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Hope for Midwest's coal fields
Grant funds research into alternative fuels

BY TONY FITZPATRICK

A n effort to find ways to produce alternative fuels from one of our region's most abundant resources — coal — has received $548,485 in funding support from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Muthanna H. Al-Dahhan, Ph.D., assistant professor of chemical engineering and associate director of the Chemical Reaction Engineering Laboratory (CREL), won the three-year grant from the DOE's Federal Energy Technology Center for a project titled "Advanced Diagnostic Techniques for Two-Phase, Slurry Bubble Column Reactors." Al-Dahhan will collaborate with Mildor F. Dodokow, Ph.D., the Laura and William Jens Professor and chair of chemical engineering; L.-S. Fan, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor and chair of chemical engineering at Ohio State University; and Bernard A. Toseland, Ph.D., of Air Products and Chemicals Inc., to develop and implement specialized diagnostic techniques at CREL and at Ohio State's Industrial Fluidization Laboratory. Slurry bubble column reactors are used in processes in which gas containing one or more reactants — for example, synthesis gas — is mixed with liquid reactants and products and a finely dispersed catalyst.

They are reagents of choice for a wide range of industrial processes, in particular for the conversion of synthesis gas, a carbon monoxide and hydrogen mixture, to fuels and chemicals by processes called Fischer-Tropsch (FT) reactions. FT is an acknowledged route for the production from coal and the coal mining route is FT synthesis. Al-Dahhan and his colleagues are using will advance the knowledge and understanding of slurry bubble column reactors under FT reaction conditions and generate a new approach for scale-up and design of these reactors.

"Illinois alone mines over 47 million tons of coal annually and ranks sixth among coal-producing states. Yet the bituminous or "soft" coal found in Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky and Indiana is notorious for its production of sulfur, a major pollutant. The coal mining industry and coal-mining jobs in the Midwest and mid-South, accordingly, have suffered in recent years because of environmental restrictions and reduced market demand. There are techniques for sulfur removal that can be used when synthesis gas is produced from coal. If synthesis gas could be converted to fuel economically, the conversion process would boost both clean synthesis gas production from coal and the coal mining industry. One promising route is FT synthesis. "The funding received from DOE and the international consortium will be utilized to characterize properly the fluid dynamic and transport parameters via advanced diagnostic techniques available in CREL and to generate a fundamentally based approach for scale-up design and operation of high pressure slurry bubble column reactors with immediate application to FT synthesis," Al-Dahhan said.

Japanese visitors seek help with child abuse prevention

BY GERRY EVERTING

Se ven delegates from Japanese social service agencies and government health ministries visited the George Warren Brown School of Social Work last week to learn more about how child abuse and related problems are handled in America.

Spurred by a growing recognition of child abuse as a serious problem in Japan, the visit brought representatives of various Japanese agencies and organizations to St. Louis for a three-day program that included visits with local nonprofit and governmental children's services agencies, a day of short seminars with social work faculty and meetings with Missouri state social services officials.

Among the delegates was Yasuo Matsubara, a professor at Meijigakuin University in Tokyo, who was a research fellow at Washington University in 1987. Matsubara said there have been reports of a significant increase in child abuse and neglect cases in Japan, attributable in part to a weakened economy that is destabilizing the family. Arlene Stiffman, Ph.D., professor of social work and a lead organizer of their time here, said: "See Visitors, page 5"

Hands-on Undergrads get research experience

BY TONY FITZPATRICK

T hirty-five undergraduate biology students and their faculty mentors met Saturday, Sept. 18, on the third floor of McDonnell Hall to report the results of their summer research, giving presentations on topics ranging from the intricacies of neuroscience to the genetics of fruit flies and algae to lizard morphologies.

The opportunity to do research was made possible by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's (HHMI) Summer Undergraduate Research Program, which awards qualified students $2,900 plus a housing allowance for 10 weeks' intensive laboratory research. Washington University has received HHMI grants since 1993 to operate this program, and over that time 237 students have been HHMI Summer Undergraduate Research fellows.

Students gave both poster sessions and formal presentations on their work. In many instances, the presentations were the first that the students, ranging from sophomores to seniors, have ever given. Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton addressed the group, and Barbara A. Schaal, Ph.D., professor of biology and newly elected fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, gave the keynote address, titled "Biodiversity in the Orphan Crop, Cassava: Basic and Applied Research." Four individuals whose work is particularly outstanding will present their summer research results at national meetings.

