New Engineering Program!

Pitt-Johnstown has received final approval to launch a new engineering program that would culminate in the Bachelor of Science in Engineering (BSE) degree – a historic achievement for the campus and community. In addition to transitioning the current engineering technology programs to engineering programs, Pitt-Johnstown is also launching a new and much-needed program in Chemical Engineering beginning in fall 2016. The new BSE degree which was developed in response to student, faculty, alumni, and community needs, has been a centerpiece of campus long-range planning for decades. Furthermore, offering the highly sought-after engineering degree will be essential to meet emerging workforce needs of the Johnstown community and the region, raise the institutional profile and strengthen student recruitment, and advance the campus’ mission of preparing students for success in the Real World. The launch of the new BSE degree program is the fulfillment of long held aspiration for our community and a longstanding strategic goal going back several decades.

- Excerpt from a letter from the President, August 26, 2015

‘Best In the Northeast’ College for 11th Consecutive Year

Pitt-Johnstown is, again, one of the best colleges in the Northeast United States according to The Princeton Review, a nationally known education services company. Pitt-Johnstown is one of 225 institutions The Princeton Review recommends in its website feature, “2016 Best Colleges: Region by Region” that posted on PrincetonReview.com.

President Jem Spectar commented, “It is an honor to have received this esteemed designation for the eleventh consecutive year, which recognizes Pitt-Johnstown’s distinctive combination of people, programs, and place resulting in exceptional performance preparing students for career and professional success. It is through the hard work of our talented faculty and dedicated staff that we are fulfilling our educational mission and are securing our place as the regional leader educating for success in the Real World.”

Robert M. Smith Academy a Success

Pitt-Johnstown launched the inaugural Robert M. Smith Academy with a Real World College Readiness Program for local high school students in July. A cohort of students from Greater Johnstown, Somerset, and Westmont Hilltop high schools were selected from the top performing students with great promise for the future. The goal of the program was to prepare the cohort for their upcoming transition to college by exposing them to the elements of the collegiate experience. Students participated in a three-day residential college experience at Pitt-Johnstown at no cost to the students during the summer between the junior and senior year. During their time on campus, students learned about the college application process and financial aid opportunities, participated in a community service project and team building activities, built leadership and communication skills, focused on values and ethical decision making, explored career opportunities, as well as created goals and personal action plans for their futures. As the Academy cohort moves throughout the academic year, additional opportunities will be made available by Pitt-Johnstown, including dual enrollment, accelerated admission, and intensive advising, as well as other support.
US Ambassador to India
Richard Verma to Speak on Campus

United States Ambassador to India Richard Verma will be speaking on Wednesday, September 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Whalley Memorial Chapel on the Pitt-Johnstown campus. Open to the public, the presentation's featured topic will be US–India Relations. India, now the second most populous country in the world, is projected to surpass China's population by the next decade. “We are honored that our friend and exemplary member of our Advisory Board will be spending time at Pitt-Johnstown,” commented President Jem Spectar. “I am grateful that our students and the University's surrounding communities have the opportunity to learn about US–India relations from one of our country's most distinguished experts.”

Day of Digital Humanities Held

Pitt-Johnstown held its first-ever Day of Digital Humanities, a mini-conference designed to celebrate the emerging scholarship and creative work in digital environments, on September 12. The event, sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh Provost's Year of the Humanities initiative, VPAA Dr. Janet Grady, and Pitt-Johnstown's Humanities Division, included panels on a broad range of topics, two hands-on digital workshops, an installation of digital art and creative work, and a keynote lecture/performance by renowned digital artist Alan Sondheim. Topics of discussion included hybrid and multimedia narrative forms, emerging approaches to digital scholarship, and the significance of digital literacy. The Pitt-Johnstown Humanities Division sponsored the Day of Digital Humanities as part of its ongoing initiative to expand Humanities scholarship by including multimedia and digital culture.

Two New Donor Societies Created

Pitt-Johnstown introduced a special donor society on July 17. The inaugural dinner and induction ceremony of the “Pillars of Excellence Society” was held at Omni Bedford Springs and recognized 147 individuals and institutions with lifetime giving of between $10,000 and $49,999 to Pitt-Johnstown. Many donors and company representatives attended to accept their awards and share the evening with other like-minded Pitt-Johnstown community members. The evening gave donors the opportunity to meet and get to know each other, and share why they developed such strong commitments to the University.

