Year of the Humanities

Provost Patricia E. Beeson has designated 2015-16 the Year of the Humanities at Pitt in order to highlight the importance of humanistic thinking not only in the humanities departments, but in research and education University-wide.

The provost is making available $100,000 in matching funds in support of programs and events that highlight the role of humanistic thinking across the University. Faculty, staff and students are invited to apply for matching funds of up to $5,000 in support of events or programs that bring together multiple schools or units and that fit the overarching theme of “Being Human.”

The Year of the Humanities organizing committee has developed a number of questions that could be addressed in alignment with the theme:

- How can studying the arts and humanities improve creativity and innovation in other fields?
- Many disciplines study aspects of being human. What aspects do they focus on? What do they have to say to one another?
- Some disciplines study worlds other than the human. How do their inquiries engage in/with humanistic thinking?
- How do the professions understand being human? What can the various professional schools learn from the humanities? What can the humanities learn from the professions?
- How can the values, methods and opportunities of the humanities be made visible, legible and exciting to Pitt undergraduates, the Pittsburgh community and the wider public?
- What are the most urgent questions now for human beings/being human and how are the disciplines and professions at Pitt addressing them? How could they collaborate more fruitfully?

For more information about the Year of the Humanities and related events, please visit the website: [http://www.humanities.pitt.edu/](http://www.humanities.pitt.edu/)

Filed under: Feature, Volume 47 Issue 17
YEAR OF THE HUMANITIES: OCTOBER EVENTS

**Spectacles of Labor: Performance and the Working Class**  
Friday, October 2, 2015 - 1pm  
*Humanities Center, 602 Cathedral of Learning*

A symposium including a panel, two key speakers, a response, and a staged reading, designed to make visible the intersections of humanities education and contemporary performance with present day labor issues. Events will begin at 1pm.

**Unbecoming Human: The Matter of the Medieval Child**  
Thursday, October 8, 2015

A series of events aimed at faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates across the University, designed to explore the way in which childhood is related to the theme of "Being Human." Events will be focused on Dr. J. Allan Mitchell’s 2014 book "Becoming Human: The Matter of the Medieval Child" (2014).

"We’re Only Human" - Session at Science 2015  
Thursday, October 8, 2015 - 9am  
*Alumni Hall, Room 532*

This spotlight session will explore several aspects of “being human.” Moderated by Susan M. Meyer, PhD, professor of pharmacy and therapeutics, associate dean for education, School of Pharmacy, and member of the organizing committee for the Year of the Humanities, the session will feature faculty from the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, the Department of Linguistics, and others.

**Autumn Meeting of the West Virginia Philosophical Society**  
Friday, October 9, 2015 - 12:30pm to Saturday, October 10, 2015 - 1pm  
*Meeting of the West Virginia Philosophical Society. The keynote address will be a panel discussion on the ethics of novelist/philosopher Ayn Rand, known as Objectivism.*

**Mediterranean Metageographies: Katarzyna Pieprzak**  
Thursday, October 15, 2015 - 3pm  
*Humanities Center (602, Cathedral of Learning)*

Williams College professor Katarzyna Pieprzak will visit to present her work on the growth of shantytowns in Casablanca, Morocco. Prof. Pieprzak will offer a workshop aimed at facilitating cross-discipline dialogue among faculty in the humanities and the social sciences.

**Adoption and Narratives of the Human**  
Wednesday, October 21, 2015 - 3:30pm  
*Humanities Center, 602 Cathedral of Learning*

This event will feature a panel in which two visiting humanities scholars and two Pitt faculty members, an anthropologist and a journalist, discuss narratives of the human involved in conceptualizing adoption, which literary scholar Margaret Homans argues "raises the most vital questions about human identity and the value and meaning of individual human lives."
**ACKNOWLEDGING RACE IN ADDRESSING DISPROPORTIONALITY: RUSSELL SKIBA LECTURE**

**Thursday, October 22, 2015 - 4:30pm**

*University Club*

The Welcome Table is the Department of Theatre Arts’ new production-based program dedicated to collaborations with artists of diverse heritages, the melding of artistic and critical practice, and community-academic partnerships. The Welcome Table serves as a theatre-based forum through which the academy and the community can engage issues of diversity and social justice in our region, utilizing performance to mobilize the idea that difference is an inherent resource.

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**FRENCH AND ITALIAN 50TH ANNIVERSARY: HISTORY AND ITS DISCONTENTS**

**Thursday, October 29, 2015**

Two-day conference titled “History and its Discontents: Commemoration in Italy and the Francophone World.” The conference will welcome an exciting slate of visitors to campus to reflect on the dates, places, discourses, and mechanisms of commemoration in the French, Francophone, and Italian cultures.

