Anthropologist completes first full survey of Missouri’s rock images

Carol Diaz-Granados, Ph.D., finds a collection of Arts and Crafts books

Peruvian plants hold promise for TB drugs

Stuart Kornfeld is appointed to new Farrell Professorship

Stuart A. Kornfeld, M.D., has been chosen to fill the new David C. and Betty Farrell Professorship in Medicine at the School of Medicine, according to Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton and William A. Peck, M.D., executive vice chancellor for medical affairs at Washington University.

Walter Lewis, Ph.D. (front, right), professor of biology in Arts & Sciences, amid Peruvian Aguaruna Indians and field assistants, observes the pressing of plant specimens collected for their medicinal properties. Crouching at left is Gerardo Yepespalma, a graduate student at the University of San Marcos in Peru. Working with researchers and the Aguaruna, Lewis has found that 46 percent of some 1,250 plant extracts from the Peruvian rainforest inhibit the bacterium that causes TB.

Famed psychiatrist Samuel Guze dies

Samuel B. Guze, M.D., the Spencer T. Olin Professor of Psychiatry and former head of psychiatry and vice chancellor for medical affairs at Washington University, died Wednesday, July 19, 2000, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital from a fall complicated by polycythemia vera, a bone marrow disease. He was 76.

One of the most influential psychiatrists in the world, Guze and colleagues sent shock waves through the psychiatric community in the 1950s with their belief in the biological approach. Their ideas moved into the mainstream of the 20th century, psychiatry has been revolutionized, and consistent advocate of clinical epidemiology, Guze’s work also spawned a generation of epidemiologists who would go on to play a critical role in the improvement of mental health care.

Guze’s work also spawned great interest in the genetics of psychiatric disorders. He was among the first to use twin studies as a means of identifying the role of heredity in psychiatric illness. He and his colleagues procured key findings about genetic vulnerability to alcoholism and to other conditions such as schizophrenia and affective disorders. In addition, his research brought widespread recognition of the important role epidemiologic studies should play in psychiatric research.

An internist who switched to psychiatry and focused during times of great change, Peck succeeded Guze as executive vice chancellor in 1989. "Sam Guze was a man ahead of his time," said William A. Peck, M.D., executive vice chancellor for medical affairs at Washington University in St. Louis.

Professorship in Medicine at the School of Medicine, according to Peck, "is the next step in advancing medical research and honored by their support of one of our most outstanding faculty members."

Kornfeld: Faculty member since 1996

Peck: "We thank the Farrells for their generosity, and are pleased to have their names associated with the School of Medicine.

"We are grateful for the commitment to advancing medical research and honored by their support of one of our most outstanding faculty members."

Carol Diaz-Granados, Ph.D., takes a canoe trip tracing of a petroglyph in Gasconade County, west of St. Louis.

"Here’s the surprise: We would find that in targeted medicinal plants — plants being used by indigenous people to treat a specific disease — we would find approximately 50 percent or higher activity. But we will never have anticipated 46 percent activity from a general survey of plants selected as medicinals not used to treat TB," Lewis explained.

Through the technique of bio-directed assayng, Lewis and his fellow researchers identified the amount of reactivity present in each of the samples against various diseases, including diarrhea, leishmaniasis and certain strains of cancer, but the inhibitions against these paled in comparison to the effectiveness of the Peruvian plants against TB. "The results just surpassed us. We didn’t realize the difference until the final results came in," Lewis said.

Lewis presented his research at the 14th Annual Meeting of the Society for Economic Botany, held this summer at the University of South Carolina, Columbia. Results of the analysis are scheduled to be published in the 14th Annual Meeting of the Society for Economic Botany.

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Firm gives University three valuable patents

BY TONY FITZPATRICK

Praxair Inc., of Danbury, Conn., has donated three valuable patents to Washington University in St. Louis to be incorporated into research directed by Milorad Haid, the Laura and William Jess Professor of Engineering at the School of Engineering and Applied Science. Haid, a professor of chemical engineering, and Mashanna Al-Dalhain, Ph.D., an assistant professor of chemical engineering, plan to use the University's Chemical Reaction Engineering Laboratory (CREL) and Al-Dalhain is associate director.

