University of Pittsburgh

cordially invite you to

The Thomas Kukucka Memorial Lecture

Karen Melis

Zamagurie Region Then and Now: Immigration and Genealogy

Sunday, April 7, 2013, 2:00 P.M.

1700 Posvar Hall, Pitt Campus, Oakland

Karen Melis, a Pitt graduate (also an Honors College student) received the prestigious national Fulbright Scholar Grant to spend a year of research in Slovakia in 2011-2012. Her academic focus has been the history of immigration from Slovakia to the United States, during which she collected a comprehensive and unparalleled database on migration, the context in which Slovaks decided to emigrate between the years 1870 and 1918. She has brought back new information culled from the key regional Levoča Archives, the State Archive in Poprad, and the Archives of the Spisšká Kapitula Bishopric. She also carried out field research in villages with the highest percentage of pre-World War I emigrants and interviewed emigrants’ descendants as well as several noted local historians. She has also digitized the relevant historical census records and integrated the results in her database.

Refreshments will be served