MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Ann E. Cudd, Provost

I think the title of the 2022 forum: Progress through Partnerships: Adapting and Innovating captures the necessity to be flexible in our mindsets as we explore and work to solve far-reaching challenges, from social justice and inclusivity dialogues to critically important issues related to sustainability. The presenters at the forum—and the many contributions of others who have worked so hard to realize it—are as impressive as they are diverse. Once again this year, as we continue to navigate the pandemic, we are working hard collectively to gain new knowledge, to share it, and to continue to lead in transformative ways, on our campuses and in our communities. This year’s impressive forum programming reflects just that. Working together, we are forging ahead!

Lina Dostilio, Vice Chancellor for Engagement and Community Affairs

The University of Pittsburgh is a place-based university: though we are part of a global community that leverages knowledge for society’s gain, we are an integral part of the communities in which our campuses are located and with whom we have active collaborations. Our university’s success and wellbeing are inextricably linked with the success and wellbeing of our communities.

It is through partnerships that we contribute to shared success and wellbeing. It is through partnerships that we develop the relationships and trust that enable us to fully understand the struggles facing our collaborators, the limitations of our solitary efforts, and the promise of our collective action. Alone we are a contributor; in partnership we are allied in marshaling change.

This year’s Community Engaged Scholarship Forum celebrates the partnerships that uniquely harness the efforts of university, community, governmental and industry collaborators. It lifts up work that is diving deeply into the challenges that limit our shared thriving. It celebrates the people who have created space for engaged scholarship in their work and in the university. I am very proud of what these collaborators are doing and the many others whose work has been deeply committed to community progress for many years.
ADAPTING AND INNOVATING: MESSAGE FROM FORUM CHAIRS

CESF is all about celebrating the individuals and groups who are the embodiment of what “community” means, whether that be a community of place, practice, interest, action or circumstance. Together, we look to engage in timely social conversations and connect them to opportunities realized in the people, programs and purpose of the University of Pittsburgh and beyond. The Forum is about recognizing the individuals, coalitions, and groups who continuously demonstrate reciprocity, mutual benefit, and significant community impact.

To our fellow faculty, students, staff and community leaders that commit themselves to outreach and engagement, join us in advancing our shared understanding of engaged scholarship and collective action. Thank you to the committed folks that fund, guide and engage with CESF. We are all different pieces in the larger mosaic that aspires to innovate and adapt for community impact. As we look forward to our 5th year, our hope is to convene and connect safely in person and recapture some of the energy we had being in community with one another here on our campus.

Jamie Ducar, executive director for The Engaged Campus, Office of Engagement and Community Affairs

Julia Spears, associate vice provost for the Academic Innovation Team

Gena Kovalcik, codirector of the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation, Swanson School of Engineering

ABOUT THE FORUM

The University of Pittsburgh Community Engaged Scholarship Forum elevates, celebrates and reflects on collective approaches to community-engaged scholarship through the development of sustainable pathways and partnerships that build deep, reciprocal processes to achieve mutually beneficial, community-identified priorities. Scholarship is broadly defined to include research, creative activity, inquiry, programming and teaching.

Definitions of Community Engagement

Mutually beneficial and sustainable outreach and engagement are of value to the University and its broader communities.

By community, we refer to groups of people who share commonalities, including geography, identity, affiliation, interest, circumstance, profession or practice, faith and/or family/natural supports.

Community outreach is the provision and promotion of University services and resources for community use.

Community engagement is the collaborative development and delivery of initiatives through partnerships between members of the University and members of the broader public.

Engaged scholarship seeks to discover new knowledge through activities that collaboratively generate, exchange or apply academic and community knowledge and practices through reciprocal partnerships among members of the University and members of the broader public.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank our event sponsors, keynote speakers, planning committee, University Senate and virtual support for their part in making the 2022 Community Engaged Scholarship Forum possible.

2022 Sponsors

Office of the Provost
Office of Engagement and Community Affairs
Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation and the Office of Sustainability
Institute of Politics and Elsie Hillman Civic Forum

Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
Graduate School of Public and International Affairs
University Center for International Studies
School of Social Work
University Honors College
School of Education
Dear Colleagues,

Our 2022 Senate Plenary, **Community Engagement Initiatives**, focuses our attention on meaningful engagement through research, teaching, and learning in partnership with our city and region. We have partnered with Pitt’s Office of Community and Governmental Relations to include the Senate Plenary in this year’s Community Engaged Scholarship Forum. The University of Pittsburgh is a powerful economic, social, and cultural force in our region. Efforts to center this role as an anchor institution are ongoing, and as an institution, we have a good deal more to learn.

