



Alumni Newsletter | Spring 2026



A Tough but Worthwhile Transformation: First MDS Graduates Reflect on Their Journeys

Taylen Inthisane (SCI '25) [needed a change](#). At first, he began looking into further education to find a way to better himself as a financial analyst. But he realized maybe finance wasn't for him after all—then he found Pitt's Data Science program.



Transforming Futures: Funding Support Sends SCI Students to Undergraduate Conferences

In 2025, [initiatives prioritized by SCI](#) and funded in part by our donors enabled undergraduate students to attend premier technology conferences, amplify their networking skills and open doors to career opportunities.



Pitt and UPMC Team Performs First-of-Its-Kind Surgery

A team of experts from the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC has [performed a groundbreaking procedure](#)—removing a pituitary tumor using mixed reality (MR) integrated into the operative workflow.



SCI Shines as She Innovates Hackathon Host

[She Innovates 2026](#) delivered one of its strongest years yet, bringing together an exceptionally diverse and interdisciplinary group of students, industry partners and sponsors for a weekend of creativity, collaboration and innovation.

- **168 students registered with 105 participating** in person throughout the event.
- Students represented **every class year**—from first-year through PhD candidates.
- Participation spanned **every degree program in SCI**, plus Pitt students from:
 - physics,
 - education,
 - engineering,
 - neuroscience,
 - applied mathematics, and
 - architecture.
- **25 final projects** were submitted and presented.

This breadth of participation highlights the hackathon's growing reputation as a truly interdisciplinary innovation space.



Raising the Bar on Pitt Day of Giving (PDoG)

Thank you to our many donors on PDoG! We successfully Raised the Bar (a challenge across Pitt for additional funds) and received over 164 donors to SCI funds, surpassing our goal by 13%!



Celebrating SCI Day

The City of Pittsburgh has proclaimed March 31 as SCI Day since 2023. To celebrate this year, we're gathering video testimonials from alumni, students, staff and faculty. [Share what you love](#) about SCI in honor of SCI Day!

Stay Connected

Interested in engaging with SCI students and participating in outreach events and volunteer opportunities? Please email mackenzie.ball@pitt.edu. [Visit our website](#) for more information on the SCI Alumni Community.



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