CREL is an international consortium of 20 institutions spanning five continents, all working with multiphase systems, including those used in chemical engineering.

"We're happy that Praxair recognizes our talents, abilities and our international reach with CREL. We're delighted that the technology to come out of this research will be strengthened and broadened," Theodore J. Cicero said.

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Two professors honored for research

Leonard Berg, M.D., and Alan Johnston, Ph.D., who have both given many years of service to the School of Medicine, have received career-crowning honors.

Berg, professor emeritus of neurology and founder and former chairman of the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center, and Johnston, who previously has received five-year $12.4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIDDK) will allow Ley to develop new genetic strategies for treating inherited blood disorders, namely sickle cell disease, beta-thalassemia, and hemophilia.

Mark Johnston, Ph.D., professor of genetics, has received a four-year $1.5 million grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. Johnston will study how certain cells detect glucose and make efficient use of it.

Michael G. Caparon, Ph.D., associate professor of molecular microbiology, has received a second grant to study the flesh-eating bacterium that causes necrotizing fasciitis, the five-year $1.2 million grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) will allow Ley to develop new genetic strategies for treating inherited blood disorders, namely sickle cell disease, beta-thalassemia, and hemophilia.
Olin Library acquires 'Triple Crown Collection' of rare books

By Liane Ott

Washington University's Olin Library has acquired a major collection of rare Arts and Crafts-era books and related ephemera. The aptly named "Triple Crown Collection" includes 130 volumes purchased through the Kelmscott, Doves and Ashendene presses. Combined with the University's existing holdings, the collection represents virtually the complete published output of the three presses, which together make up the entire canon of fine bookmaking in England between 1890 and 1920.

"The acquisition of this collection marks a major step, but we've only just started looking into a new dimension," said Shirley K. Baker, dean of Libraries and University Librarian. "This purchase will help us expand our holdings to include rare and unique works not covered in our current collection.

In addition to printed books, the collection includes hundreds of supplementary items documenting both the artistic and business processes behind many of the volumes' creation. These range from proofs and correspondence to inscribed sketches by Kelmscott founder and chief designer William Morris and even original woodcut proofs featuring red, hand-lettered text. The collection was purchased through the Olin Library's Special Collections.

The Triple Crown collection includes a fragment of 16 leaves from the Kelmscott, Doves and Ashendene presses, including one of the masterpieces of fine press bookmaking. Related correspondence to inscribed volumes and proofs will allow students to study the volume's creation. These will be available for instruction.

Immediately following Convocation, students will form groups with the Chancellor's procession to the Quad and enjoy some ice cream.

The focus shifts Aug. 25, as an array of departmental open houses and dean's meetings are slated from 1 to 4 p.m., giving students an opportunity to meet with representatives from the faculties and learn more about the curriculum.

Aug. 26 will feature the annual "Jazz, BBQ and Fun" hunkshen from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. While picnicking, students and their families will cheer on the nationally ranked football Bears, who will scrimmage against Millikin University.

Later that day, the doors to the residential colleges will open for a reception in which students and parents can meet and socialize with other residents.

Highlighting the evening is "Choices 101: An Introduction to the First Year Experience"—a light-hearted presentation and entertainment event that will welcome the entire class to Convocation, held at 7:30 p.m. at the Athletic Complex. Also addressing the class will be Lee Epstein, Ph.D., the Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished Professor of Political Science; senior student representative Punak Shrestha; and Patricia Klaus, co-chair of the Parent's Council.

President O'Shea and a movie sponsored by the Association of Black Students will conclude with the Chancellor's procession through the Quad and enjoy some ice cream.

The University was alerted to the collection's availability by a book collector and member of the library's National Council. The purchase was made possible in part by the University's Philip Mills Arnold Endowment Fund and by the generosity of an anonymous donor.

