THE ROMANIAN NATIONALITY ROOM

Dedicated May 16, 1943
THE ROMANIAN NATIONALITY ROOM
E. Maxine Bruhns

The atmosphere of this Room reflects the sumptuous tranquility of a Romanian Orthodox church.

The monumental stone doorway is inspired by the entrance to Hurezi, a 17th-century Romanian monastery. It is carved with floral arabesques and a quotation from Vasile Alecsandri, one of the nation's greatest poets: “The Romanian is like the mighty rock which amidst the waves of the stormy and majestic sea forever remains unmoved.”

A glowing mosaic by Nora Steriade, patterned after ancient Byzantine frescoes, commemorates the martyrdom of Prince Brâncoveanu and male members of his family in 1714. A delicate wrought-iron screen separates the bay area from the Room, forming a protected alcove in which an icon is displayed on special occasions.

Oak frames around the blackboards are paneled and carved in the manner of an Orthodox church iconostasis. Framed in wrought-iron, original icons representing Virgin and Child, Apostle Mark, the Dormition of the Virgin, and Christ grace the corner panels. The floor is pink marble from the quarries of Ruşchiţa.

Intricate figures on the splats of the oak student chairs were carved in Romania by peasant artists utilizing the traditional implement for this work—a pocketknife.
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR
E. Maxine Bruhns

Whew! We have survived our offices’ move back to a transformed (i.e. smaller) C.L.1209. This happened as the Scholarship Debriefing, the Japanese Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction and the Celtic Culture – A Celebration of Welsh, Irish, and Scottish Heritage occurred as well as the KDKA-TV 2 interview about the ghost in the Early American Room (http://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/2016/10/24/ghosts-of-pittsburgh-cathedral-of-learning/).

Many students have shown early interest in our Summer Study Abroad Scholarships. Recently 30 students came to one of our briefing sessions.

Once we have found space for our many boxes of files, records, artifacts and thousands of Room Dedication Books, we will return to semi-normality.

Happy Halloween!

Our NEWSLETTER is now available online at the following address:
http://www.nationalityrooms.pitt.edu/news-events
MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL
Jennie-Lynn Knox, Chair

Continued birthday greetings for the Nationality Rooms!!! And what an exciting year for all the Rooms! Our calendars have been filled with fascinating activities as we continue to celebrate our heritages, our diverse cultures and ancestral roots. A big thank you to the Nationality Rooms staff for their ongoing efforts to keep us all organized. We could not do it without their continued dedication and support.

The Nationality Rooms Council approved the creation and printing of a coloring book that will include designs from 30 of our Nationality Rooms. I’m thrilled to be a part of this collaborative endeavor as each Committee submits distinctive designs and/or motifs from their respective rooms. These will be rendered as hand drawn illustrations by Mrs. Janet Carlisle, Chair of the Lithuanian Room Committee. Thank you, Janet, for all your hard work and dedication to enriching cultural awareness of our Rooms!

We are all looking forward to our Holiday Open House on Sunday, December 4, 2016, when we will come together to once again celebrate the Season with the whole community! Please visit our website http://www.nationalityrooms.pitt.edu for scheduled events, updates and information regarding all the Nationality Rooms. We celebrate the best of Pittsburgh and welcome visitors from around the world to visit, live, learn, work, and play in our special city.

As the year comes to a close, I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year

AFRICAN HERITAGE ROOM COMMITTEE
Lora Ann Bray, Chair

We hosted our Annual Meeting and Scholars’ Reception during the Homecoming Week on October 4 in the Frick Fine Arts building. The AHCC members and the community were invited to hear the presentations of the two 2016 Summer Study Abroad Scholarship recipients, Ruba Idris and Hannah Eko. Ruba (undergraduate) presented her travel learning experience in Tanzania. Hannah (graduate) discussed her research on female deities in Nigeria.

The AHCC continues to meet monthly as we seek opportunities to increase our membership through collaboration with other community organizations.

AUSTRIAN ROOM COMMITTEE
Frank Weiss, Chair

September 25 was a beautiful day - perfect for celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Austrian Nationality Room dedication. The Room is based on the Haydn Saal in the Esterhazy Palace in Eisenstadt. The magnificent ceiling and other features of the Room were painted by Celeste Parendo, daughter of the late noted stained-glass artist, Nick Parendo.

A reception was held in the Croghan-Schenley Room hosted by the Austrian Nationality Room Committee. Among the approximately 25 guests enjoying the refreshments were members of the Austrian Room Committee, Betty McDermott, Heidi Novak and Franz Stehr, who were recognized for their role in making the Room a reality. Each spoke about the early days of planning, fundraising and the necessity of keeping the spirit of the Austrian Room alive. Maxine Bruhns, Director of the Nationality Rooms, spoke about having lived in Austria, and was thanked for her generous help and support for the project. Also attending were several members of the Austrian-American Cultural Society.

Since its dedication 20 years ago, the Austrian Room has awarded Pitt students 24 undergraduate and graduate scholarships and grants worth $78,000 for research and study in Austria. Two recent scholarship winners, Rae Di’Cicco and Erin McMahon spoke of their research and experiences in Austria. Pitt senior and 2015 scholarship winner, Grace Pehlert, entertained on the violin.

F. Weiss, H. Semethy, E. Braun
CHINESE ROOM COMMITTEE  
Dewi Wong, Chair

The Chinese Room Committee held a fundraiser dinner on September 25, 2016. The 2017 Scholarship, in honor of Mr. Tom Chen, was offered to undergraduate students, and the John Tsui Memorial scholarships were offered for both undergraduate and graduate students to study in China or Taiwan during the summer.

A new audio-visual credenza will be designed for the Chinese Nationality Room to increase the current classroom technology.

The Chinese Room Committee will participate in the NRIEP Holiday Open House on December 4, 2016 and Festival of the Egg in Spring of 2017.

FRENCH ROOM COMMITTEE  
Barbara Tucker, Chair

The French Room Committee, along with the Alliance Française de Pittsburgh and Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, hosted a Bastille Day celebration on July 14 at the Pittsburgh Golf Club. Numerous members of the French community were present, including Jean-Pierre Collet, former Honorary French Consul, Jean-Dominique LeGarrec, Honorary French Consul, as well as E. Maxine Bruhns, Director of the Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Programs. The celebration featured music, dancing, silent auction, and a rousing rendition of La Marseillaise.

On November 17, the French Room Committee and the Alliance Française de Pittsburgh will host a Beaujolais Nouveau Celebration at Bar Marco.

The Event will celebrate the release of the famous wine for this season. This fundraiser will benefit the French Nationality Room Summer Study Abroad Scholarship in memory of David Kremen, former President of the Alliance Française de Pittsburgh. Interested in purchasing tickets? Please visit www.afpitt.org.

