New plant science center to tackle global hunger

Washington University and four other institutions have joined in an innovative effort to create a cutting-edge plant science center in St. Louis whose mission will be to lead the world in finding solutions to global hunger, disease and environmental degradation.

"As we stand on the brink of a new millennium," said Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton at a July 31 ceremony announcing plans for the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, "there is no greater challenge than to feed the world's population and to ensure the health of our children and to accomplish that without further degradation of the earth that sustains us."

The center envisions the Midland's agricultural heartland as a "bio belt," the Silicon Valley of harnessing agriculture technologies needed to feed the world's growing population. Within a 500-mile radius of St. Louis lies the world's most fertile cropland, accounting for 75 percent of American farm production. Together with a planned small-business incubator, the Danforth Center will become the focal point for the region's growing cluster of biotech entrepreneurs.

"The Danforth Center provides an opportunity to strengthen the University that it had been previously building," said Mark J. Beeson, Ph.D., one of Missouri's Missouri-Belleville, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign are partners with Washington University in the endeavor.

Roger N. Beachy, Ph.D., one of the world's foremost plant scientists, has been named center director, according to William H. Danforth, chairman of the board of and of the University Board of Trustees. Beachy, internationally known for his work on virus-resistant plants, has headed the whole person stood the need for treating infections.

Fighting infections 3

Home sweet home

Three new residential houses — Danforth, Wheeler and Shepley — receive final touches in preparation for the arrival next week of a record-breaking freshman class of more than 1,450 students. Landscaping will be finished early next week. The class will be fully accommodated in the South 40, thanks to a successful effort that enticed returning upper-class students to relocate to University-managed apartments near campus. In fact, fewer freshmen will be housed in triples than last year. Site preparations have begun on two additional residential houses, scheduled to open in students in fall 1998 to replace Shepley Residence Hall, demolished this summer.

Rare legal commentaries given to law school

The School of Law has received an invaluable addition to its rare books collection — a first American edition of "Blackstone's Commentaries on the Law of England" — thanks to a generous gift from friends of the school.

The rare set of four books, came to the school from Cynthia Love Roth, a member of the Eliot Society and the widow of Benjamin Roth, who was a St. Louis lawyer and a friend and supporter of the law school.

The volumes, which date back to 1772-77, are a reprint of the fourth Oxford edition. Originally published in England in 1769, Blackstone's Commentaries were then published in the United States by Robert Beller in Philadelphia.

"The volumes are a tremendous addition to our rare books collection both historically and for what they mean to the field of law," said Philip Berwick, J.D., associate dean for information resources at the law school. "Blackstone was one of five jurists considered the authority on English common law — the law established through the courts, as opposed to statutory law. Colonial law in America drew from the English common law and was affected directly by these commentaries."

The volumes offer extensive commentary on four topics: "the rights of persons, rights of things, private wrongs and public wrongs." The analysis includes a thorough discussion of numerous laws, including particular legal rules, how they arose and how the courts interpreted them.

Of particular historical interest, Berwick noted, is an advertisement included in the first volume in which the publisher pleaded his case for enough subscriptions to support publication of the book in the United States rather than having expensive copies shipped from England. The fourth volume includes a list of those early subscribers who made the first American edition possible.

"The 1,260 original subscribers were the cream of the crop not only in the legal community but the intellectual community in colonial America," Berwick observed.

John Adams headed the list along with Richard Penn, lieutenant governor of Pennsylvania, and William Franklin, governor of New Jersey. He continued: "All of the colonies are represented among this list. It was a book that sat upon the shelves of the elite and was drawn upon as a resource. Blackstone's Commentaries were considered the authori
tative opinion on English common law."

Luce Professorship: crossing disciplines to study collective memory

Who "controls" history — and what are the implications when it's Disney or Oliver Stone? What should be remembered and how should we remember it? Where does history meet and public relations begin?

These questions are just the opening volley in a conversation that soon will envelop the far reaches of campus, from psychology to history to anthropology to architecture to philosophy to cultural studies to English to education to neuroscience.

The dialogue will be sparked by the incoming Henry R. Luce Professor in Collective and Individual Memory. In June, the Henry Luce Foundation notified the University that it had been awarded a small grant to institutions to receive the ultra-prestigious Luce-Merit Scholarship, which will fund a three-year appointment. Also born of the initial grant was a three-year renewal. Oberlin (Ohio) College received the other $200,000 grant.