The program is part of larger science outreach programs initiated in the early 1990s by Bruce C. S. Elgin, Ph.D., professor of biology. Students in the Summer Undergraduate Research program find themselves working on real science problems up to 60 hours a week, just like their faculty mentors. The experience is a reflection of the "ideal world" of the biologist or biomedical scientist.

According to Dorothy Kohl, Ph.D., professor of biology and a key person in the program, the research experience normally extends beyond the summer of their fellowship year. Most students continue working in their labs during the fall semester by registering for Biology 596, Independent Study, and during subsequent summers are supported by funds from their mentors' research grants.

"We consider the Hughes summer program a one-time-only experience, and from that experience, we expect the mentors to come up with their own funding to support students in subsequent summers," said

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Logical remnants of one of the Mounds: A Fall Pilgrimage in America.

Mexico. The most sophisticated prehistoric architecture and tour the Interpretive Center at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site. Once in Illinois' Cahokia Mounds, where lie the archaeo-

and music, religion and, in the field, the impact of the first millennium will be advanced as part of the French composer's birth, this course will include his operas and live performances in class to enhance discussions of his songs and jazz-influenced chamber music.

See Taylor, who teaches courses in University College in Arts and sciences and does music reviews for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, will teach the course, and guest director Christine Reiter, an accomplished cellist from Missouri, will review the bulletin "Les Riches" and its effect on Paris in the 1920s. The four-week course meets from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Mondays, Oct. 4-25. The fee is $40, $70 for members of the University's Friends of Music organization.

Marching to the Millennium — This course will examine the origins of the idea of the millennium in Western religious tradition and how that idea has shaped social and political perceptions. Expectations of the first millennium will be contrasted with those of the second. The course will explore the millennial hopes of other religious traditions and the impact of the millennial thinking has had on North America.

Taught by Frank Flinn, Ph.D., adjunct professor of religious studies, this course will meet from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 5-25. The fee is $80.

A fourth course, "Two 'Novels of Apprenticeship' by George Eliot," is already full. It is co-sponsored with the Department of English in Arts & Sciences and led by Susan Stiritz, who teaches English composition. For more information on short courses or to register, call 935-6788.

Coal

Grant funds research into alternative fuels — from page 1

Two unique techniques are used at CRNL. One is gamma ray computed tomography (CT). In principle, it is similar to a medical CAT scan. The other is computer automated radioactive particle tracking (CARPT), which traces the flow of the liquid or the solids by a radioactive particle. In combination, CT and CARPT allow a non-invasive determination of the flow pattern and development of models for different types of multiphase reactors which involve complex interactions of various gas-liquid combinations.

"The slurry bubble column reactor has lots of applications, and one of the most exciting is for development of alternate fuels," Al-Dahan said. "DOE wants to advance the technology of such processes and improve reactor scale and design. The hydrodynamics of gas, liquids and solids in high pressure slurry bubble columns are very complex, and there is much to be learned about this type of technology. But, with CT and CARPT, we can get measurements of how these processes that no one else can, to quantify the flow field in these reactors. By gathering knowledge both here and at Ohio State University, which also have unique facilities, we hope to advance the modeling for better designed and fully scaled reactors.

Al-Dahan also collaborates with Sandia National Laboratory in New Mexico on the slurry bubble column project.

Grant money available to enhance international programs in A & S

The Office of International Students has an annual sum of $25,000 in grant money available for purpose of encouraging and supporting international activities. Specifically, the International Activities Fund will be used to assist faculty who act as study abroad advisers or their department to act a study abroad liaison to particular programs or developers, adapt and teach courses specifically for the international studies major.

To apply for an award from the fund, facility members should complete a one- to two-page proposal, establishing their eligibility and describing their proposed use for the award. It will be important to provide concrete information regarding the proposed activities that will enhance the student experience and the further internationalization of the program. A brief budget should be appended. No award will exceed $2,000.

Proposals will be reviewed twice a year, on Nov. 1 and March 1. Deadline for the Nov. review is Oct. 15. Complete proposals should be sent to Priscilla Stone, Ph.D., director of international studies, Ritter 018. For more information, contact Stone at 935-3073 or pstone@artscl. wustl.edu.
For decades, pharmaceutical companies have struggled to deliver a large, biologically active protein into every cell of the brain that are normally protected by the blood-brain barrier," said Steven R. Schwarze, Ph.D., a research team at the School of Medicine. The group has received the Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The award guarantees research funding for seven years. The amount for the first four years will be $1.67 million, with an anticipated $1.5 million total for the next three years.