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**INTELLIGENT CONVERSATIONS ABOUT DIGITAL COMPUTING AND THE HUMANITIES**

**Friday, October 30, 2015**

This is the first of a pair of problem-based, research-focused workshops. Taken together, the workshops will be called “Intelligent Conversations about Digital Computing and the Humanities.” The title for this session will be “Intelligent Conversations about Computational Visual Aesthetics.”

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**BONUS NOVEMBER EVENT!**

**BODIES IN MOTION**

**Sunday, November 1, 2015**

Bodies in Motion is a collaboration between School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences and Film Studies Program within the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences. This collaboration will explore the definition of human movement from the perspectives of budding film theorists, student filmmakers, and photographers, and rehabilitation science students. Students will work together to explore the history of bodies on film and photography before creating new images of human movement using both archaic and contemporary technologies to capture images of human models with diverse physical abilities.

You can see more events on the [Year of Humanities Events website](http://www.yearofhumanities.com).
PITT PANTRY

SKIPPING MEALS TO SAVE MONEY?

Or low on meal swipes?

1 in 10 of Feeding America’s 46.5 million food bank clients are students.

— Hunger in America 2014

THE PITT Pantry wants to help. A free service for Pitt students.

Bellefield Presbyterian Church (4001 Fifth Avenue)
Monday, Tuesday, and Friday: 3–6 p.m.
Wednesday: 6–9 p.m.

pittserves.pitt.edu
PITT MAKES A DIFFERENCE DAY (PMADD) - OCTOBER 24th!

This year will be the 8th Pitt Makes a Difference Day (PMADD) where thousands of students go into different Pittsburgh neighborhoods and participate in community service. These projects can range from painting rooms in a community center to preparing food for homeless shelters to picking up garbage on the street. All of the communities served by PMADD are incredibly grateful to the time and energy given by our Pitt students. We will be meeting at the William Pitt Union at 9am to load the buses and go to our volunteer locations and you should be done by 3pm. Lunch will be provided. If you are interested in joining PMADD this year, please sign up by October 12th on the Student PMADD Registration website.

You will meet many new students, have fun, see more of Pittsburgh, and make a difference: that sounds like a great day!

PITTSERVES

Get connected to Pittsburgh through PittServes!

We want to ensure you are connected to the larger Pittsburgh community, and there is no better way to do this than by serving with a community organization! We have hundreds of community partners who are looking for Pitt students and staff members to participate in volunteer work for their organization.

Start by participating in Pitt Make a Difference Day on October 24, from 9am – 3pm!
Registration closes October 12, so sign up soon.

Students who volunteer not only are more connected to an organization, but often times have the opportunity to gain real experience in their field of study or work to address an issue they are passionate about. Students who volunteer are 20% more likely to find employment upon graduation and report a higher level of satisfaction with their college experience. So if you are looking to plant flowers, read to children, walk dogs, take photographs, teach English, or build homes, there is a service experience out there for you!

We hope you will join us for an upcoming service opportunity in the near future! To learn more about upcoming service opportunities contact serves@pitt.edu.

PittServes is here to help support you in identifying service opportunities of interest. Please feel free to email serves@pitt.edu or stop in to the PittServes office, 923 WPU, to inquire about specific opportunities for volunteering.

We look forward to serving with you soon!
HALLOWEEN

Halloween is a holiday celebrated annually on October 31st. This holiday is also known as ‘All Hallows Eve’ and has developed over time from European harvest festivals, festivals of the dead, and feasts prior to All Saints Day (November 1). Today, Halloween is celebrated with costume parties, carving pumpkins, watching horror movies, visiting haunted houses, and trick-or-treating. If you are new to the U.S., you may see people walking around in random costumes, playing pranks, and lots of candy! Trick-or-treating consists of children walking around their neighborhood at a designated time, stopping at houses to pick out candy if the porch light is on. Your neighborhood might pass out fliers for trick-or-treating in your neighborhood, so if you are interested in participating, make sure to be equipped with candy and have your porch light on!

Stop by OIS on October 30th to see the OIS Staff in their Halloween costumes! We would love to see what costumes you are wearing too!

OIS CULTURAL CONNECTIONS MINI-GRANTS

OIS Cultural Connections Mini-Grants are now available!

