

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

Advising Center .....	412-624-6444
Academic Resource Center .....	412-648-7920
Office of the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies.....	412-624-6480
Office of Freshman Programs .....	412-624-6828
Office of Experiential Learning.....	412-624-6828
Office of Student Records.....	412-624-6776

[www.as.pitt.edu/undergraduate](http://www.as.pitt.edu/undergraduate)

Questions or concerns? E-mail us at [pittpride@as.pitt.edu](mailto:pittpride@as.pitt.edu).



University of Pittsburgh

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Undergraduate Studies  
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## News & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### • Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising

George Bandik, senior lecturer and director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Chemistry, received the second annual Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising. Bandik is recognized for more than 10 years of commitment to undergraduate advising for the chemistry department. The Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize is funded by the Fair Oaks Foundation for Leisure and the Arts.

### • Reminder: Special Receptions for Graduating Seniors

Academic departments often host special receptions to recognize graduating seniors. If you have a senior graduating in April, please contact your student's home department for more information about planned festivities. For contact information, go to [www.pitt.edu/academics.html](http://www.pitt.edu/academics.html).

### • August Graduation Notice

March 28 is the deadline to apply for August 2008 graduation. Applications can be picked up at 140 Thackeray Hall. For more information, contact the Office of Student Records at 412-624-6776.

### • Scholarship Award Invitations

Watch your e-mail for scholarship award invitations. Eligible students (those with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5, 50–90 credits, and no more than 30 advanced standing credits) will receive letters of invitation and applications via Pitt student e-mail accounts in mid-March. Scholarship awards will be for the 2008–09 academic year.

## 2008 COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

On Sunday, April 27, the University of Pittsburgh will hold its 2008 Commencement Convocation at the John M. and Gertrude E. Petersen Events Center. Approximately 6,000 students will receive their degrees\* during this annual event. Students should look for information about Graduation Central, held April 8–9 in the J.W. Connolly Ballroom of Alumni Hall, where they will receive instructions about the ceremony, purchase caps and gowns, and have the opportunity to learn about staying connected to their alma mater through membership in the Pitt Alumni Association. For more information about commencement, contact the Office of Special Events at 412-624-7100. And remember, departments often have their own graduation celebrations, so be sure to contact your student's home department office for details. Congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 2008!

*\*Note: To be eligible for April graduation, students must have completed the Graduation Application, received approval of the dean, and be in good financial standing with the University.*

The University of Pittsburgh, as an educational institution and as an employer, values equality of opportunity, human dignity, and racial/ethnic and cultural diversity. Accordingly, the University prohibits and will not engage in discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or a veteran of the Vietnam era. Further, the University will continue to take affirmative steps to support and advance these values consistent with the University's mission. This policy applies to admissions, employment, and access to and treatment in University programs and activities. This is a commitment made by the University and is in accordance with federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations.

For information on University equal opportunity and affirmative action programs and complaint/grievance procedures, please contact the University of Pittsburgh; Office of Affirmative Action, Diversity, and Inclusion; 412 Bellefield Hall; 315 South Bellefield Avenue; Pittsburgh, PA 15260; 412-648-7860.

