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Economic pressures, enrollment decline cited as University announces dental school closure

The Board of Trustees has decided to close the School of Dental Medicine according to an announcement made June 2 by Chancellor William H. Danforth.

The University attributes the closure to the severe economic pressures faced by private dental schools across the nation. Several other schools affiliated with private universities have been closed or are in the process of closing, primarily because they cannot exist without subsidy from state governments in a time of declining enrollments, escalating costs, and an inadequate supply of practicing dentists.

A thorough analysis of recent national trends in dental education and their effects on our own dental school has made it very clear that the program has reached a predicament that no reasonable measures can reverse," Danforth said. "Interest in dental education and research program," according to Chancellor William H. Danforth says Danforth. "As a national leader among teaching institutions, Washington University is committed to providing the highest quality professional, graduate and undergraduate education. Washington University has steered a consistently sound academic and financial course that responds to our strengths and meets the rigorous demands required of a world-class university," according to Chancellor William H. Danforth.

The University is healthy, thriving, and achieving major goals in teaching and research. Throughout the last two decades, Washington University's overall budget has been balanced, significantly greater numbers of undergraduate students have been appalled. Scholarly aptitude test scores have achieved even higher levels, research funding has reached new heights, and support from alumni, parents and friends has set new records.

Danforth made the statement following the announcement June 2 that the University's trustees have decided to close the School of Dental Medicine — and in light of the announcment April 11 that the Faculty of Arts and Sciences was phasing out in Department of Sociology.

However, this is a time when we must direct precious resources toward doing not only what we do best, but also toward those programs that will meet our continuing and future goals. No institution can provide outstanding education and academic leadership in every field. Each will do best by concentrating where it can offer programs of excellence with unique aspects," Danforth noted.

The chancellor also noted that there are no further plans to close any other departments or academic units in the foreseeable future. The closure of sociology and dental medicine was based on a decision not to invest the extraordinary funding required to build these programs to significantly improved national stature.

"We are extremely pleased with our outstanding successes, yet we must also face up to difficult decisions that assure we will continue to be an institution of the highest caliber in the decades to come. Despite our sound financial condition, our excellent endowment, and the loyal support of our friends, there simply are not enough unreserved resources to support and restructure areas that are on a less secure academic and financial footing — especially where the pool of applicants limits the likelihood of the best outcomes," Danforth said.

Nolan appointed assistant provost, dean of admissions

Charles S. Nolan, Ph.D., has been appointed assistant provost and dean of admissions at Washington University, effective Aug. 1, Provost Edward S. Macias, Ph.D., has announced.

"Charles Nolan's extensive experience as a tenured university's assistant provost will enhance Washington University's excellent progress in attracting quality students," said Macias. Nolan will report to the provost.

Since 1980, Nolan has been director of undergraduate admissions at Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Mass. He has worked as an enrollment management consultant to several universities on the East Coast and was director of admissions at Bentley College in Waltham, Mass., where he worked from 1974 to 1980.

Among Nolan's professional activities has been serving as chair of Boston College's Admissions Advisory Committee and as a faculty member for the Admissions Officers Training Program sponsored by the New England Association of College Admissions Counselors (NEACAC). He has presented papers and lectured on enrollment management at numerous conferences and universities.

Nolan's membership affiliations include the National Association of College Admissions Counselors (NACAC), New England Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers and the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

Williams named associate provost

Gerhild Scholz Williams, Ph.D, professor of German and comparative literature and chair of the Department of German, languages and literatures, has been appointed associate provost, effective Aug. 1, according to Provost Edward S. Macias, Ph.D.

"Gerhild Scholz Williams is an excellent and respected scholar, teacher and administrator whose experience in all three areas will be a great asset in this role," said Macias. He said Williams will continue her duties as chair of the German department and will work part time as associate provost.

A specialist in German and medieval and early modern literature, Williams has been a member of the Washington University faculty since 1975. In addition to the German department, she also chairs the Medieval and Renaissance Studies and the Linguistic Studies committees. Williams has published widely on topics relating to medieval and early modern literature as well as literary theory. She has been a member of several German and American humanities colleges and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the German Academic Exchange Service.

