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Joint Bachelor's, Medical Degree Program Proposed

A proposal for a new joint B.A. or B.S./M.D. program which would admit a limited number of students into the regular first-year medical class after three calendar years of undergraduate work was presented to the WU Faculty of Arts and Sciences last Friday. The proposal, which did not require action by the Hilltop Faculty, will be submitted to the Medical School's Executive Faculty for approval. If adopted, the new program would go into effect in the fall of 1977 at the earliest.

Under the new "Scholar Program in Medicine," approximately 10 high school students would be admitted each year into the undergraduate program on the Main Campus, with a commitment to admit them into the Medical School after three years, provided that they met three criteria: that they maintained at least a B average; that they met the Medical School's admission requirements; and that they fulfilled the normal course distribution requirements of their undergraduate division. The students would also be expected to pursue at least one subject area of their choosing in depth.

The proposal was made by an ad hoc committee appointed last April by Chancellor William Danforth on the recommendation of Deans Kenton King, Merle Kling and James McKelvey, with representatives of the Faculties of Arts and Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. The committee chairman was Lee Benham, Ph.D., of the Departments of Economics and Preventive Medicine.

The committee report listed two primary advantages of the program: 1) that it would reduce anxiety and encourage greater range and depth of education by allowing students to pursue educational objectives other than those related to gaining admission to Medical School, and 2) that it would attract additional outstanding undergraduate students, including some not enrolled in the program.

The proposal stated that "The competitive pressures of the Medical School admissions process place such excessive constraint (real or imagined) on a student's undergraduate career that questions of academic validity or personal development all too often are relegated to second place as a student plans his or her undergraduate program. In short, premedical students are not now precluded from taking any particular curriculum, but the nature of the competition is such that they are reluctant to take on any rigorous program not directly related to the objective of gaining admission to Medical School. This also means that many curricula which would be potentially useful for physicians are not developed by the faculty."

The report drew an analogy between the proposed Scholar Program and the Compton Fellowships, which provide financial support on the basis of merit rather than need.

MacCordy To Head WU Research Office

Edward L. MacCordy, Administrative Officer of Washington University's Computer Laboratories and Patent Coordinator for the University, has been appointed Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, it was announced by Chancellor William H. Danforth. MacCordy replaces Linda Wilson, who last summer joined the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where she is Associate Vice Chancellor for Research.

"An excellent administrator of one of the University's most successful and productive research and development divisions, Edward MacCordy has extensive knowledge of policies and procedures involving both government and private grants and contracts," Danforth said. "He has worked closely with the University's Research Office in the area of copyrights, inventions and patents. We feel fortunate that someone with his varied experience is available to take over the sensitive and complex administrative post which Linda Wilson filled so capably."

Danforth said that MacCordy was
Lake Skadar in southwestern Yugoslavia is currently being studied by an American-Yugoslavian scientific investigative group which includes biologist Alan Covich, WU’s limnologist.

For three months last fall, biologist Alan Covich recorded data that included the sounds of the eating habits of two genera of fish and a variety of crab which frequent some of the deepest parts of Lake Skadar on the Albanian frontier in southwestern Yugoslavia. Barbara Huss, a WU graduate student, assisted him for six weeks.

They were interested in analyzing the food web of this large lake as part of an integrated study of fish production. The study of lakes, defined as limnology, is Covich’s specialty.

Tuning into fauna which feed under water, however, is not as easy as picking up sound waves from seashells pressed against the ear. It is, in fact, a complicated electronic procedure and one which Covich himself originated and perfected at WU’s Tyson Research Center.

The Covich-Huss work is part of an intensive cooperative investigation by American and Yugoslavian scientists. The American half of this project is administered by the Office of International Activities of the Smithsonian Institution.

Skadar is big (the largest lake in the Balkans)—about the size of Lake Tahoe; it is old (probably formed in the Pleistocene era)—perhaps a million years ago; it is important (fishermen catch about 1000 tons of fish there a year)—a primary source of protein for local inhabitants; and it is in trouble because of rapid technological change.

Lake Skadar is located in what geologists call a karst region. Such a place is characterized by cryptodepressions (sinkholes)—some as deep as 165 feet in a lake which is, for the most part, rather shallow. Covich obtained cores of sediment from Lake Skadar which, in turn, contained numerous types of snail shells. One of his aims was to determine how changes in the lake’s level in the past have influenced its molluscan (snail and bivalve) populations.