The Luce grant is the second bestowed on Washington University. Douglas C. North, Ph.D., who subsequently received the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences, was a recipient of the University in 1983 as the Henry R. Luce Professor of Law and Liberty.

A search committee has been chosen to select a worthy successor. The committee will meet soon and begin the process that should bring the new appointee to campus by the 1999-2000 academic year. By Luce directive, the position must be filled within two years of the grant notification.

The Henry R. Luce Professorship Program was established in 1969. It has been a successful experiment in creativity. It was inspired by one of Luce's favorite concepts, which the renowned publisher called "the unity of truth," and is designed to support the integration of knowledge through innovative, interdisciplinary teaching and learning.

The professorship is intended to encourage the individual memory reflects pre
cisely those ideas, said James W. V. Wertsch, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Education in Arts and Sciences, who spearheaded the University's proposal. "We chose the topic because it doesn't constitute any field that's been fossilized yet. It's a topic you can't handle in any one discipline. It insists — just invites — it invites that we get people together and talk. "The trick to doing this is

Continued on page 4
Kass named interim head of Department of Ophthalmology

Michael A. Kass, M.D., has been named interim head of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. He currently is vice chairman and director of clinical services.

The appointment was announced by the International authority in the diagnosis, treatment and epidemiology of glaucoma and Dr. Kass has focused on the long-term management of glaucoma and disease and in the discovery and evaluation of novel glaucoma treatments. He is also the author of more than 130 scientific publications.

Before joining Washington University, he was an assistant professor of ophthalmology and director of the glaucoma service at Yale University. School of Medicine. Kass received a bachelor's degree in biology in 1983 and a medical degree in 1986, both from Northwestern University. He then completed his ophthalmology residency and a clinical fellowship in glaucoma at Washington University School of Medicine. Kass is a member of the national honorary medical society, Alpha Omega Alpha, the American Medical Association, the American Ophthalmological Society and the Missouri Medical Association. He is also a fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and a diplomate of the American Board of Ophthalmology. Kass is consistently listed as a leading medical specialist in the "Best Doctors in America" and has based on a survey of more than 7,000 U.S. physicians.

A report in the July 24 issue of Science has helped answer a question that has had scientists wondering: How do immune cells tailor their response to a chemical stimulus while ignoring the body's own cells?

The part of the cell that detects harmful organisms has to punch in a code before the cell will go on the offensive, the researchers have found. Punching in just part of the code is as useless as entering the wrong security code into a lock. The system must be able to identify the steps that occur in the resting state, but previous methods failed to reveal the code, so no one could make heads or tails of it, said lead researcher Paul M. Allen, Ph.D., the Robert J. and Helen Mayer Professor of Pathology. "We tried a different approach and arrived at a solution to this question equipped," he said.

One of Allen's graduate students, Ellen Neumeister Kersh, is the paper's lead author. Andrey S. Shakh, M.D., associate professor of pathology, also took part in the study, which was funded by the National Institutes of Health.

"We are researching helper T cells, a key component of the cellular immune system. When the supply of these cells dwindles, as in AIDS patients, the consequences are dire. Helper T cells patrol the body, checking for harmful microbes.

Other parts of the immune system, such as an invader's cover, just posting fragments of its antigen and prompt inner parts to attack the cell. Scientists have suspected for some time that the activating signal involves the addition of phosphate groups to two long-range components called zeta chains. But how this occurs has been a mystery. Even the part of the cell that detects invaders is far from clear. Each zeta chain protein resides in the cell and its separate sites look different. The researchers studied helper T cells and found that just part of the code is the key. They may kill the microbe directly, help a killer cell dispose of a virus-infected cell or make antibodies that manufacture antibodies.

They may kill the antigen, which turns on helper T cells. The part of the cell that detects harmful organisms must to punch a code before the cell will go on the offensive, the researchers have found. Punching in just part of the code is as useless as entering the wrong security code into a lock.

Sink safety prevents serious health risks

The Environmental Health and Safety Office wants to remind employees that pouring certain chemicals down the drain threatens the environment and can cause serious health effects. Chemicals such as strong acids and bases should not be poured down the sink because they can be collected as hazardous substances. They may kill the microbe directly, help a killer cell dispose of a virus-infected cell or make antibodies that manufacture antibodies.

Another concern is the collection of proteins. Those that stick out from the cell read the antigen and prompt inner parts to activate the cell. Scientists have suspected for some time that the activating signal involves the addition of phosphate groups to two long-range components called zeta chains. But how this occurs has been a mystery. Even the part of the cell that detects invaders is far from clear. Each zeta chain protein resides in the cell and its separate sites look different. The researchers studied helper T cells and found that just part of the code is the key. They may kill the microbe directly, help a killer cell dispose of a virus-infected cell or make antibodies that manufacture antibodies.