The award is given to researchers who submit an outstanding grant application, who have a distinguished record of contribution to the field of neuroscience and are expected to be highly productive in the future. Only four other neuroscientists in the nation have received the Javits Award, and Park is the first practicing neurosurgeon.

The award was established to honor Sen. Jacob Kappville of New York, who died of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis in 1986. "All of us in the Department of Neurological Surgery are excited by these accomplishments," Park said. "It is a outstanding achievement in research." Dowdy and co-vincent at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is currently serving as the Department Chair of Neurology and as the Director of the Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award Program at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

Park's research focuses on the development of new technologies to deliver drugs, including small molecules and biologics, to the brain. His team has developed a novel method to deliver proteins into the brain using a modified form of the enzyme beta-galactosidase. This method has been shown to be effective in animal models of neurological diseases, including stroke, neurodegenerative disorders, and infections.

"This award will allow us to pursue these studies and improve the lives of children with this disease," Park said.

DeBaun also has been named the Michael D. DeBaun Professor and head of the Department of Pediatrics, Washington University School of Medicine. He has been involved in the development of new treatments for stroke and spinal cord injury.

"We hope these new findings in this beautiful field will allow us to use the new technology to determine whether proteins can enter the brain and whether they can serve as therapeutic agents," Park said.

DeBaun has been a leader in the field of pediatric neurology and has made significant contributions to the understanding of stroke in children. He has been a prominent researcher in the field of stroke prevention and has received numerous awards for his work.

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Novelist Elizabeth McCracken will read from her works for the Creative Writing Program Reading Series. 3 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 23. The reading, in Huson Lounge, Room 201 Duderstadt Hall, is sponsored by the writing program. Reading in Arts and Sciences.

"I think Elizabeth is clearly one of the best young writers out there today," says Klimasewski, assistant professor of English. "She is smart, funny and unconventionally compelling—thinking about the darker corners of love."

McCracken is the author of "Here's Your Hat That's Your Hussy: Stories" (1995) and the novel "The Giant's House" (1996), which was nominated for a National Book Award. Granta Magazine recently named her one of the Best Young American Novelists, and she also received the Barnes & Noble Discover Award and the American Academy of Arts and Letters' Harold Varmaz Award. "Here's Your Hat!" was named a Notable Book by the American Library Association.

Born in Boston, McCracken earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Boston University, a master's degree from the University of Iowa and a master's degree in library science from Drexel University, Philadelphia. She has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim Foundation and the Mellon Foundation, among others.

M ichaela Stowisch, 2003 Oscar Award-winning actor James Naughton, will bring his unique artistry and musical talent to Edward Theatre for a special one-night-only OVATIONS! Series performance of "Street of Dreams," his acclaimed cabaret-style show, at 8 p.m., Oct. 2. In "Street of Dreams," which Naughton wrote, directed and starred in, he portrays multiple characters, including musician Mike Nichols, the singer takes his audience back through each wave -nicholas' musical and dramatic expertise to ballads, tangos, country and show tunes. Backed by a five-piece jazz band, Naughton brings cool wit, a warm presence and his impeccable caricature to classic works by Billy Eckstein, Elvis Presley, Duke Ellington, Randy Newman and others. At the same time, Naughton sprinkles his performance with a colorful series of tales from his lifetime in show business.

Naughton has won widespread critical acclaim for his work in television and film, as well as on television and film, and as well as in television and film. He has won two Tony Awards for Best Actor in a Musical, for his portrayal of media-savvy lawyer Billy Flynn in the hit musical "Chicago" (1997) and for his role as a film-noir detective in "City of Angels" (1990), for which he also won a Drama Desk Award. A graduate of Brown University and the Yale School of Drama, Naughton made his New York debut as Edmund in Arvin Brown's production of "Long Day's Journey into Night.

His other Broadway credits include "Four Baboons Adoring the Sun," "11 My Wife" and "A Streetcar Named Desire." James Naughton has appeared in E.L. Doctorow's "Drinks Before Dinnertime.

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Art historian Linda Nochlin to speak at Assembly Series

Pioneering feminist art historian Linda Nochlin will deliver an Assembly Series lecture at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 29, in Graham Chapel. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Nochlin is the Lila Acheson Wallace Professor of Modern Art and the founder of the women’s art movement in the United States. Nochlin has written extensively about the history of women and art, and her work has been influential in promoting the concept of feminist art history.