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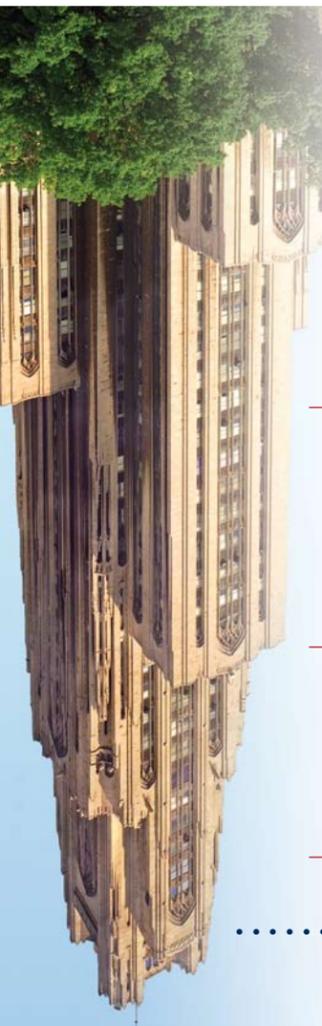
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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Month	Event
March	7 Spring term deadline for students to submit Monitored Withdrawal forms to the dean's office
9-16	Spring recess for students (no classes); University offices and buildings remain open and staffed during spring recess except on Friday, Spring Holiday
14	Observance of Spring Holiday—University closed
20	Fall term registration and add/drop period begins; first two days reserved for seniors
April	18 Spring term last day for undergraduate day classes
19	Reading Day
21-26	Final examination period for all undergraduate day classes
26	Spring term ends; official date for degrees awarded in spring term
27	Residence halls close (except for graduating seniors)
27	2008 Commencement Convocation
May	4 Residence halls open for summer term
5	Summer term registration period ends and classes begin
16	Summer term add/drop period ends
26	Memorial Day—University closed
June	21 Official date for awarding of degrees
23	Summer 6-week (2) session registration period ends and classes begin
25	Summer 6-week (2) session add/drop period ends
July	4 Independence Day—University closed
5	Summer 4-week (2) session ends; final examinations scheduled during last class meeting
9	Fall term deadline for continuing students to register without penalty fee
August	2 Summer 12-week, 6-week (2), and 4-week (3) sessions end; final examinations scheduled during last class meeting
9	Summer term ends; final examinations scheduled during last class meeting
9	Official date for awarding of degrees
10	Residence halls close
20	Residence halls open for fall term
25	Fall term registration period ends and classes begin

For the online academic calendar, go to [www.provost.pitt.edu/information-on/calendar.html](http://www.provost.pitt.edu/information-on/calendar.html).



**HISTORY:** *Who and Why We Are*

*"History is a guide to navigation in perilous times. History is who we are and why we are the way we are."*—David McCullough, historian, Pulitzer Prize-winning author, and Pittsburgh native

Amid the media barrage of updates on the presidential election, predictions about economic growth, and reports about ongoing world conflicts, it is difficult to escape the ghosts of people and events past. In the middle of a rapidly changing world, we continue to be fascinated by the stories of those who came before us.

History continues to play an essential role in determining who we are now and who we will become. It is no wonder, then, that the University of Pittsburgh Department of History has experienced significant growth and changes in academic focus.

Since 1997, the number of students who major in history at Pitt has nearly tripled. "We are seeing more and more students with not only interest in but passion for history," says Marcus Rediker, chair of the Department of History. "Our students recognize the value a history degree brings to virtually any professional pursuit. [By majoring in history,] they invest in a solid foundation for whatever career path they choose."

Pitt alumni who have majored in history represent a diverse group of skilled practitioners that include lawyers, teachers, and athletes. For example, former Big East basketball Coplayer of the Year and NBA player Brandin Knight—who received a Bachelor of Arts in history in 2005—is currently Pitt's director of men's basketball operations.