GREEK ROOM COMMITTEE  
Venetia Vlastos Moreno

After celebrating our Greek Independence Day in March with much acclaim, due to the presence of the Pittsburgh Public Theater’s Artistic Director, Ted Pappas’ inspiring talk, the Greek Room Committee began plans for the 75th Anniversary Dinner and Program which will take place Saturday, November 5, 2016 at St. Nicholas Cathedral Hall, 419 S. Dithridge St., in Oakland. Cocktails will be at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. Donation $60/person. For further information: Marion Constantinides (412-7760-5280) or Venetia Moreno (412-849-8392).

We are proud to announce our scholarship recipient was Kaitlyn Elizabeth Haynal who has returned with a wealth of knowledge about the Mediterranean diet and pictures which enthralled us.

We would like to thank Nationality Rooms Director E. Maxine Bruhns and her staff for their invaluable assistance in helping us prepare for our 75th anniversary.

INDIAN ROOM COMMITTEE  
Vandana Kekre, Chair

It has been the endeavor of the Indian Room Committee to bring all Indians from different regions, faiths and languages together under one umbrella. Every year we hold India Day to celebrate India’s achievements since its independence.

This year we held the annual India Day Celebration on Sunday, August 14 from 12-4 pm. The event was free
IRISH ROOM COMMITTEE
Jennie-Lynn Knox, Chair

The Irish Room Committee, the Scottish Room and Welsh Room Committees presented “Celtic Culture,” our 2016 Cultural Membership Drive that was held on Sunday, October 16 at the Frick Fine Arts building. Bagpipes, Scottish music, Welsh Folk Dancers and Irish Dancers entertained us. Marc Wisnosky and Casey Schmauder gave a brief talk on their experiences in Ireland. Past and present scholarship winners were present. All were welcomed to experience a wonderful afternoon of Celtic culture.

The Irish Room Committee will award two scholarships in 2017: An undergraduate award, the Mary Campbell Cross Scholarship ($3,500) and a graduate award through the John F. Kennedy Scholarship ($5,000). The John F. Kennedy Scholarship will be awarded in memory of Earl McCabe, a long-time member and officer. The Irish Room Committee is forever grateful for Earl’s wisdom and dedication to all things Irish.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Irish Room Committee, please contact the Nationality Rooms office.

JAPANESE ROOM COMMITTEE
Sono Hayes, Chair

On October 15, we held the Japanese Nationality Room Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction. To prepare for the Silent Auction, we collected Japanese traditional items from donors, such as kimonos and Yukatas, as well as Japanese artifacts and chinaware. During the luncheon two of our previous scholarship winners gave a presentation on their experiences in Japan. Traditional Japanese music was performed. The event proved to be a great success.

LITHUANIAN ROOM COMMITTEE
Janet Carlisle, Chair

As chairman of the Lithuanian Nationality Room, I am delighted to be creating a coloring book that includes 30 Nationality Rooms. I am working from pictures that my husband and I have taken of distinctive designs and motifs from each room. The book will feature two different room designs, each with a full page. Each page will have a hand-drawn illustration that will appeal to people of all ages. It will be more than a coloring book. For some it will be an introduction to the cultural richness of the Nationality Rooms. For others it will be an invitation to further explore the range of artistic expression within each Room. At this point I have created almost 40 of the 60 pages. The book will be produced by the University of Pittsburgh and each Nationality Room will have the opportunity to sell the book for their own profit. We’re looking to release the book sometime in the spring of 2017.

NORWEGIAN NATIONALITY ROOM
Kristen Risa, Chair

The Norwegian Room Committee held a reorganization meeting this past June. Before the meeting, research was done to make sure that all major forms of Norwegian folk art are covered in the Room. We found that the major art forms are carving, rosemahling, metal working, weaving, embroidery, and costumes. Upon review of the Room, most forms were found to be covered with the exception of metal working and costumes. Other goals were also set, such as opening and using the back cabinet for display and getting the grandfather clock to work.

Our Rom display was greatly enhanced in July by a wonderful donation from a member to the Room. She donated artifacts that had been in her family for many years such as pewter medallions, dolls, dinnerware and books. Because of her donation, we have items worthy of display in the back cabinet sooner than anticipated.

POLISH NATIONALITY ROOM
Larry Kozlowski, Chair

Polishfest ’16, a “family-oriented festival” of Polish and Lithuanian music, song, dance and culture will be represented on Sunday, November 13, 2016 from noon to 5:00 p.m. in the Cathedral of Learning’s Commons Room. This cultural event is FREE and open to the public. Now in its 31st year, a full schedule of continuous activities have been planned including live folk dancing, cultural displays, Polish Gift & Import Mart, Lithuanian and Polish food and folk-art demonstrations, children’s “make-n’take” folk crafts, Polish bakery, ethnic foods and polka music.
The theme of this year’s festival is “Celebrate Christmas in… The Old Country” with “folk Songs and Music - Radoslav Fizek”, “Franja’s Polka Celebration”, the “Echoes of Lithuanian Radio Program” with Len Barcousky and Bill Kolicius; Christine Luschas, noted Lithuanian egg decorator of Martha Stewart fame; Joseph Borytsky, Polish Egg Decorator; The Lithuanian Citizen’s Club; “Bocial Lithuanian Folk Group”; “Lajkoniki” Polish Dance Ensemble of McKeesport, PA; “Living Traditions” Folk Dance Ensemble, Cleveland, OH, and Polish Falcons of America.

Join in and dance the polka, enjoy some pierogi, create your very own papercutting or have your child make a Christmas ornament and much more. Proceeds will benefit the Nationality Rooms Scholarship fund. This event is partially funded by the Polish Falcons of America, the Polish and the Lithuanian Community. For additional information please contact: 814-969-5940 (lgk505@aol.com). Visit us on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/polishfest.pgh?fref=ts. Visit our festival video at https://vimeo.com/116154874.

The Polish Room Committee is pleased to announce that the Polish Arts League of Pittsburgh has voted to donate monies to be deposited in the Polish Nationality Room Scholarship Endowment Fund at the University of Pittsburgh. The mission of the Polish Arts League is to “Promote the Rich Cultural Heritage of Poland in America.” The members of the Polish Arts League thought the best way to continue their goals and objectives was through this donation. A special note of thanks to the officers of the Polish Arts League for their support: Dr. Norbert Pietrzak, President, Irene Jakubowski, Vice-President and Angie Iwanczyk, Secretary-Treasurer. Through this donation, the Polish Room scholarships will continue to offer a unique cultural opportunity for generations of students to come! Dziekuje Bardzo! - Thank you very much!