Pitt-Johnstown will introduce a third special donor society on September 24. The inaugural induction ceremony and reception of the “Bridge to the Future Society” will recognize individuals with lifetime giving to Pitt-Johnstown between $1,000 and $9,999.

On May 16, the Inaugural Dinner and Induction Ceremony for the 1927 Cornerstone Society was held. Fifty-seven individuals and institutions with lifetime giving to Pitt-Johnstown of $50,000 or more were inducted. Four donors with lifetime giving to the University of $1 million or more were presented with Gold Medallions: Frank J. and Sylvia T. Pasquerilla (honored posthumously), Mark E. Pasquerilla, Robert M. Smith Family, and Somerset Trust Company.
Freshman Class Gives Back to and Celebrates Community

As part of New Student Orientation, students from the incoming freshman class participated in “Pitt-Johnstown @ Your Service,” an initiative that brings students together with the community. Hundreds of first-year students were stationed in the Moxham neighborhood, where Pitt-Johnstown established its roots. Several students made repairs to the Russell House, while the majority of them worked at the Village Street Playground. Partnering with Mayor Frank Janakovic and the City of Johnstown, Pitt-Johnstown also had students helping prepare the Cambria County War Memorial for the upcoming Hockeyville celebration later this month and working in the Cambria City section of town to help prepare for Ethnic Fest.

Saturday, being entirely dedicated to connecting Pitt-Johnstown students with the community, also included a celebration of community following the service projects. There, local elected officials talked about the importance of civic engagement, students registered to vote, and live entertainment was enjoyed.

Community Initiatives

- **Moxham Movie Night - August 28**: Pitt-Johnstown partnered with churches in Moxham to provide pizza and sodas for children ages 6-13 and their families (approximately 80 attendees) during an outside movie projected on a house on Park Avenue. We received many positive comments from those who attended: “We are so happy that the University has not forgotten us.” “We are proud of our neighborhood and are very appreciative of Dr. Spectar’s commitment to help us make our community stronger.”

- **Turn the Towns Teal® - September**: Members of the Pitt-Johnstown staff along with members of Delta Sigma Chi Fraternity tied teal ribbons around trees on campus to join Laurel Toyota in observing Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

- **STEM Day - September 25**: The University is hosting a STEM program for 11 area school districts initiated by engineering technology alumnus Ed Peretin. Guest lecturer, Real Admiral Cindy Jaynes will provide an interactive program for students who are interested in science, technology, engineering, and/or math – or those seeking a military career. The event is for students in grades 9-12 and will be held in the Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center.

- **UPJ’s Moxham Community Block Party - September 27**: From 1-5 p.m. at the Village Street Playground, Pitt-Johnstown is providing food and volunteers to support an anticipated 300 attendees. This is our second year in a row sponsoring the event.

- **Hockeyville PITT-nic in the Park - September 29**: A free lunch picnic will be held in Central Park to show our pride in Pitt-Johnstown and the Johnstown community.

- **Moxham Community Kickoff - October 8**: We are partnering with the Goodwill Industries Career Center by asking our students to volunteer to help those seeking employment with math skills, writing, basic computer skills, applying for jobs, and more.

- **Goodwill Good Guides College Day at Pitt-Johnstown - October 10**: Partnering with Goodwill (initiated by Dr. Paul Newman and Sherri Rae) to provide a “super Saturday” for students to tour our campus, discuss opportunities to study aboard, interact with our international students, and learn about what it takes to go to college and the benefits of a college education.

**CAMPUS BUDGET UPDATE**

Pending state legislative action on the budget for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the university budget has not been finalized. The campus budget load will occur soon after the state passes its budget, including the University of Pittsburgh appropriation. Departments will continue to get monthly reports on expense activities and should carefully review Level reports in the same manner as usual.
Eleven new full-time faculty members have joined the University of Pittsburgh Johnstown for the 2015-2016 academic year:

- **Marissa Brainard**, laboratory instructor in biology, holds an MS from Pennsylvania State University and a BS from the University of Pittsburgh Johnstown.
- **Dr. John Byrne**, assistant professor of business management, holds a PhD from the University of Sarasota, an MBA from Wilmington College, and a BS from Thomas Edison State College.
- **Dr. Laura Dietz**, assistant professor of psychology, holds a PhD from the University of Pittsburgh.
- **Christopher Gabany**, instructor of electrical engineering technology, holds an MS from Michigan Technical University and a BS from the University of Pittsburgh Johnstown.
- **Dr. Elizabeth Harkins**, assistant professor of special education, holds a PhD from American International College, an MA from Lesley University, and a BA from the University of Massachusetts.
- **Dr. Shawn Ingalls**, assistant professor of justice administration and criminology, holds a PhD from Capella University, an MPS from Saint John's University, and a BA from Saint Leo University.
- **Dr. Mehdei Kafaeikivi**, assistant professor of civil engineering technology, holds a PhD from the University of Akron, an MSC from Amirkabir University of Technology (Iran), and a BSC from Isfahan University of Technology (Iran).
- **Dr. Zhen Lu**, instructor of chemistry, holds a PhD from Temple University and a BS from the University of Pittsburgh.
- **Kurtis Pierce**, instructor of respiratory care and director of clinical education for respiratory care/assistant director of allied health programs, holds an MBA from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a BS from the University of Pittsburgh Johnstown.
- **Dr. Michael Stoneham**, associate professor of English and division chair of humanities, holds a PhD from the University of Colorado, an MA from Stanford University, and a BS from the United States Military Academy.
- **Eve Wider**, interim director of Owen Library, holds an MPPM from the University of Pittsburgh, an MS from Drexel University, and a BA from Bryn Mawr College.

The National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) passing rate for graduates of the Pitt-Johnstown Nursing Program is nearly 90% for candidates taking the examination for the first time. Kudos to VPAA and Division Chair Dr. Janet Grady, the Nursing faculty for their hard work and dedication, and our students for their excellent achievements.

Pitt-Johnstown and Pennsylvania Highlands Community College will enter into an articulation agreement, which guarantees the transfer of a Penn Highlands Community College Associate of Arts degree into one of ten bachelor's degree programs at Pitt-Johnstown.

With this collaboration, students will begin their studies by completing their associate's degree at Penn Highlands Community College, and then transfer to Pitt-Johnstown to complete their bachelor's degree in one of ten programs. The Pitt-Johnstown programs include Communication, Creative Writing, Professional Writing, English Literature, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Environmental Studies, and Psychology.

This innovative collaboration between these two important educational leaders in the region will reshape the way in which many students think about higher education and strengthen the community.
New Hires:
• Dominick DiLoreto, Housing and Residential Life, July 6, Area Coordinator
• Holly Miller, Physical Plant, July 13, Building Services Supervisor
• Maria Stroscio, Physical Plant, September 3, Cleaner

New Appointments:
• Tammy Barbin, Institutional Advancement, July 10, Interim Director of Development
• Amy Buxbaum, VPFA, September 9, Title IX Officer
• Joyce Radovanic, Assistant to the President for Community Engagement, August 24, Executive Director of Conference Services

Facilities Update
• The substantial interior renovation of Highland Townhouses has been completed. The project was initiated in summer 2014 and completed in summer 2015. The renovation included updating all finishes in the interior spaces, including new appliances, furniture, lighting, and windows. The University will continue its Townhouse renovations by moving to units in Timberline beginning in September 2015.
• Bathrooms in Hawthorn Lodge were updated with new fixtures, paint and shower surrounds.
• The College Park Apartments project is up and running. The design Request For Proposal is scheduled to be sent to firms within the next week.
• The $23M renovation of the Engineering and Science Building and the construction of the John P. Murtha Center for Public Policy will begin soon.
• We have received confirmation that the Nursing and Health Sciences Building will receive LEED Gold Certification. The University initiated the process to accept the certification and will make an official announcement as soon as the acceptance process is complete.
• New furniture and carpeting in the Student Union dining hall was completed over the summer. A new retail dining venue, Freshens, was added to the Tuck Shop. The Student Union also expanded services to students with the addition of a bank - Somerset Trust Company (STC) constructed a bank branch on the second floor of the Student Union. STC also began providing ATM services to campus this summer, with machines installed in the Student Union and Living-Learning Center.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT DAY
October 19 • LLC
Sessions include:
- Tomorrow in Focus: Saving for your ideal retirement
- Healthy Living
- The Myers-Briggs and You
- & MORE

In early September, a memo was sent by VPFA Amy Buxbaum to all full-time faculty and staff members regarding the annual salary increase process. The University of Pittsburgh’s annual salary increase process typically occurs in late July and early August with communication to individuals regarding their salary increase occurring in late August or early September. As a result of the delays to the state budget process, that legislature has not yet approved the University’s Fiscal Year 2016 Commonwealth appropriation. The University has decided to delay the annual salary increase process until the final appropriation is approved by both the Legislature and our Board of Trustees. Once the budget information is available, the University will begin the salary increase process in a similar manner as past years, which includes setting the eligibility criteria for employees to be considered for a salary increase.