Our Senate Plenary, then, focuses on the intersections between community engaged scholarship and anchor identity. We call on experts both from inside and outside the University of Pittsburgh, allowing us to hear insights from an institutional perspective, as well as to learn more from our colleagues who are exemplars of engaged scholarship already at work in our communities.

Robin Kear  
University Senate President

Kristin Kanthak  
University Senate Vice President

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**SPEAKERS AND SESSIONS**

**Plenary Welcome and Introduction**

Chancellor Patrick Gallagher

**Engaged Scholarship through the Arts: A Pathway to Social and Cultural Equity**

Featuring **Lynnette Young Overby**, PhD, Professor, Department of Theatre, Director, Community Engagement Initiative, Director, University of Delaware Dance Minor

Introduced by **Kristin Kanthak**, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, University Senate Vice President

**Engaged Scholars Roundtable**

“How Community Organizations and Community Pharmacies Can Partner for Sustainable and Equitable Delivery of Immunization Services”

Sophia Cothrel, Catherine Rebitch, Chiara Gessler, Kelsey Hake and Joni Carroll

“How 412Connect: Using Technology to Advance Awareness of Black-owned Businesses and Black-led Community Organizations”

Michael Hamilton, Sera Linardi

“Community Outcomes of the Singing Tree Social Justice Mural-making Project: 20 Years of Sustained Impact”

Maureen Porter, Laurie Marshall, Angela Illig and Ashlyn Salvage

Moderated by Lina Dostilio, EdD, Vice Chancellor for Engagement and Community Affairs

**Plenary Close and Reflection**

Ann E. Cudd, Provost
**WORKSHOPS**

**Engaged Scholarship, Community Engagement Initiatives, and Coalition-building**

**Place-based Coalitions: The Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development (PHENND)**

Join leaders of PHENND for a conversation about networks and collaborations to foster community partnership and civic engagement in Philadelphia’s higher education sector. PHENND Director Hillary Kane will provide a general overview of the organization, highlighting its history and evolution of the past 35 years. She will be followed by representatives from three of PHENND’s member institutions, each discussing their own approach to community engagement and anchor work, as well as how their involvement with PHENND has enriched that work over time. Emphasis will be placed on how PHENND supports community-engaged learning and public scholarship.

**SPEAKERS:** Hillary Kane, Ben Berger, Rita Hodges, Nyeema Watson

**STEAM Science Saturdays**

In response to the need for hands-on STEAM learning post-remote learning, Pitt Bio Outreach partnered with the University of Pittsburgh Community Engagement Centers (CECs) to engage elementary students. Students had hands-on learning opportunities to explore concepts from science and nature. Partnerships between the CECs and Pitt Bio Outreach created opportunities to expand our offerings into elementary classrooms.

**SPEAKERS:** Audrey Sykes, Rebecca Gonda, Mike Giazzoni

**Collaborating to Support the College Transition: A Research Paper Writing Process**

The Justice Scholars Institute is a college preparatory school-university partnership. This presentation describes our social justice-focused research process that supports critical literacy for youth in an urban high school. Panelists highlight intentional collaboration, equitable instructional practices, and student voice as central in preparing youth of color for the transition to post-secondary education.

**SPEAKERS:** Esohe Osai, Angela Flango, Mae Knight, Sean Means

**Building a Team to Address Truancy**

The pandemic brought to light truancy challenges in Mercer County, affecting families and a diverse set of professional agencies. Seeking an effective truancy solution, several community agencies formed a Truancy Task Force with the purpose of developing an inclusive, consistent, and effective truancy practice through purposeful community engagement and collaboration, consistent values practice, and adherence to agreed-upon standards for accountability. Members of the task force represent Children and Youth, Juvenile Probation, District Justice Office, Office of Children, Youth, and Families, Mental Health, Behavioral Health, local school districts, and the University of Pittsburgh Child Welfare Resource Center.

**SPEAKERS:** Michael McClure, Tara Whitman

**Building Coalitions the 3Rs Way: Centering Reading, Racial Equity and Relationships**

This workshop will walk participants through the main challenges, solutions, and problem-solving processes that have helped the 3Rs team build coalitions across literacy organizations, schools, educational leaders, families and researchers. These checks and balances allow us to center community voice and make space to hold each other accountable.

**SPEAKERS:** Shallegra Moye, Shannon Wanless
**Grief to Action: 412Connect and the Allegheny County Policing Project**

The Center for Analytical Approaches to Social Innovation builds tools to address social problems. This workshop will highlight two initiatives tailored toward combatting structural racism, 412 Connect and the Allegheny County Policing Project. Both are research practice partnerships composed of regional non-profits, faculty and students from universities throughout the United States.

