



OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
ANNUAL REPORT 2025–26



LEADERSHIP

Board of Trustees

John J. Verbanac , Chairperson	Jay Cleveland Jr.	Roberta A. Luxbacher*	Charles M. Steiner*
Lisa A. Golden , Vice Chairperson	John G. Conomikes*	John A. Maher III	William E. Strickland Jr.*
Aerion A. Abney	Jay Costa Jr.	Jeffrey D. Martchek	John P. Surma
Majdi B. Abulaban	James P. Covert*	Larry J. Merlo*	John A. Swanson*
Robert O. Agbede	Michael I. Danovitz	George L. Miles Jr.*	John T. Tighe III
Curtis Aiken	George A. Davidson Jr.*	Alfred L. Moyé*	A. David Tilstone*
Jane Bilewicz Allred*	Catherine D. DeAngelis*	Martha Hartle Munsch*	Stephen R. Tritch*
John A. Barbour*	D. Michael Fisher*	Marlee S. Myers*	Thomas J. Usher*
G. Nicholas Beckwith III*	Salvatore Antonio Fratto	Valerie T. Njie*	Thomas L. VanKirk*
Salisa L. Berrien	David C. Frederick	Corey O'Connor**	Peter C. Varischetti
Thomas G. Bigley*	Joan Gabel	John H. Pelusi Jr.*	Kevin Wade
Eva Tansky Blum*	Deborah J. Gillotti	William Pierce	Adam C. Walker
Sundaa Bridgett-Jones	John P. Gismondi	Robert P. Randall*	Kevin Walker
Suzanne W. Broadhurst*	E. Jeanne Gleason*	Mary Beth Richards	William Ward Jr.
Thomas Brooks	J. Roger Glunt*	Carrie Rowe**	Michael G. Wells
Gary T. Brownlee*	Edward J. Grefenstette	Bryan S. Salesky	Marna Cupp Whittington*
Michael A. Bryson*	Robert M. Hernandez*	Keith E. Schaefer*	Sam S. Zacharias*
Mary Ellen Callahan*	Dawne S. Hickton*	Richard T. Sedory	
Hui Debra Cen	Earl F. Hord*	Josh D. Shapiro**	*Emeritus
Louis R. Cestello*	Sara Innamorato**	Jack D. Smith*	**Ex Officio
David C. Chavern*	S. Jeffrey Kondis*	Emil M. Spadafore Jr.*	FY2027
	William K. Lieberman	Merrill Stabile	
	Robert G. Lovett*	Andréa Stanford	

Senior Leadership Team

Joan Gabel
Chancellor

Phil Bakken
Vice Chancellor and Secretary of the Board of Trustees

David Brown
Vice Chancellor for Government Relations and Advocacy

Lina Dostilio
Vice Chancellor for External Relations

Kimberlee Eberle-Sudré
Chancellor Gabel's Chief of Staff

James W. Gallaher Jr.
Vice Chancellor for Human Resources

Allen Greene
Director of Athletics

William Haldeman
Vice Chancellor and Chief Strategy Officer

Mark D. Henderson
Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer

Joseph J. McCarthy
Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor

Carla Panzella
Vice Provost for Student Affairs

Clyde Wilson Pickett
Vice Chancellor for Institutional Engagement and Wellbeing

Dwayne Lee Pinkney
Executive Senior Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, Chief Financial Officer

Rachel Decker Richelieu
Vice Chancellor for Communications and Marketing

Rob A. Rutenbar
Senior Vice Chancellor for Research

Anantha Shekhar
Senior Vice Chancellor for the Health Sciences,
John and Gertrude Petersen Dean of the School of Medicine

Geovette Washington
Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Legal Officer

Kevin Washo
Senior Vice Chancellor for External Relations





CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Pitt community,

In reflecting on the 2025-26 academic year, I am so proud of what we have accomplished together.

Aligned through the Plan for Pitt, our researchers pushed the boundaries of possibility into new frontiers, including space, where the new Trivedi Institute for Space and Global Biomedicine is applying insights from spaceflight to improve health on Earth. Our students, including a record first-year class, grew into civic-minded leaders and innovators through the continuation of the Campuswide Immersion Pilot with the Institute for Citizens & Scholars.

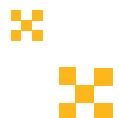
Our world-class faculty and staff were recognized nationally and globally by organizations ranging from national academies to professional organizations. And our partnerships, including with our city and state, deepened in ways that will generate impact for generations to come, from a \$5 million commitment to Pittsburgh's neighborhoods to transformative philanthropic investments in our students and scholars.

