Law could pose research problems

By CHRISTINE FARMER

Many universities are concerned that legislation increasing access to federally funded research data will impede the conduct of scientific research.

A bill approved in October included a provision making all data produced by researchers receiving federal grants accessible through the Freedom of Information Act, a federal law that gives citizens access to government documents.

Through their support the concept of data sharing, a wide range of research organizations have expressed concern about how the law will be applied and the profound implications it may have on scientific research and advancements. They include the Association of American Universities, the Association of American Medical Colleges, the National Academy of Sciences and the American Association of University Professors.

Rep. George Brown Jr., D-Calif., has filed a bill to repeal the law and the National Science Board is supporting his action. Others are calling for a "time out" that would allow review of the proposed regulations and an opportunity for the National Academy of Sciences and the major federal research funding agencies to joint in developing research data sharing policies.

A draft regulation has been published, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is accepting public comments until April 5.

"There are important issues to the scientific research community, and I would encourage researchers at Washington University to assess the consequences of these regulations for their own research and voice their issues and concerns before the rule is drafted in final form," said Theodore I. Cicero, Ph.D., vice chancellor for research.

Cicero added that the effects of this proposed rule differ from one discipline to another, from engineers to molecular biologists to social scientists.

Because of the varying complexities of scientific fields, he said it is essential for researchers in all disciplines to express their concerns during the public comment period.

William J. Bradley, Ph.D., president of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, wrote a letter to the OMB earlier this month expressing concerns of the world's largest organization of biomedical and life scientists.

The proposed changes would create serious problems for research.
Bane or blessing? Foreman, Weidenbaum debate regulation

A lively debate on the costs and benefits of government regulation will take place at 3:30 p.m. March 30 in AmberSpr-Busch Hall's Bryan Case Mount Courtroom between Murray L. Foreman, Distinguished Senior Fellow and director of the Food Policy Institute at the Consumer Sciences March 4 in Holmes Lounge, Ridgley Hall. Behind them, Bechay's wife, Terry (right), greets Quatrano's wife, Barbi.

Foreman is a nationally known leader in food policy; she served as assistant secretary of agriculture for food and consumer services from 1977-1981. Before joining the Carter administration, she was executive director of the Consumer Federation of America. After returning to the Consumer Federation of America, she was executive director of the Consumer Federation of America after spending 16 years as the president of Foreman, Heidelprgan & Magier Inc., a Washington, D.C., public policy consulting firm. She also has been the executive director of the Safe Food Coalition, a group of consumer and public health organizations. Foreman is a graduate of Washington University and served as a University trustee.

Weidenbaum is a renowned expert on regulation, economic policy, taxes and government spending. In 1981 and 1983, Weidenbaum was President Reagan's first chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers. Earlier, he was the first assistant secretary of economic policy. He also served as fiscal economist in the U.S. Bureau of the Budget and as the corporate economist at Boeing Co. He has been a faculty member at the University of Washington since 1964 and was the chairman of the Department of Economics from 1986 to 1989.

The event is open to the University community. For more information, contact the CSAB at 314-935-3650.

Lapping it up

The Thurstone Junior Honorary is looking for staff and faculty who would be willing to sponsor team members in its first annual Kids Helping Kids Walkathon, set for Saturday, March 20, at Francis Field. Young people from University City Schools and the Children's Home Society of Missouri (CHSM) will take part in the walk; a 13-lap, circuit of the field's quarter-mile track. Proceeds will benefit the CHSM, a United Way-approved residential home for children with severe developmental and physical disabilities. Anyone willing to "lapse pledges" should call Andrew Kopans, 726-6669.

Staff heroes

A reminder: nominations for the 1999 Gloria W. White Distinguished Service Award are due Wednesday, March 24. The award, inaugurated in 1998, honors a staff member each year for exceptional effort and contributions that result in the University's betterment. Nominations must be submitted by academic staff members in good standing. Send nominations to Gloria W. White Distinguished Service Award, Campus Box 1184.