**SPEAKERS:** Claire Guth

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**Exploring Challenges Between Higher Education Institutions and Community-based Partners**

Together, Virginia Tech, Radford University, and New River Community College worked to better understand the barriers and challenges that they and their regional community partners face when engaging in meaningful SLCE partnerships. Preliminary findings from this mixed-methods analysis will be presented with opportunity for discussion and input on future research.

**SPEAKERS:** Jean Mistele, Catherine Cotrupi, Heidi Morehead

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**Principles and Practices for Civic Engagement: Innovation and Challenges**

This workshop will describe civic engagement principles and practices developed through Research for Equity and Power, a community-based participatory research project in Homewood and Hazelwood. We will describe our Civic Engagement Roadmap from our Equitable Development Playbook, including the following steps: Look, Understand, Organize and Act. We discuss how we have taken these steps and adapted them to different communities and issues so that they can be more broadly used to impact change. We have adapted these strategies for youth participating in Learn and Earn programs, and for workshops with local and national audiences. Furthermore, we are currently adapting these strategies for our Citizen Training Academies in Homewood and for our Community Conversations in Hazelwood. For example, in a recent Citizen Academy in Homewood, we applied these Civic Engagement Steps to the issue of Pittsburgh Public School Board District Reapportionment. In Hazelwood, we are focusing the steps on the Hazelwood Green and the goal of residents to ensure that this development truly is equitable and serves the community. We also will discuss our challenges in engaging residents during a pandemic, and in adapting the principles and practices to a new community. Participants will be engaged in applying our civic engagement principles and practices to a current community issue and discuss ways to apply them in their own civic engagement work.

**SPEAKER:** Mary Ohmer

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**FEATURED SPEAKERS**

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**Forum Planning Committee**

| Ellen Cadden      | Gena Kovalcik | Andrea Pauliuc | Debralyn Woodberry-Shaw |
| Stacie Dow        | Lydia Morin  | Trupti Sarode  | Carillon Young          |
| Jamilah Ducar     | Anette Nance | Julia Spears   |                           |
| Aliya Durham      | Sydney O’Hara| LaMonica Wiggins|                           |
| Michael Giazzoni  | Caroline Passerrello |               |                           |
Sustainability vs. Environmental Justice: Reconnecting Our Purpose to the Movement

Sustainability is the balance of equity, environment, and economics so current and future generations can thrive. To build just and sustainable communities in our region, current systemic, cross-generational, and sector-specific environmental issues must be addressed. Sustainability can only be achieved through justice, where it offers the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making processes dictating healthy environments and quality of life for all. This presentation will address how the university sector can serve as an asset to the environmental justice movement and assist in dismantling oppressive systems that perpetuate social and environmental injustices.

SPEAKERS:
Alyssa Lyon (Speaker) and Aurora Sharrard (Conversant)

Gaining Ground in Vacant Land Justice: 10 Years to Maximum Ownership

Grounded Strategies’ Gaining Ground Vacant Land Justice program is a restorative, regenerative, and intersectional approach to mitigating hyper-vacancy in the Pittsburgh region. We are confronting the trauma of racist land-use policies, abdications of municipal stewardship, and weak political leadership by returning the power of vacant land reclamation to individual residents through the processes of acquisition and ownership. In this talk, you will learn about our 10 Years to Maximum Ownership Initiative and how we are helping lower-income communities of color extract environmental health and intergenerational wealth from the distressed land around them. Under this 10-year initiative, our staff is becoming proactive agents of the land recycling system. In ethical and respectful partnership, we want to support individuals living with hyper-vacancy through each step of the land acquisition and ownership process. Hear about the types of intersectional expertise needed across all stages of land ownership to develop and launch exceptional direct services to individuals in our target communities who are navigating land recycling systems in the region.

SPEAKERS:
Ariam Ford, Melissa Bilec

A Network for Climate Action in the Pittsburgh Region

The Congress of Neighboring Communities (CONNECT) brings together the City of Pittsburgh and 35+ neighboring local governments to innovate shared effective and equitable public policy solutions and service delivery through community engaged research. Climate change is one of CONNECT’s many public policy issues that requires coordination among municipalities—as well as community engaged research and collaboration to address successfully. This workshop will take attendees through the journey of priming climate action in CONNECT, surveying our residents’ priorities, working with university faculty, public and private utilities, nonprofits and government to advance and fund opportunities across municipal borders, to working on passing a regional CONNECT Climate Action Plan that helps our members collectively address climate change in their communities. The workshop will also explain CONNECT’s evolution, governance and networked leadership structure that facilitates so many governments of varying sizes and capacity to resolve to learn and grow together, powered by research and resources by member representatives and the University of Pittsburgh.

