

Blair Dong

Director, WRCT Public Affairs

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To: Lukas Glist, General Manager, WRCT

Following is a summary of WRCT's treatment of community issues and services in the public interest for the 4th Quarter of 2022, as required by Federal Communications Commission regulations (Section 73.3527 (e)(8)).

A poll of Carnegie Mellon University students helped identify community issues that are of greatest interest to them. As a result, these issues were the focus of public affairs programming for the most recent quarter:

1. Local waste and pollution treatment
2. Health
3. Latino community in Pittsburgh
4. Reproductive rights
5. Gender identity
6. Environment/global warming/climate change
7. Privacy and digital rights
8. Midterm elections
9. Digital convergence

If you have any questions, please contact me by email at pa@wrct.org.

Sincerely,

Blair Dong

Cc: WRCT Public File

WRCT Public Affairs

The Public Affairs Department at WRCT Pittsburgh is dedicated to broadcasting a variety of programming to serve the public interest. The department welcomes contributions of content and participation from the Carnegie Mellon and greater Pittsburgh community. It is the mission of the Public Affairs department to offer a radio voice to the people of Pittsburgh, and to provide the city with informative, community-generated programming. Our community issues programming can be divided into four categories: **Regular Shows**, **News and Information**, **Public Service**, and **Special Features**.

Regular Shows

Regular shows comprise weekly or bi-weekly broadcasts hosted by WRCT station members and their contributors, airing at a regular time and appearing on our published schedule. Our programs address a diverse array of issues. While the program schedule is under the oversight of the Public Affairs director and the executive board, each show's content is the sole responsibility of the show's hosts and contributors. Any Pittsburgh resident may become a station member and submit a proposal for a show.

News and Information

News and Information includes WRCT News and the WRCT Radio and Music calendars, as well as news material produced by organizations with which we have a formal affiliation. WRCT News is a five-minute broadcast weeknights at 6:00 PM, for which material is drawn from the Associated Press and local sources. The WRCT Radio and Music calendars are read three times daily and are meant to keep listeners apprised of cultural events happening in the city. We also regularly broadcast material produced by the Pacifica Radio Foundation, with which we are affiliated.

Public Service

Public Service broadcasts include Public Service Announcements (PSAs), broadcast twice hourly any time the station is on the air. Some of these announcements are read by our operators, others are recorded locally, and we also play recorded PSAs produced by national organizations.

Special Features

Special Features are broadcasts which enhance or pre-empt regularly scheduled programming. The most common special event broadcasts are our coverage of Carnegie Mellon's athletic events, but may also include interviews, lectures, or other one-time events. During the fall academic semester we broadcast all games played by Carnegie Mellon's NCAA Division III Men's Football team; in the spring we broadcast the games of the Men's and Women's Basketball teams.

Regular Public Affairs Programming

Our regular, weekly or biweekly shows are the mainstay of WRCT's Public Affairs programming. Programming in this category is produced locally by WRCT staff and their affiliates and contributors. The broadcast schedule is created three times a year during the week coinciding with the start of Carnegie Mellon's Spring, Summer, and Fall academic semesters. During that time, the Public Affairs director places shows on the weekly schedule, which lasts for the duration of the academic semester. Scheduling priority is given to existing shows, and then to shows hosted by Carnegie Mellon students.

Any Pittsburgh resident may host a public affairs show after first becoming a station member. All shows must complete a piloting process and be approved by the executive board before being added to the schedule.

Following is a summary of our programming, including each program's currently scheduled time slot. Recordings of all shows are available from WRCT's Information Services Management department upon request.

The Ebony Spectrum, hosted by Rick Adams and Kevin Amos, is a weekly live talk, call-in and interview show devoted to the African, African American and general progressive community in Pittsburgh. Ebony Spectrum provides African Americans, Africans in the Diaspora and other interested members of the non Black community the opportunity to hear and participate in thoughtful discussion of issues of concern to African people that rarely gets a sustained and in depth examination in the mainstream media. Featuring in-studio and telephone guests, roundtable discussions involving civic, social, business, media, academic, arts and cultural trend setters. (Wednesdays 6-7 PM)

Barrio Latino, hosted by Martha Mantilla, Dalia Patino Etcheverri and Miguel Rojas, is a weekly live radio magazine, conducted in English and Spanish. Our objective is:

- To build bridges between the Hispanic Community and members of other ethnic, social, and cultural groups and organizations - Construir puentes de amistad entre la comunidad Hispana y los miembros de otros grupos y asociaciones étnicas, sociales, y culturales.
- To strengthen the ties among members and friends of the Hispanic Community in Pennsylvania - Fortalecer las relaciones entre los miembros y amigos de la comunidad Hispana en Pensilvania
- To inform the community about organizations, institutions and services available to the Latinos that deal with issues that affect our lives. These issues include: health, housing, immigration, insurance, education, and recreation - Mantener a la comunidad informada sobre organizaciones, instituciones y servicios disponibles relacionados con asuntos que afectan nuestras vidas. Estos asuntos incluyen salud, vivienda, inmigración, educación, y recreación.

