

Yiming Li

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 4rd Quarter of 2023, 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:

Health

Reproductive Rights

LGBTQ Rights

Climate Change

Workers' Rights

Homeless Crisis

Banking Crisis

Racial Justice

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

Sincerely,

Yiming Li

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 discussions of issues of concern to African people that rarely get 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 trendsetters. (Wednesdays 6-7 PM)

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)

In Black America is a weekly show that is dedicated to all facets of the African-American experience. Host John L. Hanson profiles a diverse selection of current and historically significant figures whose stories help illuminate life in Black America. Guests include civil rights leaders, educators, artists, athletes and writers describing their experiences, achievements and work in chronicling and advancing the quality of African American life. Produced at KUT & KUTX Studios. (Sundays 5-5:30 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 4th Quarter we broadcast an estimated 2184 minutes or 36.4 hours of PSAs.

October: 1 min/hr (x) 24 hrs/day (x) 30 days = 720 mins.
November: 1 min/hr (x) 24 hrs/day (x) 31 days = 744 mins.
December: 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 October 1st, 2023 to January 1st, 2023. This list is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

- vHealth
- vReproductive Rights
- LGBTQ Rights
- vClimate Change
- vWorkers' Rights
- vAsylum Seekers
- Technology Regulation
- vRacial Justice
- vWar in Gaza

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program/Segment
War in Gaza	Counterspin	Oct 13	10:00 AM	10 min	This week on CounterSpin: In the wake of the October 7 attacks by Hamas and the ensuing bombing campaign from Israel on the Gaza Strip, many people were surprised that CNN's Fareed Zakaria aired an interview with a Palestinian activist who frankly described the daily human rights violations in Gaza.
Racial Justice	Counterspin	Oct 20	10:00 AM	15 min	The primary food aid program, SNAP, while the constant target of the racist, drown-government-in-the-bathtub crowd, keeps on keeping on.
Reproductive Rights	Counterspin	Dec 1	10:00 AM	15 min	Too many outlets seem to have trouble shaking the framing of

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					abortion as a “controversy,” or as posing problems for this or that politician.
War in Gaza	Law And Disorder	Oct 22	9:00 AM	10 min	Israeli war planes are bombing the northern half of the Gaza Strip, reducing everything – hospitals, mosques, schools, homes – to rubble. Those who survive the march south may be driven into the Sinai desert. More than 1 million Palestinians had lived there.
War in Gaza	Law And Disorder	Nov 21	9:00 AM	30 min	In 1948, 750 thousand Palestinians were terrorized, murdered and driven out of their homeland in Palestine where they had lived for thousands of years. Many fled to Gaza at the southern end of what is now Israel.
War in Gaza	Law And Disorder	Nov 7	9:00 AM	30 min	We’re now in week four of Israel’s massive military assault against the people of Gaza and the West Bank, which began in response to Hamas’s brutal attacks in Southern Israel on Oct. 7th, which killed 1,400 people and resulted in more than 200 people being taken hostage.
Racial Justice	Law And Disorder	Dec 12	9:00 AM	15 min	At 6 a.m. on May 8, seven FBI agents with guns drawn raided the home newsroom of Florida journalist Tim Burke. For nearly 10 hours, they seized computers, phones, video equipment and other devices. The raid came on the heels of Burke’s obtaining outtakes of Tucker Carlson’s interview with Ye (formerly

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					known as Kanye West). In those outtakes, Ye made antisemitic and other offensive remarks.
War in Gaza	Law And Disorder	Nov 28	9:00 AM	10 min	Since the illegal October 7 attacks by Hamas that killed 1,200 people in Israel, the Israeli occupying forces have mounted a massive military assault on the Palestinian people.
War in Gaza	Law And Disorder	Jan 2	9:00 AM	25 min	What kind of nation cuts off of food, water, medicine, electricity, and fuel to 2 1/3 million Palestinians and then bombs them as they sit trapped in the open air prison which is the Gaza Strip?
War in Gaza	Alternative Radio	Oct 27	10:00 AM	15 min.	The conflict between Israel and Palestine is in a new and extremely deadly period with many thousand dead, wounded and displaced.
War in Gaza	Alternative Radio	Dec 6	10:00 AM	30 min.	The death toll of Palestinians in Gaza will soon surpass 20,000 with many more wounded. The UN says Gaza is “a graveyard for children.” The history of the Israeli-Palestinian war did not begin on October 7.
Racial Justice	In Black America	Oct 23	5:00 AM	30 min.	On this week's In Black America, producer and host John L. Hanson, Jr. presents highlights from the 2023 National Urban League Annual Conference in Houston, Texas
Racial Justice	In Black America	Nov 13	5:00 AM	60 min	On this week's In Black America, producer and host John L. Hanson, Jr. speaks with Tammi Lang Campbell, founder and