SPEAKERS:
Eric Raabe, Lydia Morin, Eric Macadangdang, Brittany Reno
Health Equity

Elevating an Elective to Practice Equity

Both didactic and practical in-community engagement learning experiences and knowledge translation in structure, the pilot social justice elective was a complex, comprehensive curriculum, facilitated by critical, social change-making providers, thought leaders and pediatric clinician experts. Medical students completed the two-week virtual course, engaging in skill building and participating in community stakeholder experiences by attending planning meetings and taking part in reflective Q&A sessions with community leaders. This workshop will show best practices and lessons learned when braiding academic and community knowledge translation, especially related to the goal of health equity.

SPEAKERS: Bee Schindler, Beatrice Jourdain, Courtney Chineme, Noble Maseru, Loreta Matheo

Embedding Community Engagement in a Rehab Science Curriculum

The University of Pittsburgh School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS) Department of Occupational Therapy has embedded the SHRS Wellness Pavilion mission at different points throughout the curriculum. In the curriculum, all students have a five-week experience at the SHRS Wellness Pavilion, design a program, and engage in different service and learning experiences. The workshop will outline the occupational therapy community-programs at the SHRS Wellness Pavilion and how we integrate them within the curriculum. It is the goal to empower other departments and programs to creatively build community engagement experiences into their curriculum.

SPEAKER: Kelsey Voltz-Poremba

TRIBUTE for Bereavement in Communities of Color

The TRIBUTE Program will develop a training program for clergy and other community paraprofessionals in communities of color to provide a culturally appropriate, evidence-based counseling intervention to reduce depression related to bereavement. Our presentation will outline our collaborations within the Homewood community and describe future plans for scaling the program.

SPEAKERS: Laura Dietz, Channing Moreland, Quiana Golphins, Jonathon Counts, Khavah Murray
INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Participate in the Engagement Community of Practice
The Engagement Community of Practice is open to those who support their unit’s implementation of community engagement. Cofacilitated by Jamie Ducar, director of community engagement, and Julia Spears, associate vice provost for academic innovation, the goals of the community are to build a network of community engagement practitioners who can support and mentor one another, to advance community engagement at Pitt, and to strengthen the practice of community engagement. Email Jamie Ducar at jamieducar@pitt.edu to join.

Community Relations Committee of the University Senate
This committee, which includes community organization representatives as pro tem members, is the primary shared governance body that provides a monthly University forum on campus community relations. This committee works on projects of common interest such as pedestrian safety, community engagement, environmental health, and accessibility for those with disabilities.

Community Engagement Centers Internal Advisory Council
The Internal Advisory Council, sometimes called the Faculty Advisory Council or Committee, represents the various interests and activities of the University of Pittsburgh, ensuring that the entire University is aligned and coordinated with Pitt’s neighborhood commitments. This diverse group of faculty and staff from across the University meets monthly.

Engaged Scholarship Development Initiative
Faculty, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows are invited to participate in the Engaged Scholarship Development Initiative (ESDI) to learn how to implement Engaged Scholarship, connect with other engaged scholars, and advance their own work. The initiative has two key parts: Part I includes a series of open workshops that cover the basic elements, ethics and outcomes of engaged scholarship during the academic year, and Part II involves an intensive and competitive design workshop for partnered scholarly projects.

Civic Advising Program
The Civic Advising Program, launched in fall 2020, is associated with the University of Pittsburgh Student Government Board. It provides students with the “Pathways of Public Service and Civic Engagement” survey on civic, community and engagement interests originally launched on campus as part of the “Pathways for Civic Growth” research project—and connects them with the civic advisors and experiences that best fit their interests.

Catalog of Opportunities
Learning outside of the classroom plays an important role for students when it comes to building lifelong competencies and ensuring success at Pitt and beyond. Pitt’s Catalog of Opportunities offers students the ability to find, track and share cocurricular activities and achievements in Business, Global, Honors, Outside the Classroom Credit and more.