Pow wow, Indian foods part of weekend festival

An American Indian pow wow celebration, traditional dance, lectures and movies are among the activities planned for American Indian Awareness Week March 22-27, hosted by the Kathryn M. Buder Student Activities Center and American Studies at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. The week's centerpiece is the ninth annual University Pow Wow, to be held from 1 to 10 p.m. March 27 at the Field House. The pow wow includes American Indian dancers, traditional arts, crafts, music and food. Many vendors will be selling American Indian crafts and traditional foods, such as frybread and Indian tacos.

The pow wow is supported by Kathryn M. Buder, Student Activities Center, Student Coordinating Committee, Balston Posts Co., Ferguson Post, St. Louis Post and American University Center of Mid America Inc., the Washington University School of Medicine and the Department of Anthropology in Arts and Sciences. Other Awareness Week activities will take place in the social work school's Brown and Goldfarb halls. They include:

• Monday, March 22, 5:30 p.m., American Indian Cultural Social — Cultural traditions and activities and presentations on contemporary issues and stereotypes of American Indians, 12:30-1:15 p.m., Brown Lounge. Brown Lounge information.
• Tuesday, March 23, 10:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m., Washington University's Center for American Indian Food Tasting — A sampling of traditional and contemporary American Indian foods, 4-6 p.m., Brown Lounge. Brown Lounge information.
• Wednesday, March 24, 11 a.m., "Smoke Signals" — A free pow wow competition for schools and colleges, winner selected at the Sunderland Film Festival, acclaimed as one of the best films of 1998, 7:30 p.m., Room 359 Goldfarb Hall.

• Thursday, March 25: T-shirt, hat and bake sale — Fund-raiser for activities at the Buder Center, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Goldfarb Hall information.
• Friday, March 26: Lecture: "Disarming Colonialism: A First Nations Social Workers Practice Manifesto," by Michael Yellow Bird, a professor from the University of Kansas and a member of the Arikara/Hidatsa Indian Nation, 12:30 p.m., Brown Lounge.

All activities are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies, 935-4510.

Thurstone's Road Race/Walk has something for everyone

Whether you're a competitive runner, a jogger or a walker, the annual Thurstone Road Race/Walk offers something for everyone. This year's Thurstone run will be held at 9 a.m. March 27 in Forest Park. The entry fee is $10 for pre-registered entrants and $12 for race-day entrants. Race forms should be postmarked by Saturday, March 20.

The net proceeds generated through the Thurstone Road Race/Walk, and a substantial portion of the proceeds from the annual Thurstone Run, will benefit Children's Home Society of Missouri (CHSIM), a United Way-approved residential home for children with severe developmental and physical disabilities. CHSIM offers complete care for residential and respite-care settings.

Popular aspects of Thurstone's race, like shirts, hats and cake, will continue along with new additions this year. Participants will enter from area restaurants and stores. All pre- registrants will receive a T-shirt. Participants registering the day of the race will receive T-shirts while supplies last. Trophies will be awarded to the top three overall male and female age divisions.

For registration information, call Andrew Kopans at 726-6669.

Building

KETC site to become green space for now — from page 1

The building went up when television was still fairly new. A committee had been appointed in 1951 by Major Joseph Darst to study the feasibility of having an educational television station in St. Louis. The Federal Communications Commission was looking for cities to provide the land and leased it to the first-place finisher in six male and female age divisions.

To register or for more information, call Andrew Kopans at 726-6669.

The building, once a television studio, was completed in 1955, the $215,000 building was the first in the country built specifically for an educational television station and was state of the art for its time. Washington University purchased the land and leased it to KETC for $1 a year.

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Alzheimer disease

Blood protein called apoE slows deposits of amyloid in brain

BY LINDA SAGE

Researchers have discovered that a blood protein called apoE slows the deposition of amyloid-beta peptide in the brain. The study forms the early plaques that dot the brains of Alzheimer patients.

The researchers reported their findings in the March 15 issue of the Journal of Clinical Investigation (JCI). The lead authors are Holtzman and scientists Kelly R. Bates and Steven Paul of Lilly Research Laboratories in Indianapolis.