This report highlights the breadth and depth of this work and much more. In that spirit, I want to express my sincere appreciation to our community of students, faculty, staff, alumni and partners for the incredible road we have traveled as well as for the countless acts of service and impact that are testaments to what is uniquely possible at Pitt.

I look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the year ahead.

Hail to Possible and Hail to Pitt!

Joan Gabel
Chancellor



Value and Affordability

We Understand Our Students' Unique Needs

Pitt Finish Line Grants offer a one-time nonrenewable need-based grant tailored to offer timely financial assistance to undergraduate students who are within one to two terms of completing their degrees. Prioritizing the economic needs of our students, Pitt Finish Line Grants are a key initiative in the Plan for Pitt aimed at facilitating our students' journey to a successful graduation and meeting our students where they are. Since it was announced two years ago on Chancellor Joan Gabel's 100th day at Pitt, the Finish Line Grant program has supported 152 students on their way to graduation, for a total of more than

\$875,000
in support.

In the first term of his senior year, **Jared Nunez** (BUS '26) realized that he and his family would have to make some tough financial decisions. The pay from his summer internship had gone toward that term's tuition, and he was considering having to take out loans or take a gap year before graduation. Then, after talking to Pitt financial aid advisors, he realized that he met the eligibility criteria for a Finish Line Grant. "A couple weeks later, I checked my account, and the balance ended up being \$0," he says. "That moment is still just so clear to me. It motivated me to work much harder and be grateful for what I have and what I can do in the future." Now Nunez's years of hard work and networking have paid off. He graduated in May 2026 and lined up his first job as an analyst with the Bank of New York Mellon Corporation in New York City.



"I couldn't have done this without Pitt," he said.

THE PITT REGIONAL CAMPUS TUITION PLEDGE

was launched in April 2026 and serves as a tuition-free program for eligible Pennsylvania residents enrolled at the Bradford, Greensburg and Johnstown campuses as well as in the Titusville nursing program beginning in fall 2026. Students whose household adjusted gross income is \$75,000 or less will pay nothing in tuition. This initiative is part of Pitt's broader regional enrollment strategy through the Plan for Pitt in 2026 and reflects our deep commitment to the students attending our regional campuses while also strengthening the communities our regional campuses serve.



"We have a significant fraction of our students who have substantial financial need, and this will, I think, be a real advantage for them. Not only will it benefit students whomight have been reluctant to start college, it will also keep students who may have run into financial concerns and were wondering how they were going to continue paying for college."

Robert Gregerson, President, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg

MORE THAN
4 out of **10**
students graduate
DEBT FREE.



Pitt maintains the lowest average debt among our state-related peers.

The Princeton Review named Pitt a **best value college for the highest return on investment.**



Grad Rates

According to the latest publicly available data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, our **four-year graduation rate of 77.8% is a record high.**

Rates are for the Pittsburgh campus only.

78%

Four-year rate

85%

Six-year rate

**TOP
5%**

**grad rate of all
public colleges
and universities**

fall 2018 cohort

Pitt student-athletes reached a **94% graduation success rate (GSR)**, the highest recorded in department history, as released by the NCAA. GSR measures the proportion of student-athletes who earn a degree within six years of initial enrollment (the 2018-19 first-year cohort for this year's report). **Pitt is well above the national average of 90%.**

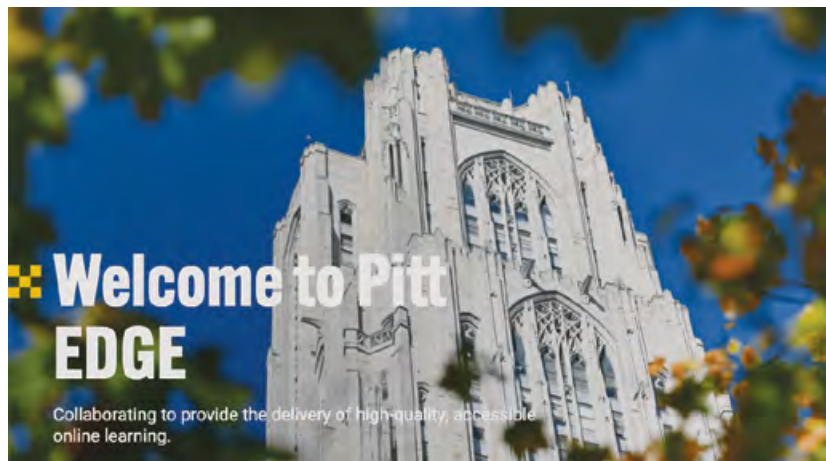
94%

Graduation Success Rate (GSR)

Pitt is a Great Investment

Top-Ranked Programs Launched in High Demand Areas

In October 2025, Pitt announced the launch of its first online undergraduate degree. The new Bachelor of Science in health informatics from the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences launched in fall 2026, becoming one of the first fully online accredited undergraduate programs in the country with a dedicated focus on AI in health care.



