Social Worker Plans Major Study On Social Behavior of Children

Ronald A. Feldman, WU professor of social work, has received a $600,000 three-year grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Office of Prevention to study social behavior disorders among children. The project will attempt to identify, prevent and remedy problems in social skills common to all types of children.

The study of between 600 and 700 children will focus on peer influence manifested during several types of group activities and training conducted by the investigators. Researchers will assess how information gathered from these situations interrelates with factors in the children's social development and family history. At least one book and many articles are expected to be produced from this study.

Feldman will conduct the work with Arlene Stiffman, WU research associate in social work, who will be research director of the project. The Jewish Community Centers Association will provide the field study site and staff to develop and administer the program.

"This grant builds upon some of my earlier research concerning peer group behavior and its effects on adolescents," Feldman noted. "In this study the focus is expanded from antisocial and delinquent behavior, drug abuse, problems of residential care and alternatives to incarceration, and parent-child relations."

Feldman directed the center until 1978. He also was appointed deputy director of Father Flanagan Boys' Home in Boys Town, Nebraska.

The 42-year-old Feldman was the principal investigator of a $500,000 research project on group integration and behavior change funded by the NIMH from 1970 through 1974. This project was a complex field experiment studying the social interaction among more than 1,200 delinquent and non-delinquent youths. The project yielded one book and more than 30 articles in professional journals. Two more volumes are in the final stages of preparation and are due for publication in December 1981.

Feldman achieved national prominence in 1974 when he became the founding director of the Center for the Study of Youth Development at Boys Town, Neb. The Center invited leading experts on child development from around the world to conduct research on antisocial and delinquent behavior, drug abuse, problems of residential care and alternatives to incarceration, and parent-child relations.

The center is one of 75 specialized clinics for human research nationwide in the General Research Centers Program, which is administered by NIH's Division of Research Resources.

The centers are located at major medical centers and are designed to enable varied medical investigators to conduct systematic and controlled research not possible in a hospital ward. The centers provide an atmosphere in which these investigators may study and develop methods of treatment for puzzling disorders and diseases for which effective standard treatments may not be available.

Established in 1960, WU's center is one of the oldest and largest units in the program, with 22 adult and 8 pediatric beds. Approximately 1,200 inpatients and 1,800 outpatients are studied each year at the center by 140 investigators from 11 divisions of the School of Medicine.

The center operates independently and maintains its own nursing, dietetic and technical staff. It also has its own patient wards, kitchens, laboratories and outpatient facilities to support center investigations. Units of the center are located in the Barnard Free Skin and Cancer Hospital and St. Louis Children's Hospital at the WU Medical Center.
Hollywood Notions about U.S. Dashed During French Family’s Visit to WU

At first glance, Monsieur, Madame and Eric Bretheau were slightly disappointed: there wasn’t one cowboy sheriff “with a big hat” in the whole St. Louis airport. This couldn’t be the United States.

Laden with baggage and a few Hollywood-generated notions about the U.S., the Bretheaus and their 17-year-old son arrived in St. Louis Oct. 28 for a two-week visit. They are the proprietors of the French Student Center, housed in a government-owned chateau in Bléré, France. There, they serve as hosts to an annual brigade of students of all nationalities who stay at the chateau while vacationing or studying. Among their guests are faculty and students of the WU Summer Language Institute in France, who spent six summer weeks at the chateau, feasting on French delicacies prepared by chef M. Bretheau. To reciprocate, WU invited the family to St. Louis. It was their first trip out of France.

“Much of American culture is transmitted to the French through movies,” explained James F. Jones, Jr., WU associate professor of French, director of the WU Summer Language Institute in France and the Bretheaus’ host. “They know our movie heroes better than we do,” he added, “and they expect America to be exactly as it is portrayed in a Western.”

This perception may account for Mme. Bretheau’s strong interest in Native Americans. With Jones interpreting, she embarked on a high-speed, impassioned denunciation of the plight of American Indians. Gesticulating excitedly, she said, “I have never understood why you Americans put the Indians on reservations. I am very upset about the high number of Indian alcoholics; it is the fault of the 19th-century pioneers who gave the Indians their first taste of whiskey. I would greatly like to visit an Indian reservation and see for myself.”

To her chagrin, time constraints made it impossible to realize this wish. Instead, the visitors were the guests at frequent social activities with former and future Summer Institute students, Romance languages faculty, Ralph Morrow, dean of the faculty of Arts and Sciences, and Linda B. Salamon, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

In St. Louis, the Bretheaus found much to capture their attention. “All the Bretheaus were intrigued with American social activities,” said Jones. “They found the shower fascinating and emptied my hot water tank daily.” Of the many American conveniences which amazed them, it was the drive-in bank facility which was their favorite. “There were fascinated with the tunnel carrier system operating on mere air,” Jones added.

