

Blair Dong

Director, WRCT Public Affairs

10/10/2022

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 3rd Quarter of 2022, as required by Federal Communications Commission regulations (Section 73.3527 (e)(8)).

Representative Issues Addressed:

1. Reproductive rights
2. Gender identity
3. Environment/global warming/climate change
4. Privacy and digital rights
5. Health

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 Hispanos.
- 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 Hispana en Pensilvania.
- To highlight and promote the different talents found among Hispanics living in Western Pennsylvania - Resaltar y promover los talentos de los Hispanos 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)

Pandemonium, hosted by various station members, is a public affairs anthology show. Each week a participating station member hosts an episode on a topic they decide. The theme of Pandemonium this semester is interviews. (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 First Quarter we broadcast an estimated 2208 hours of PSAs between July and September.

[July]: 1 min/hr (x) 24 hrs/day (x) [31] days = 744 mins.

[August]: 1 min/hr (x) 24 hrs/day (x) [31] days = 744 mins.

[September]: 1 min/hr (x) 24 hrs/day (x) [30] days = 720 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 July 1, 2022 to September 30, 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	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program/Segment
Reproductive rights, Health	David Pakman Show	7/5	7am	15 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Oklahoma, following Texas, passes a law banning abortions after 6 weeks, effectively banning abortion –Measles cases explode by 80% in a number of anti-vaccine enclaves around the world as COVID anti-vaxxerism spreads to other vaccines
Health	David Pakman Show	7/6	7am	15 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –A 10-year-old girl, pregnant due to rape, in Ohio, is being denied an abortion –Republican Governor of South Dakota Kristie Noem defends her state’s abortion ban when asked whether a 10-year-old should be forced to give birth
Reproductive Rights/Health	David Pakman Show	7/19	7am	5 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Texas hospitals are refusing to treat serious pregnancy issues for fear of legal liability related to the Texas anti-abortion law
Reproductive Rights/Health	David Pakman Show	7/20	7am	10 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –YouTuber Marlena Stell was forced to carry her dead fetus for two weeks after a miscarriage due to the Texas abortion ban –A black man awaiting a kidney transplant was beaten by hospital security
Health	David Pakman Show	7/22	7am	15 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Arthur Brooks, Harvard Professor, PhD social scientist, columnist at The Atlantic, and author most

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					recently of the book “From Strength to Strength: Finding Success, Happiness, and Deep Purpose in the Second Half of Life,” joins David to discuss happiness, mindfulness, satisfaction, and the overlap with politics.
Gender Identity	David Pakman Show	7/26	7am	5 min	–Gay Republicans realize the GOP hates them, more homophobic than ever
Health	David Pakman Show	8/3	7am	5 min	–Monkeypox continues to grow with New York City declaring a state of emergency
Reproductive rights, Health	David Pakman Show	8/4	7am	10 min	— In a stunning but not altogether surprising vote, Kansas voters decide to keep abortion legal — Voicemail caller asks whether right wingers will continue to insist monkeypox is a “gay “disease once they come down with it
Reproductive rights	David Pakman Show	8/22	7am	5 min	— A 16-year-old pregnant girl is deemed not “sufficiently mature” enough to get an abortion
Reproductive rights	David Pakman Show	9/6	7am	5 min	–Texas hospitals are refusing to treat serious pregnancy issues for fear of legal liability related to the Texas anti-abortion law
Health, Reproductive rights	David Pakman Show	9/15	7am	10 min	— Dr. John Abramson, Harvard Medical School faculty member and author of the book “Sickening: How Big Pharma Broke American Health Care and How We Can Repair It,” joins David to discuss our broken healthcare system. — As predicted after the reversal of Roe v Wade, Republicans are now pushing for a national abortion ban, and Senator Lindsey Graham has a new bill to do just that

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Privacy and digital rights	Law and Disorder	7/4	9am	60 min	Guest – Kevin Gosztola , an American journalist who writes about whistleblowers, WikiLeaks, national security and civil liberties. Speaks about the extradition of Wikileaks founder Julian Assange.
Reproductive rights	Law and Disorder	7/11	9am	60 min	Guest – Law and Disorder co-host Marjorie Cohn , who has written extensively about the Supreme Court and reproductive rights, predicted in several articles that the Supreme Court would overrule Roe v. Wade. On June 24, five on the court ruled in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization that abortion is no longer a fundamental constitutional right.
Gender identity	Law and Disorder	8/1	9am	60 min	<p>Guests – Attorney Joey Mogul and Deana Lewis, Joey Mogul is a partner at the People’s Law Office and has represented Mata since 2002. Deana Lewis is an Associate Director at the Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago.</p> <p>-In 1998, Bernina Mata was convicted of first-degree murder after killing John Draheim after he tried to rape her, she fought back in defense and stabbed him. At trial, prosecutors portrayed Mata as a man-hating lesbian. They claimed Mata’s sexuality was the motive and claimed that “a normal heterosexual person would not be so offended by the (victim’s) conduct as to murder.” The jury found Mata guilty and sentenced her to death. Now, Mata’s defense team have filed a petition for executive clemency,</p>