“The new online **Bachelor of Science in health informatics** truly embodies our center’s mission to deliver accessible, affordable and high-quality

education that meets emerging workforce demands. This accredited program integrates cutting-edge artificial intelligence with health informatics to prepare the next generation of professionals driving innovation across the health care system.”

Anthony Delitto, Associate Provost for Digital Education, who leads the University’s Center for Excellence in Digital Education (Pitt EDGE)



“**Health informatics** plays a critical role in preparing students to understand health care administration from start to finish, bringing

together processes, people and technology to directly support better patient outcomes. The addition of the online BS in health informatics will expand access to these critical skills, equipping graduates to improve care quality, safety, efficiency and the overall patient experience across health care organizations.”

Julie Lechlitter (SHRS ’22G), Systems Analyst, Senior, Enterprise Data Management, UPMC Information Technology

The School of Education launched a new fully online Graduate Certificate in **Infant Mental Health** as part of the University's Pitt Online portfolio. Addressing a critical nationwide shortage of trained infant and

early childhood mental health professionals, the flexible online graduate certificate is designed for working professionals and offered at an affordable tuition rate. The initial cohort began in fall 2026.



“Our new online Certificate in Infant Mental Health equips Pennsylvania’s early childhood workforce with accessible training that integrates both cutting-edge research and best practices to strengthen families and communities. Drawing on our faculty’s deep expertise and our long-standing commitment to early childhood education, we are addressing a growing statewide need and enhancing outcomes for all children through evidence-based research and practical application.”

Eboni M. Zamani-Gallaher, Renée and Richard Goldman Dean,
University of Pittsburgh School of Education

The University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, in partnership with the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, launched a bachelor’s degree program in **emergency medicine**. Students in the program, which will see its first graduates in 2028, gain the expertise and skills to become certified paramedics, fluent in critical care medicine, and fill an important workforce need, as almost a third of Pennsylvania’s population lives in rural areas.



“We can’t sustain ourselves without investing in emergency services in the region. It’s essential [that] we train professionals and add them to the workforce because the need is so large.”

Richard Esch, President, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford and University of Pittsburgh at Titusville



Fire chief Brett Butler’s great grandfather worked for the City of Bradford Fire Department around 1915, roughly the time the photo he’s holding was taken.



Jay McKenzie is an emergency medical technician, a firefighter, a history and political science major and the first City of Bradford Fire Department employee to also juggle a full-time college workload.



Pitt joined the list of Top 25 public universities nationwide while improving its rank among all institutions by 10 spots (to 59th overall) in U.S. News and World Report’s 2027 edition of its national university rankings.

Best-in-Class Postgraduation Outcomes

96%

of undergraduate alumni from our Pittsburgh campus—more than 10 percentage points above the national benchmark**—have a job or graduate school placement within six months of their degree.

****The National Association of Colleges and Employers overall outcomes rate for bachelor's degree recipients for the Class of 2024 was 85.7%. The Class of 2025 rate will be available in fall 2026.**



TIME and Statista recognized Pitt as one of the best colleges for future leaders.

No. 7

Pitt is ranked seventh (tie) among Association of American Universities publics for college graduates earning more than a high school graduate.

2026 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges

Demand for a Pitt Degree Has Never Been Higher

Our Pittsburgh campus received a record number of first-year applications—

over

74,000

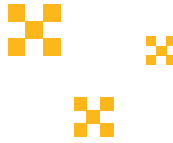
—for fall 2026, and undergraduate enrollment remains on pace to reach the Plan for Pitt goal of 22,000 by 2028.

Over the past five years, the number of first-year applications to the Pittsburgh campus has increased

by more than

113%

Celebrating Students



SOPHIA FREEMYER

Sophia Freemyer is a 2026 honors graduate of the David C. Frederick Honors College and the Swanson School of Engineering with a major in environmental engineering. She received a DAAD graduate fellowship, a Fulbright student research award to Germany, and a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. She was piccolo section leader for the Pitt Varsity Marching Band and previously served as the head of the band's tradition committee. She also conducted research at the National Energy Technology Laboratory as a U.S. Department of Energy Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education fellow.