Civic Learning Transcript Distinction
The University of Pittsburgh has demonstrated a maturing commitment to strengthening communities through engaged scholarship. Pitt now possesses a strong archipelago of administrative support, faculty expertise, and student interest in civic learning and community engagement. These stakeholder groups have informed a new “Civic Learning Distinction” at the University of Pittsburgh. The primary goals of the Civic Learning Distinction are to provide students with a mechanism to gain recognition and credit for their outside-the-classroom work and to increase the number of Pitt undergraduate students participating in civic learning and community engagement activities on and beyond campus.
**2022 HOST OFFICES**

**Office of Engagement and Community Affairs**

The Office of Engagement and Community Affairs (ECA) champions community engagement efforts across the Pitt system. ECA facilitates strategic community initiatives, leads the University's place-based engagements in the city of Pittsburgh, collaborates with the Office of the Provost to support engaged scholarship, maintains positive relationships with the neighbors and organizations closest to our campus footprint, and ensures that Pitt is a partner and asset to communities, locally to globally. ECA organizes itself through two overarching strategies: The Engaged Campus and Place-based Engagement. Find out more at community.pitt.edu.

**OFFICE OF THE PROVOST (ACADEMIC INNOVATION)**

**Forge Your Own Path**

When educational experiences and activities are designed around each student’s individual needs and interests, students learn more. Through the Forge Your Own Path strategy, an evolution of Pitt's Personalized Education Initiative, the University aims to integrate the rich expertise and network of the Pitt community with new and emerging technologies to provide customized, meaningful collaborations, connections, and experiences that will prepare and empower our students to lead lives of self-determined impact.

**Pitt Seed Projects**

The success of Pitt's strategic plan relies on engagement across the University. One of the efforts focused on increasing stakeholder participation is the annual opportunity for faculty and staff to submit ideas for Pitt Seed Projects, transformative projects that support one or more of the strategic objectives within the Plan for Pitt. Pitt Seed Projects play an instrumental role in improving how the University advances our mission. Projects well-suited to secure funding will: directly support outcomes identified in the Plan for Pitt, aim to improve internal systems and operations, prioritize transdisciplinary collaboration or impacts, and be scalable.

**MASCARO CENTER AND OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY**

**Office of Sustainability**

The University of Pittsburgh's Office of Sustainability was established in July 2018 to centralize campus-wide sustainability activities, strategies and partnerships. The Office of Sustainability leads University-wide sustainability strategy, activities, policies, collaborations and partnerships to advance the Pitt Sustainability Plan, which includes 61 measurable goals across stewardship, exploration, community and culture. Find out more at sustainable.pitt.edu.

**Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation**

The Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation aims to foster and achieve the University's sustainability vision through the development and integration of curriculum, groundbreaking research, community outreach and innovation.

Pitt's sustainability work has spanned decades, working to advance efforts of equity, environment and economics so that current and future generations can thrive. In advancing our current work on campus, in the classroom, and in partnership with our communities, environmental justice is core to our work and expanding, especially relating to research, teaching and community partnerships. Defined differently by many, environmental justice is focused on maintaining clean and healthy environments, especially for individuals and communities who have traditionally lived, worked and played closest to sources of pollution or negative environmental impacts (including from industrial, transportation, waste handling, bodies of water, and land acquisition and treatment practices). Environmental justice work strongly overlaps with social justice and environmental racism. Find out more at engineering.pitt.edu/MCSI/.
POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Business Management Capstone: Experiential Learning in the Bradford Community
The Pitt-Bradford Business Capstone enables students to learn via local firms by incorporating hands-on approaches, expanding perspectives, and developing skills.

PRESENTER: Amy Gresock

Eating Disorder Prevention for Adolescents: Stopping the Cycle of Food and Body Shame Before It Becomes a Disorder
Eating disorders are the second most life-threatening mental illnesses, which have been found to follow a multi-faceted biopsychosocial development pattern. While biology and individual psychiatric implications are difficult to implement on a wide scale, there is great opportunity for addressing the social and cultural implications of eating disorder development. Directing education to the critical development period of the adolescent age may be the most sustainable way to impact the social implications of eating disorder development. Through public school-based intervention programs across Allegheny County that will address adolescent students, caregivers and school faculty, there is opportunity to lower the risk of clinically significant eating disorders and sub-clinical disordered eating behaviors within the adolescent population and raise a new generation of adults that have more positive relationships with food and their body.

PRESENTER: Natalie Colantuono

Managing Diabetes through DISCO: Diabetes Intervention and Self-care Opportunities
The CEC completed the first session of the DISCO program through the SHRS Wellness Pavilion. The program addressed a top health priority: diabetes. Poorly managed diabetes can have negative life-altering complications including vision loss, foot ulcers and amputations, and kidney damage. This was an interdisciplinary program with students and faculty from the nutrition, pharmacy and physical therapy programs at the University of Pittsburgh. The main priorities were to discuss medication adherence, monitoring, and maintenance; discuss barriers and concerns with eating; and emphasize the importance of movement. Results show participants benefited from the program and acquired valuable education.