The Arts and Crafts movement began in England in the late 19th century, inspired by the social concerns of artists and writers like Walter Crane and John Ruskin. The movement, which would later have a lasting influence on 20th-century art, architecture and design, is known for its functional, practical design that made everyday objects beautiful, well-crafted objects that would both benefit people and provide employment for skilled artisans.

William Morris, the movement's most influential figure, founded the Kelmscott Press in 1891, in response to the poor-quality products that often resulted from mechanized printing processes. He sought to use carefully crafted papers, handset type, fine illustrations and sturdy, attractive bindings. Kelmscott was soon joined by Ashendene Press in 1894 and Doves Press in 1898.

Richard W. Davis, Ph.D., professor of history at the Center for the History of Philosophy, Reasoning and Culture, says the Kelmscott collection "represents a very important cultural phenomenon. Much of its aesthetic, moral and political implications as well as its impact as an intellectual center is useful for understanding the tastes and attitudes of William Morris and about how his design and cultural ideas have been extended into contemporary and political implications as well."

The Triple Crown purchase comes one year after the University's acquisition of "The English Bible" (1890-1903), designed by T.J. Cobden-Sanderson and published by the Doves Press. The five-volume set is considered one of the masterpieces of fine press bookmaking. Related manuscripts and exhibition "proof" pages featuring red, hand-lettered text from the work of artist Edward Burne-Jones. "Song of Solomon," published by the Ashendene Press with hand-drawn illuminations throughout the text by Florence Kingdale. The volume is printed on vellum and inscribed by press founder and chief designer St. John Hornby to his brother. "The books are generous, of course, but I think what's most important is that even more valuable is being able to document the process behind their creation," said Anne McCord, head of Olin Libraries' Special Collections.

"Triple Crown Collection" of rare books

By David Moxon

The Triple Crown Collection of rare books is an array of departmental open houses and dean's meetings. The collection is a major acquisition of rare Arts and Crafts-era books and related ephemera purchased through the Kelmscott, Doves and Ashendene presses.

Wednesday, Aug. 17

7:30 a.m. Continuing Medical Education program: "Comprehensive Internal Medicine Review and Simulation Center." Chairs through Aug. 27. Browse books, computer stations, lunch on campus. Registration: call 362-6891.

Thursday, Aug. 24

7:30 a.m. Continuing Medical Education program: "The acquisition of this book is an important cultural phenomenon. Much of its aesthetic, moral and political implications as well as its impact as an intellectual center is useful for understanding the tastes and attitudes of William Morris and about how his design and cultural ideas have been extended into contemporary and political implications as well."

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For students in the Nanos, Spirtas Kraus Studio for the Illustrated Book or the School of Art's graphic design program, for example, it's very helpful to be able to see the designers experimenting with things like different page layouts or typefaces.

Derek First, Ph.D., the William Eliot Smith Professor of History, said the collection "would have an important teaching use; it would bring into the Library Books so beautiful that even the most uninitiated might change direction." But the Russian artist Charles Gould acquired his first Doves book in 1932 and soon expanded his collection to include Kelmscott and then Ashendene works.

Boston Bookseller Inc. of Boston, purchased the collection from Gould in April of this year.

"The acquisition of this collection is no mincing step, but it results in our already huge holdings into a new dimension," said Shirley K. Baker, dean of Libraries and University Librarian. "This purchase will help us expand our holdings to include rare and unique works not covered in our current collection.

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Alumnus Charles Robin is new Edison director

BY LAM OTTEN

Charles Robin has been named managing director of Washington University's Edison Theatre, according to Edward S. Macias, Ph.D., executive vice chancellor and dean of Arts & Sciences. Robin, an alumna of the University, will oversee the theater's annual OVATION SERIES, which will feature nationally and internationally known music, dance, and drama artists.