HANNAH SCHWARZ

Hannah Schwarz is a PhD student in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences in the School of Public Health. She was selected as a 2026-27 Fulbright scholar and also received the Deborah Jeanne Gillotti Graduate Fellowship Award from University Center for International Studies to support her dissertation research in Nepal. Her community-engaged research focuses on adolescent experiences of chhaupadi, the cultural practice of menstrual seclusion in far-west Nepal. Schwarz's research builds on her experiences serving in the Peace Corps and as a Foreign Language and Area Studies fellow.



SATYAJ BHARGAVA

Satyaj Bhargava, a 2026 honors graduate of the Swanson School of Engineering and the David C. Frederick Honors College, was awarded the 2026 Emma W. Locke Memorial Award, Pitt's highest undergraduate honor, recognizing one senior each year for exceptional scholarship, character, and leadership. He was a 2025 Barry M. Goldwater scholar and the author of multiple peer-reviewed papers. Bhargava's research spans brain vasculature imaging; wet lab work in the School of Medicine's MechanoBiology Laboratory; and the development of DavaLo, a medication management system designed for underserved hospitals in India. Bhargava also was a lead percussionist in the Pitt Symphony Orchestra and a Swanson School University Scholar.



SAM PODNAR

Samantha Podnar is a 2026 honors graduate of the David C. Frederick Honors College and the Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences with a degree in politics and philosophy. Her passion for community advocacy and policymaking shaped her time at Pitt, leading to several rich experiences and accomplishments, including a 2025 Harry S. Truman Scholarship in recognition of her public service work; a William J. Keefe Congressional Fellowship; and a Martinson Elevate Award to study transatlantic relations in Brussels, Belgium. Podnar also was a member of the Elsie Hillman Honors Scholars Program, an initiative that connects students with nonprofits to develop community-beneficial projects or conduct research.

Pitt is a Research Powerhouse

\$1.505 B

Pitt's total research and development expenditures reached \$1.505 billion for fiscal year 2024, a 7.6% increase in spending year over year.

TOP 20

Pitt maintains a top-20 position (17th) among American institutions in overall research expenditures and in expenditures from federal funding.

2024 Higher Education Research and Development Survey.

No. 7

In National Institutes of Health funding, Pitt ranks seventh. Nationally, Pitt ranks 12th in expenditures from federal sources, including a rise, with a 23% increase, into the top 20 in U.S. Department of Defense spending, while also rising 10% in NASA expenditures that collectively reflect institutional priorities in assistive technologies, military medicine and space research.

NIH Director's Visit

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Jay Bhattacharya visited Pitt along with U.S. Senator Dave McCormick in March 2026 to see firsthand how federally funded research is driving real impact, from our transformative vision science and advanced rehabilitation to bench-to-bedside oncology at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center and commercialization successes like Avista Therapeutics, a Pitt spinout now partnered with Roche.

“Pittsburgh is an amazing place to do research. The whole range of research investments that are made here are really at the core of making America healthy and with NIH investments leading the way on that.”

Jay Bhattacharya, Director, NIH



Leaders from health care, government and higher education visit Pitt's Rehab Neural Engineering Labs.

“What’s happening here is extraordinary—treatment centers where discoveries are being made, researchers dedicated to finding answers and families whose lives have been changed. That is accountability you can see.”

Dave McCormick, U.S. Senator (PA)

Innovative Research and Impact

Pitt is among the **top 20 most innovative universities** nationwide for research, patents and startups.

Research: HERD Survey

Patents: 2025 National Academy of Inventors U.S. ranking

Startups: Association of University Technology Managers' 2025

Licensing Survey



The National Academy of Inventors ranked Pitt **17th** among U.S. universities granted utility patents in 2025.

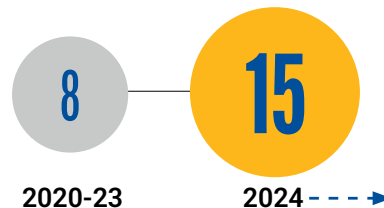
TOP 20 PATENT PRODUCER IN THE NATION

National Academy of Inventors

Faculty Excellence is Recognized

National Academy Electees

Since fiscal year 2024, Pitt faculty have been elected to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine 15 times—nearly double the eight elections recorded across the four prior fiscal years (FY 2020-23).