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					saying her case was plagued by racism and anti-lesbian oppression.
Privacy and digital rights	Law and Disorder	8/29	9am	60 min	<p>Guest Attorney Richard Roth, the lead lawyer who represents Journalist Julian Assange, co-founder of WikiLeaks, who is in a London prison fighting extradition to the United States.</p> <p>-The CIA hired UC Global, a private security company, to spy on Assange and his visitors while he's in the Ecuadorian embassy in London and turn over images from the cellphones and laptops of lawyers, journalists and doctors to the CIA.</p> <p>Some of the lawyers and journalists who visited Assange sued in US District Court for violation of their Fourth Amendment rights.</p>
Privacy and digital rights	Law and Disorder	9/19	9am	30 min	<p>Veteran socialist and organizer Jeff Mackler initiated a call for a mass rally on September 17, 2022 in Berkeley, California in support of Mumia Abu-Jamal, Julian Assange, and Palestinians. In 1982 radio journalist and Black Panther Mumia Abu-Jamal was convicted and sentenced to death for murdering police officer Daniel Faulkner on a Philadelphia Street. He served 28 1/2 years on death row before his sentence was reduced to life in prison. Still in prison, he has served 40 years.</p> <p>Award winning Australian journalist and publisher Julian Assange sits in Belmarsh, a maximum security prison in London. He has been incarcerated for over 1000 days while he awaits extradition to the Northern District federal court in</p>

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					<p>Virginia where he will be tried for violating the espionage act of 1917. His crime: publishing information about US wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and spying on the American public.</p>
Privacy and digital rights	Law and Disorder	9/26	9am	30 min	<p>Fog Data Science: Constant Surveillance Each time we access the internet, we open the door for companies to track our behavior and our location. This information is gathered and sold by data brokers, and movement data is also marketed to law enforcement agencies who now can trace millions of Americans' everyday movements. Electronic Frontier Foundation Staff Technologist Bennett Cyphers and his team found that Fog Data Science sells access to a database with information about where a person was at any point in time over the past several years. The surveillance isn't limited to possible crime scenes. It includes homes, churches, workplaces, health clinics—places in which we have constitutionally-protected expectations of privacy.</p>
Privacy and digital rights	Counterspin	7/13	10am	15 min	<p>Former New York Times reporter James Risen wrote an op-ed for the paper in 2020, in which he said that he thought that governments were testing unprecedented measures to silence and intimidate journalists. He was referring to, preeminently, WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, who may now be extradited to the United States, where he stands accused of violating the Espionage Act of 1917.</p>

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Reproductive rights	Counterspin	7/20	10am	15 min	<p>The Supreme Court’s reversal on abortion rights is transformative. Katherine Stewart in the Guardian, among others, walks through how, at a time when most Protestant Republicans, including the Southern Baptist Convention, hailed the liberalization of abortion law represented by Roe, Christian nationalists, motivated by a desire to protect school segregation and tax exemptions for Christian schools, selected abortion as a way to united conservatives across denominational barriers, by providing a “focal point for anxieties about social change.”</p> <p>Also, Preston Mitchum, director of policy at the group URGE, Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity talks about putting Roe—and court rulings in general—in a context of what else needs, and has always needed, to happen to make reproductive justice real.</p>
Privacy and digital rights	Counterspin	7/27	10am	15 min	<p>The internet has changed the way we communicate, access information and even organize, which means concerns about digital privacy are concerns about privacy, period. In the wake of the Supreme Court’s overturning of Roe v. Wade, allowing for the criminalization of abortion, our ability to safely access information and health care online is in danger. How are tech companies responding? We’ll hear from civil rights attorney Nora Benavidez, senior counsel and director of digital justice and civil rights at Free Press.</p>

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Climate and environment	Alternative Radio	7/11	10am	60 min	<p>Workable solutions to the Climate Crisis (Bill McKibben, co-founder of 350.org, is a leading environmental activist.)</p> <p>The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says, “The cumulative scientific evidence is unequivocal: Climate change is a threat to human well-being and planetary health. Any further delay in concerted anticipatory global action on adaptation and mitigation will miss a brief and rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a livable and sustainable future for all.” It warns of “irreversible” trends that will render parts of Earth “uninhabitable.”</p>
Climate and environment, Health	Alternative Radio	9/12	10am	60 min	<p>Capitalism, COVID, and the Climate Crisis (Nancy Fraser is a philosopher, critical theorist, feminist and Professor of Political and Social Science and philosophy at The New School in New York.)</p> <p>Capitalism, COVID & the climate crisis are interconnected.</p> <p>Capitalism 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, warns that dire impacts from climate change will arrive sooner than many expect. The co-chair of the working group behind the report, said “Without immediate and deep emissions reductions across all sectors, it will be impossible.”</p>
Climate and environment	Alternative Radio	9/19	10am	60 min	<p>Our Planetary Existential Crisis (David Korten is a philosopher and visionary.)</p>

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					<p>Our planet and humankind are in danger. The warnings coming from UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres says we are heading “towards an unlivable world. We are on a fast track to climate disaster. ... We are on a pathway to global warming of more than double the 1.5-degree limit agreed in Paris. Climate promises and plans must be turned into reality and action, now.”</p>

Special Features

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