- To contribute to changing some of the stereotypes and misconceptions that about Hispanics - Contribuir a cambiar estereotipos e interpretaciones erróneas que otros grupos tienen de los Hispánicos.
- To address some of the social, economic and political concerns of the Hispanic community living in Western Pennsylvania - Dialogar sobre asuntos sociales, económicos, y políticos de interés de la comunidad Hispánica en Pensilvania.
- To highlight and promote the different talents found among Hispanics living in Western Pennsylvania - Resaltar y promover los talentos de los Hispánicos que viven en el Oeste de Pensilvania.

The show focuses on issues of interest to Pittsburgh's Latin American community. Topics discussed include literature, film, music, politics and education. (Thursdays 6-7 PM)

From Ipanema to the World, hosted by Flavio Chamis, presents Brazilian music and information to listeners. The show includes an adventurous mix of familiar standards and lesser known gems from the Brazilian songbook in a broad range of musical styles. Connecting culture to music, the show entertains and educates at the same time. (Fridays 7-8 PM)

Advanced Calculus: Recitation is a weekly show featuring past recordings of live local bands. (Mondays 9-10 PM)

QueerPGH Podcast is a biweekly podcast that features interviews with local LGBT groups and leaders, in partnership with QueerPGH. (Biweekly Sundays 4-4:30 PM)

The Fifth Quarter is a weekly sports talk show. (Mondays 6-7 PM)

Some Poems is a weekly poetry show featuring local Pittsburgh poets and beyond. (Sundays 4:30-5 PM and Fridays 9-9:30 AM)

Pandemonium, hosted by various station members, is a public affairs anthology show. Each week a participating station member hosts an episode on a topic and in a format (e.g. interview, play, etc.) they decide. (Fridays 6-6:30 PM)

Pittsburgh Player's Hours, hosted by Archan Das, is a weekly public affairs show for a one-hour dramatic experience, where actors from Carnegie Mellon University perform all things drama, from classic one-acts to original works by student writers. (Sundays 2-3 PM)

Good Times, Bad Decisions!, hosted by Blair Dong and her friends, is about four senior chemistry majors, affectionately labeled the chem squad, find time in their busy schedules each week to meet up and chat. Topics display their student lives as chemistry seniors. Four friends, one major, endless possibilities. (Fridays at 2:30)

News and Information Broadcasts

One of our goals as a community radio station is to provide information to our listeners about current events that are impacting the local, national, and global communities.

Syndicated News programs

WRCT broadcasts **The David Pakman Show**, a nationally syndicated one-hour progressive talk radio show, every weekday at 7-8 AM. The program is hosted by David Pakman. After beginning in 2005 as *Midweek Politics with David Pakman*, the show is now produced in Boston, Massachusetts. For more information visit the website <https://davidpakman.com/>.

WRCT broadcasts **Democracy Now!**, a nationally syndicated one-hour news program, every weekday at 8-9 AM. The program is hosted by Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez and produced out of the Downtown Community Television Center, a community media center in New York City's Chinatown. For more information on Democracy Now!, please consult their website at <http://www.democracynow.org> or call (212) 431-9090.

WRCT broadcasts **Law and Disorder**, a weekly, independent radio program airing on many stations across the United States and podcasting on the web. Law and Disorder radio gives listeners access to rare legal perspectives on issues concerning civil liberties, privacy, right to dissent and the practices of torture exercised by the US government. Three of the top progressive attorneys and activists host the program and consistently bring a diverse line up of guests from grassroots activists to politically mindful authors. Mondays 9-10 AM, with a website at lawanddisorder.org.

Democracy Now! and **Law and Disorder** come to our station via satellite courtesy of our affiliation with the Pacifica Radio Foundation.

Other Syndicated Informative Broadcasts

WRCT is a member station of Pacifica Radio and the Public Radio Exchange (PRX). The Public Affairs Department licenses programs from these networks to syndicate throughout the schedule.