**SWISS NATIONALITY ROOM**
Fred Carlson, Vice-Chair

The Swiss Room Committee recently held its annual meeting in Room 321. The Swiss Room Scholarship will again be offered at the $4,500 level. A gorgeous new announcement pamphlet was designed by Fundraising Chair Philip Bottonari.

There are 17 active members of our committee. Eleven members were present at the Swiss National Day celebration picnic at Richland Barn in Gibsonia on August 6. Seven members attended the Germanic Alliance luncheon honoring NRIEP Director Maxine Bruhns and the late Elmer Menhart held in the Teutonia Männerchor dining hall on September 10.

The SNRC is planning cultural events. Member Beatrice Hook has a presentation on multilingualism in Switzerland. This event could be presented in the Swiss Room, with catering in the hallway being easily prepared in the niche around the corner. Beatrice has already sent her PowerPoint presentation to the Director through the mail.

Evelyn Ruffing also has a film available, “The Shepherd’s Journey.”

To prepare our Room for the holidays, we are gathering decorations from other cantonal traditions beyond what we have currently. Eventually we hope to represent all 26 cantons.

The antique door handle and new locks on the Swiss Room door have been installed by the Pitt carpenters.

**WOMEN’S INTERNATIONAL CLUB**
Jennie-Lynn Knox, Vice-Chair

The fall reception was held Sunday, September 25 at the Frick Fine Arts. We featured travel experiences from our 2016 Summer Study Abroad Scholarship Awardees Leanna Travis (India), Channing Thomas (Argentina) and Dayeong Lee (Tanzania). Light refreshments were served.

We will award a scholarship of $4,000 for an undergraduate to study abroad in 2017. We invite young women who are interested in this wonderful opportunity to apply.

The Women’s International Club members will hold a Christmas luncheon on Sunday, December 11 at the University Club in Pittsburgh. Leslie Marshall who traveled to Uganda this past summer will describe her research at an NGO—Center for Women in Governance whose mission is to make gas policies work for women.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Women’s International Club, please contact the Nationality Rooms office. All are welcome!

**ROOMS IN PLANNING**

**FINNISH ROOM COMMITTEE**
Seija Cohen, Chair

On July 1st through 3rd, we were at the Scandinavian Society information booth at the Westmoreland Arts and Heritage Festival. We did not sell anything there.
Then, on the 3rd and 4th of September, we were again at the Scandinavian Society information booth, this time at the Pittsburgh Folk Festival. The Society's Viking Ship Booth was unveiled for the occasion -- it had been in storage for several years. Due to lack of space it was not fully extended to display all its beauty, but the red and white sail could still be seen.

On September 18, the Scandinavian Society gave us another occasion to publicize the Finnish Room, this time at its Crayfish party at Aspinwall Fireman's Park. Attendees had a wonderful time celebrating the Swedish tradition of eating crayfish. The organizer of the symposium on Finnish Education mentioned below was at the party and invited everyone to attend.

The Finnish high school exchange students hosted in the Pittsburgh area have returned to Finland and we hope that they have spread news of the Finnish Nationality Room coming to the Cathedral of Learning.

A Symposium of Finnish Education was held on October 5 at the University of Pittsburgh’s Posvar Hall. After 40 years of significant education reform, Finland’s school system has consistently placed at the top of international rankings for education systems. It has been globally recognized for high quality and excellence in STEM areas. Understanding contemporary Finnish education enhances appreciation of the Finnish Room, which reflects Finnish education in the past. The Committee was at the symposium with an information table and gave a short presentation about the Room.

**PHILIPPINE ROOM COMMITTEE**

Fr. Manny Gelido, Chair

The Nightingales cast a bright light at a benefit concert for the Philippine Nationality Room on Saturday, July 16, 2016 in the University of Pittsburgh Alumni Hall Auditorium. The Nightingales, Bianca Lopez and Rhina Cruz, a soprano duo from Philippines, performed a wide-ranging repertoire consisting of Opera arias, Broadway classics as well as a medley of Philippine folk songs. Dancers provided a change of pace. This fundraising event was sponsored by the Philippine Nationality Room Task Force, Filipino-American Association of Pittsburgh, Philippine-American Medical Society of Western Pennsylvania and Philippine-American Performing Arts of Greater Pittsburgh. All proceeds will be donated to the creation of the Philippine Nationality Room.

**NATIONALITY ROOMS PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

Maryann Sivak

In June we hosted a Slovenian Diplomatic Delegation. Maxine gave the history of the Cathedral of Learning and the Nationality Rooms. The main visitors were: Gorazd Žmavc, Minister of the Office for Slovenians Abroad, Zvone Žigon, Deputy Minister for Slovenians Abroad, Andrej Rode, consul General of Slovenia (Cleveland Office), Al Novak, Vice Chancellor, Deborah Studen-Pavlovich, Yugoslav Room committee member and Tom Ogoreuc.

In 1816 Pittsburgh was incorporated as a city and elected its first mayor. Pittsburgh was actually founded in 1758, when General John Forbes gave the region its name. However, 200 years ago Pittsburgh’s population had grown large enough to obtain status as a city. The Bicentennial of this historic act made for a colorful parade on a gorgeous day. On Saturday, July 9th, eleven Nationality Room Committees plus organizations and staff participated in the Pittsburgh Bicentennial Parade from 14th Street to the Point State Park.

Sriwhana Spong, a contemporary visual artist who works in moving images and sculpture, used our Nationality Rooms as a location for the film as the classrooms represent culture through architecture, design and language as a testament to the different experience immigrants brought to Pittsburgh. Sriwhana is a Balinese/New Zealand artist, currently based in Berlin, Germany.
In August, we said farewell to Anita Gallagher, Gift Center Coordinator, who retired after 10 years.

On Saturday, September 10, the Alliance of Germanic Societies of Pittsburgh honored E. Maxine Bruhns and Elmer Menhart (posthumously) at their annual recognition luncheon held at the Teutonia Mannerchor. Members and officers of the Austrian, German and Swiss Rooms attended along with members of affiliated Germanic societies. Austrian Honorary Consul Edgar Braun, former Swiss Honorary Consul Dr. Heinz Kunz, and Swiss Room Committee Vice-Chairman, Fred Carlson spoke about Maxine's long-time involvement in Germanic events and culture. More than 120 people attended.

On September 9, the Nationality Rooms Program participated in the FedEx Multicultural Program. Michael Walter and Pat Fitzsimmons gave a presentation on our program and showed artifacts and folk attire. The presentation was so well-received that we were invited back again next year.

In October, Pittsburgh Opera conducted a photo shoot in the Syria-Lebanon Nationality Room. They felt this Room was perfect for Herod and Salome and a not-yet-beheaded, John the Baptist.