Another was to learn as much as possible about the predators (the two types of fish and crabs) which devour the snails. To carry out this investigation, Covich set up a laboratory complete with aquaria filled with various combinations of carp, crab, snails and aquatic vegetation common to Lake Skadar. By watching the separate interactions, Covich was able to measure the rate at which the hungry predators downed the snails. Covich recorded the sounds that the individual predators made while searching for and then feeding on their prey. While moving around (but not eating), the crustacean predators produced distinctive walking sounds. When feeding on the snails, the predators made a noise comparable to someone munching on potato chips. Covich believes that he is the first to record such action continuously using a technique that he first perfected while studying the underwater sounds produced by crayfish.

Covich was also anxious to know if the predators get more selective when

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TWO OUT OF FIVE prizes given by Poetry magazine this year were awarded to a WU professor and a graduate student. Howard Nemerov, professor of English, received The Levinson Prize for his poems in the August issue of Poetry. The prize carries with it a $500 award. Charles Hartman, a teaching fellow in English, received The Bess Hokin Prize, a $100 award, for his poems published in the magazine's February, 1975 issue. Poetry was established in 1912 by Harriet Monroe. "Poetry is the most important poetry magazine in the country," said Jarvis Thurston, WU professor of English. "All major 20th century poets were introduced in it." Among the many well-known poets to have previously received The Levinson Prize, established in 1914, were Carl Sandburg, Vachel Lindsey, Wallace Stevens, Robert Frost and e. e. cummings. The Bess Hokin Prize, founded in 1947, has been awarded to Sylvia Plath and Denise Levertov, among others.

GRANT APPLICATIONS are now being solicited by the Washington University Committee on Cancer Research for research proposed for the 1975-76 academic year. Awards can be made for amounts up to $3000 for basic or applied research related to cancer. The awards are especially intended for junior faculty members or research fellows. These grants are funded by the American Cancer Society. Applications are reviewed locally, and awards for meritorious projects are funded immediately. For further information, contact Dr. George J. Hill, II, Chairman, Washington University Committee on Cancer Research, 11th floor Wohl Clinic, 454-2217.

THE OFFICE OF CAMPUS PROGRAMMING will hold a publicity workshop from 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, in Mallinckrodt Center. The workshop, open to the campus community, will cover publicity campaigns, campus resources and services, and publicity materials. For further information, call the Office of Campus Programming, ext. 4541.

Brooks Named Acting Head Of WU Music Department

Tilford U. Brooks, associate professor of music at WU, has been named acting chairman of the University's Department of Music. He succeeds John M. Perkins, chairman since 1970, who will now devote his full time to teaching and composing music in his capacity as associate professor of music. A WU faculty member since 1969, when he was appointed assistant professor of black studies, Brooks joined the Music Department in 1973 with the rank of assistant professor of music. From 1950 to 1973 he was Director of Music Education at East St. Louis School District 189.

Brooks holds Ph.D. and master's degrees in music education from Washington University, and a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University. His fields of specialization are music education and black music.

Perkins has written works for voice and piano, chamber groups, orchestra and chorus; he is also the composer of an opera, "Divertimento," and of miscellaneous works including tape studies, music for carillon and brass and a composition for television.

THE WU RESEARCH OFFICE has announced that the next deadline for new and supplemental proposals to the National Institutes of Health and the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration is March 1. To obtain applications, call ext. 4115.

THE GERHARD RESERVE LIBRARY, a new history library named in honor of Dietrich Gerhard, William Elliot Smith Professor Emeritus of History, will open Feb. 2 in Busch 115. The library, which contains approximately 700 volumes, will be open to all students. The library will feature textbooks used in undergraduate history courses, histories of Third World countries, general histories and period bibliographies. The Undergraduate History Association, headed by junior Sol Wisenberg, established the library with the aid of history professors and Olin Library staff. The Association will be responsible for the maintenance of the room. Hours will be 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Mandelstam Declines Biology Post; CBNS To Report to Dean

Joel Mandelstam, Ivey Professor of Microbiology at Oxford University, England, who was to have assumed the chairmanship of the Department of Biology in September, informed the WU administration early this month that he had decided not to join the department.

After his decision was made, Merle Kling, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, informed the biology faculty that Florence Moog had agreed to continue as chairperson of the department. She has been serving as chairperson since July 1.