ApoE is found in the lipid-protein complexes that move lipids around the body. The most common form is apoE3. In 1993, scientists discovered that people with a version called apoE4 are more likely to develop Alzheimer's disease at an earlier age than people with apoE3 or apoE2. They speculated that apoE might slow the disease process.

Holtzman inserted the gene for apoE2. They speculated that apoE might slow the disease process.

In the study, the researchers treated mice with apoE2. They found that mice with apoE2 had no amyloid plaques by that time. "This is intriguing, because that raises the possibility that raising levels of apoE might slow the onset or progression of Alzheimer's disease," Holtzman said.

It is possible that apoE4 is a risk factor for Alzheimer's because it does not prevent amyloid deposition. But previous studies have never shown apoE, the radiation procedure that made human amyloid-beta peptide in the brain.

"We see a re-narrowing of the vessel called restenosis," said Holtzman. The investigational therapy allows the doctor to send beads of radiation through the catheter into the blood vessels in the brain. The beads are removed less than 10 minutes after they have delivered a radiation treatment called vascular brachytherapy.

One of the other treatments used to prevent restenosis is the placement of a stent, an expandable metal device permanently implanted in the artery. Stents support the vessel walls and are believed to help prevent blockages. In some patients, the stent itself might irritate the lining of the artery and accelerate cell growth, allowing re-narrowing to occur.

A second clinical study, the Stents and Radiation Therapy (START) trial, hopes to determine whether vascular brachytherapy can prevent restenosis following the implantation of a stent. LaCas and Tanerios found that of other patients might offer important insights, he said.

In parallel research with mice, Racke hopes to determine why MS symptoms periodically go away. If the answer were known, it might be possible to induce permanent remission. This part of the study will focus on interactions between a different type of T cell and antigen-presenting cells. The mouse studies also will allow Racke's group to investigate T cell responses to a wider range of components of myelin or myelin-producing cells than those they are studying in humans.

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Friday, March 18
7 a.m. Filmboard Feature Series. "Flight with Disaster." Ohio March 20, 9 p.m. and March 21, 7 p.m. Cost $3 first visit; $2 subsequent visits. Room 108, Building 8, University Blvd.

Thursday, March 18

Monday, March 22
10 a.m. Center for Mental Health Services Research seminar. "Homework Services." Annette Schlosser, PhD, center. Room 219 Ridgley Hall. 454-8701.

Wednesday, March 24
9 a.m. Genetics seminar. "Molecular and pharmacology: The Role of PKA in alpha-synuclein aggregation."

Monday, March 22

Wednesday, March 24
11 a.m. Social work seminar. "What's a Space Station Doing in the Heart of Paris?" Fred Lutz, prof. of behavioral sciences, Roy Geiger, prof. in the Geo. Room 303 Lambert Lounge, Mallinckrodt Hall. 935-5690.

Saturday, March 20
11 a.m. Arts Performance Dept. lecture. Actors and directors Dina Calabrese talks about her work. Room 100 Brown Hall. 935-4918.

Friday, March 19
7 a.m. Filmboard Feature Series. "White Satin." (Also March 20, 7:30 p.m.) 935-4510. "Smoke Signals." Room 359 Goldfarb.

Sunday, March 21
3:30 p.m. Social work seminar. "From Genomics to Medicine: From Molecular Genetics to Chemical Biology, Cardiovascular Disease, and Cancer." David V. Hauser, assoc. prof., cardiology. Room 162 McDonnell Hall. 935-4523.

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When R. Scott Fitzgerald declared that there are no new acts in American life, he obviously wasn’t thinking of The Acting Company, perhaps the finest touring theater group working today. Since 1972, the Acting Company has brought more than 70 classics of world theater to 50 states and audiences totaling more than 3 million people, traveling 500,000 miles along the way. Later this spring it returns to the Edson Theatre with a pair of its most recent comedies — Jean-Baptiste Molière’s “Tartuffe” and William Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night” — for its first St. Louis appearance since 1991.