PRESENTERS: Umeka Ganjoo, Erika Thomas, Bonnie Virag, Caroline Passerrello, Catherine Rebitch, Alyssa Busco, Marielle Lynch, Allyson Wiker, Emily Walter, Melanie Wilkinson

Development of F.O.R.E.S.T.: A Post-transition Enrichment Day Program
Adults with disabilities face a gap in services when looking to develop advanced skills in independent living and community participation. The new Facilitating Occupational Readiness and Enrichment through the Skills Training (F.O.R.E.S.T.) program is being designed with sustainability in mind to support the long-term success of both the program and its participants. The current phase is focused on admissions criteria, funding, marketing and program evaluation.

PRESENTERS: Jessica Penater, Hannah Linden, Courtney Holzwarth, Christian Meeder, Nicole Saba Dolcich, Kelsey Voltz-Poremba, Ann Marsico

Development of the Pittsburgh Employment Readiness Screen (PERS): A Stages of Change Approach to Address Unemployment in the Homeless Population
Community agencies serving individuals experiencing homelessness do not have an objective tool to assess job readiness. The creation of a screening tool and application of a resource guide based on the Transtheoretical Model of Change (TTM) is a novel approach in moving toward a more client-centered, occupation-based method of service delivery. By incorporating TTM into the intake phase, service providers are better equipped to assist their participants by “meeting them where they are at.”

PRESENTERS: Sara Lessem, Katherine Grunewald, Jason Amado, Jason Amado, Emily Krut, Elissa Litchman, Kelsey Voltz-Poremba, Alyson Stover

Making Connections in the New Normal: Implementing Virtual Programming during a Pandemic for Low-income Community-dwelling Older Adults
This poster describes the creation and implementation of an activity program designed to combat the social isolation experienced by low-income, community-dwelling older adults as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and focuses on the process as informed by the Consolidated Framework Implementation Research in engaging stakeholders, utilizing virtual and physically distanced mediums, and evidence-based strategies to mitigate the negative effects of social isolation.

PRESENTERS: Katie Massarsky, Julia Kychun, Giulia Berardi Berardi, Alaina Wilson, Kelsey Voltz-Poremba, Pamela Toto

Developing and Implementing a Virtual, Community-based Program for Adults Affected by Cancer
Occupational therapists have the expertise to reduce cancer health disparities through the development and implementation of a virtual, community-based program. Self-management techniques, with a focus on occupation, help promote positive behavior change and increase performance and satisfaction in meaningful activities. To advance the field of occupational therapy, Live Life to the Fullest is a novel virtual program adapted to meet the growing health needs attributed to the global pandemic.

PRESENTERS: Lexy Zelcza, Ramya Krishna, Leighann Warholak, Cosette Carter, Cam Nguyen, Kelsey Voltz-Poremba, Jennifer White

Cost Savings Analysis of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Assistance Programs for the Birmingham Free Clinic
Birmingham Free Clinic offers medical and pharmaceutical services to uninsured individuals. All services are free for any patient. Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Assistance Programs (PMAP) are programs that allow patients in financial need
to receive their prescription medications for free. At the clinic, many medications for patients are obtained through PMAPs. We calculated the medication savings Birmingham Clinic accrued from by accessing medications for patients through PMAPs.

**PRESENTERS:** Daniel Dahmer, Kristin Bonzo, Kayo Tsuchihashi

**Grooving Our Way to Health: Nutrition Counseling and Physical Fitness in Adults with Down Syndrome**

The Adult Down Syndrome Center of Western Pennsylvania recently received grant funding through the Shadyside Hospital Foundation to implement nutrition services for a trial period. The center serves adults with Down syndrome and their families who have increased nutrition support needs due to higher risk for chronic disease and barriers to adequate care. Through the grant, a UPMC registered dietitian and a University of Pittsburgh dietetic intern have joined the center to provide nutrition counseling and education. The program aims to increase the health and wellness of patients through accessible, informed nutritional services.