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Fifteen years ago, a Haitian boy with an infected foot limped to a makeshift hospital near his village. A young medical resident named Victoria Fraser examined the foot and made the difficult decision to amputate it. He was happy because we saved his life," Fraser said. "But it was such a tragedy that he lost a foot just because we couldn't give him three months' worth of untimely antibiotics.

Victoria Fraser, M.D., now an associate professor of medicine and director of the Helena Hatch Center, has traveled to many other impoverished countries since then, but the people of Haiti stand out. "Day after day, I'd see people dying of salmonellosis, typhoid, chicken pox, murder, things that almost never kill people in the United States," she said. "That really focused me on infectious diseases. I was impressed with the large impact that preventable, treatable diseases were still having in large parts of the world.

It was clear that a single doctor and her medical bag could hardly make a dent in the world's problems. Still, she was giving shots and treating infections, but doctors who specialized in public health and preventive medicine were needed, Fraser said. "That was the greatest number of people, whether in Haiti or St. Louis. She has seen many patients in her career, but she also has stuck to the idea that there's more to medicine than treating one person at a time.

Fraser has put her conviction to work as a teacher, an infectious-disease researcher and a writer. So far, her most prominent accomplishment is the Helena Hatch Special Care Center for Women, a program that provides comprehensive care to more than 200 area women with AIDS and HIV. The center, founded by Fraser in 1995 and named for a young St. Louis woman who died of AIDS, provides health care, treatment and social support.

"When a woman has three kids, a dying husband, no car and no food in the fridge, it's absurd to just give her prescriptions," Fraser said. "If the center disappears, these women won't get the same care or the same follow-up. I was impressed with the unprecedented results. "We never expected such outstanding results," Fraser said. "In other programs around the country, regular doses of AZT reduced the HIV transmission rate to about 8 percent, she noted. "But it was clear that good prenatal care and HIV medications significantly improve the likelihood of having healthy babies."

Colleagues trace the center's achievements to the woman who started it all. "Dr. Fraser became completely committed to any project she starts, and that commitment rubs off on the people who work with her," said William G. Powery, M.D., professor of medicine and co-director of the infectious diseases division. "She also has tremendous compassion, which is why the Helena Hatch Center is so successful. That program wouldn't even exist without her."

Despite recent victories, anxiety hangs over the center. The federal grant runs out in 1999, and nobody knows if the program can survive. Fraser and others are frantically searching for funds, but the future doesn't look promising. "We don't know where the money is going to come from," Fraser said. "If the center disappears, these women won't get the same care or the same follow-up."

Dealing with complex needs

In the early 1990s, St. Louis had become part of a national trend. HIV had begun infecting women at an alarming rate, and many of them passed the virus on to their babies. "It was very difficult to take care of these women because they had such complex needs," Fraser said. "When a woman has three kids, a dying husband, no car and no food in the fridge, it's absurd to just give her a prescription and expect her to do well.

Fraser made a pitch to the federal government and soon received a Special Programs of National Significance grant. With funds in hand, Fraser established the Helena Hatch center, a unique program achieving unprecedented success. "The center provides comprehensive care for women with AIDS and HIV. The center is staffed with nurses, social workers, midwives and doctors to provide prenatal care, HIV counseling, physical checkups, day care and transportation to and from the doctor. The clients get advice on everything from nutrition to applying for welfare benefits, and the staff becomes a compassionate but firm presence in their lives. If the center can be compared to a family, it's the type of family that checks up on anyone who doesn't turn up."

The center has grown in size, but so has the number of clients. "In 1994 we had 12 clients, and now we have 150," Fraser said. "The center's success is due in large part to the staff."

The results have been phenomenal. Before the program started, HIV struck 60 percent of babies born to infected mothers tracked by the School of Medicine. To date, however, not a single woman with HIV who had prenatal care at the Helena Hatch Center has had an infected child. That's more than 50 healthy babies and 50 healthy kids. "We never expected such outstanding results," Fraser said. "In other programs around the country, regular doses of AZT reduced the HIV transmission rate to about 8 percent, she noted. "But it was clear that good prenatal care and HIV medications significantly improve the likelihood of having healthy babies."

"Every time I leave the clinic, I thank God for what we have," Fraser said. "No matter how tired or cranky or sick I feel, I don't have a 5-year-old without a roof over his head or without food in the fridge."