CounterSpin provides a critical examination of the major stories every week, and exposes what corporate media might have missed in their own coverage. CounterSpin highlights censored stories and exposes biased and inaccurate coverage, while examining the power of corporate influence and sexism, racism and homophobia in the news. (Wednesdays 10-10:30 AM)

David Pakman Show, hosted by David Pakman, started as a community radio show called Midweek Politics in the basement of WXOJ's studio in Northampton, Massachusetts. The focus of the show is modern American politics and society. (Mondays-Fridays 7-8 AM)

Alternative Radio is a weekly show that provides information, analyses and views that are frequently ignored or distorted in corporate media. (Mondays 10-11 AM)

A Way With Words is a weekly hour-long program about language and how we use it. It looks at the cultural, historical, and regional aspects of daily language usage. Callers from across the nation can call in to have the program's hosts answer their questions about language, grammar, and word. Website at www.waywordradio.org. (Wednesdays 9-10 AM)

The Radio and Music Calendar

WRCT broadcasts a calendar of community events three times daily: 1 p.m., 7 p.m., and 11 p.m. Community organizations submit their own events for inclusion in the calendar, which is administered by a WRCT staff member. Each calendar announcement includes information on how organizations may submit announcements via U.S. Mail or the Internet. The calendar of events includes two segments which are read together: the "WRCT Radio Calendar," which includes community events; and the "WRCT Music Calendar," which lists live music performances at local venues.

Events that are announced as part of the WRCT Radio Calendar vary depending on the time of year, but include music and film festivals, art exhibits, and municipal events.

The WRCT Music Calendar is a compilation of live music events at local venues, some of which include Mr. Smalls Theater, Club Cafe, and Cattivo.

Public Service Announcements

Per the WRCT policies and procedures manual, WRCT broadcasts a minimum of 60 seconds of public-service announcements (PSAs) every hour, including one live PSA.

Producers and board operators select which PSAs they broadcast during the hours they are on the air. Because of this, it is difficult to determine how many times each PSA was broadcast without a detailed examination of all program logs, which are kept on file in the WRCT office.

However, assuming a full broadcast day of 24 hours, during the Fourth Quarter we broadcast an estimated 2208 hours of PSAs between October and December.

October: 1 min/hr (x) 24 hrs/day (x) 31 days = 744 mins.
November: 1 min/hr (x) 24 hrs/day (x) 30 days = 720 mins.
December: 1 min/hr (x) 24 hrs/day (x) 31 days = 744 mins.

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Below is a list of some of the significant issues responded to by WRCT Pittsburgh, PA, along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of Oct 1, 2022 to Dec 31, 2022. This list is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duraton	Narration of Type and Description of Program/Segment
Local wastewater treatment	Good Times, Bad Decisions	Nov 11	2:30 pm	10 min	The hosts talked about their experiences in visiting the local wastewater treatment plant.
COVID-19 vaccine and repeat infections	Good Times, Bad Decisions	Nov 18	2:30 pm	15 min	The hosts talked about the book Moonshot by Dr. Albert Bourla on its narrative in the development of Pfizer's COVID19 vaccine. They also shared their different experiences of going through the infection.
Local light pollution	Good Times, Bad Decisions	Nov 3	2:30 pm	15 min	By talking about their experience in visiting the Cherry Springs State Park, the hosts compared the light pollution in Pittsburgh and how it makes it hard to see any stars in the city.
Midterm elections nationally and locally	The Ebony Spectrum	Oct 26	6pm	30 min	Hosts Kevin and Rick chatted about the midterm electrons as it approached
Digital convergence	The Ebony Spectrum	Nov 2	6pm	30 min	Digital Convergence is the phenomenon of combining different media and information into a single service. The hosts talked about this phenomenon around us.
Activist the late Dick Gregory on	The Ebony Spectrum	Nov 9	6pm	1 hr	The hosts talked about the late comedian Dick Gregory and his contribution to civil rights.

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Reproductive Rights, Privacy	Alternative Radio	11/7	10-11am	60 min	Noam Chomsky speaks about Notes About Resistance. How does one move from a position of dissent to resistance, direct action? As a political tactic resistance requires careful thought and must be freely undertaken.
Reproductive Rights, Gender Identity	Alternative Radio	11/14	10-11am	60 min	Rangina Hamidi speaks about Afghanistan: Past and Present. Today it is ruled by the Taliban, notorious for their rigid brand of Islam. The situation in the country is bleak. It is under sanctions. Hunger and poverty are widespread. Violence, though reduced, continues. Education for girls is limited.
Privacy and Digital Rights	Alternative Radio	12/5	10-11am	60 min	Juliet Schor is an award-winning economist and sociologist at Boston College, presents Gig Economics. The gig economy has exploded in recent years. But it's not all that its cranked out to be. Workers are vulnerable. There are no benefits. Some workers wind up working for peanuts. With no regular income, the gig economy can be stressful especially if you have a crisis.
Health, Environment	Alternative Radio	10/10	10-11am	60 min.	Nancy Fraser is a philosopher, critical theorist, feminist and the Henry A. and Louise Loeb Professor of Political and Social Science and professor of philosophy at The New School in New York. She speaks to COVID, Capitalism & the Climate Crisis. Capitalism, COVID & the climate crisis are interconnected.