**PRESENTERS:** Shannon Frizzell, Caroline Passerrello, Isabella Sedor, Anna Marie White, Heather Shiwasaki

**Pop-up Produce and Downloadable Education: How the University of Pittsburgh and American Heart Association Partnered to Provide Access During the Pandemic**

Accessing produce and the education necessary to its utilization are barriers to consuming the recommended servings of fruits and vegetables for adults and families in Allegheny and Fayette Counties. The American Heart Association (AHA) and the Pitt SHRS Nutrition and Dietetics program established a partnership to support the AHA’s pop-up produce box initiative. During the 6-month program, this partnership created videos, tips and recipes outlining produce-focused nutrition education. These materials corresponded with weekly produce received and followed AHA’s heart-healthy diet.

**PRESENTERS:** Caroline Passerrello, Brianna Dela Torre

**Undergraduate Engaged Scholarship Fellowships**

This session highlights the recent work of undergraduate students through the Browne Leadership Fellows (Social Work) and the Community Research Fellowship (University Honors College).

**PRESENTERS:** Julia Ferri, Alex Firestine, Samantha Balbier, Sydney O’Hara, Aliya Durham, Stacie Dow, Everett Herman

**Healthy Teeth, Healthy Me: Utilizing Community-engaged Research to Develop a Community-generated and Interprofessional Infant Oral Health Program in Homewood**

Researchers partnered with the Homewood CEC to develop a community-driven infant oral health program, “Healthy Teeth, Healthy Me,” that met community needs collaborator involvement and building community partnerships. The intervention was two-fold. First, interprofessional training sessions for dentistry, medicine, nurse practitioner and social work trainees in infant oral health and dental caries prevention were developed and conducted. Second, interprofessional trainees had the opportunity to observe virtual televisits for families with children under 3 years of age living in Homewood. The training sessions and family televisit provided education specific to the needs identified by the community partners.

**PRESENTERS:** Jacqueline Burgette, Toni Beasley, Shannah Tharp-Gilliam, Jerome Gloster, Alene D’Alesio, Daren Ellerbee, Katherine Watson, Daniel Rosen, Cynthia Chew

**Remote-care Interventions in Type 2 Diabetes Patients at a Free Clinic during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

The COVID-19 pandemic posed a burden on patients managing type 2 diabetes. This project evaluated the impact of remote interventions (telehealth, medication delivery, and self-monitoring devices) at a free clinic. The findings revealed that the mitigation strategies allowed the clinic to work with patients to minimize but not eliminate the burden of the pandemic on diabetes management.

**PRESENTERS:** Mary Herbert, Sharon Connor, Kendyl Sing, Chandrima Saha

**Building Programs to Engage Youth in Health Sciences: A Community and University Partnership**

The Oakland Planning and Development Corporation, the Hill District CEC, and University of Pittsburgh faculty have an ongoing partnership to deliver youth programming to engage students in activities highlighting various health care and science professions. This poster describes recent expansion of these programs.

**PRESENTERS:** Kirk Holbrook, Rebecca Gonda, Catherine Rebitch

**Developing a Data Science for Social Justice Curriculum at Pitt**

This project focuses on the development of a curricular model that can be used, across disciplines, to teach students how to use public data for civic engagement. The interdisciplinary project team has developed a pilot course designed to equip students passionate about social justice with knowledge that will allow them to use public interest technologies to implement projects that hold benefits for both students and community partners. Course content focuses on topics ranging from socially and culturally responsible research and data practices to the development of a proposal that utilizes data science for civic engagement.

**PRESENTERS:** Paulo Lima, Ron Idoko, Robert Gradeck, Sera Linardi, Brett Say

**Making and Celebrating Community**

The Making and Celebrating Community project is a partnership between the Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh and the Allegheny County Family Support Network.

**PRESENTERS:** Laura D’Ambrogi, Rhonda Hall, Anette Nance
PARTNERSHIPS OF DISTINCTION Awardees

The Pittsburgh Study K-3rd Grade 3Rs: Reading, Racial Equity, Relationships

As part of the Pittsburgh Study, a community-driven intervention study to enhance youth thriving, The Early School Age Cohort has developed a new literacy initiative focused on reading, racial equity, and relationships for kindergarten-3rd grade students in Allegheny County.

The 3Rs Initiative uses a 4-strand approach to support the entire early literacy ecosystem by working with families, classroom teachers, community organizations and local leaders. A foundational tenet of the 3Rs is that high-quality literacy experiences are inextricably linked to living in an equitable society and having strong relationships among children, adults and organizations. The 3Rs team believes that enhancing children’s literacy experiences begins with partnering with adults. We have two main strategies for creating meaningful opportunities for adults to develop their knowledge and practices around reading, racial equity and relationships: (1) picture books and (2) communities of practice.

