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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Graduate Student Researcher at University of Pittsburgh Selected as Emerging Leader**

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Jimmy Scherrer, a graduate student researcher at the University of Pittsburgh and an assessment supervisor for the Santa Clara County Office of Education in San Jose, Calif., has been selected as an Emerging Leader by PDK International, a global association of education professionals.

The PDK Emerging Leaders program recognizes top educators under age 40 from across the globe for their leadership and vision in the field of education. A review committee composed of past PDK Emerging Leaders selected this year's 18 honorees from a competitive field of applicants, based on their outstanding professional accomplishments.

In addition to being honored at the 2012 PDK International Conference, honorees also have the opportunity to be published by PDK, apply for grants, and participate in PDK initiatives.

"Recognizing the achievements and commitment of these young leaders is vital to PDK's vision of cultivating tomorrow's great educators," said William J. Bushaw, PDK International's executive director. "These inspiring individuals will provide a very bright future for the field of education."

Scherrer began his professional career as a classroom teacher for the Los Angeles Unified School District, where he received many awards recognizing his classroom pedagogy and the high achievement of his students. In 2007, he received the Excellence in Mathematics Education award from the Los Angeles City Teachers Math Association.

"I am deeply committed to advancing the field of education by improving teaching and addressing the gross disparities in childhood development between children of high and low socioeconomic status," Scherrer said.

He is finishing his doctorate in learning sciences and policy with a focus on teacher accountability systems and classroom discourse. Scherrer also serves as a consultant for Pearson Achievement Solutions and the National Center for Teacher Effectiveness at Harvard University. He was recently hired as the Supervisor of Assessment and Accountability for the Santa Clara County Office of Education in San Jose, Calif.

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### **About PDK International**

Founded in 1906, PDK International is a global association for professional educators. The organization's mission is to support education, particularly public education, as the cornerstone of democracy. More information is online at [www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org).

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