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					Capitalism careens from one disaster to another. Its inequalities are grotesque. The pandemic is likely to take on new forms in the future. The climate emergency is all too obvious. The latest IPCC report, the UN agency on climate, makes for sobering reading.
Environment and Social Justice	Alternative Radio	10/17	10-11am	60 min	David Korten is a philosopher and visionary, speaking to Our Planetary Existential Crisis. Our planet and humankind are in danger. The warnings coming from UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres could not be more unambiguous. He says we are heading “towards an unlivable world”
Health, Reproductive Rights	Law and Disorder	10/10	9-10 am	60 min	Analysis: States Respond To Overruling Of Roe v. Wade. Law and Disorder co-host and legal scholar Marjorie Cohn discusses why it’s crucial that states amend their constitutions to protect the right to abortion. Attorney Deborah LaBelle: Planned Parenthood v. State of Michigan. a long-dormant 1931 felony statute in Michigan which criminalizes all medical and legal actions taken to support a person who seeks or needs an abortion. This month, in the Planned Parenthood case, the Michigan Court of Claims issued a historic state-wide injunction against that law.
Health	Law and Disorder	10/17	9-10 am	30 min	Doctors Lose Licenses For Properly Prescribing Opioids. The United States Supreme Court recently ruled in the case of The United States v Ruan that doctors have the right to treat their patients as they

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					see fit without government interference, they ruled 9 to 0 that doctors who prescribed opioids in good faith did not have the requisite mindset, mens rea, to be found guilty of over prescribing.
Gender Equity	Law and Disorder	10/24	9-10 am	30 min	Supreme Court May Outlaw Affirmative Action. With the radical right-wing supermajority on the Supreme Court, it is likely that the Court will outlaw affirmative action, using the so-called “colorblind” rationale. “Colorblind” is a euphemism for allowing the conditions that created the racial inequality and unequal opportunity to continue.
Digital Privacy	Law and Disorder	11/28	9-10 am	60 min	Can A Lawsuit Against The CIA Affect U.S. Extradition Attempt of Julian Assange? In August 2022, a group of U.S. citizen attorneys and journalists sued the CIA and its former director Mike Pompeo. The lawsuit says that the CIA violated the privacy rights of those journalists and lawyers. Journalists and lawyers visiting Assange were required to surrender their electronic devices to Undercover Global before each visit.
Gender Identity and Rights	Democracy Now!	10/13	8-9am	30 min	“This Time Feels Different”: Iran’s Women & Youth-Led Protests Continue to Grow Amid Brutal Crackdown. Anti-government protests in Iran, first sparked last month by the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, have moved into their fourth week. The youth and women-led protests cross class and ethnic divides, and the demands have grown in scale and scope,

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					with many, even in the clerical community, now calling for the complete abolition of the Islamic Republic.
Reproductive Rights	Democracy Now!	10/19	8-9am	20 min	Rep. Cori Bush on Being Raped, Her Abortions, Police Brutality & Her Journey from Activism to Congress. She discusses her experiences with abortion and much more in her new memoir, "The Forerunner: A Story of Pain and Perseverance in America," which traces her journey as a registered nurse who took part in Black Lives Matter protests in Ferguson to running for the House of Representatives.
Reproductive Rights	Democracy Now!	10/26	8-9 am	15 min	Fetterman & Oz Spar on Abortion, Student Debt & Economy in Closely Watched Senate Debate in Penn. The candidates for U.S. Senate in Pennsylvania met Tuesday for their first and only debate in a race being closely watched across the country as a possible bellwether for the midterm elections. Trump-backed Republican nominee and TV personality Mehmet Oz, better known as Dr. Oz, sparred with Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman about crime, inflation, abortion and more.
Health	Democracy Now!	10/27	8-9am	15 min	Children's Hospitals See Surge in RSV as Experts Warn of Winter "Tripledemic" of Respiratory Illness Public health experts in the United States are warning of a possible "triple-demic" of respiratory illness this winter: an increase in COVID cases, an early flu season and a