IRAQI U.N. AMBASSADOR ADMires OUR SYRIA-LEBANON ROOM

On September 13, Dr. Salah Hadi Saleh, Director General, Scholarship Department of the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education, visited the Nationality Rooms and was particularly impressed by the Syria-Lebanon Room. He spoke to the Iraqi Ambassador to the United Nations, Mohamed Ali Alhakim about his visit.

Ambassador Alhakim requested that his Iraqi friend, Dr. Hanan al Hasani be given a tour of the Syria-Lebanon and other Rooms after hours. On September 22, Director Bruhns volunteered to show Dr. Hasani the Syria-Lebanon Room at 5:30 p.m. and her assistant, Maryann Sivak would then showed him more Rooms. Dr. Hasani enjoyed getting to see many Rooms during his visit.

BRIGHT KIDS UGANDA ATTRACTS BRUHNS’ SUPPORT

The Bright Kids Uganda (BKU) project was created in 2000 by Victoria Nalongo Namusisi. She took in street kids – orphans whose parents had died from AIDS and abandoned children sleeping under bridges and gave them shelter, care, and education. One of the orphans was Bugembe Medi, then 10, now 27-years-old who has founded a similar organization called the Great Kings and Queens Children’s Center (GKQCC). Medi, affectionately thinks of Victoria as his mother, and he still seeks her out for guidance with managing GKQCC. Children at GKQCC now total more than 400, and this has put a tremendous financial strain on Medi. Both projects are partly sponsored by Pitt’s GSPIA Professor, Lou Picard, who first brought Victoria to Pitt in 2000 to speak about Bright Kids Uganda. Maxine Bruhns attended that lecture.

Hanan al Hasani and E. Maxine Bruhns

E. Maxine Bruhns and Victoria Nalongo Namusisi
(Pauline Greenlick, Photographer)
This year Nick Langston won NRIEP’s McGunagle Scholarship and served as an intern with GKQCC. He was able to establish an accounting system and supervised the hiring of a professional accountant there. He also developed a strategic business plan for GKQCC to guide its growth and sustainability in the coming years. Part of this growth includes purchasing the land on which the center is located and adjacent land that will be used to raise chickens, rabbits, cows, pigs and vegetables as food sources for the children. This year, Maxine donated $1000 toward that land purchase.

Talking with Victoria, who visited Pittsburgh this September, Maxine has decided to donate a substantial amount annually and in perpetuity, one-third of which will fund merit-based scholarships to college or trade school for orphans raised at BKU. These scholarships will be in memory of Fred C. Bruhns who taught at GSPIA for 20 years. One third will be used at BKU’s Noah’s Ark Compound, where severely disabled children are in great need of treatment and support. Children receiving these services with Maxine’s funds will be known as “Maxi’s Kids”. The remaining third will go to GKQCC primary school in the form of merit-based scholarships for former street children and orphans. Children receiving these merit-based scholarships will be known as “Maxi’s Students.”

MOST ASKED QUESTIONS
Donna Yurko

PLEASE NOTE THAT DONATIONS ARE PLACED INTO APPROPRIATE ACCOUNTS ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING NOTATIONS:

NON-Specified Donations --- Any NON-specified donations AUTOMATICALLY go into the Endowment PRINCIPAL account. These funds always remain in the principal account and can never be withdrawn or spent for any purpose.

SPECIFIED Donations ---- Any donation that is SPECIFIED in writing by the donor for “Scholarship(s) to be paid (such as) “Summer of 2017” or “Summer of 2018” (or similar) can likely go into the Endowment Earning Account (04). All expenditures from this account are for Scholarship Awards only.

SPECIFIED Donations – Any donation that is SPECIFIED in writing by the donor for “General Expenses” or “General Operating Expenses” for the committee will go into the Agency (09) Account (ONLY if it is in writing for operating expenses). Expenditures from this account can be used for the committee’s general expenses or when planning events.

DUES – Dues will go into the Agency (09) account and be used for general expenses. However, dues are now treated as tax-deductible donations.

Event Payments – Please keep in mind that when holding fundraisers and the committee is offering something (i.e. a dinner, tote bag, T-shirt, etc.) the actual cost of the item is not tax deductible. A tax deduction can be given only on the amount of a donation in excess of any dinners or other items of value received.

Account Analyses – Both the 04 and 09 accounts will be reviewed periodically. We may at that time make recommendations to transfer some funds from the 04 or 09 account to the Endowment Principal Account in order to take advantage of increasing interest income for scholarships. The committee, of course, may also ask us to transfer funds if and when they think they should do so.

Event Advertising – Please always keep in mind that the purpose of your event should be advertised. If an event is advertised as fundraising for scholarships, the donations or proceeds raised from that event must be deposited into the Endowment Principal Account unless specified in writing by the donor for scholarship for a specific time period. If an event is advertised as fundraising for something other than scholarships (i.e. Committee Room Updates or General Operating Expenses), only then can the donations be placed into the Agency (09) Account.
INFORMATION CENTER
Michael Walter

Statistics:
August / September / October - ADULTS 3950
August / September / October - YOUTH 929
Total Admissions (through Oct 24th) 4879
Projected to Oct. 31st +166
TOTAL 5045

Notable Tours:
October 1 - The LeRoy Historical Society / Jell-O Museum
October 20 - Allentown Art Museum Auxiliary
Numerous Freshman Programs class tours.
Five University groups not associated with Freshman Programs.

Donations:
The Program thanks Diana Giuliana for donating two silk bedspreads from San Leucio, an Italian town noted for its silk production for centuries.

The Program would also like to thank John Vojtko for donating and committing to dedicating more ephemera related to his aunt, who was an instructor of Slovak and a personal assistant to Stanley Prostrednik. Prostrednik’s unpublished memoir is included with the donation and contains valuable insight into one of the most noteworthy creators of a Nationality Room scholarship.

Nationality Rooms Information Center staff member Matthew Burns has created a database for recording and photographically storing maintenance issues. It is a work in progress at the time of press.

In other news, the storage area we own in the basement has been subjected to repeated water incursions from an undetermined source. For this reason and because of a reduction in office space, Dedication Books are being distributed to Committees. We will keep 125 of every Room’s Dedication Books on hand (for those Room Committees that have that many or more), and encourage Committees to retrieve their overstock, working with me going forward to get many of them. Decorating Day will be the first day I will have stacks of them available for Committees to take and distribute as they see fit. Going on from that day, I can be contacted to pull more out of storage. By late Winter / early Spring it is hoped that they will be reduced to what we commit to keep.

Print-on-demand will be an option in the future as booklets are needed.

Quo Vadis News:
The interest in becoming a guide has been high this semester with over twenty students training to become guides. Those students who have entirely completed their training and had returned after the summer are Eric Mercede, Morgan Cyron, Morgan Medvedz, Sammi Pepperl, Kamal Raslan, Nika Zharichenko, John Jankowski, & Emily Wilk. We welcome their participation and I am proud to work with such quality students.