"When a woman has three kids, a dying husband, no car and no food in the fridge, it's absurd to just give her a prescription and expect her to do well."

"I'm afraid we'll start seeing a lot of infected babies again."

For now, the center seems far too busy to be in danger of disappearing. On clinic days, when clients come in for medicine and checkups, the halls and waiting rooms are filled with young women and their children. A team of pediatricians from Project A.R.K. (AIDS Resources for Kids) checks the children while Fraser and Linda Mundy, M.D., director of the Helena Hatch Center, work with the mothers. Gregory Storch, M.D., professor of pediatrics, associate professor of medicine and of molecular microbiology and medical director of Project A.R.K., has been treating HIV-infected kids for years, so it's easy to see why he's one of the biggest fans of Fraser's program. Before the center opened, he could only focus on taking care of their children but not themselves. "HIV is often a family disease," he said. "It was ideal for us to reach and treat all of the members of the family. The Helena Hatch Center made that possible."

And, of course, Storch celebrates the current string of babies born free of the disease. Infected infants once were commonplace in his program, but now Fraser and her colleagues are walking, talking and crying mischievous healthy kids.

"When a woman has three kids, a dying husband, no car and no food in the fridge, it's absurd to just give her a prescription and expect her to do well."

"The center is a bridge between the hospital and the community. Chris Woolston

Tracking hospital infections

In her early days at the School of Medicine, Fraser seemed headed for standard training as a hospital epidemiologist. "I had no real expectations," she said. "I didn't even know what that was," she recalled. She soon learned the craft of tracking the spread of hospital infections and searching for ways to protect patients. Today, Fraser is the medical director of infection control for all the BJC Health Systems hospitals. "There's been a tremendous expansion in infection control under her leadership," said Storch, who works on infection control at Children's Hospital. "She has an impressive vision for her interventions. And, as with the Helena Hatch Center, she has the resolve to turn her visions into reality."

By studying charts, spotting trends, working closely with surgical teams and reminding staff to wash their hands, Fraser and her team have helped reduce surgical infection rates at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. "Infection control is crucial, because 5 to 10 percent of hospitalized patients across the country develop infections during their stay," she said. "As soon as rates go up, we go into the operating rooms and start asking questions. A deep chest infection can cost $20,000 to $30,000, so preventing just a few of them makes a big difference."

Fraser and other infection-control specialists are fighting an increasingly difficult battle. Bacteria are becoming resistant to the frontline antibiotics, and some emerging strains can withstand even the "big guns," such as vancomycin. Patients also are getting older and sicker, and some centers are struggling to keep up. Cancer patients on chemotherapy, transplant patients on immunosuppressants and patients infected with AIDS all offer easy targets for bacteria. The job, Fraser said, will only get tougher.

"The infection control program and the Helena Hatch center. Fraser said, has moved closer to the vision of putting the patient first by reducing infections in patients and has found a way to reach underserved patients. As she continues her teaching and research, she will continue as well to live out her conviction that there's more to medicine than treating one patient at a time."
Lectures
Friday, Aug. 21
3:30 p.m. School of Architecture all-school meeting. Cynthia Weese, architect. Steinberg Hall. 935-5489.

Missouri Botanical Garden Library

Monday, Aug. 24
4-6 p.m. Arts and Science advisor meetings. Lipton Hall gallery.

Miscellany
Friday, Aug. 28
3:30 p.m. School of Architecture all-school meeting. Cynthia Weese, architect. Steinberg Hall. 935-5489.

Thursday, Aug. 20
9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. New student check-in. Residence halls.
11 a.m.-4 p.m. Campus tours. Informational stop at Mallinckrodt and Wohl centers.
7:30 p.m.-9 p.m. Celebration of the Arts. The chancellors procession from the Campus Centre Quadrangle for entrance and "taste" of St. Louis.

Friday, Aug. 21
4-6 p.m. Departmental open houses. Opportunity to meet with representatives from the faculty and staff and learn more about the curriculum.

Saturday, Aug. 22
4-7 p.m. Bears BBQ and Arts and Science advisor meetings. Fun. Watch the battling Bears face off against the University of Missouri – Columbia for an intrasquad scrimmage between the freshman and varsity teams. Tailgate will be held at the Proctor Bandstand during the game. Francis Field, All-school.