One of the reasons given by Mandelstam for withdrawing from his appointment was difficulty in resolving how laboratory and office space should be allocated to faculty who are both members of the Biology Department and the Center for the Biology of Natural Systems (CBNS). Some programs of the Center are carried out in Biology Department space. The Center's director, Barry Commoner, currently reports directly to the central administration as director and, as a biology professor, he reports through the Biology Department chairperson to Kling.

Last Friday the WU administration initially took action to resolve what felt was an awkward administrative structure by dissolving the Center as an administrative unit and placing its activities directly under the biology chairperson. Under this arrangement Commoner would have remained as biology professor within the department. All grants, contracts and programs that previously had been directed by Center personnel would have been the administrative responsibility of Moog.

A second administrative arrangement, however, was worked out Tuesday. Executive Vice Chancellor Carl A. Dauten told Commoner that the CBNS would not cease to exist as a unit but instead would be made part of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences by reporting directly to Kling. As University Professor of Environmental Science, Commoner also would report directly to the Dean. The new administrative structure was described by Commoner in response to Dauten's letter as "an eminently satisfactory arrangement."

LOUANN McELYEA, administrative ass't. in the School of Engineering, has been named Director of Administrative Services.
would be handled by two committees, one in the undergraduate division and one in the Medical School.

The report discussed some of the more frequently asked questions about the Scholar Program. One of the questions raised was whether the program would adversely affect students by forcing them to make earlier career decisions. The report concluded that the undergraduate curriculum for Scholar Program students would be no more restricted than that of other premedical students. It also said that students who decided to switch from the Scholar Program to a regular bachelor’s program would “have at least as solid a foundation for an alternative career as the regular premedical students.”

Another question raised was whether post-graduate training opportunities would be more limited for graduates of the early admission program. The committee stated that based upon the Northwestern program, the post-graduate opportunities should be similar. At Northwestern “About the same percentage of both groups were able to obtain their first choice of internship and residency programs as well as hospitals.”

The question of whether regular premedical students might resent the new program was again examined by using evidence from Northwestern which indicated that there were no substantial problems of resentment. The committee suggested that the new program might even lessen the “destructive competitiveness” for grades.

In conclusion, the report stated that “our overall impression is that while there are some uncertainties associated with this program, we have sufficient benefits from improved educational opportunities for the students and the benefits in recruitment to Washington University.”

Committee members in addition to Benham were: Marvin Fishman, M.D., Department of Pediatrics, Neurology and Preventive Medicine; Carl Frieden, Ph.D., Department of Biochemistry; Richard A. Gardner, Ph.D., Department of Mechanical Engineering; David Kirk, Ph.D., Department of Biology; Alan Pearlmn, M.D., Department of Neurology and Physiology; William Pickard, Ph.D., Department of Electrical Engineering; Franklin Shull, Ph.D., Department of Physics; and Burton Wheeler, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

More than 100 students have participated in the 1975-76 Alumni Annual Giving Campaign. Manning 15 telephones in the Alumni House dining room selected weekday evenings over the past few months, students have proved “significant help in increasing the percentage of alumni responding to the University’s need for funds,” according to Ellen Brown, associate director, alumni-parent programs. Eight student phonathons conducted in the fall series have resulted in 1039 local alumni pledging $11,263.

Kappa Kappa Gamma volunteers established a new St. Louis and national alumni phonathon record by garnering 217 pledges in a single phonathon. They were treated to a meal at Grant’s Cabin in recognition of their efforts. An average solicitor makes about 20 calls an hour and can expect about 15 positive responses to a donation request, “anything from $1-$100,” with $10-$15 pledges typical. Students worked the telephones from 7-9 p.m. contacting graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Continuing Education, who comprise the bulk of St. Louis alumni.

Competition among participating student groups is keen and incentives include a dinner at Alumni House preceding each phonathon.

“The student volunteers enjoy the competition inherent in phonathons; alumni respond with particular enthusiasm to the student effort as indicated by increased pledges and money resulting from the fall phonathons,” Brown said. Students Dodi Harris and Steve Feldman have been responsible for soliciting Greek groups on campus. Members of Beta Theta Pi, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Kappa Sigma, Pi Beta Phi, Sigma Chi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Phi Xi and the Student-Alumni Relations Committee have taken part in phonathons.
MacCordy
(Continued from page 1)
recommended for the position by a University-wide Search Committee, headed by Dr. Estelle Brodman, professor of the history of medicine and chief librarian at the Washington University Medical School.

