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Putnam math prize awarded to WU senior Edward A. Shpiz

Edward A. Shpiz, a WU senior majoring in mathematics, has won what mathematicians consider to be the highest award available nationally to a mathematics undergraduate. Shpiz recently learned that he will receive the William Lowell Putnam Fellowship in recognition of his outstanding performance in the Putnam competition last December.

The 21-year-old from Teaneck, N.J., was among more than 2,000 mathematics undergraduates from 348 colleges and universities throughout the U.S. and Canada who competed for team and individual awards in the William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition.

The fellowship provides tuition and living expenses for one year of graduate study at Harvard University and can be renewed for a second year if satisfactory progress is exhibited. Shpiz, who graduates in May, said he plans to enter Harvard's doctoral program in mathematics next fall.

Shpiz had placed among the top five students in the nation in the prestigious Putnam exam, and as a result, was named a Putnam fellow last March, an honor which includes a $500 prize. Shpiz later was chosen for the full fellowship award from among the top five fellows, whose individual rankings are not given.

"Most mathematicians view the Putnam fellowship as the highest honor available nationally to a mathematics undergraduate," said Edward N. Wilson, dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. An associate professor of mathematics, Wilson along with Carl M. Bender, professor of physics, co-coached Shpiz and his WU teammates during weekly sessions that began two months before the competition.

Wilson added, "The list of those who have won this fellowship in the past includes some of the country's most eminent mathematicians." Shpiz, an Arthur Holly Compton Fellow at WU, was one of 23 WU students who took the six-hour exam. He has distinguished himself in the competition three years in a row, as a freshman and sophomore member of WU's winning team, and then as a junior as one of the top five individual winners. He will take the annual exam a final time on Dec. 3.

WU teams have won first place in the Putnam competition, now in its 43rd year, three times in the last seven years. The only previous Putnam fellowship winner from WU was Eugene R. Rodemich, the 1952 recipient.
Chinese mother, daughter writers to speak on their experiences

Two writers from the People's Republic of China, a mother and daughter team, will speak from their experiences and those of other writers of their respective generations on the last 20 years in China at 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, in Brown Hall Lounge.

The talk, by Ru Zhijuan and Wang Anyi, will be presented in Chinese, with a summary in English. Ru Zhijuan was born in Shanghai in 1925, when China was under warlord control. In 1950, the year after the People's Republic of China was founded, Ru published her first short story, along with her first play, "Soldiers Without Guns." Most of Ru's story, along with her first play, "Soldiers Without Guns," was praised by Mao Dun, then Minister of Culture, and reprinted widely. Robert E. Hegel, acting chairman of WU's Chinese and Japanese department, recently completed a new translation of "Lilies," which will appear in the December issue of Subject to Change.

This year Ru and her daughter have been participating in the University of Iowa International Writers Workshop. Both Ru and Wang are represented in the recent English language anthology, Seven Contemporary Chinese Women Writers, published by Pando Books in Peking (Peking).

Wang was born in Fujian province in southeast China in 1954. Her education was disrupted by the upheavals of the Cultural Revolution from 1966 to 1976 when many urban-educated youths were sent to the countryside and schools were closed. Her experiences and those of her peers during that time is the subject of many of her short stories.

Washington received his doctorate degree from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where he taught in the Department of Theatre and Drama before coming to WU in September.

General admission to the production is $2. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Edison Theatre box office or at the door.

Huston, Early joined crew of visiting TV show

When Warner Bros., producer of the TV series "The Mississippis," recently visited St. Louis to film a number of episodes, two WU faculty members joined the crew.

Rhonnie L. Washington, artist-in-residence in the drama department and co-director of the Holy Roman Repertory Company, played a bit part as a news reporter in "Peace With Honor," an episode centered on a murder trial. The scene in which Huston appears was filmed in late September on the steps of the Municipal Court Building, 1320 Market St.

Gerald Early, assistant professor of black studies, served as a script advisor for another episode, titled "Joey." Early said he concentrated on the dialogue to make Joey, the young, black protagonist, a more convincing and authentic character. Warner Bros. could not indicate whether Huston would appear in "Joey." Early said he concentrated on the dialogue to make Joey, the young, black protagonist, a more convincing and authentic character.

Applications are being accepted for postdoctoral research fellowships in Chinese studies. The application deadline is Dec. 15, 1985. For more information, contact Ruth Iyob in the International House, Room 201, or telephone 889-5958.

Fellowships in Chinese studies available

The services of a French teaching assistant will be available for local secondary school teachers during the 1984 spring semester through the Junior Ambassadors Program. The Department of Romance Languages, with the support of the St. Louis Chapter of the Alliance Francaise, is sponsoring the program for St. Louis area secondary schools at little or no cost to the participating institutions. A young native speaker of French will teach French culture to high school students.

This spring the junior ambassador will be Frederique Deschamps, a second-year graduate student in French literature and a teaching assistant in the department's undergraduate program. A native of Caen, France, Deschamps earned her master's degree in Russian in 1981 at the University of Caen.