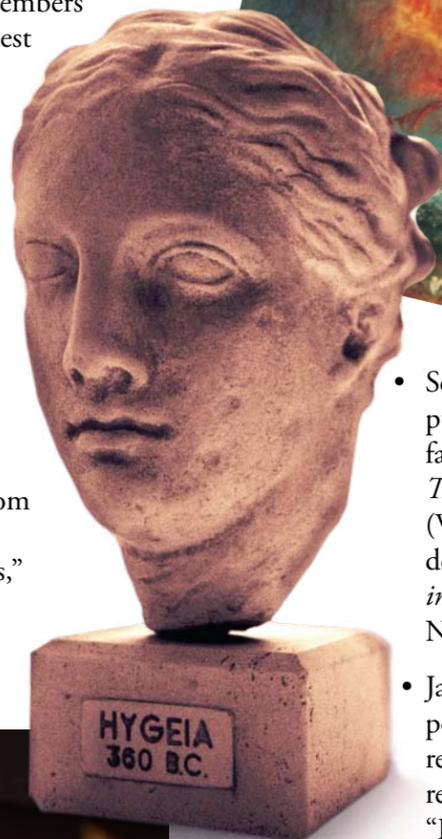
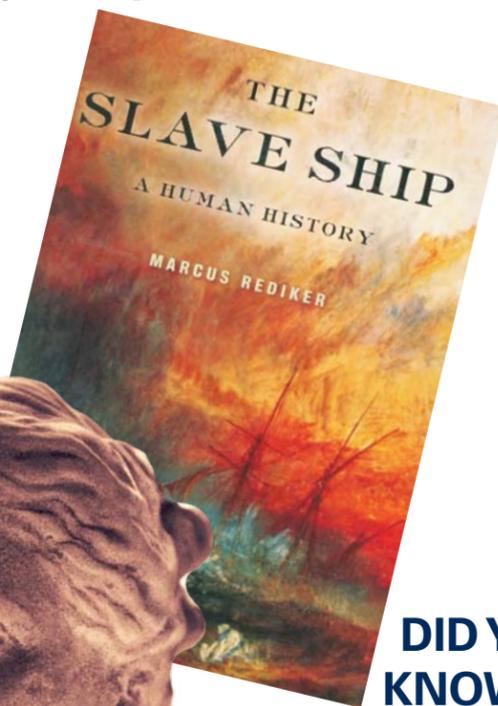
As part of the department's growth, faculty members have focused on teaching history in the broadest sense and on establishing a transnational history perspective. The department has a distinguished reputation for its teacher/scholars, who specialize in comparative U.S., European, Latin American, and East Asian history and who contribute to Pitt's world-renowned University Center for International Studies. The department has built on this strength by developing a cutting-edge focus on linking these regions with the movement of African peoples to the New World—a significant global shift. "We are ahead of the academic trend in moving from national history to the transnational flows of people, commodities, and ideas across borders," says Rediker. "This is a much more comprehensive approach and one better suited to the globalized world in which we live."

To further enhance this transnational focus, the School of Arts and Sciences is supporting the department's development of a world history center, to be spearheaded by Patrick Manning, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of World History.

The center, with links to the University Center for International Studies, will accumulate knowledge in many fields to develop a global and interactive picture of human social change.