This year’s Quo Vadis Officers are Paige Knapp, Alecia Caballero, Mariah Flanagan, and Reagan Harper.

GIFT SHOP
Phil Johnson

GIFT CENTER - Welcome to the Gift Center for the Nationality Rooms located on the First floor of the Cathedral of Learning! We offer a wide selection of gift items from around the world:
- Silk and wool scarves from India
- Matrushkas (nesting dolls) from Russia
- Amber Jewelry from the Baltic region
- La Vie Parisienne Jewelry from France
- Hand-carved boxes from Poland
- Evil Eye Jewelry from Turkey
And much, much more from around the world. Be sure to stop by before or after your tour of the Nationality Rooms!
COMMITTEE AND SCHOLARSHIP NEWS
Cristina Lagnese

Committees

It has been a hectic and wonderful 2016 with so many upcoming plans and events from the Nationality Room Committees. When the bylaws were passed in 2014, it was our hope that committees would be rejuvenated and become active again. I am pleased to say that we are well on our way.

Thank you to all of the committees, officers, members and supporters, for your commitment and dedication to the Nationality Rooms Program. The Rooms may be made of non-living materials, but the Nationality Room Committees are living and breathing entities which continue to educate and share their cultural heritage in many ways. The calendar below shows programming ranging from scholarship receptions (Austrian, African Heritage and WIC), a Japanese silent auction to an afternoon of music and dance from the Celtic committees and of course, India Day and the Polish Festival. We, at the Nationality Rooms Program celebrate you and those before you who have contributed to the construction of the Rooms, cultural programming and the continuing global education of Pitt students through the Summer Study Abroad Scholarships.

Please take a moment to see what we have accomplished together by taking a look at our Facebook pages. We have two- the Nationality Rooms Program Page (https://www.facebook.com/nationalityroomsprograms/) and the Nationality Rooms Scholarship Page (https://www.facebook.com/Nationality-Rooms-Scholarship-Program-216900801696906/).

If you are on Facebook, we would greatly appreciate a “like.”

Upcoming and past events are posted on the calendar of this newsletter, our website (http://www.nationalityrooms.pitt.edu/news-events) and Facebook.

2017 is election time for committee officers. We will discuss the election procedures during the Council meeting on October 26.

Please keep in mind the following:

- Dues paying members listed in the Committee Roster are eligible for election as an Officer of the Committee
- Any individual wishing to serve as an Officer of the Committee shall submit his/her name to the Secretary of the Committee with a copy to the Director of the NRIEP.
- The Secretary must mail and/or email notice of the election no later than 30 days in advance of the meeting and election.
- The Secretary shall prepare the ballots.
- The Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all dues-paying members and supply the Committee Roster to the Secretary so he/she can prepare the ballots.
- Each dues-paying member listed on the Committee Roster may cast a ballot for one nominee for each office.
- The members shall vote by ballot to elect the Officers at the Committee’s annual meeting.
- Absentee ballots will be made available to dues-paying members unable to attend the election by contacting the Committee Secretary.
- No person shall be eligible to serve more than two (2) successive terms in any one office. Newly elected officers shall begin their terms on January 1, 2017.

The Lithuanian Committee’s coloring book created by Janet Carlisle made such an impression on Jennie-Lynn Knox that it inspired a conversation to have one for all the Nationality and Heritage Rooms. The Committees enthusiastically voted for a Nationality Rooms coloring book and now Janet has been busy at work drawing the details of each room with help from her husband David in photographing the Rooms. Thank you Janet and Jennie-Lynn for pushing this through. Please check out Janet Carlisle’s other artistic endeavors, the coloring book project is just one of her many creations.

Before the book is printed, I must look into several University requirements and complete an ISBN application. Look for it early 2017.
2016 Summer Study Abroad Scholarship, International Fellowships and Bowman Faculty Grant News

The Summer Study Abroad Scholarship awards continue to grow and have attracted a diverse group of applicants with interesting stories and projects. We awarded 45 scholarships in 2016 for a total of $165,000. In addition to the Summer Study Abroad Scholarship recipients, we also welcomed our International Fellowship and Bowman Faculty Grant recipients at the debriefing.

We awarded our 2016 Ruth Crawford Mitchell Czech/Slovak Visiting Scholars to Radim Hédl and Zuzana Jurková and to the program’s first-ever Armenian Scholarship recipient, Armen Amirjanyan. They arrived in late August.

Dr. Jurková is collaborating with Dr. Adriana Helbig in the Music Department and researching Carpathian music with a focus on the Carpathian Music Ensemble, Slavjane and other groups.

Dr. Hédl is collaborating with Dr. Walt Carson in the Biological Sciences Department. His research is on temperate forest ecology, biodiversity and conservation in temperate forests in both Europe and the United States.

Dr. Amirjanyan is researching urban transportation and planning under the mentorship of Dr. Mark Magalotti in the School of Engineering.

Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Programs
2016 Summer Study Abroad Scholarship Report Excerpts
David P. Downey and Nicole Musselman

UNDERGRADUATE

Lucy Chen - China - John H. Tsui Memorial Scholarship - "… Because of the language barrier, I became more dependent on other colleagues and realized how much more I can learn and gain from them than doing everything myself as I would back in school… there are times when I overthink everything and have to restart the whole process again. From that, I have learned to relax and take it slow. No one is perfect at doing anything especially the first time around, and it takes baby steps to reach that level of perfection, which will always have some flaws."

Ishvaraus Davis - France - Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Award - "… Another person that I will never forget in France is Sean, one of my roommates in a hostel that I stayed in before the program began. He could speak English and French fluently so he helped me overcome a lot of the problems that I was having with communication my first week. He also took the time to show me the sights around the city like the Louvre, Le Tour Eiffel, and Notre Dame."

Thomas Elvins - Austria - Austrian Room Committee Scholarship - "… In Vienna I was forced to navigate situations frequently involving native speakers speaking the Viennese dialect, which can sometimes be very challenging to understand. I also had experience of attending a conversation evening organized through the University of Vienna, in which a Franconian dialect speaker held conversation sessions in a tempered dialect to acquaint students with another non-standard, albeit ‘German’ German dialect."

Raechel Heil - England - Savina S. Skewis Grant - "… I tried to pick up on the small things between British and American culture since the two are very similar. The major things were language (spoken and signed), laws, and people's attitudes. Grammar for spoken and signed languages were the same, but I was amazed at how the vocabulary was so different for both. Many spoken words for everyday things were different and they varied by regions. Even the accents were tough."