With expressions of thanks to WU and with new knowledge about this country, the Bretheaus returned home. As for the national Presidential elections which took place during their visit, the Bretheaus said that they hoped Ronald Reagan would be as good in the White House as he was in Western movies.

Academy of American Poets Selects Van Duyn for Prestigious Award

Mona Van Duyn, a member of the WU colony of writers, who has been frequently honored for her poetry, won another award shortly before Thanksgiving.

At its 46th annual meeting, the Academy of American Poets, on the recommendation of its chancellors, presented her with a $10,000 fellowship. This award is given annually “for distinguished poetic achievement.”

Van Duyn, the 40th recipient of this award, was notified about a month ago of the honor, but, she confided, “my lips were sealed until the formal announcement was made in Manhattan on Nov. 19.”

Van Duyn was interviewed at her comfortable University City residence where she lives with her husband, Jarvis Thurston, author and professor of English at WU. Having just finished writing personal notes to each of the 12 poets who serve as chancellors of the Academy, she was in fine fettle. Among their number is another WU poet, Howard Nemerov, who has a new book of poems, Sentences, just off the University of Chicago Press.

“Howard has been teasing me,” Van Duyn said. “When he won this fellowship himself, he bought a Mercedes-Benz, but the money won’t buy that kind of automobile today.” Van Duyn is uncertain how she will spend the $10,000 windfall, but a trip to the British Isles is a good possibility.

That decision will have to wait, she explained, until she finishes preparing for the visit of yet another chancellor of the Academy, James Merrill.

“I like to think that I discovered him,” she joked. “I reviewed one of his first books for Poetry Magazine. He wrote me a lovely letter in response, and soon afterwards we were introduced by mutual friends.”

Merrill, a member of the family which gave its name to the brokerage firm Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner and Smith Inc., divides his time between homes in Stonington, Conn., and Athens, Greece. Anticipating a round of parties in his honor, Van Duyn said mischievously, “I need a wife to be a really good poet.”

Van Duyn is within three or four poems of finishing her sixth book of poetry, tentatively entitled Letters from a Father and Other Poems. “I tend to write longish poems,” she said, “and I’m way behind on my schedule—even for me.”

Writing is not easy, even for Van Duyn. “I write about five or six lines in longhand. Then I type them out and begin editing,” she explained. She repeats this process until she is finally satisfied.

Happily, the poetry that meets her demanding standards delights critics as well. She has reaped columns of praise for her five books of poetry and the National Book Award in 1971 for a specific volume, To See, To Take.

Previously she shared the Bollingen Prize with yet another chancellor of the Academy, Richard Wilbur. As the recipient of this new fellowship, Van Duyn joins a company which includes Robert Frost and Marianne Moore.

All of this acclaim has brought a mailboxful of invitations for readings. She will soon answer some of these requests on a trip which will take her all over the country.

On this circuit she will travel to New York City where the Academy makes its headquarters at 177 East 87th St. For reasons known only to the Academy, it does not invite the winners of its fellowship to Manhattan for an official presentation of the award.

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Spokesman because it happened that way for WU's Bears soccer team, which, for the third year in a row, competed in the NCAA Division III national soccer championship in Babson Park, Mass., Thanksgiving weekend.

The Bears, who won the Division III Midwest-Far West Regional Championship Nov. 22 by beating MacMurray College, and earned a berth in the national play-offs, lost its semifinal round against the University of Scranton 4-1 on Nov. 28. The following day, the Bears lost the consolation round to Glassboro State College 1-0.

The defending champions, Babson College, won the tournament by defeating the University of Scranton 1-0 in overtime.

The Bears, who concluded their 1980 season with a 18-7 record, finished second in the 1978 national tournament, third in 1979 and fourth last week.

WU Mourns Death of Mrs. Compton

Mrs. Arthur Holly Compton, widow of Nobel Laureate Arthur Holly Compton, noted physicist and Chancellor of WU from 1945 to 1953, died Friday evening, Nov. 21, at Barnes Hospital of coronary thrombosis.

Active until her death, the 89-year-old Compton resided at the Gatesworth Manor, 245 N. Union Blvd.

A gracious, ebullient woman with an enormous zest for life, Compton was the first recipient, in 1968, of the William Greenleaf Eliot Society Award, which honors alumni and others who have greatly enhanced the University community.

Chancellor William H. Danforth said that the entire WU community mourns her death. "To all of us on this campus, she was 'Mrs. Washington University,'" he said. "She came here first in 1923, when her husband was appointed chairman of the physics department of this University, a post he held until 1926. The Comptons returned here in the mid-fourties, when he was named head of WU. Throughout the rest of her life, she served this University faithfully and well. We shall never forget the magnificent contribution she made."

