics

Wimmer Fellows
Kelly Hutzell, Caste Chair Assistant Professor, School of Architecture
Jeria Quesenberry, lecturer, Information Systems Program
Osman Khan, assistant professor, School of Art
John Kitchin, assistant professor, Department of Chemical Engineering
Francesca Torello, adjunct professor, School of Architecture

Grad Students Honored for Teaching, Service

PHOTO BY GLENN BROOKES

Provost and Senior Vice President Mark Kamlet recently presented graduate student awards to Susan Spellman (left) and Vanessa Schweizer. Spellman, a doctoral student in the History Department, received the Graduate Student Teaching award for her work as a teaching assistant and for her passion for research. "It is wonderful to see a doctoral student so committed to the mutuality of research and teaching," said Associate History Professor Scott Sandage.

Schweizer earned the Graduate Student Service Award for her work on campus in support of "Focus the Nation," a nationwide event held earlier this year that discussed potential solutions to the global warming crisis. "Rarely does a graduate student assume a central role as an intellectual leader in organizing a successful campus event as part of a national movement," said Vice Provost for Education Indira Nair.

Students Spring Into Action in Central America

■ Abby Houck

Two groups of Carnegie Mellon students spent their spring break in Nicaragua, where they got a first-hand look at one of the most impoverished nations in the Western Hemisphere. It was a field trip, per se, for the Global Studies House. And for Students in Free Enterprise it was an international outreach effort to help a Nicaraguan family and the country's struggling economy.

Students in Free Enterprise spent their spring break in Nicaragua, where they helped a family and local businesses. In their free time they explored the country and its culture.

Global Studies House Takes Its Study Abroad

Twenty-one first-year student residents of the Global Studies House, a special interest community on the first floor of Boss House, spent the year discussing globalization, social justice and environmentalism. Their spring trip gave them a chance to study abroad.

While in Nicaragua, they made traditional pottery with a local artist, visited high-ranking political figures and ate lunch prepared by participants in a restaurant-training program for at-risk youth. They also toured factories at the Las Mercedes Free Trade Zone and met with union leaders. Because five of the six students on the trip were engineering majors, they scheduled a meet-and-greet session with the director of Grupo Fenix, the National Engineering University's alternative energy sources program.

"The students were great ambassadors for Carnegie Mellon," said Therese Tardio, a professor in the Modern Languages Department who helped organize the trip with study abroad coordinator Emily Half. "People everywhere commented on what insightful questions they had and how impressed they were with the students' level of interest and engagement in the world around them."

The students learned about harvesting, roasting and exporting organic and fair trade coffees through visits to cooperatives. Manasi Patil, an electrical and computer engineering major, was amazed by how many steps go into producing a single cup of coffee. The students participated in a cupping, which allowed them to see, smell and taste coffees made from a variety of beans and roasts. The coffee students sampled in Nicaragua was "definitely much stronger than what we drink in America," Patil said.

One of the most notable experiences students had was visiting Managua, Nicaragua's capital, and touring a camp of workers affected by Nemagon pesticide poisoning.

"Victims have been marching on the capitol for 11 years," said electrical engineering major Rachael Harding. "We were all affected by seeing the camp and what these people are going through."

On the flight back to Pittsburgh, the students discussed potential ways to provide food and medical supplies to the victims who are lobbying for more regulation in the agriculture industry.

"The Global Studies House trip to Nicaragua over spring break was a perfect complement to the year-long house curriculum," Half said. "In addition, the experience enabled the students to better conceptualize what it means to be a globally educated citizen — an overarching goal for the house community."

SIFE Helps Family With New Home; Gives Grants, Ideas to Small Business Owners

Members of Students in Free Enterprise – or SIFE for short – have made an impact on individuals and small business owners in seven countries this year, including Nicaragua. The group, based in the Tepper School of Business, aims to empower people through educational outreach projects focused on the global economy, entrepreneurship, financial success skills and ethics.