Ruba Idris - Tanzania - African Heritage Room Committee Scholarship - "… RDO [Rural Development Organization] recognizes that communality lies at the heart of Tanzanian culture. Relatives and neighbors take care of each other and of each other’s kids … This way, the communal bond remains intact and the child is allowed to make relationships with more people in their communities. RDO encourages the idea that rural establishments are as important as more modern establishments and that there is no need to change them for people to live a better life."
Heather Johnson - Hungary - Nationality Council Scholarship for Quo Vadis Guides - "... About halfway through my time abroad I was feeling very homesick... but 3 of my new Portuguese friends were not willing to let me be sad. They decided that we were going to spend the next day at one of the thermal baths and forget our troubles. That next day was my best day of the trip. We went to the Schenzy Bath and spent the whole day relaxing in the sun. We had so much fun jumping into all of the pools and saunas, and I got a bit of a tan too!"

Emily Kistler - Italy - David L. Lawrence Memorial Scholarship - "... It was beneficial to have Italian teachers because they were able to present these topics in great detail from their country's point of view. Our class was able to discuss differences between the United States and Italy on a wide variety of topics and our teachers challenged our thought process. Most of our teachers went along on the excursions as well. I thought we went to a nice variety of places and got to see and experience a lot!"

Jessica Lee - Italy - Frances and Sully Nesta memorial Scholarship - "... I felt at home in Italy almost immediately because of the amazing hospitality that I experienced. My host family was phenomenal in welcoming me. In many ways, it was homey because of the values in Italian culture surrounding family, hospitality, and sharing food/time together were similar to those of my Chinese culture. Meal times were not just for eating; they were social gatherings."

Dayeong Lee - Women's International Club Grant - In Memory of Teddy Skarlis - "... Then a three-year-old boy, who came with his grandmother, came to my very back and picked up a knife that was behind me. I urgently told the baby to put the knife down, or else he will cut himself by accident ... His facial expression was almost like scolding me. His eyes were as if he was saying "What do you know?". A moment later I realized that his grandmother told him to bring the knife. I was surprised ... No one in America or Korea will ever ask a three-year-old boy to even touch the knife. In Tanzania it was perfectly normal. Even a five-year-old boy had a cow he was responsible for."

Bailey Lien - Ecuador - Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Scholarship - "... This program helped tremendously with both goals. My trip to Ecuador reinforced my goal to become a primary care physician whereas I wasn't so sure about choosing a specialty in medicine so early before. It also changed my vision of my future practice and made me want to become a traveling physician. I will definitely participate in Doctors Without Borders in the future."

Seongmin Lee - Brazil - Helen Pool Rush - "... Although our host "mom" worked and studied a lot, she always made time to talk to us about our day, our plans, etc. Our host "dad" was the best because he always gave us suggestions for restaurants and cool places to visit. He always had the inside scoop on things and was very easy to talk and relate to. Our mom already knew some English, but our dad took English classes for a couple weeks before we arrived just so he could communicate with us in case we didn't speak Portuguese."

Erin McMahon - Austria - Austrian Room Committee Grant - "... Probably one of the more memorable moments from my trip was when I had to go to the pharmacy alone after coming down with the flu while abroad. The pharmacist did not speak any English, which proved to be challenging for me, as my medical terms in German knowledge is very limited. However, I managed to convey what exactly I was looking for, and within a day or two the medicine given to me proved to help immensely."

Alexa Moore - India - Savina S. Skewis Scholarship - "... I went on the trip with very long braids, which shocked and confused a lot of people. I was at the airport and I felt hands in my hair. One of the custodial workers in the bathroom started to stroke my hair and ask me if it was real. In this moment I could've gotten very offended and mean, but instead I decided to approach the situation whimsically. I told her all about my hair, and the process I take to get it the way it was."
Daniel Snyder - Peru - Helen Pool Rush Scholarship - "... Locals were EXTREMELY gracious in working with me when I made mistakes with Spanish or had trouble communicating what I wanted to. There are actually a decent number of foreigners there (not Americans, but European and Asian people studying and working) so I think it's more acceptable for us to make mistakes since it's not extremely rare for foreigners to be visiting."

Goda Tarcijonas - Lithuania - Lithuanian Room Committee Scholarship - "... know that my experiences working at camp in Druskininkai, Lithuania, will never be forgotten. I had the most amazing and fulfilling two weeks of my life teaching children English, playing games, and making friends with my coworkers. We worked hard during the day, teaching lessons, taking the kids to the lake, leading activities, and planning excursions... I felt like a true Lithuanian, because I was able to totally immerse myself in the culture without much access to the outside world."

Channing Thomas - Argentina - Women’s International Club Grant - In Memory of Teddy Skarlis - "... The most difficult thing to grasp is the linguistic nuance, but once you can recognize, it becomes very easy to understand. I had no issues communicating with any of the portenos (people from Buenos Aires) and no instances of offense when I was speaking. Portenos are very friendly and curious people, who understand that a foreigner will not speak perfect castellano, but rather appreciate our willingness to try."

Leanna Travis - India - Women’s International Club Scholarship in Memory of Teddy Skarlis - "... Dr. Punnet challenged us ... to re-evaluate what we value in our collegiate experiences and what it means for each of us to be a truly successful healthcare professional. For me, these questions demanded intense self-awareness because although I have always struggled with accepting the hectic lifestyle that I know accompanies becoming a physician, I believe that my compassion and enjoyment in looking beyond the intricacies of the body and towards the human being themself are strengths that would manifest well in a career as a physician."

Garrett White - Denmark - Herbert E. Lieberkind/Danish Room Committee Memorial Scholarship - "... I'm now much more interested in pursuing a career with a start-up with a great idea, a non-profit with a good mission, or my own business start-up. Additionally, Denmark as a nation altered my perspective on future careers. In Denmark, a full-time week is only 35 hours ... it was easy to notice that the quality is better, the creativity is flowing, and people are much happier."

GRADUATE

Barry Bookheimer - Ukraine - Eugene Manasterski Memorial Award - "... 70-80 percent of my fellow students in the program were from the worldwide Ukrainian diaspora - the exact group I plan to research. This was extremely beneficial to me, as I was able to hear their remarkable family stories firsthand, and make great contacts for the future. I met Ukrainians (or those of Ukrainian heritage) from the U.S., Canada, Australia, Brazil, Belgium, Britain and 'non-heritage' speakers like myself from Germany, Denmark, Poland, Luxembourg, and Italy. Everyone I met was very excited that I was 'telling their story' - Ukrainians from the diaspora and Ukrainians from Ukraine alike."

Rachel DiCicco - Austria - Austrian Room Committee Scholarship - "... On the night of their engagement, they invited me to a celebratory dinner at Melanie's parents' place outside of Vienna. Other than me, only two of the couple's closest friends and family were in attendance. Melanie's family does not speak English ... Despite the difficulty in communication, I was able to share in this joyous moment for the family. We had a traditional dinner, toasts from all the guests, and long conversations about love, politics, art, and our many hilarious miscommunications and misunderstandings. I was so honored to be invited into this and will never forget the sentiment."