Student groups who seek funds for events that help to promote diversity and cross-cultural awareness may apply. See our website for more details. We can’t wait to see what amazing events and programs you are creating and OIS is very excited to be able to assist groups in this way!
## FALL 2015 PRE-LAW WORKSHOP SERIES

*Registration not required.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Pre-Law at Pitt</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9/28</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Law School Application Process</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9/30</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td>Financial Aid, Misconduct, &amp; Waitlist</td>
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<td>10/2</td>
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<td>10/6</td>
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<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10/8</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Financial Aid, Misconduct, &amp; Waitlist</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>10/12</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>10/21</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Financial Aid, Misconduct, &amp; Waitlist</td>
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<td>10/22</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pre-Law at Pitt</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>10/26</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td>Graduate and Law School Fair</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10/28</td>
<td>11-4 p.m.</td>
<td>WPU</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>10/30</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Law School Application Process</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>11/3</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Financial Aid, Misconduct, &amp; Waitlist</td>
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<td>11/4</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pre-Law at Pitt</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>11/10</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>11/18</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>11/23</td>
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<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Law School Application Process</td>
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<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Pre-Law at Pitt</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>12/2</td>
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<td>Financial Aid, Misconduct, &amp; Waitlist</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Law School Application Process</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>12/7</td>
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<td>224 WPU</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pre-Law at Pitt</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>12/9</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>224 WPU</td>
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**Pre-Law at Pitt:** This workshop is designed to give you an insight into what it means to be “Pre-Law” at the University of Pittsburgh. You will learn different ways to get involved in relevant student organizations, interesting classes you can take, as well as how to make yourself the most well-rounded pre-law student when applying to law schools in the future.

**Law School Application Process:** This workshop will give students an in-depth look into the law school application process. Participants will learn how to navigate the LSAC website as well as what is expected in law school applications beyond the LSAT and GPA.

**Financial Aid, Misconduct, & Waitlist:** This workshop will discuss different ways in which students can finance their legal education, how to avoid committing misconduct in the application process (which is very common!), and what to do if you should get waitlisted by a law school. This is a great follow-up to the Law School Application Process workshop.
SAVE THE DATE: INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

International Week is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. This joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education is part of our efforts to promote programs that prepare students at the University of Pittsburgh for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences in the United States. Learn more via www.internationalweek.pitt.edu or via social media below.

International Education Week will be November 16th-20th. We will share more information about International Education Week in the November Global Perspective.
EXPERIENCE AMERICA—FALL EVENT SCHEDULE

Join the Office of International Services (OIS) for Experience America, an extended orientation program offered to graduate students, research scholars, and their families to help them better understand and feel more comfortable participating in American Culture.

OCTOBER: TRIP TO TRAX FARMS
Enjoy a day at the farm! Trax Farm’s traditional fall festival office family hayrides, kid’s activities, corn mazes, a petting zoo and pumpkin picking. Transportation to and from Trax Farms will be provided.

NOVEMBER 5TH: GLOBAL PITTSBURGH HAPPY HOUR
Join OIS to attend Global Pittsburgh’s First Thursdays Happy Hour for Globally-Minded People at Roland’s Seafood Grill in the Strip District. This will be a great opportunity to learn more about Global Pittsburgh, meet new people, and get connected with the Pittsburgh community.

NOVEMBER 18TH: LUNCH & LEARN-WINTER TOPICS
Learn our best recommendations for surviving the winter months in Pittsburgh – you won’t want to miss it! We will discuss how to dress, staying healthy, and fun things to do during the Pittsburgh winter. Lunch will be provided.

DECEMBER: HOLIDAY EVENT
Celebrate the holiday season with OIS! We will enjoy some traditional cookies and hot cocoa together, and attend a holiday themed event on Pitt’s campus. More details to come!

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:
- Visit to the Carnegie Museums
- Gallery Crawl in the Cultural District
- Venture Outdoor Festival
- Pirate’s Baseball Game

Learn more about these events at www.ois.pitt.edu/new-here/experience-america/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2—4</td>
<td><strong>University of Pittsburgh Family Weekend</strong> (Even if your family can’t come there are some great events you can attend with your friends then you can send your family pictures of your adventures!)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Priority OPT Information Session, 12 — 1:30 PM. <a href="#">Register here!</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>6—11</td>
<td><strong>Homecoming Week</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Study/Intern Abroad: Pre-Departure Bootcamp, 6—8 pm, Kurtzmann Room, WPU</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Last day to complete the Student Compliance Quiz in <a href="#">My OIS!</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Spectacular Fireworks and Laser Show, 9 PM, Cathedral of Learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Homecoming Football Game, Heinz Field</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td><strong>Asia on Screen: Kyoto Omori</strong>, 3 PM, 104 David Lawrence</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Winners of the Pitt Prize Pack for the Student Compliance Quiz will be notified.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Fall Break — no classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Follow Monday's class schedule</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td><strong>Conversations on Europe—Europe’s Jews: Past, Present, and Future?</strong>, 12 PM, 4217 Posvar</td>
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<tr>
<td>22—1</td>
<td><strong>Water by the Spoonful</strong>, various times, Heymann Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Pitt Makes a Difference Day (PMADD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>29—30</td>
<td><strong>French and Italian 50th Anniversary: History and Its Discontents Conference</strong></td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Halloween</td>
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**Office of International Services**
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Pittsburgh, PA 15260
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Office Hours:
Monday to Friday,
8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

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