Robin is a graduate student in anthropology, one of Washington University’s 21 graduate programs. She plans to return to fill the important job of directing Edison Theatre, Macias said. Robin has spent two years working on building Edison's existing strengths in theater, presentation and wide range of interesting programming — while at the same time increasing our ability to program to our central theme: "I know that the entire University community will benefit from Charlie's broad vision," Macias wrote. "With a strong background in both performing arts and business, he has demonstrated a real talent for balancing all kinds of acts, and I know he will do a great job."'

Robin graduated with a minor in music.

Rock images

Researcher completes state’s first full survey

—from page 1

The eastern half of the state, Diaz-Granados said. "This is important because of the heavy activity by Native Americans around both the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, along with the influence from the Middle and South American peoples, as well as the Arctic people from what is now St. Louis."

Charles H. Faulkner, archaeologist at the University of Tennessee, said in a review of Diaz-Granados' work: "The book should be a model for rock art research in the Eastern Woodlands. Diaz-Granados and Duncan's work breaks new ground in style/motif analysis, methodology, and relationship to Native American mythology of these archaeological phenomena."

Archaeologists have typically stayed away from pictographs and petroglyphs, Diaz-Granados observed. "I think this is primarily because they are so hard to date," she said. "But these images are as much a part of the archaeological record as any other artifact."

Typically researchers have determined rock art dates by comparing symbols of objects to the actual artifacts that are found in excavations. Recent advances, by a group in the chemistry department at Texas A&M University, have enabled researchers to extract a small amount of charcoal. Their dates were determined to be around A.D. 1000, which coincides with dates based on the related diagnostic artifacts.

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Kornfeld Appointed to new Farrell Professorship from page 1

Medicine in this manner. It is also a pleasant to have the distinction bestowed on Stuart Kornfeld, one of the world’s great scientists. David C. Evans, chairman and former chief executive officer of the St. Louis Grove Department Stores Co. A member of the University’s Board of Trustees, Kornfeld also has served on the boards of the local council of Boy Scouts of America, the Saint Louis Community Foundation, The Saint Louis Zoo, the Botanical Garden and other organizations. He chaired campaign efforts for the United Way of Greater St. Louis, the Salvation Army and The Arts & Education Commission.

Betty Farrell is a dedicated community volunteer. Among other activities, she helped lead a fund-raising effort for an archaeology project on the University, has been a board member of the St. Louis Art Foundation and has served on a committee for the Missouri Botanical Garden. Kornfeld co-directs the Division of Hematology and is a professor of medicine and of molecular biophysics. He has made groundbreaking discoveries about intracellular movements within cells. Sugar chains act as antennae to other cell-surface attachments that allow proteins to move to their correct destinations the way an address determines where mail is sent. In an early research article, Kornfeld uncovered the structure of many sugar chains involved in forming sugar chains that are linked to the amino acid asparagine. He conducted much of this work in collaboration with his wife, Howard H., professor of medicine and of molecular biology and biophysics.

Stuart Kornfeld is best known for his work on how lysosomal enzymes are routed to lysosomes, structures that serve as garbage disposals. He identified two enzymes that add a specific sugar marker onto lysosomal enzymes. And he determined how the two recognize the enzymes they need to label.

In addition, he is one of the two recipients that recognize the sugar marker on noma- nous enzymes and determined where in the cell this interaction occurs. He also delineated the pathway the receptors take to get to the appropriate metabolic compartment to reach lysosomes.

Kornfeld has described how lysosomal enzymes that fail to be engaged inside cells can be recruited to lysosomes by additional cell-surface receptors. More recently, he has identified other molecular players involved in the process.

Kornfeld has received numerous awards, including the 1991 and the Karl Meyer Award from the Society of Biological Chemists. He is also a co-author of more than 200 scientific papers and a member of honourary societies including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Institute of Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Society of American Physicians. He also has served on several editorial and advisory boards.