Deschamps' activities will include various aspects of modern French culture, an overview of French history during the past several decades and language enrichment. For more information, call Michel Rybalka at 889-5192 by Nov. 30.
Karen Coburn, director of the Career Planning and Placement Office, and Sara Sugarman, a coordinator for Student Activities, participated in a day-long workshop titled “Leadership Skills for Women in Higher Education,” on Thursday, Nov. 10, at St. Louis University. Coburn and Sugarman are both members of the Women’s Program Council of the Higher Education Center of St. Louis, a sponsor of the workshop. Coburn is a co-founder and lifetime member of the Women’s Program Council, and Sugarman recently was selected as an institutional representative from WU to the council for this academic year.

Raymond L. Hilgert, professor of management and industrial relations, and Martha N. Ozawa, professor of social work, were speakers at a professional development seminar sponsored by the American Society of Women Accountants on Saturday, Oct. 29, in the Queen Tower Library. Hilgert spoke on “Motivation and Leadership Styles,” and Ozawa spoke on “Women and Social Security.” Magdalin M. Szabo, an administrative officer in WU’s Computer Systems Laboratory and chairman of the Education and Legislation Committee for the society, organized the seminar.

Joel Leon, assistant professor of social work, has been awarded a research grant from the AARP Andrus Foundation to further his work on the dynamics of economic status in retirement. Leon’s research interests include gerontology, social stratification and social policy.

Marvin E. Levin, professor of clinical medicine and associate director of the Diabetes and Metabolism Clinic at the School of Medicine, was awarded honorary membership in the American Dietetic Association at an annual meeting in Anaheim, Calif., for his advocacy of the registered dietitian as a primary provider of nutritional information and for his continuing efforts in stressing the importance of diet and nutrition as the cornerstone of the treatment of diabetes.

William P. MacKendrick, a first-year student at WU’s School of Medicine, received an honorable mention for his entry in the 1983 Student Contest Problem Competition sponsored by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). MacKendrick entered the competition last year while pursuing his undergraduate degree in chemical engineering at the University of Colorado. Prepared each year by a leading firm in the chemical process industry, the AIChE competition presents senior chemical engineering students with a practical industrial problem and then gives them 30 days to develop, independently and economically and technically viable solutions.

Martha N. Ozawa, professor of social work, addressed some 500 social workers during the 1983 national conference of the National Association of Social Workers held in Washington, D.C. Ozawa’s address, titled “Who Gets Hurt by Cuts in Public Assistance and Social Security,” focused on the degree that families headed by females or minorities are affected by such cuts.

Linda B. Salamon, associate professor of English and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, gave the keynote address at the Grinnell College Scholar’s Convocation on Nov. 10. Her topic was “ Liberating Education Yesterday and Tomorrow.” In a Sept. 21 speech at Northeastern University Press published Nicholas Hilliard’s “Art of Limning,” including a new edition of Hilliard’s “Treatise Concerning the Art of Limning,” jointly prepared by Salamon and Arthur F. Kinney. Ozawa also cited Salamon’s commentary on “The Art of Nicholas Hilliard.”

Jerry Lee Young, associate professor of fixed prosthodontics, was the keynote speaker at a retreat for faculty members of the WU Department of Fixed Prosthodontics Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at the Spring Valley Resort in southern Missouri. Young spoke on “Management of Occlusion in General Practice.”

Have you done something noteworthy? Have you: Presented a paper? Won an award? Been named to a committee or elected an officer of a professional organization? The St. Louis University Record will help spread the good news. Contributions regarding faculty and student leadership and professional achievements are gladly accepted and encouraged. Send a brief note with your name, position, department and activity to Notables, Campus Box 1142. Please include a phone number where you can be reached.

WU faculty and some conversation classes are taught by native Colombians. Seven credits are awarded at the completion of the program.

“Carlos is the person who is always there to greet the students at the airport,” Williams said. “He takes them to a nice restaurant for dinner and also takes them on hikes through the farmland around the institute.”

Commenting on his impressions of the campus, Uribe said he was pleased by the number of faculty members and students who showed an interest in learning about Latin America, he was happy to hear about the improvements in Spanish fluency among graduates of the program and he was awed by the concentration of services in the Mallinckrodt Center.

Registration for the 1984 program was filled soon after it opened this fall. To begin plans for the 1985 season, call Williams at 889-5176.

Woman’s Club luncheon to feature Huston Hollis Huston, WU artist-in-residence, will perform tales and songs of the Middle Ages at the WU Woman’s Club Luncheon on Monday, Dec. 2, at the Swiss Inn, 2401 S. Brentwood Blvd.

The cost of the luncheon is $9.50 for WU’s Club members and $10 for their guests. For more information, call Glenda Finnie at 889-2555.