PARTNERSHIP CONTACT: Shannon Wanless

Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh Youth Art Program

This partnership was forged by Pitt students, many of whom are first-generation immigrants and first-generation American college students, with the goal to strengthen the Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh (BCAP). BCAP consists of Bhutanese and Nepali refugees and is one of the largest and most cohesive immigrant organizations in Pittsburgh. 2022 will be the third year of this partnership and we will not only expand on our existing work, but actively ensure that this partnership will remain strong for upcoming years.

This BCAP Youth Art Program (BCAP YAP) provides services to an underserved population while directly and indirectly combating social issues like racism and inequality. During the pandemic, students received irregular and disrupted education. Groups like refugees and immigrants already are at a disadvantage and do not have access to “luxuries” like music and art. BCAP YAP fills in these gaps and provides additional enrichment to an underserved demographic. BCAP YAP exemplifies the ideals of both the University of Pittsburgh and BCAP. All individuals involved in this partnership want to empower the next generation of young students while supporting their families in any way possible.

PARTNERSHIP CONTACT: Michelle Khattri

The Allegheny County Policing Project

The Allegheny County Policing Project (ACPP) team is made up of a subset of members from Grief to Action (G2A), a working group at the University of Pittsburgh Center for Analytical Approaches in Social Innovation (CAASI). Grief to Action started in the summer of 2020 in the wake of George Floyd’s murder to use data analysis to address structural racism in Pittsburgh and beyond. The ACPP project aims to bring more transparency to the police accountability process at the local level.

PARTNERSHIP CONTACT: Sera Linardi
2022 CESF Collaboration Champion Awardee

The CESF Collaboration Champion Award is presented by the Community Engaged Scholarship Forum to recognize a member of the University of Pittsburgh community or a community partner who has made significant contributions to the University of Pittsburgh’s culture of collaboration, further sustaining and supporting the institution’s commitment to strengthening communities through teamed work.

2022 Awardee

Sophie Tayade is an undergraduate student and founding director of a summer art program in partnership with the Bhutanese Community Association of Pittsburgh (BCAP). She is experienced in inspiring student involvement through her role as a Blue & Gold Society ambassador, where she strengthened student ties to the University and alumni. As an ambassador for the European Studies Center, she assisted students in internationalizing their plans of study. Sophie began working with BCAP as campus director for the first Pitt cohort of the Millennium Fellowship in 2019, a sustainable and social impact fellowship put on by the United Nations Academic Impact initiative.

Sophie wanted to learn more about the Bhutanese and Nepali community, one of the largest and most organized immigrant and refugee groups in Pittsburgh, and her partnership with BCAP grew from health education and youth tutoring to a summer enrichment program. She led a team of Pitt student volunteers to provide 15 hours a week of lessons for ukulele, acting, dance and general arts. Due to the pandemic, programming evolved in a virtual setting to engage and connect young students while alleviating some stress from their families who may be working from home. Sophie applied and received funding from the University Honors College Racism Pandemic Project grant and recently, the CESF Partnership of Distinction Award to support the summer program, allowing them to embark on their third consecutive year.

Sophie is pursuing a double degree in Rehabilitation Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies. She plans on working as a physician while using media and storytelling to share valuable health information with audiences of different backgrounds. She credits the University for illuminating to her the value of interdisciplinary collaboration and is grateful for the support from faculty and her peers in allowing her to combine her excitement for art and service.

2022 Tracy Soska and John Wilds Outreach and Engagement Leadership Award

The Tracy Soska and John Wilds Outreach and Engagement Leadership Award was established in 2020 to honor a faculty member or staff engagement professional who serves the University of Pittsburgh through their outstanding dedication to University-community connections. Through their contributions, the awardee strengthens our institution’s knowledge, understanding, practice and reflection on the opportunities of community-based collaboration.

2022 Awardee

Jeff Shook is an Associate Professor of Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh. Broadly, Jeff’s scholarship focuses on the intersections of law, policy, and practice in the lives of children and families, with a focus on youth in the justice systems and child and family poverty. His commitment to using his research to affect change is apparent in his long-standing university-community connections through which he partners with community members and organizations to limit criminal legal system involvement of young people and combat poverty and income inequality.

Since becoming a member of the Pittsburgh community in 2005, Jeff has partnered with legal advocates and families of incarcerated youth, City Council members, and labor leaders, among others. In this work, he has not only lent his time and expertise to furthering community organization and policy change but has also mentored numerous social work students so they may learn, contribute, and engage in community change efforts. As such, Jeff demonstrates leadership in community outreach and engagement across the roles of an engaged social work scholar: research, teaching, and service.

SAVE THE DATE:

Tuesday March 7, 2023, at the University of Pittsburgh