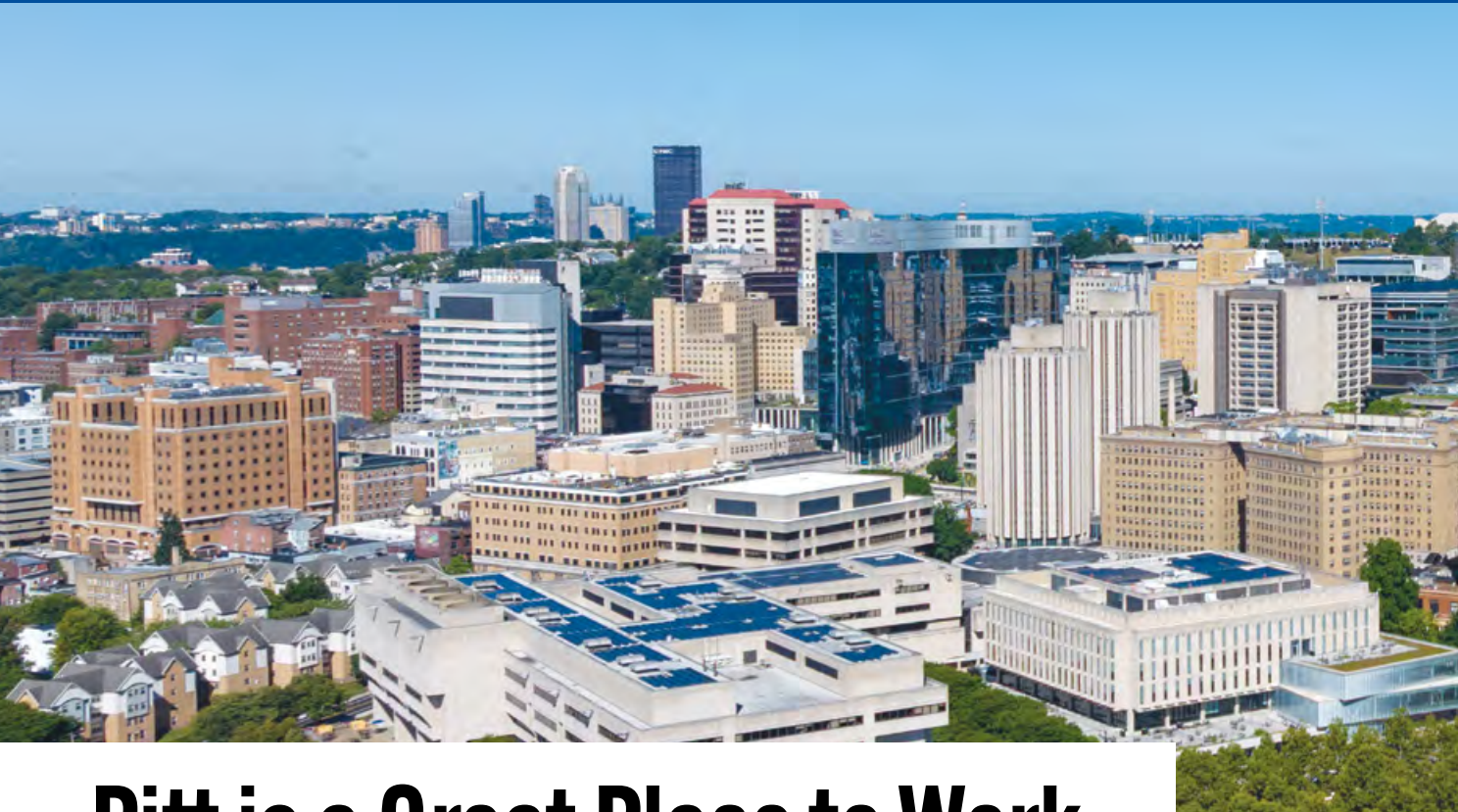
“At Pitt, we think outside the planet.”

Pitt announced the launch of the Trivedi Institute for Space and Global Biomedicine, one of the first dedicated institutes focused on applying insights from spaceflight to improve human health on Earth, in January 2026. The \$25 million institute is led by Kate Rubins, who joined Pitt in October 2025 as professor of computational and systems biology after a 16-year career as a NASA astronaut that included two long-duration missions and a total of 300 days in space. She was the first person to sequence DNA in space and led multiple investigations into genomics and human health under extreme conditions. She also was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2025, joining 20 other Pitt faculty members previously elected.



“This is a place to get science done. ... We’re not focused on using [this research] for astronaut health, because NASA already does that. We want to apply that for the health of people back on Earth.”