Carlos Alfonso Uribe E. (left), administrative director of the Instituto de Integracion Cultural in Colombia, visited the WU campus last month and was treated to some St. Louis-style hospitality. Uribe is shown with an associate, Ana Maria Jaramillo, and WU assistant professor of Spanish, Raymond L. Williams, outside the institute, a converted hacienda.

Colombian language institute head pleased with WU Spanish program

Carlos Alfonso Uribe E. had been such a charming host to WU students during the past two years at the Summer Language Institute in Colombia they wanted to treat him to St. Louis hospitality when he visited WU last month.

Raymond L. Williams, assistant professor of Spanish and founder of the institute, allowed the students to plan one evening for Uribe during his five-day stay. Their choice was the Umrahskeller for pizza and beer, and Ted Drewes, the frozen custard caterer in South St. Louis. (He ordered a cherry concrete.)

Uribe is the administrative director of the Instituto de Integracion Cultural near Medellin, Columbia. The institute is housed in the Recinto De Quinta, a vast former hacienda. The Summer Language Institute is a six-week program for WU students who have completed either Spanish 102 or 507. The program is administered and taught by regular faculty.

Evening program on fashion offered by fine arts school

The School of Fine Arts Institute is offering a new program of evening classes leading to a certificate in fashion. The program is designed for adult students with sewing skills who want to learn garment design and production.

The first course, Fashion Studio I, will begin Monday, Jan. 16. It will be taught by Russ Kohn, a School of Fine Arts graduate and designer for Barlow and Company, St. Louis.

Fashion Studio II (offered fall 1984) will be taught by Erma Sugis Brooks, also a graduate of the School of Fine Arts, who has worked in the fashion industry as a designer and is currently art curriculum supervisor for the St. Louis Public Schools.

As part of the program, students will construct basic patterns and learn to work with a variety of fabrics and applications such as the application of lace, tailoring, formal wear and lingerie. Students should be prepared to purchase their own fabric and tools, and to work on class assignments on their own sewing machines in addition to work accomplished during class meetings.

For more information, call Libby Gilk at 889-5597.

Computer courses to be held in December

The Personal Computing Education Center (PCEC) will be offering four short courses the first two weeks of December. The courses are free to WU faculty, staff and students.

“Doing Advanced Interactive Computing With MUSIC” will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Dec. 5-7; “Doing Graphics with TELLA-GRAF” will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 5; “Introduction to Computing Facilities” will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. on Dec. 6; and “Doing Word Processing With DCF-III” will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Dec. 9-10.

To register, call 889-5330. Locations will be announced by the center.
Friday, Dec. 2
3 p.m. Department of Chinese and Japan¬
ese Discussion. Professor Nicolaus Wu, who
knows a good study in China or Japan, but
Didn't know whom to ask." China discussion
in Room 154B Busch and Japan discussion in
Room 113 Busch.
7:30 p.m. Inter-Varsity Christian Fellow¬
Charles Todd Jr., Todd Corp. Green Stuffs
Line, Woh Center.
Saturday, Dec. 3
10:15 a.m. Newman Center Advent Day of
Recollection with Father Martin Hunter of
Dublin, Ireland. Newman Center, 6525 Forsyth
Bivd. Cost is $. For more info., call Brother
Jay Harrington at 725-3559.
Sunday, Dec. 4
6 p.m. Interdenominational Vesper Ser¬
vice with Paul MacVittie, dir., WU Protestant
Center. Graham Chapel.
Tuesday, Dec. 6
7 p.m. Inter-Varsity Christian Fellow¬
ship Meeting. Green Stuffs Line, Wohl Center.
8 p.m. Beaux Arts Ball. Bissy Gallery.
LECTURES
Thursday, Dec. 1
11 a.m. Asian Art Society Lecture, "The
Beginning, the Middle, and the End —
The Tuscan Academy, the Bocca Di Olio and
A Christmas Carol," Nelson L. Wu, Edward Mal¬
lincrodt Distinguished Univ. Prof. of the History
of Art and Chinese Culture. Steinberg Aud.
12:10 p.m. Gallery of Art Talk, "The Fac¬
ulty Show," Edward Boccia, WU prof. of art.
Gallery of Art, upper gallery.
1:10 p.m. George Warren Brown School of
Social Work Colloquium, "Organization¬
al Stress: Its Impact on Nursing, Health and
Medical Administration." Rita Numof, WU
ass. prof. of nursing and Center for Nursing.
4 p.m. Central Institute for the Deaf Re¬
search Seminar, "A Genetic Study of Stut¬
tering," Nancy Cox, WU research assoc. in
the Performing Arts Area and WU students,
Edward Malincrodt Gallery.
6 p.m. Public Affairs Thursday Lecture
Series, "Three States Away From a Constitu¬
tional Convention" William H. Riker, WU
Faculty of Arts and Sciences.
11:30 p.m. Hockey. WU Hockey Club vs.
Park's College. Creve Coeur Rink.
Friday, Dec. 9
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