“Tartuffe” begins at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 26, and is followed at the same time the next evening by Moliere’s “Tartuffe” and William Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night.” The Acting Company was founded in 1972 by the late John Houseman and producing director Margot Harling who wanted to bring the live experience of classic theater to smaller cities, towns and rural communities that might otherwise go unviewed. Over the years, the troupe has become something of a training ground for dozens of actors from around the country, many of whom have gone on to successful careers in theater, film and television.

“Tartuffe” is directed by Terrence McNally in a recent direction at the Globe Theatre in London. “Twelfth Night” is directed by Penny Metropulos, associate artistic director of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

Tickets are $22 and are available at the Edson Theatre Box Office, 935-6104, or through phone, 935-5114. Call for discounts. The performances are presented by Edson Theatre’s OAVATIONS! Series.

Saturday, March 27, 8 p.m.


Saturday, March 27, 8:15 p.m.
Bears/Cougars doubleheader baseball game. Edson Field, 935-5020.

Saturday, March 27, 11:50 a.m.
Bears/Cougars men’s basketball game. Edson Field, 935-5020.

Saturday, March 27, 1 p.m.
Bears/Cougars women’s tennis game. St. Louis Tennis Center, 935-5220.

Saturday, March 27, 3:30 p.m.
Bears/Cougars American Indian Awareness Week cultural social. Brown Hall Lounge, 935-4510.

Saturday, March 27, 6:30 p.m.
Writing Program Reading Series. Authors PaddyJ Byrne reads from his work. Room 201 Forrest Lounge, Dinner Box, 935-2700.

Friday, March 19, 6 p.m.
Catholic Student Center retreat. 4 p.m. Catholic Student Center Retreat. “Telling the Story: A Dialogue of Hope for Families Crying Out in the Dark.” Catholic Student Center, 9352 Forest Blvd. Box 102, director, 935-5610.

Saturday, March 20, 12:30 a.m.
Two's Company, William Shakespeare’s “Twelfth Night.” The show begins at 8 p.m. March 26 and 27 at the Kingsbury Ensemble, directed by Maryse Carlin. See story on page 2.

Tuesday, March 23, 10:45 a.m.

Tuesday, March 23, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 24, 10:45 a.m.
Women’s tennis vs. Spring Valley College. Tao Tennis Center. 935-5220.

Wednesday, March 24, 11 a.m.
Women’s tennis vs. Principia College. Tao Tennis Center, 935-5220.

Wednesday, March 24, 6 a.m.
STD/HIV class. Room 227 Umrath Hall. 935-5930.

Wednesday, March 24, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, March 24, 1 p.m.
The Writing Center workshop. “Writing for Research.” Room 100 East Hall 900-4081.

Women’s tennis vs. Principia College. Tao Tennis Center. 935-5220.

Women’s basketball posts two big wins
It wasn’t easy, but the Bears were also faced with the challenge of defending their back-to-back home court dominance on both sides of the court as they continued to pile up wins and maintain a commanding lead in the Missouri Valley Conference.

Fischer, who would finish with 27 points, 11 rebounds and five assists, hit the game-winning shot to give the Bears a 76-74 lead with 0.6 seconds remaining in regulation. The Bears finally managed to put the game out of reach by hitting the ensuing free throw to put WU up 64-62 with a minute left. A capital lapay with five seconds remaining in the game finally overcame, where WU never trailed on the way to a seven-point win.

The Bears gained momentum with three straight runs to take a 16-2 lead in the first 7:30 minutes, 20-13 advantage midway through the second half, and a 10-2 run late in the game to clinch the win.

Women tankers get All-American awards
Senior divers Rachel Hopkins and Nancy Weimer earned first-team All-American honors on the one-meter board at the 1999 NCAA Division III Women’s Swimming and Diving Championships in Ohio. Hopkins, who won the 3-meter title last weekend, was also honored mention All-American on the three-meter board, while freshman Lindsey Wilkinson garnered three honorable mention All-American citations in the 100 backstroke, 100 freestyle and 100 freestyle. The Bears finished 16th overall with 235 team points.