Nochlin earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Vassar College in 1961 and a doctorate in art history from New York University’s Institute of Fine Arts in 1963. She has also been a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, and Columbia University.

The lecture, titled “Work, Families, Public Policy and the Importance of Understanding Gender and Social Class,” will be followed by a half-hour discussion period. The room is provided courtesy of the George Warren Brown School of Social Work.

The workshops are:

- Nov. 2: Donna Ginther, Ph.D., professor of economics in Arts and Sciences, Washington University.
- Nov. 13: Arlene Stiffman, Ph.D., associate professor of economics.
- Nov. 19: Robert Pollak, Ph.D., the Edward L. Ryerson Professor of Economics, associate professor of economics.
- Nov. 22: Daniel Hamermesh, Ph.D., professor of economics at the University of Texas at Austin.

All seminars are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Pollok at 935-4918 or gribb.ju@wustl.edu.

Robert L. Pierce, Ph.D. (right), associate professor of social work, discusses the basics of Japanese welfare policy with visitors from Japanese social service agencies and government ministries Sept. 14.

Visitors

Japanese officials explore child abuse issues here

T he delegation was enthusiastic in its efforts to better understand American programs dealing with such issues as parental rights, juvenile courts, battered women, child abuse and neglect.

Their primary interest was the criteria and procedures for separating parents and children provided to parents after such separations.

“Who Does the Housework in America”

The workshop series geared to social workers

Providing practical tips to professionals working in the social services arena is the goal of a series of five half-day continuing education workshops offered this fall by the George Warren Brown School of Social Work.

The workshops are:

- Oct. 11: Anne Winkler, Ph.D., associate professor of economics at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.
- Nov. 5: Mark Rank, Ph.D., professor of social work, Washington University.
- Nov. 12: Doris Harris, Ph.D., on the “Work, Families, Public Policy and the Importance of Understanding Gender and Social Class” seminar.
- Nov. 15: Arlene Stiffman, Ph.D., associate professor of economics, and Robert Pollak, Ph.D., the Edward L. Ryerson Professor of Economics, assistant professor of economics.

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Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, Inc.

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Hands-on Undergraduate Research Experience — from page 1

Kohl: “A good number of them do, leading to continued benefits for both students and faculty. "There have been and are HHMI fellows who are broadly outstanding and do spectacular work," Kohl went on. "There is a modest amount of danger that students get so much satisfaction from their laboratory work and become so drawn to it that they shortchange their other classes. I have to stress to them that they need to appreciate the benefits of a well-rounded education because, as good as they are in the laboratory, they may well be doing the best work of their lives."

In all, $131,800 was budgeted to the program this summer, which Kohl estimated provided approximately $70,000. The approximately 600 HHMI students and other grant money.

To qualify for a HHMI fellowship, students must already have served a mentorship period with a Washington University faculty member. To find a mentor, students often go through Kohl, who's been a biology faculty member for more than 35 years. Since well before the HHMI summer program, Kohl has served as "matchmaker" for students and Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences faculty.

At the beginning of each semester, Kohl meets with students to explain research options, ranging from work-study opportunities to the Hughes summer program. He makes them aware of information posted on the departmental Web site where faculty post potential work opportunities, and he has built a vast network of contacts with the 300 or so members of the division.

Often, students come to Kohl when they are trying to explain their special interests and inquire about how to find a mentor working in that particular area. My main virtue is that I've lived around here for a while and I'm not shy about calling them. If a student has a notion of what she wants to do, I don't have a name at my fingertips, I know people who do. There's never been a student who's come to me wanting a research setting and who's not gotten one. That says a lot about the willingness of our faculty on both campuses to help out."

Danny Kohl

The experiences have led to co-authorship of papers with a number of students and other grant and fellowship awards. Along with the work of Professor Stow, Kohl has been a mentor to Edythe Byrde, a senior from Odyssey, Tex. Along with post-doctoral researcher Yukiko Yamauchi, Ph.D., Ho and Park designed a series of experiments to learn more about plant gene expression. Yukiko and Park carried out the bench work and discussed developments with each other and Ho.

Jo Hall, who's been a biology instructor at Hughes for the last 15 years, said, "I think it's a wonderful experience, and I think that the Howard Hughes program is a great opportunity for undergraduates to really get a taste of research." She said, "My summer experience helped me to decide to continue with research."

Working with Dr. Ho was always interesting, since he continually provided me with challenges.