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					surge in cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).
Reproductive Rights	Democracy Now!	11/9	8-9am	15 min	<p>“Abortion Rights Are Deeply Popular”: Voters Back Reproductive Freedom in State Ballot Initiatives</p> <p>Voters supported the right to abortion in at least four of the five states where reproductive rights were on the ballot in Tuesday’s midterm elections. “Abortion rights are deeply popular, and when you put the question before voters, they say yes,” said The Nation’s Amy Littlefield. She also discusses Vermont becoming the first state to enshrine abortion rights in its constitution, as well as the “historic win” in Kentucky, where voters defeated an anti-abortion ballot initiative.</p>
Environment, Climate Change	Democracy Now!	11/14	8-9am	30 min	<p>“No Climate Justice Without Human Rights”: Groups Protest Inaction, Repression at U.N. Summit in Egypt</p> <p>The COP27 U.N. climate conference has entered its second week amid protests against the host government’s repression and world leaders’ inaction on the climate crisis.</p> <p>Greenpeace: As Egypt Hosts COP27, Country’s Agricultural Sector Ravaged by Impact of Climate Crisis</p> <p>As the U.N. climate conference takes place in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, we look at the effects of the climate crisis for the host country, such as rising temperatures and sea levels in the Nile Delta.</p>

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Climate Change	Democracy Now!	11/15	8-9am	30 min	<p>Vanessa Nakate Condemns Fossil Fuel Lobbying at U.N. Climate Talks as Global Warming Devastates Africa</p> <p>At the U.N. climate conference in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, we speak with prominent Ugandan climate activist Vanessa Nakate about the impact of the climate crisis on the continent of Africa.</p>
Climate Change	Democracy Now!	11/16	8-9am	60 min	<p>Who Should Pay for Climate Crisis? Global South Demands “Loss and Damage” from Wealthy Nations</p> <p>Poorer countries in the Global South that are weathering the worst effects of the climate crisis are calling for wealthy nations to pay reparations in the form of climate financing.</p> <p>“Climate Collateral”: How Military Spending Fuels Environmental Damage</p> <p>Wealthy nations’ investments in armed forces not only exacerbates pollution but also often surpasses their climate financing by as much as 30 times, according to a new report by the Transnational Institute.</p> <p>“A Carbon Bomb”: Movement Grows Against EACOP East African Pipeline Funded by France’s Total & China</p> <p>We speak to Omar Elmawi, campaign coordinator for Stop the East African Crude Oil Pipeline, about the push to stop the construction of a major pipeline that would stretch 900 miles from Uganda to Tanzania.</p>

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Climate Change, Environment	Democracy Now!	11/21	8-9am	20 min	<p>U.N. Climate Summit Agrees to Historic Loss and Damage Fund But Rejects Calls to Phase Out Fossil Fuels</p> <p>Rich countries agreed to establish a “loss and damage” fund at the close of the two-week-long U.N. climate summit in Egypt to help the Global South deal with the worst effects of the climate catastrophe.</p>
Gender and Social Justice	Democracy Now!	11/23	8-9am	20 min	<p>Defiance in Iran: Despite Crackdown, Anti-Government Protests May Grow into “Nationwide Revolution”</p> <p>The situation in Iran is “critical” as authorities tighten their crackdown on the continuing anti-government protests after the September death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini in the custody of the so-called morality police.</p>
Digital Rights and Privacy	Democracy Now!	12/14	8-9am	20 min	<p>Indict Us Too: Daniel Ellsberg & Cryptome’s John Young Demand U.S. Drop Charges Against Julian Assange</p> <p>As supporters of Julian Assange fear his extradition to the United States could be just weeks away, and President Biden faces growing pressure to drop espionage charges against Assange, we are joined for an exclusive joint interview with Pentagon Papers whistleblower Daniel Ellsberg and John Young, the founder of Cryptome.org, who have both asked the Department of Justice to indict them for possessing or publishing the same documents as the WikiLeaks founder.</p>

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Gender Identity	Democracy Now!	12/15	8-9am	30 min	<p>Women's Rights Activist on Protests Sweeping Iran, the Intensifying Gov't Crackdown & Executions</p> <p>The protests are "the longest sustained protests since the start of the revolution," says Sussan Tahmasebi, a women's rights activist and feminist from Iran joining us from Brussels, Belgium, who says women and youth are sick of the status quo and are seeking fundamental freedoms.</p>
Climate Change	Democracy Now!	12/23	8-9am	20 min	<p>"The Quest to Defuse Guyana's Carbon Bomb": Meet the Environmental Lawyer Taking On ExxonMobil</p> <p>We speak with Guyanese environmental lawyer Melinda Janki about how she's taking on the oil giant ExxonMobil to stop the company from developing an offshore oil field that would turn Guyana into a "carbon bomb."</p>

Special Features

WRCT has continued to provide unique programming to CMU and the community through our special broadcasts.