Nine of the SIFE's 145 members, led by business majors Sasha Urquidi and Jayesh Kapoor, made the trip to Nicaragua with the help of Student Development Coordinator Jon Kroll, who before joining Carnegie Mellon spent six months in Nicaragua teaching

Continued on page eleven

News Briefs

H&SS Offers New Major in Global Politics

In order to prepare students to succeed in an increasingly international workforce and make contributions as citizens of a global society, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (H&SS) will be offering two new programs — one in global politics and another in innovation, entrepreneurship and economic development (IEE) — beginning next fall. Students will be able to select global politics as a primary major, an additional major or a minor, while the IEE course of study is available as a minor. Both programs are initiatives of the Global and International Relations Program, which is directed by Kiron Skinner, an associate professor in Carnegie Mellon's Department of Social and Decision Sciences (SDS).

Fred Gilman Named Dean of MCS

Carnegie Mellon has appointed Fredrick J. Gilman dean of its Mellon College of Science (MCS). Gilman, the Buhl Professor of Theoretical Physics since 1996 and head of the Physics Department since 1999, succeeds Rick McCullough, who was appointed vice president of research at the university. Gilman has served as acting dean of the college since Sept. 1, 2007. President Jared L. Cohon called Gilman's appointment "a wise choice" and noted that he is "an internationally regarded scientist used to leading large projects." Provost and Senior VP Mark Kamlet said Gilman has provided strong leadership and that "he has been at the helm for significant changes within the [Physics] department, nurturing its growth in emerging fields such as biological physics and cosmology." Kamlet said Gilman has effectively led MCS as acting dean.

Carnegie Mellon Now on iTunes U

Carnegie Mellon is now on iTunes U (http://www.cmu.edu/itunesu), a dedicated area of the iTunes Store that features multimedia educational content on key university initiatives. Initially, short features and campus-wide lectures are being provided in several categories. New and diverse content will be added frequently. Content for the site will be managed by Carnegie Mellon's Marketing Communications Web team in the same way stories are featured on http://www.cmu.edu. If you have content to suggest, please contact Jay Brown, associate director of marketing for Web communications, at jsbrown@andrew.cmu.edu. Special attention will be given to the overall message of the content as well as accurate representation of the broad and diverse people and projects that make Carnegie Mellon a one-of-a-kind institution.

Universities Get $26M for Fossil Fuel Research

CWP, Inc., a partnership between Carnegie Mellon, the University of Pittsburgh and West Virginia University, will receive up to $26 million in funding over the next two years to develop clean and efficient technologies for the use of fossil fuels. The results of its work could reduce regional as well as national dependence on foreign oil. The funding will come through a subcontract with RDS Inc., an onsite contractor at the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), the national laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy with facilities in five states, including Pennsylvania and West Virginia. More than 75 scientists at the three universities will work with more than 150 NETL scientists and researchers to address key areas of fossil fuel research. Carnegie Mellon Chemical Engineering Professor Andrew Gellman has been appointed research director for the consortium.

University Receives $4.15 Million in Grants From Moore Foundation

Carnegie Mellon has received two grants totaling $4.15 million from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation to fund research in global energy and sustainability, and to purchase equipment needed to aid research in the fields of nanotechnology, cosmology and biological sciences. The first grant of $2.05 million is dedicated to accelerating the university's work in global energy issues, providing support for graduate students to work with faculty on key projects and for the acquisition of research instruments. Part of that grant will support the recently announced consortium of Carnegie Mellon, the University of Pittsburgh and West Virginia University to conduct fossil fuel energy research. The second grant dedicates $2.1 million to meet some of Carnegie Mellon's most important equipment needs.

Babcock, Brodsky and Thomas Produce New Works

The bookshelf at Carnegie Mellon continues to grow as three faculty members have recently authored or edited new literary works.

Heinz School Professor Linda Babcock has authored "Ask for It: How Women Can Use the Power of Negotiation to Get What They Want." In the book, Babcock explains why it is essential for women to ask and provides insight into how to ask effectively. The book is a sequel to the groundbreaking "Women Don't Ask: Negotiation and the Gender Divide," which she co-authored with Sara Laschever.

Photography Professor Charlee Brodsky has edited and included photos for a new book of real-life accounts of people with mental illness. The book is titled ""I Thought I Could Fly: Portraits of Anguish, Compulsion and Despair." Brodsky's participation in the book was driven by her own experiences of raising a child with bipolar disorder.