Kate Rubins, Founding Director, Trivedi Institute, and Professor of Computational and Systems Biology



Pitt is a Great Place to Work



Recognized among
America's Best-in-State
Employers 2025 by Forbes



Recognized with the
Leading Disability
Employer Seal by the
National Organization
on Disability



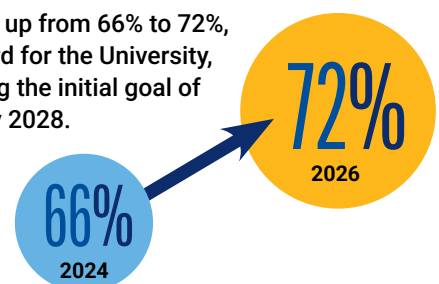
Shallegra Moye serves as director of educational enrichment and transition programs in the School of Education. She received a 2025 Chancellor's Distinguished Service Award for Staff, the Excellent Mentor Award, for supporting staff colleagues as well as **"extending [her] passion for mentorship to students and colleagues outside the University."** She currently serves on the advisory boards of several youth-serving organizations and provides capacity building for adults who serve students and families and mentorship to young people.



As part of the Pitt Workplace Survey, launched in spring 2025, **nearly 90%** of those surveyed said that they **“understand how [their] job contributes to this institution's mission.”**

Sense of Belonging (SERU)

Moved up from 66% to 72%, a record for the University, passing the initial goal of 68% by 2028.



Community and Globally Engaged



As a key outcome of the Plan for Pitt for 2026, the University **once again earned the Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement**, a national designation recognizing institutions with strong long-term partnerships that benefit both universities and the communities they serve. Pitt first earned the classification in 2020, and the reclassification is valid through 2032.



Pitt doubled the number of its faculty receiving Fulbright awards in 2025-26.

We Have the Trust and Support of Our Stakeholders

Michael Rees (A&S '97, ENGR '97) and his family made a \$30 million gift to support the David C. Frederick Honors College (FHC) and help shape new generations of aspiring Pitt students through the Rees-Chancellor's Scholars Program. The gift creates an endowed fund to expand the number of FHC students receiving full room, board and tuition scholarships through the existing Chancellor's Scholarship programs, of which Rees was a beneficiary.

"I look back at all I have done in my life and where I've been able to go, and it all started at Pitt."

Michael Rees (A&S '97, ENGR '97)



Michael Rees (middle) visits the Frederick Honors College with wife Allison (left) and daughter Alexia.



Orland Bethel, founder of Hillandale Farms

The Orland Bethel Family Foundation committed \$53.5 million to expand the Orland Bethel Family Musculoskeletal Research Center and to make a significant investment in Pitt. INC, a rapid commercialization fund and Plan for Pitt 2028 initiative, in collaboration with Pitt's Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship. This gift will bring the Bethel family—led by patriarch Orland Bethel—to nearly \$100 million in philanthropic support to Pitt over the past five years.

"I know this newest gift will enhance the work of the Orland Bethel Family Musculoskeletal Research Center and will have an impact on the entire field."

Orland Bethel

Chancellor Joan Gabel was named to **Forbes Magazine's 50 over 50** list for her outstanding leadership and vision guiding the University of Pittsburgh. Forbes included Chancellor Gabel on this illustrious list because of her efforts steering one of the nation's "leading public universities through an ambitious strategic plan focused on student success, research, innovation and community impact."



Top Rankings

TOP 0.5% OF UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE

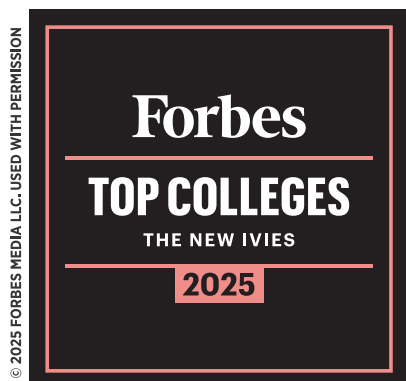


Pitt is ranked in the top 3% of the best global universities in 2026 by U.S. News & World Report, which evaluates universities on their academic research and reputation.

Pitt ranks in the
TOP 0.5%
of all universities
worldwide.



World University Rankings 2026 from the
Center for World University Rankings



Honored by Forbes as a "New Ivy" in 2025 for **students who are outpacing most Ivy Leaguers in the eyes of employers.**

\$12 billion in economic impact

\$6.6 billion in operational impact

\$5.4 billion in Pitt alumni impact in Pennsylvania FY 2023

lowest in
15
YEARS

Pitt is at its lowest campus crime rate in 15 years.