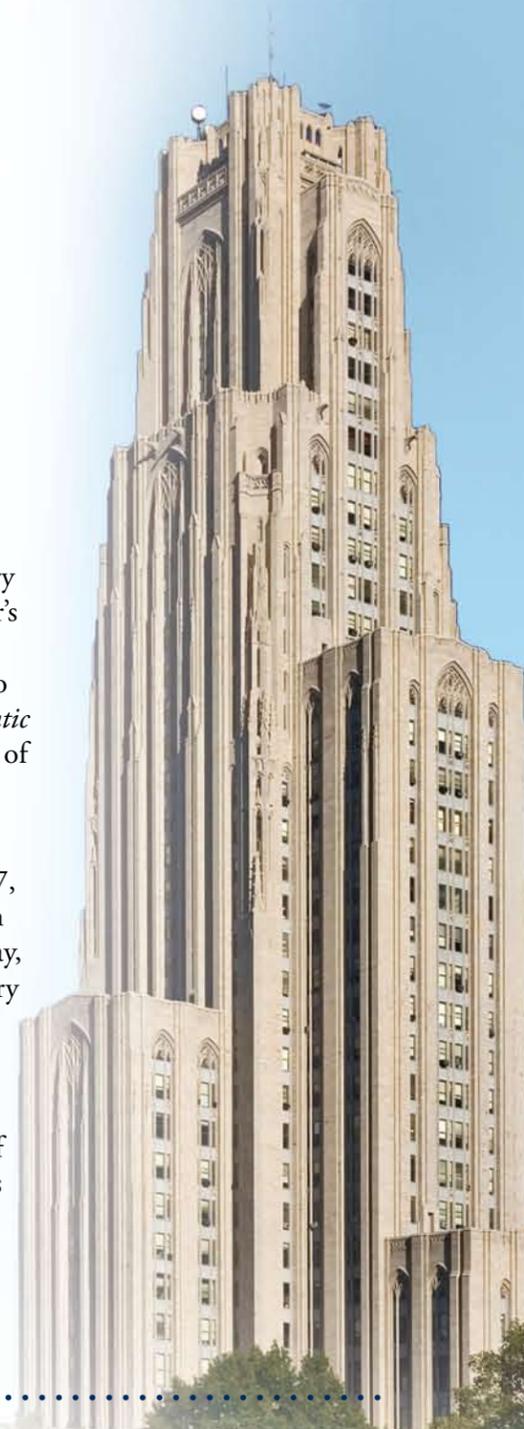
Pitt's undergraduate history program also offers students specialized courses (such as two New World history classes) internship opportunities, and emphasis on developing written and oral communication and critical analysis skills. According to Rediker, "Our faculty engage the students to take advantage of the many opportunities Pitt provides to enrich their academic experience."

For more information on the Department of History's programs, seminars, and lectures, visit [www.pitt.edu/~pitthist](http://www.pitt.edu/~pitthist). To learn more about the University's centers, go to [www.pitt.edu/centers.html](http://www.pitt.edu/centers.html).



**DID YOU KNOW:**

- Several books recently have been published by Department of History faculty members, including Rediker's *The Slave Ship: A Human History* (Viking Adult, 2007) and Alejandro de la Fuente's *Havana and the Atlantic in the Sixteenth Century* (University of North Carolina Press, 2008).
- Jacob Vanzin, who earned a BA in political science and history in 2007, received a first prize Ossip Award in research writing in 2007 for his essay, "From Slaves to Solidarity: The Story of the Coal Miners of Somerset County during the Great Coal Strike of 1922."
- The Department of History and Pitt's School of Education recently joined forces to offer a Master of Arts degree in history education, which combines graduate study in history with professional training and certification in social studies education. For more information, visit [www.education.pitt.edu/socialstudies/dindex.aspx?did=229](http://www.education.pitt.edu/socialstudies/dindex.aspx?did=229).



## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

# Celebrate Pittsburgh 250

As a member of the Pittsburgh community for more than 220 years, the University of Pittsburgh is pleased to join the regional celebration known as Pittsburgh 250. In 1758, the British defeated the French at Fort Duquesne, where the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers meet to form the Ohio River. They renamed the site Fort Pitt in honor of William Pitt the Elder (1708–1778), then British secretary of state, and its surrounding garrison town Pittsburgh.

In the 250 years since its founding as a fortress, Pittsburgh has evolved into a vibrant city of world-class educational institutions, cultural organizations, high-tech and biotech companies, and premier health care facilities. The University of Pittsburgh has been a significant partner in the growth of the region. With our own proud history of noted alumni—including Academy Award-winning actor, choreographer, and dancer Gene Kelly; Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Michael Chabon; Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Muta Maathai; and Nobel laureate Paul Lauterbur—the School of Arts and Sciences continues to attract high-achieving students who excel both inside and outside the classroom. Today's Arts and Sciences students will be tomorrow's leaders and agents of change.

Perhaps, as you plan your family vacation, you will consider discovering the rich history of Pittsburgh and its surrounding communities. Pitt's academic units likely will offer a variety of lectures and conferences on various aspects of the 250th anniversary and the future of the region. Be sure to check out our Web site at [www.as.pitt.edu](http://www.as.pitt.edu) as well as [www.imaginepittsburgh.com](http://www.imaginepittsburgh.com) throughout the year for a complete list of community programs and events.