A native of Pforzheim, Germany, Williams received a bachelor's, a master's and a doctorate in comparative literature (medieval studies) from the University of Washington in Seattle.
Mark Twain issues challenge grant to establish MBA scholars program

Mark Twain Bancshares Inc. has announced the issuance of a challenge grant to establish the Mark Twain Scholars program at the University's John M. Olin School of Business. The program, which was announced May 11 at Mark Twain's annual meeting at Westport Plaza, will fund scholarships for a minimum of four MBA students per year beginning in Fall 1989.

Using a unique and creative funding mechanism, Mark Twain initially will contribute $250,000 as a challenge grant. The bank's legal and advisory directors, as well as other members of the Mark Twain organization, will match this contribution.

In making the announcement, John P. Dubinsky, president and chief executive officer of Mark Twain Bancshares Inc., said: "In the past 25 years, Mark Twain has grown from a small, suburban St. Louis bank to become a successful multi-state bank holding company with 28 separate financial services locations and with assets approaching $2 billion. Much of our success has been our ability to attract, develop and retain staff members who are well educated, well educated personnel. We believe that Washington University is committed to the John M. Olin School of Business among the best in the nation. Under the guidance of Mark Twain Chairman Alvin Stetman, we are establishing the Mark Twain Scholars program because we believe it is our corporate responsibility to share our success with our community.

All funds contributed by Mark Twain and the challenge donors will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the John M. Olin Foundation, bringing the total available to the John M. Olin School of Business to $1 million. Dubinsky said many Mark Twain directors already have committed to the program.

He noted that 51 Mark Twain directors are alumni of Washington University, including himself, and that a similar number of employees are graduates of the university.

"It is our intention that this program will help Washington University attract the very best students to the John M. Olin MBA program," said Stetman, who is a member of the University's Board of Trustees. Each award will be for two academic years; with the second year's award contingent upon satisfactory academic progress during the first year.

According to Robert L. Virgil, D.B.A., dean of the business school, the gift from Mark Twain reflects the bank's concern and involvement with its communities.

"Our University is proud to be associated with such a progressive and innovative institution as Mark Twain," Virgil said. "Many of our MBA graduates started their careers at Mark Twain."

University increases contribution

The Washington University contribution toward the cost of health and dental insurance coverages for active full-time employees will increase from $110 to $124 per month effective with the July monthly and bi-weekly payrolls. The allowance for active part-time employees working 50 percent time with one year or more of service will increase from $55 to $62 per month, also effective with the July payrolls. The University's contribution for union employees will be in accordance with the union contract.

Dental school——continued from p. 1

financial deficits, low levels of research support, and the role the dental clinic plays in providing care to patients in the St. Louis region. Chairing the committee was Ronald G. Evans, M.D., vice chancellor for financial affairs.

The report cited the strengths of the Washington University School of Dental Medicine, including experienced, loyal and dedicated clinical faculty and administrative staff, the provision of dental services to a substantial proportion of patients using specialty programs (e.g., orthodontics), several outstanding researchers, a reasonably sized clinical facility, satisfactory equipment, and limited but effectively equipped research space.

The evaluation committee report supported the recommendation to continue the present situation — (1) find more financial support from outside sources to improve the academic program; (2) reduce commitment to undergraduate education in favor of more focus on post-graduate education and research; or (3) close the School of Dental Medicine.

Principal among trends in dental education are decreases in the number of students applying to dental schools and loss of currently enrolled students to other institutions, including lower tuition. The key lesson faced by the Washington University administration and board was whether private universities can continue to mount quality programs in dental education. If so, how would it be done, what would it cost, and would it be the source of funds? If not, how can the faculty, students, staff and patients be protected from least personal disruption?

The school's financial source of tuition is tuition. The decreases in first-year class size and the decision of some current students to transfer to other less expensive state-supported dental schools have led to a loss of operating funds. This has led to significant increases in tuition — currently, tuition is $19,000 yearly — one of the highest in the nation and nearly double that of many state university programs.

In addition to revenue losses from tuition, the school's $1 million endowment has not increased substantially, and income from dental schools has decreased. As a result, research and training has declined approximately 23 percent from three years — from $926,000 in 1986 to $715,000 in 1989. The School of Dental Medicine's financial picture, according to the report, is $25,000, compared to a $49,000 loss per student at state-supported schools. The costs of bringing that figure to a more reasonable level are high.