Internet Speed Receives Major Boost

The University of Pittsburgh and the Keystone Initiative for Network Based Education and Research (KINBER) announced August 13 that Pitt is the first university in Pennsylvania to provide an expanded 10-gigabit-per-second (Gbps) network connecting all of its campus locations to KINBER’s high-performance Pennsylvania Research and Education Network, also known as PennREN.

“The University’s new strategic plan identifies a foundation of outstanding infrastructure and enriched connections as keys to continued and expanded success,” said Jinx P. Walton, chief information officer of the University of Pittsburgh and KINBER board chair. “The increased capacity provided by these new connections is a concrete example of strong infrastructure that can enable research collaboration and efficient learning opportunities at and between all five of Pitt’s campuses,” she said.

Pitt faculty, staff, and students on campuses located in Bradford, Greensburg, Johnstown, Pittsburgh, and Titusville will be able to take advantage of the new 10 Gbps connectivity and the higher bandwidth speed it provides for their research and education efforts. Members of the Pitt community on the regional campuses will now have a higher speed connection to the enterprise resources, commodity Internet, and research networks centralized at the University’s Pittsburgh hub.
Julie Ankrum
Julie Ankrum, along with two classroom teachers, gave a presentation at the Annual Conference of the International Literacy Association. The presentation, “Transforming Lives: Teaching ALL Children with Best Practices, CCSS, and a Core Reading Program,” took place in St. Louis, MO in July 2015.

She also collaborated with a colleague at the University of Vermont to plan a study to investigate the nature of teacher support provided to students during reading lessons using texts of varying complexity. Julie and her college created and validated an observation instrument and wrote an interview protocol to use in the upcoming study.

Natalie Conrad Barnyak

Miron Bekker

Lisa Bell-Loncella
Bell-Loncella was one of three instructors for a week-long workshop on Computational Chemistry for Chemistry Educators in June at San Jose State University. The workshop was sponsored by the National Science Computation Institute and Chemistry Collaborations Workshops and Communities of Scholars.

Regarding the Windber Research Institute partnership, Bell-Loncella is still working with George Iida. They submitted a manuscript describing the latest results obtained with the ruthenium complexes and their ability to inhibit cancer growth. Jill Henning has two projects in the works. One is with Stella Somiari is being written up for the Journal of Epidemiology. It focuses on a cancer cluster found in Bedford county and we see a high incidence of gastric cancers where individuals come into contact with agricultural runoff. Her other project is with Rachel Ellsworth; it is going well. At present they are processing samples but preliminary results were presented at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium in December 2014.

The University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown will host the fall meeting of the Western Pennsylvania section of the American Association of Physics Teachers on Saturday, October 17 in Blackington Hall. High school physics teachers, university physics and engineering faculty, and students are encouraged to attend. In addition to the presentations by physics educators there will be also an opportunity for students to present their work in a poster session. For further information, please contact Beta Keramati at keramati@pitt.edu.

Alvaro Bernal


Sharon Bertsch


Ryan Bird
International Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy at Champaign-Urbana, Illinois in June. He was accepted to give a 15 min presentation with the title “Determination of Torsional Barriers of
Faculty Accomplishments, cont.

Itaconic Acid and N-Acetylenolamine Using Chirped-Pulsed FTMW Spectroscopy.”

This past summer Bird presented a talk at the 70th International Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy in Illinois on data he had collected in the summer of 2014. His talk was titled “Determination of Torsional Barriers of Itaconic Acid and N-acetylenolamine using Chirped-pulsed FTMW Spectroscopy.” Additionally, he received a CRC grant to travel to the University of Vermont to collect data on 3 molecules. While in Vermont he was able to obtain spectra of at least 4 molecules; the number could increase once he has analyzed all of the data. Once fully analyzed, he hopes to publish 1-2 journal article(s).