Richard captures national title
Senior Emily Richard won her second individual national championship in less than a year Saturday, March 13, as she topped the field in the 50-meter breaststroke at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships in Ada, Ohio. Richard, who won the 5,000 meters at the 1998 outdoor meet to claim Washington U.’s first-ever women’s individual national title, ran a school-record

Baseball Bears
1-4 in Florida
The baseball team, winner of seven of its first eight games, cooled off a bit during its annual spring break trip to Florida. The Bears opened the trip with an 8-3 victory over Case Western Reserve University, but followed that win with four straight losses. The team battled perennial University Athletic Association power Emory University to a 7-6 loss before dropping its next game to Williams College, 9-8. The Bears swept MacMurray College in a pair of Tuesday afternoon games, 5-0 and 4-3.

Men’s tennis wins two
The men’s tennis team improved its record to 7-1 with two more victories last weekend. The Bears defeated NCAA Division II school McPherson College, 4-0, and won 7-0 at Webster University.

Kingsbury Ensemble in concert
"Fete Versailles"
Weekend events.

Sports Section

Women’s tennis nets fifth sweep
The women’s tennis team improved to 5-0 on the year with a 9-9 win over Nebraska Wesleyan. Sunday, March 14, Kate Abrams, Nandini Chatturvedi, Priya Vajani, Kat Copmans, Kell and Sarah Kaufman all won in straight sets in singles action. Claudia V последние with WU

Scheduling name
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Regulations
Assessing impact of new regulations
- from page 1 -
scientists and their institutions, and we strongly urge their modification," he stated. "Decisions about what data are covered, what constitutes publication, what is meant by a policy or rule, and what time limits apply will have enormous implications for scientists and the laboratory environment will be drastically altered as concerns about possible future disclosure diminish and the current ethics of openness and the enthusiasm for exploration.

National Science Foundation Director Rita Colwell also expressed concerns to the OMB about unclear language subject to different interpretations that could ultimately harm the research process. Bruce Alberts, president of the National Academy of Sciences, addressed the possibility of making research data available before it is published in his letter to the OMB. According to Alberts, the researcher who actually collected the data be the first to analyze and publish conclusions concerning the data is really coming together now, and they will have enormous implications for scientists whose research is part of the normal process of scientific research. And the researchers would be able to discuss the possible risk of public disclosure of erroneous or misleading conclusions and confuse the public.

Another problem many see with the law is the difficulty in maintaining the privacy of research subjects, which could reduce patient recruitment and retention rates, and who provide personal information for medical research might not want to participate if there is even the possibility that the public could access the research. Researchers also worry that the law will require them to disclose new research that could yield patents. Ciero is concerned about the effect on the partnership between scientists and industries. "This is a chilling effect on industry-supported research." Ciero said, "In industry-university collaborations, often companies provide confidential information that they do not want made public. This law could increase the risks and benefit them to cease participation, since they could lose control over proprietary data made available to university collaborators.

The law above after industry groups complained that the Harvard School of Public Health refused to release more data from a study linking air pollution and health. The EPA had cited the Harvard studies, which tracked the health of South Coast residents over almost two years, when proposing tougher air-quality standards. Industry officials protesting new regulations demanded to see the underlying data. Harvard researchers are allowing academic scientists to review the data, but with confidentiality and integrity clauses, declined to disclose the data to industry officials.

The following incidents were reported to University Police from March 8-15:

March 8
11:20 p.m. — A student reported the theft of 115 compact discs, valued at $1,180, from a locked solitary car in Wall University Police also responded to an additional six thefts, two burglary reports, three disturbance reports and one report of assault.

March 10
12:28 p.m. — A student reported the theft of 115 compact discs, valued at $1,180, from a locked solitary car in Wall University Police also responded to an additional six thefts, two burglary reports, three disturbance reports and one report of assault.

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Notable

Law school students recently won several regional competitions. Second-year student Richard Casanova and Jovita Walker won the regional Mock Trial competition held in Des Moines, Iowa. Third-year students Richard Brooks, Michelle Foulston and Michelle Noltehoven and second-year students Andrew Ruben won the Midwest Regional Mock Trial Competition at the University of Minnesota.