Christopher Staples, a sophomore from Martinsville, Va., worked with Hall. As a pre-med student, Staples said he's interested in biology and medicine. "It's been a great opportunity for the care of loved ones with mental illness, they are sometimes overlooked in the treatment of the illness."

David E. Pollio
Dental alumni association bestows annual awards

New A&S department chairs, program directors named

A number of department chairs and program directorships recently have changed hands at the Arts & Sciences. In addition to changes within the U.S. Air Force, Cartwright has maintained a dental practice in his hometown of Cabool, Mo., for many years. He also has been on the Advisory Board of the State Board of Dental Examiners and a fellow of the American College of Dentists, the Academy of Dentistry and the International Society for Forensic Odontology.

In addition to his professional achievements, Cartwright has served as mayor of Cabool for many years. He also has been involved in the U.S. Air Force, Cartwright has maintained a dental practice in his hometown of Cabool, Mo., for many years. He also has been on the Advisory Board of the State Board of Dental Examiners and a fellow of the American College of Dentists, the Academy of Dentistry and the International Society for Forensic Odontology.

Notables

Music men Jim Russell (left), associate periodicals editor in the Office of Publications, and Steve Givens, assistant to the chancellor, front Nathanael's Creed, the band that led off the music lineup Friday, Sept. 17, at Walk In, Lay Down Theatre (WILD) in Brookings Quadrangle. Russell and Givens serve as directors for the five-piece folk-rock band.

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In addition to his professional achievements, Cartwright has served as mayor of Cabool for many years. He also has been involved in the U.S. Air Force, Cartwright has maintained a dental practice in his hometown of Cabool, Mo., for many years. He also has been on the Advisory Board of the State Board of Dental Examiners and a fellow of the American College of Dentists, the Academy of Dentistry and the International Society for Forensic Odontology.

Notables

Music men Jim Russell (left), associate periodicals editor in the Office of Publications, and Steve Givens, assistant to the chancellor, front Nathanael's Creed, the band that led off the music lineup Friday, Sept. 17, at Walk In, Lay Down Theatre (WILD) in Brookings Quadrangle. Russell and Givens serve as directors for the five-piece folk-rock band.
Taking life and work at full throttle

By Nicole Vines

Bruce A. Kraemer, M.D., thrives on putting people back together

Bruce Kraemer, M.D., associate professor of plastic and reconstructive surgery, discusses treatment for foot ulcers with patient Patricia James.

Bruce Kraemer, M.D., photographed at the Rehabilitation Branch of the Wound Care Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, where he treats patients with pressure sores and diabetic and vascular wounds. Currently, he is researching growth factors in pressure sores. At the center, he works diligently with the nurses and staff not only to heal wounds but also to educate patients. "We've faced with trying to get patients to modify behavior as well as their expectations," he said. "It's a day by day. You take the dressings off a wound, and people expect immediate and perfect results. We try to help people have realistic expectations."

"Bruce has developed a reputation as the guy to go to for difficult surgical challenges in the area of reconstructive surgery," Thomas Mustoe, professor and chief of the division of plastic and reconstructive surgery at Washington University Medical School.

According to Wiersema-Bryant, Kraemer became interested in scuba diving because he believes more research is needed. "The question is, Are we doing things that are beneficial for the patient? I think being a more senior surgeon helps me understand that it's nice to dream the dream, but the patient has to live with it," he said.

Musnique describes Kraemer as having a unique ability to connect to his patients. "He is warm, genuine, and kind. For patients, he is truly one who can empathize," he said.

Laurel Wiersema-Bryant, clinical nurse specialist and nurse practitioner, said a commitment to better patient care is at the heart of Kraemer's work. "When Dr. Kraemer became interested in wound care, she said, "he immersed himself in learning everything he could. He's interested in seeking a higher level of patient care, and because of that he's never satisfied with ordinary results."

"For the past 12 years he has used what once was considered an instrument of quackery — the leech. Despite such associations, Kraemer, who studied the practioner under Harry Bunkle, M.D., at the Ralph K. Davies Medical Center in San Francisco, said leeches are perfect for drawing blood that sometimes accumulates in replanted fingers and toes. Kraemer used leeches to save the fingertip of a 7-year-old St. Louis boy, the patient's finger was cut so close to the tip that he was able to save the arteries back together, but there were no veins for return blood flow. A few days earlier Kraemer had gotten his first batch of leeches, which were still in a bucket in his office. After two weeks of 25 leeches, the boy's fingertip was able to drain itself."

The Kraemers — Beverley, Bruce and Jessica — take time out for a photo at a Colorado dude ranch.