Hannah Gondwe - India - African Heritage Room Committee Scholarship - "... I more thoroughly see the natural magnanimity, drive, and community many Nigerians have. People are constantly around each other, families (usually) take care of their own, child-rearing is shared. Work is work and not the entirety of one's life. There is so much I want to put into practice in my own life that I learned from this trip."

Tamala Gondwe - India - Indian Room Committee Scholarship - "...while I was very conscious about how I stood out, I made a friend who is originally from the Punjab region and because he is of the Sikh religion (wears a turban and is about 6 feet tall) he told me that he is often stared at in rural areas in South India. This taught me that India is very diverse, and that it’s possible for people in some parts of India to not have encountered people from another region who look different and speak other languages."

Sylvia Grove - France and Croatia - Ruth Crawford Mitchell Memorial Scholarship - "... [my interview with] Guillaume Long in Lyon, France ... had made me the most anxious. I had read Mr. Long's work for a year prior to meeting him and had argued with him on Twitter once in late November 2015. I had been certain that I would not be able to keep up with his sassy, explosive persona while performing a two-hour interview in oral French. However, not only did he immediately set me at ease; he also turned me into a cartoon while modeling his creative process."
Matthew Hadodo - Turkey - Stanley Prostředník Grant - "... Some of my participants spoke to me for several hours, and I feel as though I became a part of their lives. Taking nearly daily ferries across the Bosphorus River, with buildings from literally over a thousand years ago greeting me and the wild seagulls flying above will be etched in my mind forever... My mother's second cousin in particular was a huge asset in assisting me with much of the ethnographic portion, including introducing me to friends and leaders within the community."

Max Harleman - United Kingdom - James W. Knox Memorial Scholarship - "... I attended Wimbledon for the first time, after being an avid tennis fan for nearly 20 years. It was a phenomenal experience, and a dream come true for a little boy that used to record the tournament on VHS tapes when he was 10 years old. I would recommend this for anyone, tennis fan or not, as it is just a great day out and a timeless British tradition."

Kaitlyn Haynal - Greece - Greek Room Committee Scholarship - "... I've learned that... it is possible and desirable to slow down. On Ikaria, when it became too hot to continue working comfortably mid-day, many would go to the beach for a few hours to cool down and enjoy themselves before coming back to finish work. Without strict adherence to the work clock, people are living happier, healthier, and subsequently just as productive lives. I will be seeking to incorporate these self-care measures into my own life."

Miranda Hogsett - Germany - Fred C. Bruhns Memorial Scholarship - "... At a group home for unaccompanied refugee teens where boys there let me interview them, I cooked dinner for them as a gesture of my thanks. While cutting vegetables and beginning to cook, they all (six total) came into the kitchen and talked with me for an hour and a half, helped prepare the food, shared recipes with me, and two of them played guitar and sang. We sat together at their table, shared our meal, and discussed the similarities and differences between themselves and teens in the U.S., different languages, and political issues around the world."

Amy Karabowicz - Guatemala - Stanley Prostředník Scholarship - "... walking randomly around some dirt tracks and bike paths north of Budapest to hunt down the location where the burials I will be studying in more detail for my dissertation research were originally excavated is definitely memorable... I was glad I left to go investigate this area early in the mornings because navigating in the dark without streetlights and in fields would have been just asking to get lost and end up in the Danube River."

Jillian Kite - Guatemala - Stanley Prostředník Health Sciences Scholarship - "... We decided to go on a kayaking tour through the islands one afternoon. The group that went was very small and included my roommate, a young couple from Denmark, the tour guide and me. On the boat to get to the kayaks I began chatting with the couple from Denmark and found out that the woman is an occupational therapist at a stroke clinic in Copenhagen! I couldn't believe it. She told me all about her job and some stories about her experience and patients that she has worked with. We exchanged contact information to stay in touch because we had such a lovely time!"

Kristen Kowalski - New Zealand - Stanley Prostředník Health Sciences Grant - "... I had never been to the north of the country before and I found that people there were even more helpful and welcoming in general than those I met in Rio de Janeiro. From my first day in lab everyone welcomed me and offered help and support. I think the fact that I spoke the language really helped me to form these relationships."

Nori Li - Japan - Japanese Room Committee Scholarship in Honor of Dr. Satoshi Maeshiro, Emeritus Professor of Economics, University of Pittsburgh"... I am interested in how both native speakers of Japanese and second language learners link reflexives to their antecedents. The goal was to recruit native speakers of Japanese with minimal experience abroad to minimize L2 influence on binding, and intermediate to advanced level learners of Japanese."

Alexandra Linn - Brazil - Stanley Prostředník Health Sciences Grant - "... I'll never forget watching the newly sworn-in Member of Parliament for Buliisa District make her entrance to the banquet hall at Mandela National Stadium where more than 500 people waited to take part in celebrating her electoral victory. I'll never forget the look of resolve on her face after winning the seat she has fought to secure for more than 10 years. A seat in the oil region of Uganda that makes her one of the most important MPs in the country and gives her a platform to demand attention for one of the poorest and least developed districts in Uganda."
Allison McCann - Czech Republic - Czechoslovak Room Committee Scholarship - "... scholarship written in Prague and Vienna in the late-19th and early-20th centuries about Central European medieval art and manuscripts ... allowed me to understand how and why certain works of medieval art were singled out as monuments to Czech identity in the modern period. This material allowed me to understand why manuscripts in particular were studied with especial interest in the 19th century."

Sangki Oak - Guatemala - Josephine and John McCloskey Memorial Scholarship - "... As the primary purpose of my time in Guatemala was to experience the health care system there, some of the most memorable memories I had during this trip were observations of surgeries in the hospitals. Most of these were performed by skilled surgeons who have learned to operate in a relatively low resource environment and used techniques that reflected these conditions."

Julie Platt - Israel - Israel Heritage Room Committee Scholarship - "... My experience at the Peres Center for Peace aligned perfectly with my career goals of working in the nonprofit- sports for development sector. Working at the center, and witnessing young Jewish, Israeli-Arab and Palestinian girls playing soccer together, as friends and teammates not enemies, reinforced the impact of sports for development programs. In addition, the opportunity to engage with leaders in peace education taught me to see conflicts from a multiplicity of viewpoints."

Kali Stull - Indonesia - Dr. and Mrs. Ryonosuke Shiono Scholarship - "... By digging into the history of Indonesia, I learned a lot about processes of colonialization and how geospatial calculations and natural classifications are critical elements of colonial powers orchestrating their rule ... I also thought about nationalism a lot while I was there, as linked to colonialism and subsequently embraced by a diverse archipelago, 'unity in diversity', that is Indonesia."