Second-year student Melissa Rice and third-year student Scott Richman and Justin Sage had the best written brief and placed second overall in the regional competition of the Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court competition, sponsored by the Brand Names Educational Foundation, in New York City.

Robert Batterston, director of records for the Trustee Center for the Study of American Business, has been appointed as Co-program Manager for International Research at the Center for the Study of Washington University from Trustee Sam Fox, on the Campaign for Washington University.

A memorial service for retired faculty member Henry G. Schleberg, who taught at both the New York University School of Medicine and Barnes-Jewish Hospital, will be held at 3 p.m. April 17 in Graham Chapel on the Washington University church campus.

Henry Schwartz memorial to be held

A memorial service for Henry J. Schwartz, a St. Louis Post-Dispatch law expert, will be held at 11 a.m. April 17 in Graham Chapel on the campus of the University of Missouri.

Trustees meet March 5

T he Washington University Board of Trustees meet March 5 at the Eric P. Newman Education Center. The agenda for the meeting includes reports on several key University initiatives.

Before the meeting, trustees attended a special presentation by Thomas Quatrano, the university's chief information officer, and Bob Dickey, the university's chief technology officer, regarding the university's technology needs.

The meeting will include a presentation by the University's chief financial officer, Mark S. Wrighton, regarding the university's financial position.

The meeting will also include a presentation by the University's chief development officer, Rhonda Schneitz, regarding the university's fundraising efforts.

The meeting will conclude with a presentation by the University's chief communications officer, Robert Batterston, regarding the university's communications strategy.

The meeting will be held at 2 p.m. March 5 in Graham Chapel on the Washington University campus.
Powering gender studies on campus

Helen Power, Ph.D., directs program popular across campus with women — and men

Helen Power, Ph.D., was teaching part time in the English department some years ago when she became intrigued by a call for a sick colleague in a women's literature course.

"It was so wonderful for the students and me," Power said. "I had so much fun. I just pulled out books buried under Renaissance texts. Suddenly my pleasure reading became something I talk about in the classroom."

After that class, Joyce Trebilcock, a founder and then coordinator of the Women's Studies Program, asked Power to explore women's studies beyond women's literature.

"Women's studies not only didn't have women professors when they were in graduate school, women's studies as such was not even offered until the early '70s," Power said.

She educated herself through a lot of reading and eventually took over when Trebilcock retired in 1992.

She has since worked to make connections across disciplines with the Women's Studies Program.

"A lot of people tend to be afraid of feminists, and even a lot of academics don't realize how feminism and gender studies have transformed their disciplines," she said. "I have gotten extremely good support from most departments. Studies have shown that when you have a strong women's studies program, women students and faculty feel supported on campus."

Much has happened over the years in women's studies. There are now more than 660 programs nationwide, and some offer a Ph.D. in women's studies. Washington University's interdisciplinary program has become very popular.

"Since 1992, almost every one of our core courses has had a waiting list," she said. "The intro courses could be filled twice over. We have to reserve sections for first-year students because we want to keep their last semester who have been closed out of a class are taking the intro course."

"There is a wonderful teacher-to-student ratio in intro courses," she noted. "There are not more than 25 students in a class, so students can talk about contemporary issues in an academic, scholarly context. It's not just consciousness raising, though women feel empowered after taking the classes," she said. "It's a field that really develops critical and analytical abilities, encouraging students to raise questions about much they took for granted."

And women's studies not only test the courses, some of which focus on gender in literature, popular culture, the visual arts, psychology, philosophy and political science.

"The students are mostly women, but there are some men," Power said. "It's currently important for students to study gender and its intersection with race and class. A knowledge of feminist philosophy and literary criticism is essential for graduate students in many disciplines."

Many graduates of women's studies continue their education, focusing on women's issues in law school, medical school, social work or health programs.

"Those who enter the world directly after college have gone to places such as the National Museum of Women in Washington, the Feminist Majority or Planned Parenthood," she said. "A lot of them find jobs in social agencies that focus on women's issues. They end up in all sorts of interesting places."

In addition to an undergraduate major and minor, the University offers a graduate certificate.