With best wishes for a summer filled with making memories,

### Juan J. Manfredi

Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies



## FACULTY PROFILE

# History: The Truth Is Out There

On the first day of class, Alejandro de la Fuente gives a warning to his students: While it is good to have him, a native of Cuba, teaching them about that region, he is, in fact, a walking bias. Inevitably, one student always says that is true of every professor. De la Fuente agrees. "From the books we assign, to the questions we pose, to what we choose to cover in class, we bring subjectivity to the history we teach," he says.

A charismatic lawyer turned historian, de la Fuente asserts that history is not something that is out there to be seized but rather a process in which one actively constructs the past by asking intelligent questions. "I do not want students simply to open books and remember dates," says de la Fuente. "I want them to be curious, to go out and find credible sources, to seek answers, and to be able to support with credibility whatever conclusions they make."

After receiving his law degree from the University of Havana and teaching classes there in legal history, de la Fuente decided to focus on his passion for Latin American and Caribbean history by earning his doctoral degree from the University of Pittsburgh. Then he left, but not for long. After teaching at the University of South Florida for four years, he came back to Pitt. "I knew, with its world-class history department and Center for Latin American Studies, that Pitt was the place for me. Pitt gave me great opportunities as a student, which is why I enjoy giving back as a faculty member," says de la Fuente.

De la Fuente brings a global perspective to his classes by focusing on the link between the Latin American world and the United States. "What happens throughout the Americas is so interconnected and relevant to our lives here," says de la Fuente. One of his biggest challenges in teaching is trying to bring the experiences of foreign countries into the classroom. According to de la Fuente, "Mercifully, most of our students have never known the horrors that are

## FUTURE LEADERS

# Learn Today

## A QUEST TO UNDERSTAND CONFLICT

Senior Daniel Kysela says the military is in his blood. "I have a long military tradition in my family," shares the Chicago native. "It was natural for me to study its history and join the military myself."

Kysela joined the Pennsylvania Army National Guard when he was 17 years old. "I was unsure about what I wanted to do right after high school. When I started at Pitt, I knew history would be my major, but I did not know what my long-term goals would be," says Kysela.

As a member of the 1st Battalion 110th Infantry unit, Kysela did a 12-month tour of duty in Iraq midway through his studies at Pitt. Stationed in a rural area between Ramadi and Fallujah, Kysela experienced a chaotic third-world environment. Offers Kysela, "We walked from house to house amid open sewers and where there was no electricity much of the time. It truly made me appreciate my life and my educational opportunities."

Upon his return to Pitt, Kysela decided to bolster his course load to catch up on the three terms he missed while in combat. It is no surprise that one of his favorite classes was The American Way of War, taught by noted military historian Donald Goldstein. "I wish that class could have lasted longer—it was terrific," reminisces Kysela.

Kysela also engaged in educational opportunities outside the classroom. He joined Pitt's College Republicans chapter and volunteered with Lynn Swann's gubernatorial campaign, during which he canvassed



Pittsburgh's hilly neighborhoods—good training for this marathon runner. In addition, thanks to advice from his faculty advisor, Tony Novosel, and help from the Office of Experiential Learning, Kysela obtained a for-credit internship at Soldiers and Sailors Military Museum and Memorial in Oakland. There he assisted the curator with donations and got to catalog military artifacts. Kysela continues to volunteer at the museum and serves as a member of its speakers bureau, going to local high schools on Veterans Day to share his experiences with students not much younger than he.