In fiscal year 1989, if the school continued to post a $240,000 deficit on an annual budget of $6 million. Projections for future years suggest larger losses, including a $540,000 deficit for 1990.

As a result of its cost-driven financial situation, the School of Dental Medicine's faculty is about half the size of most dental schools, and the student-to-faculty ratio is one of the highest in the nation — 6.2 students per faculty member. The national average is less than one-to-one.

The School of Dental Medicine has a long history, beginning with its founding in 1866. It is the first dental school west of the Mississippi River and is the only one in the nation. The school became part of Washington University in 1962. Livingston alumni now total more than 2,700 dentists.

In 1967 the University's trustees considered closing the dental school because of serious financial problems. For that same year, the administrative and reorganization, the school made a limited fiscal recovery, but then fell victim to the national economic climate. The University nationwide decline in both quantity and quality of dental school students. Other private universities recently announcing closure of their dental schools are George Washington University, Emory, and Duke University.

Richard J. Smith, D.M.D., Ph.D., has been appointed dean of the School of Dental Medicine. Smith will guide the school through its closure, announced June 2.

The appointment, effective July 1, 1989, was announced by Chancellor William H. Danforth, who replaces David A. Bersinger, D.D.S., whose appointment as dean in 1986 was scheduled to end June 30, 1989, to coincide with his scheduled retirement.

"Dr. Bersinger has been an outstanding asset to the University for four decades," said Danforth. "With his leadership, intelligence and perseverance he has admirably steered the school through several difficult periods. The dedication and energy he has shown are remarkable.

Smith has been associate dean at the school since 1987 and was assistant dean from 1985-87. Smith is also professor and chairman of the Department of Orthodontics and professor of biomedical science at the dental school. In addition, he serves as an adjunct professor of anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"Dr. Smith has a challenging road ahead of him," said Danforth. "We are fortunate to have someone with his experience and ability to direct the school during this critical and demanding episode.

Danforth stated that the recommendation of the committee that has met over the past several months, strongly advised Smith's appointment. "During the past several years he served on committees that addressed issues such as the school's tenure policy, reorganization of our clinic, graduate-program development and the future of the school," Danforth said.

Smith joined the school's faculty in 1969 and was director of the postgraduate orthodontic program at the University of Maryland Dental School prior to becoming chairman of the Department of Cell Biology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He previously had taught at the University of Connecticut.

Smith's areas of research expertise include craniofacial morphology and the developmental biology of the face. He is recognized for his anthropological research into the reliability of tooth and craniofacial development in paleontology. He is a widely respected clinical consultant on cleft palate and craniofacial malformation known as "open bite.

He is on staff at Barnes and St. Louis Children's Hospitals, sponsoring institutions of the Washington University School of Medicine's Department of Orthodontics.

Richard J. Smith
Civic leader Clarence Barksdale elected board's vice chairman, trustee

Civic and business leader Clarence C. Barksdale has been elected vice chairman of the board of trustees at the University of St. Louis, an institutional representative of the Board of Directors.

Barksdale, who has given many hours of time and energy to St. Louis, is an ideal person to lead us into a closer working relationship," said Liberman.

He will be available to work with deans and faculty who want to understand some of the resources of St. Louis. He will serve as an ex-officio member of the board's development council, and he will provide advice to the chancellor and to the board on corporate relations and state relations," Liberman added.

Barksdale was chairman and chief executive officer of Gentele Bancorporation, a position he held since January 1978. He presently serves as director of the Global Foundation.

Trustee named; members re-elected

Sam Fox, chairman and chief executive officer of Harbou Group Ltd., St. Louis, has been elected to the Washington University Board of Trustees.

Fox, a 1951 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, has served as president of the Washington University Alumni Association for 1980-82 and as president of the Washington University alumni association for 1981-82.

German cultural leader to teach summer course

Hermann Glaser, head of the Department of Education and Culture for the city of Nuernberg, will teach a Washington University course on the cultural development of the Federal Republic of Germany since 1913. Glaser has been permit to teach a summer course at the University of Washington.

Glaser received his doctorate in Germanic languages and literatures and the summer school.