Sunday, Aug. 23
1-3 p.m. Transfer Tours of St. Louis. Help Desk, Olin Library.
3:30-5 p.m. Arts and Science advisor meetings. (Refer to the letter from the dean for meeting location.)
8-11 p.m. Evening of Fun at the Campus Centre. St. Louis University — The Historical Perspective. Do you know that 20 Hilltop Campus building enhancements form the National Registry of Historic Places. Come play a game with Steven J. Eofelein, assistant professor of information and management systems. Wohl Center.

Monday, Aug. 24
8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Academic advising appointments. Wohl Center.
9 a.m.-2 p.m. Olin Library tours. Help Desk, Olin Library.
10 a.m.-Noon, Monument to a Dream Tour. Martin, prof. of civil engineering, and other distinguished members of the St. Louis Arch and a simple tour of the city. Registration required.
11 a.m.-Noon, Production and Distribution Systems. Want to know how things work in the world of business and industry? Come play a game with Steven J. Eofelein, assistant professor of information and management systems. Wohl Center.
11 a.m.-Noon, Washington University — The Historical Perspective. Do you know that 20 Hilltop Campus building enhancements form the National Registry of Historic Places. Come play a game with Steven J. Eofelein, assistant professor of information and management systems. Wohl Center.
11-1 p.m. Academic advising appointments. (Refer to the letter from the dean for meeting location.)
5:30-8 p.m. Olin Library tours. Help Desk, Olin Library.
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Liberal arts, technology mix in summer ‘boot camp’

Instead of tackling “War and Peace” this summer, twelve traditional liberal arts students immersed themselves in technology as part of a program designed to increase the computer literacy of liberal arts students.

Wave Technologies International, a St. Louis-based leader in technical training worldwide, opened its program as a pilot with the College of Arts and Sciences. The twelve students—ten juniors and two seniors—spent six weeks focusing on information technology—a challenging mix of skills involving computer systems, networking, script writing, languages and Web-based development. They were eligible for professional certification encompassing a variety of skills and, at the program’s end July 31, four of the students attained certification.

The students worked five hours a day, five days a week, mostly at workshops on the second floor of Prince Hall but also after hours on homework and at several area businesses, where they experienced the real world of business and technology.

Motivation to forgo a more traditional summer is the more than 200,000 jobs nationwide missing skilled information technology personnel and valuable contacts and internships at several area businesses, where they experienced the real world of business and technology.

“We had students across the board, from English majors to physics majors and everything in between,” said Susan Rollins, assistant dean in Arts and Sciences, who worked closely with the program coordinator, Linda Lombardino. “I’ve been to many things normally provided by corporate interns, but ongoing research by Nancy Ingram of the Washington University School of Social Work, and John Andrews, a senior psychology major from Mishawaka, Ind., was not so sure of his future plans, but considered the experience valuable.

“I think I’ll continue this training in some way, and I’ll probably end up in computers after I graduate,” he said. “The experience was very challenging but very beneficial.”

Tony Fitzpatrick

Research sheds light on nonmarital births

Given the tremendous economic and social costs of supporting poor children born out of wedlock, it’s not surprising that such young families have long had a keen interest in reducing teen-age pregnancies and nonmarital births. Public outcry and policies have spurred programs ranging from condom distribution to “just say no,” but these efforts have had little success in stemming the rising tide of nonmarital births.

There are no simple solutions, but ongoing research by Nancy Voiler, Ph.D., associate professor in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, and John Robertson, Ph.D., visiting assistant professor at Washington University, is shedding light on an array of issues influencing the plight of nonmarital families and helping shape new welfare initiatives in the area.

Their findings suggest that continued investment in welfare is essential not only for programs designed to head off unwanted births, but also for efforts to provide much-needed assistance to the children of nonmarital families.

In a recently released study of the increasing importance role that noncustodial fathers must play if these fragile, nonmarital families are to have a fighting chance in the age of welfare reform.

Single mothers without a partner to help care for their children will have difficulty joining the work force. Child support will become even harder to come by if these men are moving away from their children. The fathers doing this together, it makes it easier for each of them. The question is how to get to these fathers and will provide connections to training and employment opportunities. The key to its success, however, may be the mutual support that fathers can provide.

“When you have a group of fathers doing this together, it makes it easier for each of them. A lot of these men are moving away from street life, trying to find some way to get themselves back into the community. They have to spend time with their children. They need to see that someone else has done this. The longings are there, but they have to know how to get from living to acting.”