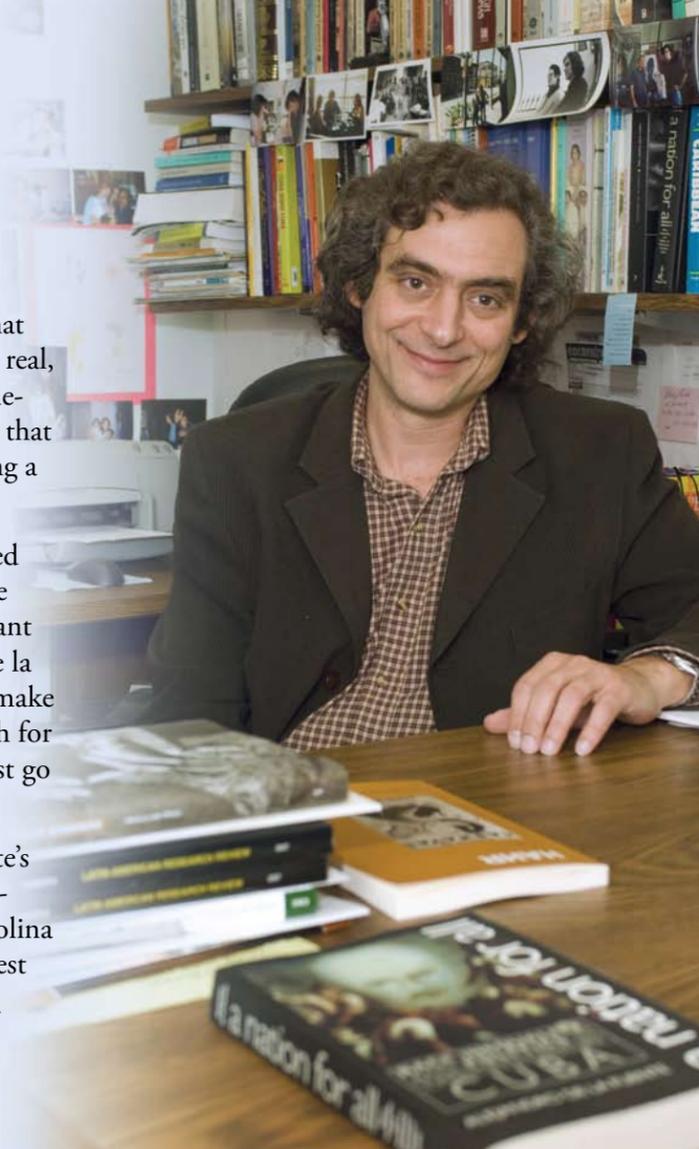
It was during Kysela's tour in Iraq that he decided he wanted to become a teacher. He plans to pursue a master's degree at Pitt's School of Education after graduation and to continue to serve in the National Guard, perhaps serving a second tour of duty. "The faculty in the history department have been great," says Kysela. "My experience at Pitt has helped me decide where I want to go from here."

## Go Find It!

experienced daily in the Latin American world—and throughout the globe, for that matter.” To make these experiences more real, de la Fuente uses documentaries to supplement texts. For instance, he shows a film that provides different points of view regarding a 1973 military coup in Chile.

Testimonies from those who have suffered tyranny also are introduced as part of the historical record. “Dictatorial regimes want to silence the voice of humanity,” says de la Fuente. “It is our civic responsibility to make their statements permanent and to search for the truth. It won’t come to you; you must go out and get it.”

You can find out more about de la Fuente’s book, *Havana and the Atlantic in the Sixteenth Century* (University of North Carolina Press, 2008); research; and areas of interest at [www.pitt.edu/~pitthist/faculty/de\\_la\\_fuente.html](http://www.pitt.edu/~pitthist/faculty/de_la_fuente.html).



## Sailing on the Seas of Blue

This summer, as many as 20 School of Arts and Sciences undergraduates will have the opportunity to live like people did in “the good old days.” As part of the second annual 12-week, four-credit summer course offered by the Department of History, students enrolled in HIST 0606: Maritime History and the Great Lakes will sail for three weeks as part of the crew on the U.S. Brig *Niagara* ([www.brigniagara.org](http://www.brigniagara.org)), a two-masted ship with square sails on both masts.