Luis Bonachea
Le, A., Bonachea, L.A., and Cargill, S. Meloxicam and buprenorphine treatment after ovarian transplantation not affect estrous cyclicity and follicular integrity in aged CBA/J mice. PLOS One 9(8) e106013

Bruce Colbert
Fourth edition of Cardiopulmonary Pharmacology was released in July by BVT publishing: Colbert and Gonzalez. His volunteer work with The Compass Program for Wounded Warriors was expanded and he will now be doing coordinated workshops on stress management to compliment the neurobiology lectures by General Tom Jones and kick-off the week for the camp.

Chris Coughenour

Chris Dahlin


Dawn M. Drahnak
Poster presentation at Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society Research Conference in July – with Liz Katrancha on the topic of the Nursing Simulation Project. She also participated in an NCLEX Item Writing Panel for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing in June.

Nina Girard
Girard was a co-presenter of a panel session at the PA Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators Annual Symposium on May 13, 2015 in Shippensburg. The session, entitled “Mathematics Design Collaborative: Where are We Now?” presented the components of the Math Design Collaborative, a statewide program which brings high-quality formative assessment lessons to mathematics teaching and learning, as well as teaching professional development support.

Valerie Grash
Grash presented a talk entitled “Verdant Forests and Effervescent Streams: Nature's Beauty as Memorialized by the Scalp Level School Painters” at the Johnstown Flood National Memorial on September 13, 2014.

Jill Henning


Jill Henning and Chris Dahlin
The avian tick project is well under way – students are assisting with analyzing the ticks from Summer 2014 and Summer 2015. There are 167 ticks analyzed thus far and approximately 150 more to analyze.

The West Nile Virus project that Dr. Henning and Dr. Dahlin are working on has received a request for a new collaborator from Wilkes University here in PA. He would like us to look at Avian Blood samples for WNV.

They also expanded their study of tick-borne diseases in birds, which they are doing in collaboration with Powdermill Nature Center. Dr. Dahlin sampled birds during the Spring migratory season and the summer breeding season. She also conducted her annual point counts on the UPJ natural area as a means to assess avian biodiversity on our campus.
Elizabeth Katrancha


Derek Leben
Leben delivered a talk in the CMU psychology department entitled “Moral Internalism and the True Self” (2/15). He also delivered a talk at the West Virginia Philosophical Society meeting at University of West Virginia entitled “Category and End Relational Semantics” (2/15).

He is the recipient of UPJ Summer 2015 Research Grant for the Project Entitled “The Effects of Family and Familiarity in Moral Dilemmas.”

Leben submitted two papers (currently under review): “Moral Internalism and the True Self” and “Empirical Conceptual Analysis.”

He is the co-host of the podcast “Axons and Axioms” (axonsandaxioms.com) with CMU psychology professor Tim Verstynen. Featured on the National Science Foundation’s list of science podcasts, “Science 360” (science360.gov), and the University of Pittsburgh Radio Station (WPTSradio.org)

Leben co-authored a paper with Jonathan Hricko, accepted at the Academia Sinica Conference on Philosophy of Science, which is expected to be published in an edited volume next year (2016).

Thomas J. Malosh
Malosh, along with four undergraduate authors, submitted a peer-review manuscript, “Diruthenium tetracarbonyl sawhorse complexes bearing N-heterocyclic carbene and phosphine ligands: Synthesis, structural characterization, and catalytic activity,” to The Journal of Organometallic Chemistry, which was supported by the Mentorship Fund for Faculty-Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity. The manuscript includes collaborative results from the Chemistry Department X-Ray Diffraction Facility at the University of Pittsburgh.

Bethany McConnell
McConnell has earned an Early Career Mini-Grant though the Teacher Education Division of Council for Exceptional Children. She is working with faculty at Shippensburg University and Truman University in St. Louis to analyze the dispositions of teacher candidates as they work with families of students with special needs.

John Mulennix

Barbara Petrosky
Petrosky published « L’obsession de Charlemagne ou le comportement irrationnel du roi dans Renaut de Montauban. » In the Proceedings from the Pennsylvania Foreign Language Conference. Duquesne University. Rondas Literarias de Pittsburgh, August 2015.