Music Professor Marilyn Taft Thomas, former head of the School of Music, has authored "Leadership in the Arts." Thomas drew on her abundance of leadership experience in writing the 348-page paperback. In addition to serving as head of the Music School, she was head of the school's graduate program and executive director of the River City Brass Band.

All three books are available at www.amazon.com

Students Spring Into Action

Continued from page ten

English and developing leadership programs through Quinnipiac University's Albert Schweitzer Institute.

Upon arriving in León, students built a home for a single mother and three children who had been living in a two-bedroom house with nine extended family members. Neha Thatte, a SIFE team member and design major, worked with the construction foreman to plan a house that incorporated green design principles and would withstand the affects of frequent earthquakes. Modern building materials were not available, so SIFE students worked alongside the family and professional construction crew to make cement, bend coils for structural support and lay bricks.

Along with Alianza Americana, a local educational institution, SIFE conducted a three-day workshop to help small business owners improve their financial management skills and write effective business plans. The team provided three micro-equity grants totaling $1,000 to entrepreneurs who created the most feasible business plans.

SIFE plans to provide additional grants to these business owners if they successfully demonstrate business growth over the next six months.

"We couldn't provide all workshop participants with grants," Kapoor said. "But the skills they developed will make their businesses more appealing to investors."

Students also completed a consulting project with a 50-member women's cooperative in the Palo de Lapa community. The women harvest the Jamaican flower, an ingredient in tea, to supplement family incomes. SIFE provided leaders with recommendations to improve the cooperative's organizational structure and increase profitability.

Team members spent their free time exploring Nicaragua and its culture. They participated in a salsa dancing party with Quinnipiac University students and climbed Cerro Negro, the second youngest volcano in Central America. In addition, the students developed strong relationships with their host families while discussing the challenges, opportunities and experiences that Nicaragua shares with other countries. "I was so impressed by the families," Urquidi said. "They had so little, but they were so happy."

The students created a blog about their experience (http://sifenicaragua.blogspot.com) and made a commitment to return to the same communities during next year's spring break to continue to promote sustainable economic change.

Team members recently gave a presentation about the impact of their 12 service projects from this academic year at the SIFE Regional Competition in Cincinnati. The team won a spot to compete in the SIFE USA National Competition May 13-15 in Chicago.

New Grad Programs Offered in Silicon Valley

Continued from page one

apprenticeship-based and individually mentored activities that emphasize teamwork and collaboration for the new knowledge-based economy. The programs also reflect a distinctive mix of education characterized by the university's ongoing focus on creating and implementing solutions for real problems, and the university's long tradition in entrepreneurial training through the world-class Donald H. Jones Center for Entrepreneurship at the Tepper School of Business.

"This is a novel way of reaching more students, and very different than most long-distance education programs. This will be a great concept to follow as it develops," said Doc Brady, executive vice president of the Washington, D.C.-based American Association for Higher Education and Accreditation, which has more than 10,000 members.

"We are extremely excited to have Carnegie Mellon and its long history of collaborative, interdisciplinary research and educational excellence in the mix of outstanding universities scattered throughout Silicon Valley." — Doug Henton

Faculty at the Silicon Valley location perform pioneering research that connects the university to many local, national and global software organizations and companies patenting new devices and technologies. Both patent and venture capital investment have increased with patent activity up 24 percent and venture capital investment up 11 percent, according to a recent study commissioned by Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network, a public-private collaborative designed to promote economic development in the Valley.

"Silicon Valley is rich in resources and innovation, and we are enriched by having Carnegie Mellon here," said Russell Hancock, president and chief executive officer of Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network.

Since 1999, Carnegie Mellon has worked to develop a presence in Silicon Valley. That newly expanded presence will grow as the university does research with NASA and Valley companies, establishes educational programs, offers special internship and work opportunities to students on the Pittsburgh campus, and develops closer ties with the nearly 3,000 alumni who live and work in the Valley. For more information about the university's Silicon Valley programs, see http://west.cmu.edu.