Gerry Everson

Bon Appetit Management Co.’s Executive Chef Schwenk chats with Chancellor Mark S. Lombardino and Steven J. Girard, Esq., chairman of the Board of Trustees (left) and in Holmes Lounge July 14. The reception introduced 40 University administrators to Bon Appetit’s 24 on-site managers and 38 chefs. The menu included homemade breads and pastries, fresh fruits, Italian cheeses, three meat selections, four styles of pasta and — for the daring — octopus.

New treats from Bon Appetit

S pies, anyone? If that doesn’t tempt your taste buds, there’s a lot more to choose from since Bon Appetit Management Co. of Menlo Park, Calif., became the University’s new Dining Services contractor. With the June 26 switch from Marriott Food Services, Bon Appetit has ushered in new dining concepts and expanded menu choices.

Bon Appetit will operate a total of 14 areas on the Hilltop Campus, in addition to catering student, faculty and staff functions. It’s a big job; the space the firm operates on campus is equivalent to an 800-room hotel, said Tom Bergin, general manager of Bon Appetit on campus. Much of that space is being remodeled. When all dining locations are opened Aug. 20, even the utensils and chins will be new.

“Of those locations are to have a fighting chance if these fragile, nonmarital families are to have a fighting chance in the age of welfare reform.

single mothers without a partner to help care for their children will have difficulty joining the work force. Child support will become even harder to come by if these men are moving away from their children. The fathers doing this together, it makes it easier for each of them. A lot of these men are moving away from street life, trying to find some way to get themselves back into the community. They have to spend time with their children. They need to see that someone else has done this. The longings are there, but they have to know how to get from living to acting.”

Gerry Everson
the Division of Plant Biology at The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif., since 1991. He also is co-director of the International Laboratory for Tropical Agriculture and Biotechnology.

Beachy was a member of Washington University's department of Biology and served as director of the Center for Plant Science and Biotechnology. He earned a bachelor's degree from Colorado (Mt.) College and holds a Ph.D. in plant pathology from Michigan State University. "We're lucky to have him," Danforth said of the fine-research scientist. And he has a commitment to the center's mission and the energetic leadership ability that we were looking for," he added.

Ralph S. Quatrano, Ph.D., newly appointed chair of biology at the University of Rochester, expressed enthusiasm for Beachy's appointment and the work of the new center. "One of the prime factors in my move to Washington University from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he said, "was not only the strength and commitment to plant science in Washington University but the creation of the new center." Beachy's appointment of Roger Beachy to head the center makes it a world center for plant science. This is an exciting time in the life of the center, he said, and there will be much happening in the next few years.

The plant science center's purpose is to advance human health in the area of medicine and nutrition and in the area of sustainability through innovative efforts to increase understanding of basic plant science.

The center also will promote the practical application of new knowledge to the development and commercialization of new agricultural crops and products. It will contribute as well to the education and training of graduate and post-doctoral students, scientists and technologists from around the world. In his keynote address, Carter observed that many of the world's most important food crops are native to Africa. Once these crops are evaluated, it was determined that the flight could continue with two functioning pilot lights.

Plant science center to tackle global hunger — from page 1

This is an exciting time for plant science worldwide, and there will be much happening in the next millennium. — Ralph S. Quatrano

Fossett aloft near Africa in round-the-world flight

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ighted eyebrows notwithstanding, sir, Steve Fossett's balloon and his spirit both were aloft at press time (2:10 p.m. Monday, Aug. 10).

Fossett, who took off from Mendoza, Argentina, at 6:30 p.m. EDT Friday, Aug. 7, in his fourth attempt to circumnavigate the globe in a balloon, traveled a total distance of 3,490 miles during the first three days of his journey. Last clocked at 78 miles per hour 60 hours after lift-off — he at tempted to correct the problem by disconnecting a pilot-light hose from one of the burner tanks. Apparently, the quick-disconnect valve fitting on the tank did not seal off the flow of fuel, as designed, and a small fire resulted.

Fossett quickly closed the flames, but sustained minor burns to his right hand. After the evaluation, it was determined that the flight could continue with two functioning pilot lights.

Fossett's launch was flawless, as he ascended toward a full moon on a crystal-clear evening. Within hours, though, he was plagued by a minor problem with the pilot-light vapor regulators on two of the four balloon burners. At 12:30 a.m. EDT — just six hours after lift-off — he attempted to correct the problem by disconnecting a pilot-light hose from one of the burner tanks. Apparently, the quick-disconnect valve fitting on the tank did not seal off the flow of fuel, as designed, and a small fire resulted.