Kornfeld received a medical degree from the University in 1962 and joined the faculty here four years later. He became a professor of medicine in 1972 and of biochemistry in 1974. For several years he began co-directing the hematology division of the Medical Scientist Training Program from 1991 to 1997.

guze
Pioneer Medical model of psychiatric illness from page 1

leagues finally received validation of their work by the psychiatric community when they helped create the American Psychiatric Association (APA) DSM III (Fourth) Manual. He immediately became a best seller and is still in print today. With colleagues, he also wrote a textbook for followers of the Watsonian approach. "Psychiatric Diagnosis" was published in 1974 and is considered a classic. In addition to his scientific accomplishments, Guze led the school as vice chancellor for medical education at a time of rapid expansion and changes in the university’s medical research. He was appointed vice chancellor and president of the Washington University Medical Center in 1971, positions he held until 1975 when he was head of the Department of Psychiatry from 1975 to 1977. From 1977 to 1993, he served on the faculty for almost 50 years. He also served as psychiatrist-in-chief at Barnes and St. Louis Children’s hospitals.

Guze, considered an outstanding psychiatric internist and of the most trusted leaders, an intellectual of broad knowledge, a scientific leader of great character and a wonderful friend," said William H. Danforth, M.D., professor of medicine, chancellor emeritus of the university and president of the Board of Trustees, "He has left his mark on the medical profession and on all of us, many colleagues.

In 1938 he was born in New York City, Oct. 18, 1923. He attended the University of Chicago and received his medical degree in 1945. "I lost my best friend, and the medical world will have lost one of the greatest," said M. K. Elkin, M.D., professor emeritus and former dean of the medical school.

Guze published more than 200 scientific papers and several books. He was also the recipient of numerous awards. His most recent honor was received in January when he was awarded the Columbia-Salmon Medal from the New York Academy of Medicine.

"Other awards include the Sarnat Prize in Mental Health from the Institute of the Arts and Sciences; the John Hamilton Medal and the Paul Hoch Award from the American Psychosocial Association; the Distinguished Public Service Award from the Department of Health and Human Services and an Alumni/ Faculty Award from the university’s School of Medicine.

Guze was a member of the Institute of Medicine, Alpha Omega Alpha, Sigma Xi and the Psychiatric Research Society and belonged to various groups, and a fellow of the American College of Physicians, American Psychological Association, the Advancement of Science and Royal College of Psychiatrists. It is said that Guze may be made to the Samuel B. Guze Research Professor of Psychiatry at the School of Medicine, Campux Box 8134, 660 S. Euclid Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63110. The fund has been estab- lished by members of the university’s psychiatrists’ research. Guze’s body was donated to the university and was post-mortem research, and in accordance with his wishes.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. Sept. 10 in Graham Chapel, followed by a reception. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, by Campush Guze, M.D., of St. Louis, by Jonathan D. Guze of Durban, N.C., and a daughter, Jeremy Ann Opitz of Danbury, N.Y. Five grandchildren, colleagues and friends.

Stroke: Lowering systolic pressure reduces incidence of stroke— from page 3

systolic blood pressure goal: a decrease of 20 mm Hg to a systolic blood pressure below 160 mm Hg. Perry and colleagues found that effectively lowering systolic blood pressure reduced the incidence of all strokes, both hemorrhagic and ischemic. There were significantly fewer ischemic strokes among those in the active treatment group than among those in the placebo group. By the time of the study, May 19, 1988, the difference between treatment and placebo groups was not statistically significant.

The decrease in hemorrhagic strokes seemed to occur during the first year of treatment, while the decrease in ischemic strokes did not occur until the second year of treatment. There was no significant difference in the percentage of fatal strokes. Although there were 65 percent more fatal strokes among placebo participants than among active treatment participants, in both groups just under 10 percent of the strokes that did occur were fatal, Perry said.

Perry noted that while the two groups’ nursing home admissions and Activities of Daily Living (ADL) scores were similar, the consistently shorter days of reduced activity, including days in bed, suggested that participants in the active treatment group were able to get about as much when they had a stroke than those in the placebo group.