Eight international journalists from Europe and Japan recently visited Carnegie Mellon. The journalists attended several presentations on campus, including robotics and computer science demonstrations. They also visited the Collaborative Innovation Center and the Entertainment Technology Center, where they met Anthony Daniels (C3PO of Star Wars fame).

Donna Morosky, Joan Maser and Lori Smith were three of 137 Earth Day volunteers who helped collect more than 40 pounds of cigarette butts on campus. The clean-up was organized by Student Health Services.

ETC-Japan Opens to Much Fanfare

The opening of the Entertainment Technology Center (ETC) in Osaka, Japan, drew many of the city's political and business leaders and was covered extensively by the media in Japan's second largest city. Osaka Mayor Kunio Hiramatsu and United States Consul General Daniel Russo welcomed ETC to Osaka and expressed hope that the center's presence would ultimately spur a surge of entrepreneurial thinking and activity in the region.

Located within the Asia and Pacific Trade Center on Osaka's harbor, ETC is working with iMedio (Incubator for Multimedia Industry Osaka), the host entity for ETC-Japan, which also handles the center's logistical and networking needs. Osaka's evening news TV outlets and morning newspapers covered the center's opening.

ETC-Japan Visits CyLab Kobe

Carnegie Mellon students and faculty from the Entertainment Technology Center (ETC) in Osaka traveled to Kobe to visit CyLab-Japan. The visit included presentations, a tour of CyLab Japan and opportunities for students and faculty to learn more about both the ETC and CyLab programs. CyLab Japan Program Director Shizuo Asogawa spoke on the history and mission of the program, and the visit also included a tour of Mosaic, a mall on the waterfront overlooking the Kobe Port Tower. A reciprocal visit by students and faculty of CyLab Japan is being planned.

Carnegie Mellon Hosts Cornerstones Event

The Tepper School of Business and its Donald H. Jones Center for Entrepreneurship hosted the 2008 Cornerstones Symposium, titled "Entrepreneurial Pittsburgh: Building Bridges to a City's New Future." The symposium connected leading authorities from around the world to share their knowledge and experiences on issues that can help cities realize a sustainable transformation of their economies and their people.

The symposium featured a broad mix of disciplines — including architects, developers and economists; researchers, entrepreneurs and venture capitalists; and city planners and government policy makers — all of whom must work together to strengthen the future of cities and their economies, their social networks and their physical infrastructure.

The March event included several political and business leaders. Speakers included Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl; Juan Catala, deputy mayor, Zaragoza, Spain; and Ric Perez, senior vice president, Nuclear Services, Westinghouse Electric Company. Ravenstahl noted opportunities for Pittsburgh and Zaragoza to collaborate as both share community development goals and strategies to leverage scientific research and entrepreneurial innovations of their respective institutions.

INI Plans Commencement Ceremony in Greece

Carnegie Mellon's Information Networking Institute-Greece (INI) will hold its commencement ceremony on Wednesday, June 11 at Athens Information Technology (AIT) in Athens, Greece.

Master's degrees will be awarded to 15 graduates who completed the Master of Science in Information Networking program. The graduates are from Greece, Jordan, Venezuela, China, the Philippines, Iran, Lebanon, and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The ceremony marks the fifth class of MSIN students to complete the program at AIT, and the INI will host an anniversary celebration in Athens during the week of graduation.

In other international news, INI-Kobe held its commencement ceremony on Feb. 5 at CyLab Japan. Eight students received the Master of Science in Information Technology-Information Security degree.

"Boogity, Boogity, Boogity"

ETC, Fox Sports Team Up To Give Racing Fans All the Answers

■ Byron Spice and Eric Sloss

The Entertainment Technology Center is off to the races. Literally.

Thanks to technology developed by Scott Stevens and Michael Christel, a "pit crew" of ETC graduate students and Fox Sports.com, racing fans can now find out everything they always wanted to know about NASCAR by interviewing Fox racing analysts Darrell Waltrip, Larry McReynolds and Jeff Hammond. Virtually.

Using the "synthetic interview" technology, you can now ask the pros what all those people do during pit stops, what the difference is between a crew chief and a car chief, and what exactly the Nextel Cup is all about. You can even ask what Waltrip's trademark phrase "boogity, boogity, boogity" actually means.