MacCordy has been Administrative Officer for the past eight years of the Computer Laboratories, which consist of the Medical School's Biomedical Computer Laboratory and the University's Computer Systems Laboratory. The Biomedical Computer Laboratory is recognized nationally for its application of digital computer techniques to medical problems. For example, the laboratory developed a system that prepares highly efficient, complex radiation treatment plans for cancer patients. Its sister facility, the Computer Systems Laboratory, concentrates on the design and construction of new computer systems which have been useful in a wide range of biomedical research fields.

Prior to joining the WU staff in 1967, MacCordy held a variety of administrative positions during 20 years of service with the Civil Engineering Corps of the U.S. Navy. He also was instructor in the Naval Post Graduate School, Monterey, Calif. He holds a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Tufts University and a master of science degree in management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

NEWS BRIEFS

A CONFIDENTIAL professional counseling program for WU students, faculty and staff has been established by the University in conjunction with the Health Service. Located in Umrah Hall, the program is designed to help persons with personal, family, or behavioral medical problems such as alcoholism and drug dependency, which are impairing their effectiveness at the University. Guidance and counseling are also available to immediate family members with problems which may affect the student’s or employee’s performance and general well-being. The program is designed to identify the problems behind impaired work performance; to motivate the student or employee to seek help; to refer him to the best assistance available; and to follow up on results. For further information, call Marsha Marsh, coordinator, ext. 4278.

Biologist
(Continued from page 2)
they are hungry. He learned that the carp were limited to feeding on small, individual snails (about an inch long) with relatively thin shells. Larger snails (about three inches long) had shells too thick for the carp to crack. The crabs were not so handicapped; they could break the shells of even the largest snails.

Covich also studied the dominant plant in Lake Skadar—water chestnuts. The variety there, Trapa longycarpa scutarensis, is endemic to Lake Skadar, sometimes called Lake Scutari. He learned that some of these plants are good hiding places for the snails, and, thus, slow down the feeding rates of the predators. Because the predators are omnivores, they eat some plants as well as animal prey. But, many plants have evolved ways of not being eaten by developing sharp, spiny seeds or unpalatable leaves. In such non-edible plants, the snails were able to escape their predators. Covich also determined that different species of snails live on different species of plants, and that water chestnuts have different seasonal growth patterns.

Covich explained that his studies are directed towards understanding what “produces a stable food web. In time, we expect to be able to predict what it takes to maintain a stable production of predators.”

APPLICATIONS for 1976-77 Indo-American Fellowships, Humanitarian Policy Studies Internships and International Exchange of Scholars Lectureships are available in the Office of International Studies. The Indo-American Fellowship awards are offered primarily at the post-doctoral or equivalent professional level without restriction as to field. Prior experience in India is not required. Application deadline is Feb. 2. The Humanitarian Policy Studies Program, sponsored by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, offers an opportunity for undergraduates, graduates and graduate students in any discipline to work as research interns in Washington, D.C., for a period of up to four months. A monthly salary of $550 is paid and round trip airfare is provided. Deadline for application is Jan. 31.

The International Exchange of Scholars lectureships are available in a variety of disciplines. For further information call ext. 4943.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 30
4 p.m. Department of Chemistry Special Seminar, “Dual Behavior of (CH₃)₂SiO - and (CH₃)₂MCH₂O - (M = Si, Ge) Groups,” Josef Pola, Chemical Process Fundamentals, Prague, Czechoslovakia, 311 Milliken Lab.


MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

10:30 a.m. Eight-Session School of Continuing Education Seminar, “European Gardens,” Margareta Darnall, ass’t. prof. of architecture, WU. 115 Givens. Fee: $45. Call ext. 4261 to register.


7:30 p.m. German Department Lecture, “Nietzsche and the Early German Romantics,” Ernst Behler, Dept. of German and Comparative Literature, U. of Washington. Six International House.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3
8:30 p.m. Tuesday Night Lecture Series, “Transcendentalism, Frank Lloyd Wright and Suburbia: What Went Wrong With the American Dream?,” Robert Vickery, prof. of architecture, U. of Virginia. Steinberg Aud.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4
11 a.m. Washington University Assembly Series Inaugural Lecture, “Melting Pot or Witch’s Cauldron? Jews and Anti-Semites in Vienna at the Turn of the Century,” Egon Schwarz, Rosa May Distinguished University Professor in the Humanities, WU. Graham Chapel.


SPORTS
FRIDAY, JANUARY 30
5 p.m. Wrestling, Milliken Tournament. At Decatur, Ill. (Also Sat., Jan. 31)