Employment

Stroke: Lowering systolic pressure reduces incidence of stroke— from page 3

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Mellisa Early Ruiworth has been named coordinator of health and wellness at Washington University, according to Karen Levin Coburn, assistant vice chancellor for students and associate dean for the freshman transition. Ruiworth replaces Melissa Wei, who left the University in May. Ruiworth oversees an office committed to furthering a community that supports every student's well-being, well-being including providing access to programs and services resources designed to enhance their personal health and wellness. Ruiworth will coordinate efforts to involve the campus community in promoting healthy living environments, with the goal of developing lifelong habits that help students achieve their fullest potential.

The University's Alumni and Parents Admission Program from 1994 to 1997, the managed volunteers in the program's network, which recruits and engages outstanding students. "I am delighted that Melissa has returned to Washington University in this important role," Coburn said. "She is full of energy and has superb organizational skills. She's already out there working with students, resident advisors, collegiate college directors, administrators and faculty to promote health and wellness on campus." Ruiworth earned a bachelor's degree in English, graduating with distinction in 1989 from Colby College in Waterville, Maine. At Colby, she had a number of leadership roles, including founder of the group Colby College Alcohol Awareness. She has also been active in the St. Louis and volunteers for the University's Alumni Association.

Robyn Neuhalen appointed APAP director

Robyn Neuhalen has been named assistant director of the Alumni and Parents Admission Program (APAP) according to David T. Blasingame, vice chancellor of Alumni and Development and John A. Berg, associate vice chancellor for undergraduate affairs. Neuhalen, who had served as a preceptor director of the College of Arts and Sciences at Colby, was recently named senior associate director of the program. "We are extremely pleased to have a person of Robyn's stature join APAP," said Blasingame. "She is a key player in the success of APAP, and she brings great enthusiasm and experience to her new responsibilities." In addition to her promotion, Neuhalen will continue to serve as senior assistant director of undergraduate admissions — a position she has held since 1996. Neuhalen also will continue to serve on the admissions committee, chairperson Sally Silvers, a 1969 alumni who sets goals and priorities, and oversees the annual chair conference.

Of note

Rajee Bhagnagar, M.D., Ph.D., recently was awarded the 2000 Koolen-Donk Pharmacology Prize by the Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences (DBBS). This biennial award is given to a graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding achievements in pharmacology. The DBBS also bestowed a 2000 Jackson Award: Laurie O'Brien. The Jackson award is presented to an outstanding female graduate student, in her final year of graduate work, who has focused on the general area of metabolic regulation. Karin Thị Minh, a graduate student in the Program in Physical Therapy, was recently accepted into the Promotion of Doctoral Studies (PDS) program at the University of California at Los Angeles. The $7,500 award is given to post-professional degree students who show high potential for scholarly productivity, clearly outlined career goals and an intent to promote the profession of physical therapy. In addition, Katherine Lang, a physical therapy graduate student, was awarded a Medical Equipment Foundation "Adopt-a-Doc" award from the Neurological Section of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) for her ongoing pursuit of a doctorate degree. John Drobak, J.D., professor of law, has been listed in the 2000 edition of Who's Who Among American Law Students. In addition to her promotion, Neuhalen will continue to serve as senior assistant director of undergraduate admissions — a position she has held since 1996. Neuhalen also will continue to serve on the admissions committee, chairperson Sally Silvers, a 1969 alumni who sets goals and priorities, and oversees the annual chair conference. "We are delighted to have a person of Robyn's stature join APAP," said Blasingame. "She is a key player in the success of APAP, and she brings great enthusiasm and experience to her new responsibilities." In addition to her promotion, Neuhalen will continue to serve as senior assistant director of undergraduate admissions — a position she has held since 1996.