The Washington University Record will help spread the good news. Contributions regarding faculty and staff scholarly or professional activities are gladly accepted and encouraged.

Send a brief note with your full name, highest academic degree, current site and department, along with a description of your noteworthy activity to Newsletter, Campus Box 107, or by electronic mail to news@wumc.wustl.edu. Please include a phone number.

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**Lectures**

Friday, June 9
10 a.m. Oral Examination for the Doctoral Degree (Colin Allen, Bemidji State U). 

**Music**

Monday, June 12
8 a.m. Dept. of Music Presents a Violin Recital

**Miscellany**

Saturday, June 10
9-9:45 a.m. WU Summer Dance Classes for Children ages 4-18 (Christine Graham, WU artist-in-residence in dance). 

**EXHIBITIONS**

*Washington University Permanent Collections*

*H. W. Jaffe Gallery, 1600 Audubon Ave.*

- **“Stomping Grounds: Ford Maddox Fox (1873-1953)”**
  - Through Aug. 11: Ol' Ol' Library, Special Collections, 1630 S. Audubon Ave.
  - Friday, June 8-11: Audubon Studio.

**CALENDAR**

- **Wednesday, June 14**
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: “Soccer Camp” — Believers,” ages 6-7, will meet from June 12 to June 16. For boys and girls ages 6-7. Additional sessions: June 19-23, and June 26-30. 
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: "Basketball Camp" — Believers," ages 6-7, will meet June 19-23, and June 26-30.

- **Thursday, June 15**
  - 6:30-9:30 p.m. WU Summer Orchestra Auditions for pre-professional musicians. Auditions for strings, winds and percussion instruments. For more information, call 889-5851.

- **Friday, June 16**
  - 9 a.m. Dept. of Music Presents an Evening of Chamber Music by Brahms. Featuring Manuel Ramos, WU artist-in-residence in music, guitar; Jenny Jones, violin; Christian Wool and Catherine Lehr, cello; Roger Kazaz, horn, and Seth Carlin, WU visiting artist, piano. 

- **Monday, June 19**
  - 8 a.m.-5 p.m. WU Summer Dance Classes for Children ages 4-15. (Additional sessions: 1st-6th grade, Mon.-Fri., June 26-30, at a cost of $50 per week for morning and afternoon sessions or $85 for all-day sessions. 

- **Wednesday, June 21**
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: “Soccer Camp” — Believers,” ages 6-7, will meet from June 12 to June 16. For boys and girls ages 6-7. Additional sessions: June 19-23, and June 26-30.
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: "Basketball Camp" — Believers," ages 6-7, will meet June 19-23, and June 26-30.

- **Friday, June 23**
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: “Soccer Camp” — Believers,” ages 6-7, will meet from June 12 to June 16. For boys and girls ages 6-7. Additional sessions: June 19-23, and June 26-30. 
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: "Basketball Camp" — Believers," ages 6-7, will meet June 19-23, and June 26-30.

- **Monday, June 26**
  - 8 a.m.-5 p.m. WU Summer Dance Classes for Children ages 4-15. (Additional sessions: 1st-6th grade, Mon.-Fri., June 26-30, at a cost of $50 per week for morning and afternoon sessions or $85 for all-day sessions. 

- **Tuesday, June 27**
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: “Soccer Camp” — Believers,” ages 6-7, will meet from June 12 to June 16. For boys and girls ages 6-7. Additional sessions: June 19-23, and June 26-30. 
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: "Basketball Camp" — Believers," ages 6-7, will meet June 19-23, and June 26-30.

- **Thursday, June 29**
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: “Soccer Camp” — Believers,” ages 6-7, will meet from June 12 to June 16. For boys and girls ages 6-7. Additional sessions: June 19-23, and June 26-30. 
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: "Basketball Camp" — Believers," ages 6-7, will meet June 19-23, and June 26-30.

- **Friday, June 30**
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: “Soccer Camp” — Believers,” ages 6-7, will meet from June 12 to June 16. For boys and girls ages 6-7. Additional sessions: June 19-23, and June 26-30. 
  - 9 a.m.-noon. Dept. of Athletics Presents Bear's Summer Programs: "Basketball Camp" — Believers," ages 6-7, will meet June 19-23, and June 26-30.

**Smith — continued from p. 2**

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