She also published an article about WWI entitled « Une agonie de papillon ou la dernière nouvelle de Pierre Loti. » in the peer-reviewed Parisian journal Bulletin de l'Association des Amis de Pierre Loti. Paris: Juin 2015, n °32.

Her paper entitled “Le Style impressionniste de Maupassant: Prostitution et moments ekphrastiques dans Impudence et La femme de Paul” has been accepted at the Pennsylvania Foreign language Conference which will take place on September 25 and 26th in Pittsburgh.

Last year, she was awarded the Tournées Festival Grant for the promotion of French films ($2,000). This is a prestigious grant given by the French Embassy in Washington D.C.

Ann Rea
Rea received the Sigma Tau Delta Teaching Award and was honored at University of Pittsburgh’s Honors Convocation.

She also received the John G. Bowman grant for travel abroad in the development of teaching.


“Subtle Covenants:” Internationalism and Alliances and Fiction’s Spies in Ambler, Mclnnes and Le Carré, Spying on Spies conference, London, September 2015

The “Imperious Hauntedness of a Period not Understood in its own Time:” Houses, and the Unhomely, in Elizabeth Bowen’s The Death of the Heart and Ghost Stories, Space Between Society conference, Notre Dame University, June 2015


The “Imperious Hauntedness of a Period not Understood in its own Time:” Houses, and the Unhomely, in Elizabeth Bowen’s The Death of the Heart and
Faculty Accomplishments, cont.

Ghost Stories, Space Between Society conference, Notre Dame University, June 2015

“Cross Examination and Cross Purposes: Marie Stopes’s Role in Modern Marriage and Sexuality.” Space Between Society Conference, University of London, July 2014

Eric Schwerer
Schwerer was a finalist for two coveted book awards—the Autumn House Press Chapbook Prize and the Center for Book Arts Chapbook Competition—before winning the Keystone Chapbook Prize; consequently, Seven Kitchens Press will be publishing my third book of poetry, Cruel Folklore, later this year.

Stephanie Stilling

John Teacher
Teacher steered the creation of a Capstone in Theatre course—with the first capstone taking place this fall as part of the Theatre Department Mainstage in November.

He has also adapted and directed the works of Edgar Allen Poe from stories into a show (Oct 2014) as well as the morality play Everyman for a more modern production this November.

He has designed and instructed the student construction of the sets and props for these productions as well as spring 2015’s production of The Caucasian Chalk Circle. Teacher also worked with Westmont School District where he directed, designed, and built their spring musical Brigadoon. He went on to design and paint the backgrounds for Dr. Rodney Eatman’s production of Almost Maine.

Rebecca Webb
Evaluation of Chironomidae diversity in the Little Paint Creek Watershed, Pennsylvania. Journal of Pennsylvania Academy of Science. Accepted
Webb, R.L. and James Bilitski.

David Willey
This past summer he did 114 one hour, live, one-man science shows at Silver Dollar City, in MO. Well over 100,000 people have now seen his show “How Does A Thing Like That Work?” http://www.bransontrilakesnews.com/entertainment/article_052730da-ddb6-11e2-91cc-0019bb2963f4.html. He also filmed 5 demonstrations for the Canadian Discovery show “Daily Planet” http://www.discovery.ca/dailyplanet and was the “Featured guest” and dinner speaker at “Camp Inquiry” in New York, http://www.campinquiry.org/who

Mentor Teacher Workshop
Annually, The Pitt-Johnstown Education Division offers an informational seminar for new cooperating teachers presented by the Director of Field Practica and Clinical Experiences, Dr. Jacqueline Myers. Twelve mentor teachers, two administrators, seven Pitt-Johnstown faculty, and thirteen teacher candidates attended a Mentor Teacher workshop on Tuesday, September 15th at the Living Learning Center on the Pitt-Johnstown campus. The purpose of this interactive workshop was to acquaint mentor teachers with our teacher preparation program and to have the opportunity to participate in discourse with teacher candidates and faculty of the Pitt-Johnstown Education Division. Topics of discussion included information about the best mentoring practices, roles and responsibilities of mentor teachers, expectations for the student teacher and mentor teacher, and the current structure of our teacher preparation program including the Candidate Learning Framework and the Professional Educator Portfolio. All educators shared advice, guidance, and experiences throughout the interactive roundtable workshop to enhance our teacher candidates’ student teaching experiences.