

Yiming Li

Director, WRCT Public Affairs

10/7/2023

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 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 3rd Quarter we broadcast an estimated 2208 minutes or 36.8 hours of PSAs.

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 March 1, 2023 to June 1, 2023. This list is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

Health

Reproductive Rights

LGBTQ Rights

Climate Change

Workers' Rights

Asylum Seekers

Technology Regulation

Racial Justice

| Description of Issue | Program/Segment | Date | Time | Duration | Narration of Type and Description of Program/Segment |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|--|
| Workers Right | Counterspin | Sept 22 | 10:00 AM | 10 min | An unprecedented labor action is underway as thousands of Midwest autoworkers working for the Big 3 went on strike at the same time. |
| Workers Rights | Counterspin | Sep 8 | 10:00 AM | 15 min | Media have an active disinterest in telling the story of the Korean peninsula in anything other than static, cartoonish terms. |
| Technology Regulation | Counterspin | April 12 | 10:00 AM | 15 min | Facial recognition, a technology that has been proven wrong, has been deemed harmful, in principle and in practice, for years now. |
| Workers Right | Law And Disorder | Aug 4 | 9:00 AM | 10 min | Elite media are deeply accustomed to calling any union action a harm, and any company acknowledgment of workers' value a concession. |
| Asylum Seekers | Law And Disorder | July 28 | 9:00 AM | 30 min | Advocates have long declared that Biden's asylum restrictions are not just harmful but unlawful. |

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|----------------------|-------------------|---------|----------|----------|---|
| | | | | | And a federal judge has just agreed. |
| Climate Change | Law And Disorder | July 7 | 9:00 AM | 30 min | There is no way to fight climate disruption without fighting climate disrupters. |
| Racial Justice | Law And Disorder | July 21 | 9:00 AM | 60 min | Say Her Name is about adding Black women to our understanding of police violence—to help make our response more meaningful and impactful. |
| Workers Rights | Law And Disorder | May 1 | 10:00 AM | 60 min | Many corporate news reporters seem unable to present a labor action as other than an unwonted interruption of a natural order. |
| Racial Justice | Alternative Radio | Sep 3 | 10:00 AM | 60 min. | Almost every country in Africa was colonized by Europe. Today, while nominally sovereign many of these countries are in the clutches of the big international banks. The old colonial masters Britain and France still have a foothold in Africa but the U.S. has been pushing them aside, moving in to capture resources and markets. |
| Racial Justice | In Black America | Sep 3 | 10:00 AM | 60 min. | On this week's In Black America, producer and host John L. Hanson, Jr. speaks with Dr. Sarah Washington O'Neal Rush, author, educator, and great-granddaughter of former slave turned famous educator and founder of Tuskegee University and became one of the most influential African American leaders of the 19th and 20th centuries, Booker T. Washington. The post Dr. Sarah Washington O'Neal Rush (Ep. |

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| | | | | | 40, 2023) appeared first on KUT & KUTX Studios — Podcasts. |
| Health | In Black America | Aug 7 | 5:00 AM | 60 min | This week on In Black America, producer and host John L. Hanson, Jr. speaks with Dr. Tamika Henry, MD., founder of The Unlimited Health Institute in Los Angeles, whose mission is to raise awareness about juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, and treating it with an approach that focuses on identifying and addressing the root cause of the disease. The post Dr. Tamika Henry, MD. |
| Racial Justice | In Black America | June 16 | 8:00 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. |
| Workers Rights | Democracy Now | Sept 25 | 8:00 AM | 25 min | Striking Hollywood Writers Reach Tentative Deal with Studios After 146 Days on Picket Line |
| Racial Justice | Democracy Now | Sept 27 | 8:00 AM | 30 min | Hispanic Heritage Month: Rep. Chuy García Remembers Pioneering Activists Rudy Lozano & Bert Corona |
| Climate Change | Democracy Now | Sept 21 | 8:00 AM | 20 min | World Must Decarbonize Before “Point of No Return” on Climate Crisis: Colombian President Gustavo Petro |
| Climate Change | Democracy Now | Sept 19 | 8:00 AM | 30 min | “Stop Financing Fossil Fuels”: 149 Climate Activists Arrested |

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| | | | | | Blocking NY Federal Reserve, Hit Banks |
| Climate Change | Democracy Now | Sept 18 | 8:00 AM | 20 min | We continue our coverage of the March to End Fossil Fuels, where protesters noted the United States is projected to account for more than one-third of planned global oil and gas expansion from today through 2050. |
| Climate Change | Democracy Now | Sept 15 | 8:00 AM | 15 min | 400 Climate Scientists Endorse Call to Halt Fossil Fuels Ahead of Major NYC Climate March |
| Racial Justice | Democracy Now | Sept 12 | 8:00 AM | 15 min | “Capitalism Is an Insecurity Machine”: Astra Taylor on Student Debt & Our Radically Unequal World |
| Climate Change | Democracy Now | Aug 31 | 8:00 AM | 15 min | Scientist Peter Kalmus: The Hurricanes, Floods & Fires of 2023 Are Just the Beginning of Climate Emergency |
| Racial Justice | Democracy Now | Aug 29 | 8:00 AM | 30 min | Faculty at the state-run Rutgers University in New Jersey have entered their fifth day of a historic strike — the first faculty strike in the school’s 257-year history. |
| Climate Change | Democracy Now | Aug 21 | 8:00 AM | 15 min | British Columbia in State of Emergency as Climate Change Fuels Canada’s Worst Wildfire Season Ever |
| Climate Change | Democracy Now | Aug 16 | 8:00 AM | 15 min | “Watershed Moment”: Montana Rules Youth Have Constitutional Right to Healthy Climate |
| LGBTQ Rights | Democracy Now | | 8:00 AM | 20 min | On Friday, a Federal Judge in Memphis, Tennessee, temporarily blocked a law signed by Tennessee Governor Bill Lee banning drag shows in public, |

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| | | | | | and legal experts say it will likely continue to be blocked all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.oct |
| Climate Change | David Packman Show | Oct 5 | 7:00 AM | 15 min | Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg joins David to discuss electric vehicles, renewable energy, public transit, his viral moments on Fox News and during Congressional hearings, and much more |
| Workers Rights | David Packman Show | Sept 27 | 7:00 AM | 15 min | President Joe Biden joins striking UAW workers on the picket line and delivers encouraging remarks to them |
| Health | David Packman Show | July 5 | 7:00 AM | 15 min | Dr. Ami Klin, Director of the Marcus Autism Center at Emory University School of Medicine and Children's Healthcare in Atlanta, joins David to discuss autism, including prevalence, diagnosis, causes, treatment, and much more |

Special Features

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