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Fossett's launch was flawless, as he ascended toward a full moon on a crystal-clear evening. Within hours, though, he was plagued by a minor problem with the pilot-light vapor regulators on two of the four balloon burners. At 12:30 a.m. EDT — just six hours after lift-off — he attempted to correct the problem by disconnecting a pilot-light hose from one of the burner tanks. Apparently, the quick-disconnect valve fitting on the tank did not seal off the flow of fuel, as designed, and a small fire resulted.

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Fossett aloft near Africa in round-the-world flight

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ighted eyebrows notwithstanding, sir, Steve Fossett's balloon and his spirit both were aloft at press time (2:10 p.m. Monday, Aug. 10).

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Barry Dress has been named associate vice chancellor in alumni and development programs, according to David T. Blasingsame, vice chancellor for alumni and development programs. Dress succeeds David F. Jones, who retired March 31 after 18 years with the University. As associate vice chancellor, Dress will be responsible for planning and implementing alumni and development programs in support of all schools of the University. He will provide direct supervision of the alumni development programs on the Hilltop campus and the University's annual giving and alumni relations programs.

"Barry is very enthusiastic about joining Washington University and working with our faculty, staff, alumni and friends," Blasingsame said.

The University's director of intramural and club sports, T.J. Sheltor, has been promoted to assistant athletics director for facilities, special events and club sports; and Sharon Collins to director of intramural and club sports.

Washington University is extremely fortunate to have someone so talented and experienced in this important leadership position. It will be a pleasure working with him and we are delighted to have him, on the alumni and development team," Dress said.

From 1981 to 1985, Dress served as the University's director of development and alumni relations. He later served as assistant director of development for 10 years. Between those roles, Dress earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from the City College of New York and a master's degree in business from the University of Albany.

James F. Jones, chairman of the alumni board at Washington University, said, "Barry is the right person to serve in this post. He has the credentials, experience and an understanding of what alumni, students and faculty members expect from their alma mater. We are delighted to have him work with us in this leadership capacity." 

Dr. Mark G. Schuster, dean of the School of Medicine, said, "We are very pleased to have Barry join our faculty as part of our national leadership in medical education. He brings a wealth of experience, leadership and expertise to our institution. We look forward to his contributions to our School of Medicine and to Washington University." 

Barry Dress will work with the University's director of development and alumni relations and serve as a liaison to the university's alumni board.

Three athletics department staff promoted to director-level positions

Three Department of Athletics personnel have been promoted to director-level positions, effective Sept. 1, according to John Schaal, director of athletics. Joe Worlund has been promoted to assistant athletics director; T.J. Sheltor, to assistant athletics director for facilities, special events and club sports; and Sharon Collins to director of intramural and club sports.

Worlund, who was named baseball coach in 1996, will continue as baseball coach in the fall, and he will serve as the assistant athletics director for facilities, special events and club sports. Sheltor, who joined the athletics department in 1998, will continue as assistant athletics director for facilities, special events and club sports. Collins, who joined the athletics department in 1996, will continue as director of intramural and club sports.

"I am very pleased with our new leadership team," Schaal said. "I believe they will continue to enhance our services and provide quality experiences for our students and the community." 

For The Record contains news about a wide variety of faculty, staff and student scholarly and professional activities.

The Spirit of Freedom

Joe Polman, Ph.D., a postdoctoral fellow in education in Arts and Sciences, was invited to Washington, D.C., to take part in dedication ceremonies July 18 unveiling the Spirit of Freedom Civil War Memorial that honors U.S. black troops and their white officers. Polman accompanied William Lomax (Ph.D.), a seventh-grader at Compton-Drew Elementary School, Learning Center Middle School, and Arthur Yentum, a fifth-grader at Dei Mar-Drew Elementary School, who were both taking part in Polman's after-school project, dubbed "HistoryWeb St. Louis." The McConnell Foundation is funding the project, in which students created a Web page about Underground Railroad.

Olin faculty member receives tenure

At the May 1 meeting of the Board of Trustees, one Olin College faculty member received tenure, effective July 1, 1999.

For The Record will continue as surgical director of Cardiothoracic Surgery. Sundt was promoted with tenure, effective Aug. 1, 1999. He is the third professor of law to retire after 48 years before retiring in 1999.

Appropriation to For The Record, c/o David Moessner, Washington University, 1100 S. 4th St., St. Louis, Mo. 63108-9915.

Guidelines for submitting copy: Send your full name, college or department(s), phone number and highest academic degree(s) along with a description of your noteworthy activity, to For The Record, c/o David Moessner, Campus Box 109, St. Louis, Mo. 63108-9915.