Sandi Ward - Taiwan - John H. Tsui Memorial Scholarship - "... On the way home, as we were driving on a highway not far from the Taiwan Strait, we saw a snake crossing the road. When we got closer, we realized it was no ordinary snake -- it was a 2-foot Chinese cobra! Neither of us could believe our eyes at first -- a real, live cobra, slithering along with its head up so we could see its distinctive hood. My hostess said she had lived in Tainan her whole life and had never seen a cobra 'in the wild.'"

Zina Ward - Austria and France - Ruth Crawford Mitchell Memorial Grant - "... When I was in Blace to visit the Musée Claude Bernard, I stayed with a friend at a lovely B&B run by an extremely friendly couple. The owner of the B&B asked if we would like to do any wine tasting while we were there, and offered to set up a visit with his neighbor at her vineyard, Château de Pravins. What was supposed to be a half-hour tasting turned into a 3-hour visit: a long tour of the vineyard, which had been producing wine since the 12th century."

Anna Wu - Philippines - Dr. and Mrs. Ryonosuke Shiono Grant - "... We worked closely with one of the smartest people I've ever met, Dr. Edsel Salvana. He cared deeply about his patients and was an incredible doctor. The infectious disease (ID) fellows (and other physicians/healthcare workers as well) in the hospital were also very smart, hardworking, and cared about their patients... doctors had to work with whatever they had available to give the best possible care to their patients."

**WELCOME NEW STAFF**

Maryann Sivak

Phil Johnson is the Gift Center Coordinator for the Nationality Rooms in the Cathedral of Learning at the University of Pittsburgh. A native of Rochester, NY, Phil comes to us with an extensive background in retail management with Kaufmann's, Macy's and Giant Eagle. Phil is a graduate of Baldwin-Wallace University with a BA in Business. Phil currently is a resident of Mt. Lebanon with his wife of 27 years, Barbara.

Reagan Harper is a sophomore in Historic Preservation and Museum Studies. She is a tour guide of the Nationality Rooms and an officer of Quo Vadis training the new guides. She has been helping Maryann with organizing publicity files, compiling address lists, and any other things that happen to come up that need to be done.
IN MEMORIAM
Maryann Sivak

GAIL KIRKPATRICK LESOON beloved wife of Edward J. Lesoon Jr. Chair of the Syria-Lebanon Room Committee died June 13, 2016, Gail was raised in Level Green, PA and was the owner of L’Image Hair Styling in East Liberty for 20 years. She then earned her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees, followed by her Clinical Doctorate in Audiology from the University of Pittsburgh. Gail then formed her own Audio Temp Service practice. She strongly advocated the culture of the Syria-Lebanon Room. Gail truly was the epitome of unselfish love and personal courage.

Hana Romováček passed away June 18, 2016. Born in Prague, Hana emigrated with her family to US in 1968 and began her career in biochemical sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. While living in the States, Hana remained a devoted advocate of Czech and Slovak cultures, serving as an active member—and president—of the Pittsburgh chapter of the Czechoslovak Society for Arts and Sciences as well as the University of Pittsburgh’s Czechoslovak Room Committee. Hana will be remembered by all as a caring and intelligent woman with a strong character, an appreciation for directness, and a great sense of humor.

Albert Flury died September 5, 2016. Born in Switzerland he moved to the US in 1947. Albert’ approach to life combined the best values of Switzerland and United States. He had a superb work ethic, attention to quality, precision and order, and cordial engagement of his family, colleagues, and friends. He was a generous donor to the building fund for the Swiss Nationality Room, dedicated in 2012. In 2014 Albert moved to the Pittsburgh area to live with his daughter Nancy and son-in-law Fred Carlson. Fred is Vice-Chair of the Swiss Room Committee.

Frans Jahger died September 30, 2016. He was born in Copenhagen, Denmark and came to America in 1953. He worked as tool and die maker until his retirement. He then chose to continue his education at the University of Pittsburgh where he earned a B.S. in education and the title of master machinist. He taught at the G.M. plant at Allegheny College and at the Pennsylvania State Vocational School. He and his wife worked diligently on the Danish Room until her death.

Alexander Weilenmann passed October 21, 2016. Born in Zurich, Switzerland, Alex graduated from the University of Zurich magna cum laude, with a Ph.D. in General History with a special emphasis on Anglo-American and Colonial History; Political Philosophy and Economic History. During his career he was a Consultant on Project Evaluation at UNESCO; Consultant in Residence on cybernetic approaches to educational planning and administrative management at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Senior Fulbright Research fellow at the John F. Kennedy Institute; Center for International Studies, University of Tilburg, The Netherlands; Faculty Research Fellow, Central America, at the U.S. Office of Education, Overseas Language and Area Studies; Assistant, Yale and Harvard Universities; Invited Participant at World University Service, Seminar on “Human Implications of Development Planning,” in Mysore, India and study tour in India and Pakistan; and Fellow, Swiss-American Students’ Exchange, University of Kansas. Dr. Weilenmann’s contributions have made a lasting impact on the University of Pittsburgh. He was also a generous donor for the creation of the Swiss Nationality Room which was dedicated in 2012. Alex was a good friend of Fred and Maxine Bruhns. In September, Maxine called on Alex to edit her German remarks at the Alliance of Germanic Societies of Pittsburgh.
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**2016**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 26</td>
<td>Nationality Council Meeting - Braun Room, Cathedral of Learning</td>
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<td>October 31</td>
<td>Ghost Watch, Early American Room - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 5</td>
<td>Greek Nationality Room will mark its 75th Anniversary with a celebratory dinner at the St. Nicholas Cathedral in Oakland.</td>
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<td>November 12</td>
<td>Nationality Rooms Holiday Decorating Day</td>
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<td>November 13</td>
<td>Polishfest - Polish Room Committee - Commons Room, Cathedral of Learning</td>
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<td>November 6-13</td>
<td>French Room Committee along with Carnegie Museum offer a trip to Paris, “France for Paris Photo 2016” - for details and pricing at 412-578-2618 or <a href="mailto:tucker@carnegiemuseums.org">tucker@carnegiemuseums.org</a>.</td>
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<td>November 17</td>
<td>French Room Committee will co-host a Beaujolais Nouveau party at Bar Marco.</td>
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<td>December 3</td>
<td>Swiss Room Committee Christmas Party - Teutonia Mannerchor</td>
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<td>December 4</td>
<td>Nationality Rooms Holiday Open House, Commons Room, Cathedral of Learning.</td>
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<td>December 11</td>
<td>Luncheon - Women’s International Club</td>
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**2017**

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<tr>
<th>Date (TBA)</th>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Festival of the Egg</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Scholarship Orientation &amp; Award Ceremony</td>
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