Campus Master Planning



The University's updated Campus Master Plan was presented to the Board of Trustees in December 2025, marking a key outcome in the Plan for Pitt. The plan provides a long-range vision for the Oakland campus that supports the pillars of the strategic plan, including commitments to cultivate student success and to be welcoming and engaged. Over the last year, several important projects were completed and opened, including the 270,000-plus-square-foot Recreation and Wellness Center, which serves as a vibrant hub for recreation, health and community connection on the Pittsburgh campus, as well as the 240,000-square-foot Victory Heights athletics performance center that serves as the new home for Pitt volleyball, wrestling, gymnastics and cheer and dance teams.



"The plan is aspirational and shares our vision for the future of [the] Oakland campus. ...

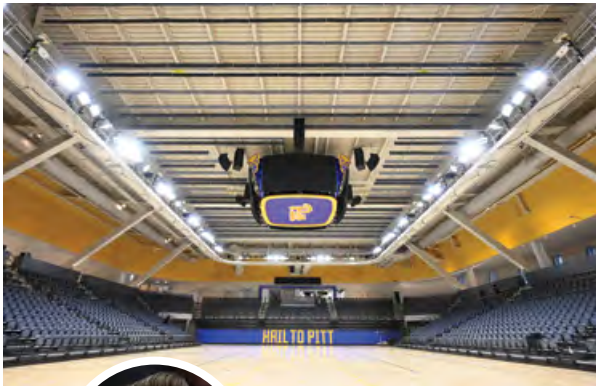
That's what I'm most inspired by, is how we bring the campus to the city and the city to the campus and how we share the public realm."

Gina Bleck, Vice Chancellor for Planning, Design and Construction



“Building a new recreation center gave us the opportunity to reimagine recreation by integrating holistic wellness. This facility reflects our understanding that student success depends on comprehensive well-being.”

Carla Panzella, Vice Provost for Student Affairs



“Victory Heights is a facility that matches the level of our program. It will immediately enhance

the student-athlete experience and help create an environment where our players will be able to develop. The strength and conditioning and sports medicine resources have been elevated, along with our practice facility and team lounge. Our competition arena will be one of the toughest places to play in the country.”

Dan Fisher, Head Coach, Pitt Volleyball

Culture of Free Expression

At Pitt, we take seriously our commitment to free speech and free thought. In 2023, we became a founding member of the Institute for Citizens & Scholars (C&S) Campus Call for Free Expression as the architecture for our free speech efforts. That work is wide reaching, and we have leaned in, including to close out our second year of C&S's Campuswide Immersion Pilot. This academic year, we also conducted a Civic Wellbeing Index (CWI) Student Survey, developed by C&S, in fall 2025 and spring 2026 to assess how effectively we foster civic discourse and dialogue among students. The spring responses reinforced what we saw in the fall, with more than six in 10 students reporting strong confidence in their civic information skills and nearly seven in 10 students reporting that they were highly confident using evidence to support arguments.



“As a founding member of C&S's College Presidents for Civic Preparedness, Chancellor Joan Gabel and the University of Pittsburgh have helped

lead higher education's response to one of the defining challenges of our time: preparing students to navigate a complex, divided, and fast-changing world. Pitt has demonstrated a deep commitment to building a campuswide civic culture where every student has the opportunity to practice the essential civic skills needed to become an engaged citizen. Just as importantly, Pitt has been on the vanguard of measuring how that work is making an impact. By pairing campuswide ambition with a serious focus on evidence and outcomes, Pitt is helping set the standard for what civic preparation can look like in higher education today.”

Rajiv Vinnakota, President, C&S

Leading the Life Sciences Century at the Convergence of Health, AI and Technology

Pitt, in partnership with Carnegie Mellon University, the Global Federation of Competitiveness Councils, and the Council on Competitiveness, convened innovators, entrepreneurs and leaders in health care, artificial intelligence and technology from around the world for the 2025 Global Innovation Summit. Through showcases, demonstrations and panel discussions, the summit emphasized Pittsburgh's favorable position to advance academic and economic outcomes, foster innovation and lead in longevity research.

"It's no surprise to me that this group of leaders in health care and technology has gathered here at the University in Pittsburgh. This is where you belong. And I'm grateful to the chancellor for convening this important conversation here to talk about how we can explore ways that AI can help cure diseases, treat the sick, and advance public health nationwide."