An exhibit illustrating Compton's activities will be displayed for two weeks in the outer foyer of Olin Library.

Compton, the former Betty Charity McCloskey, was born in New Waterford, Ohio, Jan. 1, 1892. A 1913 liberal arts graduate of the College of Wooster (Wooster, Ohio), she was a high school language teacher before her marriage.

The Saturday Review, in an article on her activities as the wife of Arthur Holly Compton, noted: "Betty Compton hardly left his side in 40 years. She's climbed the Andes, the Alps and the Himalayas, totting their two sons along. She's slogged through the mud of mushroom atoms with him. She's held up with him in small hotels under phony names. She's even been fingerprinted with him by the FBI."

Compton is survived by her two sons, Arthur Allan Compton of Auribeau Sur-Siagne, France, and John Joseph Compton of Nashville, Tenn.

Compton was a deaconess and ruling elder of the Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place. She was presented the Medaille de la Reconnaissance Francaise in recognition of her work with her husband on atomic research during World War II.

A memorial service for Compton was held Nov. 28 at the Second Presbyterian Church. Those wishing to honor her memory may send contributions to WU's Compton Fund or the Second Presbyterian Church.
2 p.m. Institute for Scientific Information Demonstration, "Effective Searching of the Social Science Index." 252 Olin Library.

Friday, Dec. 5
12:15 p.m. WU Madrigal Singers Concert, directed by Orland W. Johnson, prof. of music. Holmes Lounge. Admission free.

Saturday, Dec. 6
8 p.m. WU Madrigal Singers Concert, directed by Orland W. Johnson, prof. of music. Holmes Lounge. Admission free.

Sunday, Dec. 7
8 p.m. Department of Music University Choir Concert, directed by Wanda Theriac, Graham Chapel. Admission free.

Monday, Dec. 8
8 p.m. Department of Music Graduate Student Recital, Shirley Zielsinski, soprano. Graham Chapel. Admission free.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

Wednesday, Dec. 10
8 p.m. University Choir Concert, directed by Orland W. Johnson, prof. of music. Graham Chapel. Admission free.

Exhibitions
"Missouri Artists: Works on Paper," prints and drawings of Missouri artists. Lower gallery, WU Gallery of Art, Steinberg Hall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., weekdays; 1-5 p.m., weekends. Opening reception, 3-5 p.m., Dec. 7. Through Feb. 1.

Music
Friday, Dec. 5
12:15 p.m. WU Madrigal Singers Concert, directed by Orland W. Johnson, prof. of music, Mallinckrodt Center, gallery level. Cosponsored by the Assembly Series and the Office of Student Activities. Refreshments will be served.

Saturday, Dec. 6
8 p.m. WU Madrigal Singers Concert, directed by Orland W. Johnson, prof. of music. Holmes Lounge. Admission free.

Sunday, Dec. 7
8 p.m. WU Orchestra Concert, directed by Wanda Theriac, Graham Chapel. Admission free.

Monday, Dec. 8
8 p.m. Department of Music Graduate Student Recital, Shirley Zielsinski, soprano. Graham Chapel. Admission free.

Friday, Dec. 5
8 p.m. and 10:15 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, "Life of Brian." Brown Hall Lounge. $1.75 (Also Sat., Dec. 6, same time, Brown.)

12 midnight. WU Filmboard Series, "Blazing Saddles." Brown Hall Lounge. $1. (Also Sat., Dec. 6, same time, Brown.)

Kallenberger Named Visiting Artist
A prize-winning metalsmith, Klaus Kallenberger, has been named a Visiting Artist in the WU School of Fine Arts.

Kallenberger, associate professor of metalsmithing at Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tenn., will lecture on "European Goldsmithing Trends and Aesthetic Directions" at 8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 4 in Steinberg Auditorium.

Kallenberger will confer with fine arts students on Friday, Dec. 5.

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The Faculty Show," an exhibit of WU faculty artwork in all media. Upper Gallery, WU Gallery of Art, Steinberg Hall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., weekdays; 1-5 p.m., weekends. Through Jan. 11.


"American Art," Lower Gallery, WU Gallery of Art, Steinberg Hall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays; 1-5 p.m., weekends. Through Feb. 1.

FILMS
Friday, Dec. 5
8 p.m. and 10:15 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, "Life of Brian." Brown Hall Lounge. $1.75 (Also Sat., Dec. 6, same time, Brown.)

12 midnight. WU Filmboard Series, "Blazing Saddles." Brown Hall Lounge. $1. (Also Sat., Dec. 6, same time, Brown.)