High honors

Steve Ballmer (right), president and chief executive officer of Microsoft Corp., received the School of Engineering and Applied Science's Excellence in Engineering and Technology Award July 13. More than 900 people attended the event in Graham Chapel. The award honors exemplary leadership in transforming innovative ideas in engineering into new products and technologies. "The School of Engineering and Applied Science has accomplished that advance technology and enhance the quality of life," said Dean Christopher J. Wyman, Ph.D. (left), in presenting the award, noting Ballmer's leadership and the company's industry-standard status.

Seligman to chair commission's market advisory committee

Seligman, J.D., dean of the School of Law and the Ethan A. Hillel University Professor, and Joel M. Seligman, chairman of Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) Advisory Committee on Market Information. The federal advisory committee will assist the SEC in evaluating issues related to the public availability of market information in the equities and options markets

Alphonso "Al" Templeton honored for innovative science research

Alan Templeton honored for innovative science research

A John B. Templeton, Ph.D., professor of biology, has been named one of the recipients of the Templeton Prize for the Advancement of Christian Gnostics. Joining a field of 11 prominent scientists honored for their innovative research nationwide, Templeton was awarded a four- year, $200,000 grant by the Washington University's Department of Philosophy. Templeton's research has focused on the role of genes interactions in complex diseases, such as coronary artery disease.

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Among them, Lynn Imergoot, left, Shelly Spiegelman (center) and Susie Silverman have put in 89 years as staff at Camp Starlight in Pennsylvania. Imergoot is the camp’s program director.

Washington People

Passionate coach garner many honors

Lynn Imergoot is staunch advocate for women athletes

By Deb Aronson

B rath, Educated, Passionate. These adjectives— which Lynn Stockman Imergoot uses to describe the late Bella Abzug, one of her heroes—would certainly fit her, too. Even after living in the Midwest for close to 30 years, Imergoot is the first to say she hasn’t lost a bit of her New York accent or her competitive streak. But that competitive streak is tempered by her conviction that it is “important to honor those people who came before you.”

In her 28 years at Washington University, Imergoot, assistant athletic director and women’s tennis coach, has earned her share of honors. She is currently the winningest coach on the campus with 356 victories, and her teams have consistently been ranked among the best in the country. In 1997, the women’s tennis team made it to the NCAA Division III National Tennis Championship for the first time ever.

Imergoot has received numerous awards, including women’s tennis coach of the year from the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD). She also was inducted into the St. Louis Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 1998.

“I’ve lived in St. Louis for more than half my life,” she muses. “I am proud to be a model for other Jewish women. And it was a good feeling to be the first female among a bunch of guys to get the award.”

Imergoot is a staunch advocate for women in athletics.

“To often we forget how things were before our time,” Imergoot said, explaining her efforts to honor women athletes from many years ago. “My players—all of whom were born in the 1980s—don’t know about Billie Jean King and her match against Bobby Riggs, much less Wilma Rudolph and other outstanding female athletes who blazed the trail.”

Recognition

Partly because of this, Imergoot has worked hard to generate recognition for women athletes. She led the effort to establish the University’s endowed G. Werdeleyn Award in 1985. The award honors Draw— a physical education teacher and the first female full professor at Washington University — and recognizes exceptional academic achievement by a male and a female senior varsity athlete.

Imergoot also nominated the late Helen Manley, a leader in the field of health and physical education, for an honorary doctorate from the University, a title that Manley received in 1986.

“The history and development of women in sports is Lynn’s passion,” said John M. Schaef, athletic director. “And that passion goes beyond the Hilltop Campus and includes changes taking place for the national level.”

Imergoot attended the Bronx High School of Science, one of the most competitive high schools in the country. She played many sports, though her passion was handball. “I loved handball, and I’d play against the boys every chance I got,” she recalled. “Until I was 14 or 15, that is, and the boys hit puberty. Then they were just too strong, and I hated to lose.”

At Science she met her first role model, Fran Feuerstein Moskowitz, a graduate of the school herself and Imergoot’s gym teacher.

“In the era I grew up in, girls became either nurses, secretaries or teachers,” Imergoot said. “After meeting Fran, I knew I wanted to be a New York City high school gym teacher.”