Josh Shapiro, 48th Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

In October 2025, BioForge and Panther Life Sciences announced the successful completion of BioForge's first manufacturing project, achieving what had long been considered one of the most difficult problems in microarray patch (MAP) manufacturing: establishing at-scale, low-cost MAPs.

"As a result of our successful partnership with BioForge, Panther Life Sciences is establishing a manufacturing competency center in Pittsburgh for a wide range of treatments where we will continue to advance our core manufacturing processes and discrete manufacturing capabilities."

Carlos Bhola, Cofounder and CEO, Panther Life Sciences

Advancing Digital Leadership for Everyone

Through the Plan for Pitt, we are working together to advance digital leadership for everyone, from focused efforts on campus to upstream work to grow K-12 digital literacy, as well as to support our regional economy as it continues to thrive. In doing so, we are focused on connecting these work streams to accelerate progress and amplify the collective impact we deliver across Pitt.



"Under Mike [Colaresi]'s leadership, this new hub [HAIL, or Hub for AI and Data Science Leadership] will advance Pitt's academic mission, support our students, network together faculty and staff across disciplines, and contribute meaningfully to the broader societal conversation on the responsible use and development of AI."

Joseph McCarthy, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor



Michael Colaresi, William S. Dietrich II Chair of Political Science, Strategic Advisor to the Provost and Director of HAIL

Powering a Healthy Future

Pitt launched a groundbreaking undergraduate degree in natural gas, renewables and oil engineering designed to prepare the next generation of engineers to deliver comprehensive energy solutions. By combining traditional oil and gas engineering with renewable systems across the Swanson School of Engineering's diverse academic and research portfolios in energy, the program ensures that graduates can adapt as global energy demands evolve.



"The Swanson School is the only engineering program with a legacy of leadership in energy that is ready to introduce such a novel curriculum. This blend of tradition and innovation will make graduates highly competitive in the global job market."

Michele V. Manuel, U.S. Steel Dean of Engineering, Swanson School of Engineering

The Resilient Energy Technology and Infrastructure (RETI) Consortium, which includes Pitt, West Virginia University, Carnegie Mellon University and more than 60 regional partners, was selected for a 10-year \$160 million National Science Foundation Regional Innovation Engines award. The award is projected to generate 21,000 jobs, 150 startups and more than \$1 billion in regional economic growth.



"This initiative represents a transformational opportunity to modernize our grid and bring next-generation energy solutions to the industries that power our economy."

Robert Cunningham, Vice Chancellor for Research Infrastructure

As the lead institution of the Pennsylvania One Health Consortium (PAOHC), the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health leads a 187-member and growing network of experts, practitioners and students dedicated to the health of humans, animals, plants and ecosystems. In June 2026, Pitt Public Health hosted PAOHC's second annual meeting, One Health in Action: From Data to Decisions, bringing members of the consortium together to connect across disciplines and advance One Health across the region.

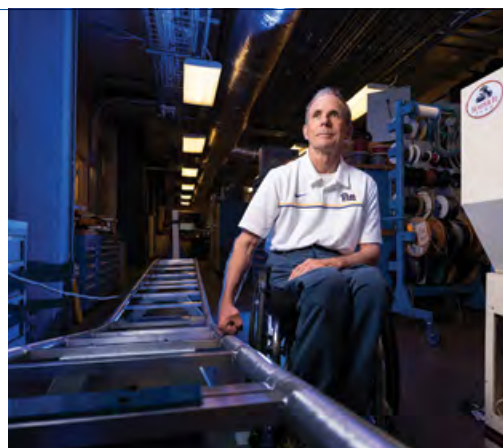


"One Health is a perfect prism with which to examine the multitude of factors that influence public health. The goal is to predict; prepare; and, ultimately, prevent diseases."

Maureen Lichtveld, Jonas Salk Chair in Population Health and Dean, School of Public Health

Transforming Assistive Technologies

Pitt is forging the way on next-generation technology to improve the quality of life for wheelchair users by creating a robotic assisted mobility and manipulation platform. Rory Cooper, founding director of the Human Engineering Research Laboratories and Distinguished Professor of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, is leading the project with an award of up to \$41.5 million in federal funding from the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health.



"Most powered wheelchairs aren't designed to overcome many of the common challenges in the real world—and changing the environment to accommodate them is nearly impossible. We need smarter technology ... so people with disabilities can fully participate in everyday life."

Rory Cooper, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research for STEM-Health Sciences Collaborations



 OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26



chancellor.pitt.edu