Klingenstein Fellowship in the Neuroscience from The Esther M. and Joseph H. Klingenstein Fund Inc. in New York. Snyder studies how we use vision and other senses to build maps of our surroundings and how we use these maps to look at and reach for objects that are around us. Snyder is an associate professor of psychology and has been named the surgical director of the heart transplant and heart failure program in the Division of Cardiac Surgery. Sundt succeeds Michael K. Pasquesi, M.D., professor of surgery, who will continue as surgical director of the heart failure and ventricular assist device program in collaboration with Joseph G. Rogers, M.D., assistant professor of medicine and medical director of the heart transplant and heart failure programs.

The choices justices make is a new generation in judicial scholarship," said Marc W. Van der Velden, fellow at the Hoover Institution and chair of the department of political science at Stanford University. "It is a choice that dispositiveness in strategic interaction will bethe choice of the judges who sit on the Supreme Court to the choices justices make in the United States, and the choices of the judges who sit on the Supreme Court will be the choices justices make in the United States," he said.

The book is credited with offering a thought provoking theory for understanding how justices decide. In this theory, justices are strategic actors who can be influenced by their colleagues and their role as judges. The book also provides a new perspective on the range of judicial decision making.

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Hilltop Campus

The following is a partial list of positions available on the Hilltop Campus. Information regarding these and other positions may be obtained in the Office of Human Resources, Olin West Center, or by calling 389-5808. Job openings also may be accessed via the World Wide Web at 900.5480 or wustl.edu. Info.

Executive Assistant 980106. Consor- tium for Graduate Study Requirements: associate’s degree, bachelor’s preferred; experience in transcription; knowledge of Windows 95 and Microsoft office; ability to manage multiple tasks at once; ability to work under pressure; computer responsibilities include supporting the CEO; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CEO’s schedule; filing correspondence; call reports; assisting the CEO in job-related responsibilities; managing the CE

Library Technical Assistant (Adaptive Cataloging) 980107. Library Re- quirements: bachelor’s degree or equivalent work experience; relevant experi- ence or coursework in librarianship; good typing skills; ability to work independently and with a team. Responsibilities include analyzing metadata and creating catalog records for library materials, creating shelf lists, and providing customer service via email and telephone. The position is full time, with a 40-hour work week.

Undergraduate Career Advisor (part-time) 980102. Business School. Re- quirements: bachelor’s degree or equivalent work experience; relevant experience or coursework in business administration or related field; good typing skills; ability to work independently and with a team. Responsibilities include advising undergraduate students on career planning; assisting with job search strategies; and providing general career advice.

Assistant Director, BOSSA Advising and Student Assistance 980103. Undergraduate Career Center. Requirements: bachelor’s degree, master’s preferred; commitment to and interest in supporting students effectively; excellent interpersonal, communication and conflict-resolution skills; ability to juggle tasks and de- fine priorities; one year of related experience preferred; strong customer service skills; weekend and evening availability.

Director, Campus Space Manage- ment and Conference Planning

WU’s computer policy on the Web

L ast year, Washington Univer- sity established a Computer Use Policy providing guidelines for appropriate use of computer facilities and services at the University. The full text of the policy may be found at the following Web site address: www.wustl.edu/network/compliance.html

For questions about the policy, contact your school, department or college’s IT manager, or e-mail Shirley K. Baker, vice chancellor for information technology. Shirley.Baker@wustl.edu

University Police & Security and Transportation Services

The schedule for other shuttle routes follows:

The darkened line shows the route of the new shuttle loop connecting student apartments in the Skinker-Delaville neighborhood to Hilltop Campus locations. Campus Watch

The following incidents were reported to University Police from July 13 to Aug. 9.

Over the past four weeks, $7,928 worth of University property was reported stolen.

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Additional, a new route has been added in the Skinker-Delaville neighborhood. The route travels via loop between the residential area and Wohl Center.

Shuttle service expands Aug. 15

Campus Watch is abbreviated during the summer months.

Days of Caring

Karim Horatman plays house with two-four-year-old girls at Glen Hill Neighborhood Services day care center in North St. Louis. Friday, Aug. 7, Horatman, 28-year-old from Greek life in the Office of Student Activities, is one of 61 University employees who participated in the United Way Days of Caring Program. Through the program, workers help metropolitan area children, youths, adults and the elderly at 10 area United Way-supported agencies. This is the third year the University has participated in the annual event.

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