At Science she switched to tennis from handball after Moskowitz introduced her to an indoor version. Imergoot continued to play tennis in college on the varsity team. In 1978, after receiving a master’s degree from the University of Illinois, Imergoot became a physical education teacher and coach at White Plains (New York) High School. In 1972, she saw an advertisement for the Washington University position.

“I had cousins in St. Louis I had become friendly with, and I thought, here’s a chance to take a free trip out to see them!” she remembers with a laugh.

By the end of the visit, Imergoot had accepted the position and met Michael Imergoot, who was a graduate assistant at the physical education department and a baseball player. They married for two children, Douglas and Alexis.

Imergoot also recently became a grandmother when her daughter gave birth in June to Tamia Alexis Harris.

“I delayed going to camp [Imergoot has worked at various summer camps for 31 years] for the first time in my life to be here for her birth,” said Imergoot, who also has both of her own pregnancies around her coaching and camp schedules.

A good fit

The University was a good fit for Lynn. “Washington University is an academic campus.” And it was a good fit for Imergoot herself. “My work is my play.”

Hobbies

“I truly believe faculty are the most important people here,” she said. “And I think it’s a shame we forget how to get along with others. How to manage your time, how to get along with people and be part of a team, and how to rebound after being down in a match to come out victorious. I hate to be viewed as a nonacademic person on an academic campus.”

In fact, much of what Imergoot does, beyond coaching tennis, is scholarship. She co-edits a journal of the Missouri Association of Health and Physical Education Recreation and Dance and has written articles for a wide variety of professional journals, as well as the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the Jewish Light.

Haywood noted that when Imergoot received the AAsPERD Central District Scholar Award, it was the first time someone was honored who wasn’t required to do scholarly work as part of her job.

“That is the mark of a true scholar,” said Haywood, “that Lynn would do all this scholarship on an essentially volunteer basis. Lynn is the kind of person you’d want on your side. She has the energy of two people. She is very intelligent and is passionate about many causes, particularly those relating to the importance of equal opportunities for women in sports.”

Imergoot is a masterful fundraiser, having raised more than $480,000 over nine years for the tennis program. She also has worked for 25 years at Camp Starlight in Pennsylvania. “I don’t think I’d be a passion just coaching tennis,” said Imergoot, who also is working toward a doctorate at MSU in physical education and leadership.

Imergoot claims to have been a rebel only as she got older, but she relates telling a story of writing for the late Bella Abzug in 1972.

“I absolutely couldn’t vote for Nixon or McGovern, so I stood in

“The history and development of women in sports is Lynn’s passion. And that passion goes beyond the Hilltop Campus and includes changes taking place at the national level.”

John M. Schaef

Lynn Stockman Imergoot

Born and raised in New York

Family: Daughter, Jennifer, 19, University of Missouri; St. Louis; son, Douglas, 22, graduated from Indiana University; granddaughter, Tamia Alexis Harris

Education: B.A., Lehman (Hunter) College, New York; M.S., Education, University of Pennsylvania. “I was a part-time student,” said Imergoot. “I planned both my own education; certificate in writing for all those in the athletics department—ment (Imergoot has worked at various summers camps for 31 years) for the first time in my life to be here for her birth,” said Imergoot, who also has both of her own pregnancies around her coaching and camp schedules.

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line over two hours to get a write-in ballot. I exercised my right to vote and was proud of it.”

Imergoot went on to talk about meeting Abzug years later at a Democratic national convention in Puerto Rico, and telling her about her vote. Abzug thanked Imergoot and then joined her in a game of blackjack.

In a memorial tribute to Abzug, Schaef wrote: “Abzug pushed women out of their comfort zones — and when it was time for those of us who consider ourselves feminists, she never did have an easy go at things, and her personality could certainly be considered abrasive, but she spoke up for what she believed in and was always true to her beliefs. If you didn’t agree with her views, that was okay, but you always knew where she stood on issues.”

The same could be said of Imergoot.