Double majors

"I encourage people to double major in women's studies," Power said. "The most frequent other major is in the humanities, though women's studies students also major in the studies in business, biology and the social sciences."

Julia Webber, a graduate of the women's studies program, went on to complete a joint master's in social work and public policy. Now a lecturer in the program, she teaches the courses "Gender, Race and the Law," "Violence Against Women" and "Introduction to Women's Studies."

"Helen is passionate about the world and just a marvelous thinker who does a great job," Webber said. "She has encouraged so many of us who teach to develop classes that use our expertise and encourage critical thinking. She is always enthusiastic about creative ways to teach about gender."

Susan Stiritz, a Ph.D. candidate in English literature, was so inspired after taking a women's studies course Power taught that she decided to give a $1 million gift creating the first endowed professorship in women's studies. Her husband, William, followed with a $500,000 challenge grant. The $1.5 million gift funds the Susan E. and William P. Stiritz Distinguished Professorship. The $500,000 that is being raised to meet the challenge will establish a Women's Studies Fund for general support of the program, including conferences, audiovisual materials, speakers, scholars and research.

David Hadas, Ph.D., professor of English, chaired Power's dissertation oral when she first came to the University. The two later shared an office.

"Helen has enlightened and inspired innumerable students, changing lives for the better," Hadas said. "Perhaps the most obvious sign of her influence is the gift of the chair in women's studies. I am very proud to be pressed by the range of Helen's interest and her ability to master material far from anything she taught in graduate school."

Born and raised in Chicago, Power recalled with a chuckle how she dealt with attending college close to home.

"I went to the University of Chicago but wrote letters to my parents so I could feel as if I had gone away," she said.

Although now a senior lecturer and coordinator of women's studies, Power also has worked as an analyst, writer and reporter. Shortly after getting a bachelor's degree in 1955, she went to work as a reporter for The San Diego Independent for two years.

"When I was in high school I always thought I would go into journalism, but then I found out I couldn't ask the tough questions," she said. "When I had to call a judge who lost an election, I felt so uncomfortable doing it I thought there had to be another calling for me."

She went back to school and did graduate work in English at Washington State College and Indiana University. When her late husband, Richard, took a teaching job at Saint Louis University Law School, Power came to Washington University as a graduate student in English in 1961, receiving a Ph.D. in 1966.

"When I started an academic career, my husband and I could travel in the summer," she said. "We loved to travel together."

She has taught Shakespeare in Iran and American literature in Afghanistan, and she also has lived in Egypt, Italy and India and has traveled widely in Europe and Asia. The couple used getting a Ph.D. for Semester-at-Sea, a University of Pennsylvania program, of a cruise on a ship with 650 undergraduate students for a semester.

New places to teach

There are many more places Power would like to visit, including New Zealand and Alaska.

Power was killed in 1993 in San Miguel Allende, Mexico, but Power has continued to travel often, she wrote in the summer, Carla, 32, and Nicholas, 29.

"Whether traveling or at home, we have gone to places such as the National Museum of Women in Washington, the Feminist Majority or Planned Parenthood," she said. "I don't have as much time as I would like to travel."

Colleague Nancy Berg, associate professor of modern Hebrew languages and literatures, gets book recommendations from Power.

"Helen is somebody whom I rely on for sage advice regarding teaching, research and colleagues, for excellent reading suggestions, and for her sparkling wit," Berg said. "She's one of my favorite people here and one of the loveliest people on campus. I've known her since my first year here (1989). I can't imagine who introduced us, but I've always been grateful."

Helen Power, Ph.D., senior lecturer and coordinator of the Women's Studies Program in Arts and Sciences, discusses an article with senior Emily Katonah, a double major in women's studies and psychology.

This diminutive metal sculpture was a gift from Beata Grant, Ph.D., chair and associate professor of Asian and Near Eastern languages and literatures in Arts and Sciences. Grant found it during a sabbatical in India. Helen Power, an avid reader, keeps it on her desk.

Helen Power with her daughter, Carla, and son, Nicholas, pause for a vacation photo just outside of Mexico City.