Description of Issue	Program/Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program/Segment
					Executive Director of The Honey Brown Hope Foundation, a nationally recognized, award-winning 501 (C)3 non-profit that supports civil rights and diversity
Racial Justice	In Black America	June 16	5:00 AM	25 min	This week on In Black America, producer and host John L. Hanson, Jr. presents the beginning of a conversation with Dr. Tommie Smith, 1968 Summer Olympics track and field gold medalist, Civil Rights activist, and co-author of Victory. Stand! Raising My Fist For Justice, discussing Smith's athletic, academic and activist career.
War in Gaza	Democracy Now	Oct 18	8:00 AM	25 min	Medical workers in Gaza are racing to treat survivors of a massive explosion Tuesday at Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital, where displaced people were sheltering from Israel's unrelenting attacks when, Palestinian officials say, an Israeli airstrike hit the compound, killing hundreds of people.
War in Gaza	Democracy Now	Oct 19	8:00 AM	30 min	As the death toll in Gaza nears 3,800 from two weeks of Israeli aerial bombardment, we go to the occupied West Bank to speak with Dr. Mustafa Barghouti.
Asylum Seekers	Democracy Now	Oct 25	8:00 AM	20 min	Democracy Now! co-host Juan González discusses his new report on "The Current Migrant Crisis," about how U.S. policy toward Latin America has fueled

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					historic numbers of asylum seekers.
Workers' Rights	Democracy Now	Oct 31	8:00 AM	30 min	The United Auto Workers union has reached tentative agreements with Ford, Stellantis and General Motors, and workers are returning as they end a historic six-week strike against the Big Three automakers based in Detroit.
Racial Justice	Democracy Now	Oct 30	8:00 AM	20 min	We bring you the voices of Jewish Voice for Peace and their allies who shut down the main terminal of Grand Central Station during rush hour Friday in one of New York's largest acts of civil disobedience in 20 years to demand a ceasefire in Gaza.
Health	Democracy Now	Nov 29	8:00 AM	15 min	We look at former first lady Rosalynn Carter's decadeslong advocacy for mental healthcare in the United States. She died November 19 at the age of 96.
Health	Democracy Now	Nov 30	8:00 AM	20 min	We get an update from Avril Benoît, executive director of Doctors Without Borders, on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and violence hospitals are facing in the occupied West Bank.
Climate Change	Democracy Now	Dec 18	8:00 AM	15 min	After some 200 countries at COP28 agreed to phase down fossil fuels, nations are facing pressure to block new oil and gas projects.
Asylum Seekers	Democracy Now	Dec 20	8:00 AM	30 min	As Senate leaders say President Biden will have to wait until next year to negotiate a deal with Republicans on immigration as

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					part of an emergency funding package, the leading GOP presidential candidate doubled down on his hateful comments about immigrants that echoed Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler.
Climate Change	Democracy Now	Dec 22	8:00 AM	15 min	Sônia Guajajara is Brazil's first Indigenous cabinet minister and the country's first-ever minister of Indigenous peoples.
Asylum Seekers	David Packman Show	Oct 2	7:00 AM	15 min	Texas Governor Greg Abbott says Texas will pursue a border wall on the border with the US state of New Mexico
Workers Rights	David Packman Show	Oct 16	7:00 AM	15 min	The latest on the Hamas-Israel conflict, including Joe Biden's latest requests of Israel, the almost-cancellation of David, the notice to Gazans to head south, and much more