Racing fans can conduct their interviews online at http://msn.foxsports.com/askthepros, where they're able to choose one of the three analysts to interview. The synthetic system matches each question with hundreds of responses pre-recorded by the analysts and replays them. Fans can ask questions in whatever order they choose, making each interview unique.

"This is an exciting opportunity for us and the ETC and it has been a great experience for our team of ETC graduate students," said Stevens, faculty advisor of the "Ask the Pros" ETC team. "The students have been able to participate in the development of cutting-edge, real-world entertainment working along side of the outstanding professionals at FOX Sports and FOXSports.com. We're eager to see how the large television audience responds to the technologies that are coming out of Carnegie Mellon."

Viewers can use the questions from a menu bar or type their own. The analysts appear — standing in the middle of the screen — answering the submitted question.

Created for the celebration of the Daytona 500's 50th anniversary earlier this year, the interactive program will continue to evolve as FOX Sports and FOXSports.com on MSN work with the ETC to have these experts available to answer any fan's burning questions about NASCAR racing.

"As a team, the project has given us valuable experience in working with a world-class media outlet," said ETC graduate student Kelsey H. Livingston, producer of the "Ask the Pros" project.

By the way, Waltrip says "boogity, boogity, boogity" means "let's go racing."

Meet the New Furry Scotty

PHOTO BY KEN ANDREYO

The unveiling of Carnegie Mellon's new mascot costume (center) during opening ceremonies at this year's Spring Carnival was a homecoming for Bob Beatty (left), who wore the first Scotty Dog costume in 1957. Beatty, pictured with the new and old mascot costume (right), is a 1960 industrial management graduate from Hilliard, Ohio. After graduating, Beatty enjoyed a successful 41-year career in the computer field and is credited with creating the original software design and online system for the NASDAQ stock exchange. The live mascot, a gift from comedian Bill Cosby, will be arriving next fall.

Last Lecture Revisited

PHOTO BY KEN ANDREYO

Jeffrey Zaslow

Wall Street Journal (WSJ) columnist Jeffrey Zaslow, co-author of the "The Last Lecture," the book based on Computer Science Professor Randy Pausch's famous last lecture on Sept. 18, 2007, visited campus last month to talk about his experiences since he was in the McConomy Auditorium audience that afternoon to hear Pausch talk about his childhood dreams and his tips on how to live a good life.

The stories he wrote in his WSJ column, "Moving On," catapulted the terminally ill Pausch into an Internet phenomenon and international celebrity. According to Zaslow, the lecture video was the most watched in WSJ.com history. And the story was most read and most e-mailed for weeks. "I've never gotten more emails or letters in response to a story in my 30 years in journalism," he said.

Zaslow, a 1980 graduate of Carnegie Mellon's Creative Writing program, said the book, published by Hyperion Books, was written from 53 one-hour telephone conversations with Pausch. Most of those conversations happened with Zaslow feverishly typing on his keyboard while Pausch spoke on a hands-free cell phone while riding his bike around his neighborhood in Virginia.

Zaslow, who wrote for 12 to 15 hours each day, said the hardest part for him was that the book had to be done so quickly. The book was released less than seven months after the lecture. He said in order to write the book he had to convince Pausch, whom he first met the day before the lecture, that he was the kind of guy that Pausch would want to "hang out with." And he did.

While he has spent much of his career at the Journal, Zaslow also has worked for the Chicago Sun-Times and USA Weekend, the paper's Sunday supplement. In 2000, he received the Will Rogers Humanitarian Award, given to a newspaper columnist who exemplifies the ideals and public service work of the noted humorist and columnist.

Zaslow's columns have appeared in TIME magazine, and his many TV appearances have included "The Tonight Show," "Oprah," "Larry King Live," "60 Minutes," "The Today Show" and "Good Morning America."

In addition to co-authoring "The Last Lecture," he is the author of three other books, one of which was excerpted in the New York Times Magazine.

But of all his books, columns and stories he's written, Zaslow says "The Last Lecture" is "the greatest story I've ever shared."