Before embarking, students must complete an online course to learn some of the history of wooden sailing vessels. On board, they will learn basic seamanship while living the way the ship’s crew did when they fought in the War of 1812. They will attend lectures and demonstrations by the ship’s captain and the course instructor, Timothy Walker, adjunct faculty member, and visit historical sites and maritime museums.

“This summer, we might get up into the Straits of Mackinac and Mackinac Island,” Walker says. “We expect to make some stops in Canada, which will give the students a taste of docking in a foreign port. Sailing the Great Lakes will give students an idea of what it took to create the maritime empires and explain the colonization of North America.”

Eli Dile, a junior history major, enrolled in the course last summer. “Not only were we able to live history, but [we] learned about teamwork and responsibility as well. Anyone who is considering taking this course should realize that a lot of hard work is involved. But, in the end, it is rewarding and lots of fun.”

The captain and crew of the ship have experience sailing wooden vessels and are U.S. Coast Guard-certified and -licensed. The ship is inspected by the U.S. Coast Guard and is fully insured.

The sailing portion of this summer’s Maritime History and the Great Lakes course will run from June 28 through July 19, 2008. To learn more about this course, visit the Department of History Web site at [www.pitt.edu/~pitthist](http://www.pitt.edu/~pitthist) or call 412-648-7451.



Instructor Timothy Walker (right) shows Pitt student Malia Mason how to tie a bowline knot.

Photo by Rebecca Shumway (Department of History)

# EI

## EATING DISORDERS ON CAMPUS

By Kathleen Whittaker, PhD  
University Counseling Center

Eating disorders continue to be prevalent in our society. Trends include an increase in males presenting with symptoms, earlier onset for both males and females, and more students starting college with long histories of prior eating disorders. On college campuses, concerns come from many sources—students themselves, parents, faculty, and staff.

*What are the symptoms of the two main categories of eating disorders?*

**Anorexia nervosa:** extremely low weight, refusal to achieve or maintain a healthy weight, loss of menstrual cycle, extreme fear of gaining weight, distorted body image, and restricting food and liquid intake

**Bulimia nervosa:** a pattern of bingeing on food followed by compensatory behaviors to alleviate anxiety about food intake (such as vomiting, fasting, or over-exercising); excessive focus on body image; and fear of weight gain

*How can you recognize eating disorder symptoms in your daughter or son?*

**Physical indicators of anorexia nervosa:** extremely low weight, rapid/severe weight loss, tiredness, hair loss, weakness, and loss of menstrual cycle

**Physical indicators of bulimia nervosa:** any of the above symptoms of anorexia nervosa, sore throats, dental damage, and stomach pains

**Emotional indicators:** sadness, depression, mood shifts, anxiety, fear, confusion, and hopelessness

**Cognitive indicators:** obsessing about eating, body image, and weight; concentration problems; and loss of intellectual interest

**Behavioral indicators:** refusal to eat previously enjoyed foods, unwillingness to eat with others, withdrawal from others, eating large amounts of food followed by vomiting or another compensatory behavior, excessive exercise, and excessive verbalization of negative body image

*Tips for parents:*

- Ensure that your daughter or son has regular medical checkups.
- Notice, and take seriously, any of the indicators listed above.
- Address concerns directly to the student and express support, but also express the intention to set limits when necessary.
- Consult with a professional through either services at Pitt or elsewhere.

*Resources:*

University of Pittsburgh  
University Counseling Center  
334 William Pitt Union  
3959 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260  
412-648-7930  
[www.counseling.pitt.edu](http://www.counseling.pitt.edu)

University of Pittsburgh  
Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic  
Center for Overcoming Problem Eating  
Eighth Floor, Thomas Detre Hall  
3811 O’Hara Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260  
412-647-9329

National Eating Disorders Association  
[www.nationaleatingdisorders.org](http://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org)