Chancellor appoints committee to find, recommend candidates

A search committee to identify candidates for the position of executive vice chancellor for medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine has been appointed by Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

William A. Peck, M.D., who has led the University's medical enterprises since 1989, announced his plans to conclude his tenure effective June 30, 2003. At that time, Peck plans to continue his association with the University as professor of medicine.

The 14-member search committee will be chaired by Richard H. Geberman, M.D., the Fred C. Reynolds Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and head of that department.

"Bill Peck is without a doubt one of the most effective leaders in the history of American medical education, and his tenure as dean and executive vice chancellor reflects exceptionally well by all measures on what is one of the finest medical schools in the world," Washington University Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. "Finding his successor will be a challenge for the University, but I believe that the search committee's advice and support will be vital factors in recommending outstanding candidates."

I am delighted that Bill will continue his distinguished contributions as one of our most outstanding faculty members," Peck said. "Although I will conclude my role as dean and executive vice chancellor more than a year and a half in the future, I believe that the momentum of the School of Medicine requires that I give ample opportunity to this great institution to locate a successor who will continue to enhance our clinical, teaching and research successes. In the meantime, I will continue fully engaged in my current responsibilities.

The work of the committee will be done in two phases. First, the committee will consider the issues facing the School of Medicine, determine the characteristics needed for successful candidates, and define the characteristics of leadership of the school.

This phase of the work will be accomplished by Jan. 31, 2002, and the chair of the committee will make an interim report to the chancellor and the executive faculty of the School of Medicine.

The second phase of the committee's work will commence after the interim report and successors are identified.

Physical, mental health stressed after Sept. 11

Since the events of Sept. 11, much of America has been concerned about the possibility of multiple attacks, including biological terrorism.

People are wondering what they can do to protect themselves and their families from anthrax and other forms of terrorism.

"Many people will have a natural inclination, if they develop a fever, muscle aches, fatigue and/or cough, that they have anthrax," Reitman said. "Symptoms may actually be due to a common virus like cold or flu."

People in the University community want to consider getting a flu shot, particularly if they are over the age of 65, have a chronic illness or have respiratory problems.

Other activities, such as exercising, eating well and getting enough sleep, can help keep people healthy and can also be very effective in dealing with anxiety. This is a worry that is currently facing Reitman.

Reitman said. "If people find that they are watching too much television, reading the reports that neglect other daily activities and don't get enough sleep, that can be unhealthy." She said. "Anyone having problems sleeping as a result of terrorism concerns should see a health-care professional.

People worried about influenza, there are a limited number of vaccines available on the Hilltop Campus at the Student Health and Counseling Service.

Children's brain images lend insights

The ability to image healthy children, too, according to Schlaggar, is something that would be beneficial for scientists studying brain development and for pediatricians.

"This should be beneficial for scientists studying brain development and for pediatricians. Children, too, according to Schlaggar, are developmentally a little behind adults, and that kids' brain scans may readily as adults. We found that kids' brain scans was more of an empirical question: Can you image kids as freely as adults? We found that yes, we can."

University of Washington in St. Louis

100 hours of lacrosse: Juniors Elliot Stephenson (left) and Bob Dudley get in a little practice time during their shift of the club lacrosse team's fund-raiser. Team members, working in shifts of at least two, played lacrosse for 100 straight hours Nov. 5-9 between Graham Chapel and Olin Library to raise money for their spring break trip, during which they will play a series of games in the southern United States. The club team, now in its fourth year, competes in the U.S. Lacrosse Intercollegiate Associates conference, which consists of 129 teams nationwide from NCAA divisions I, II and III. The sport is gaining popularity, and the University's team has grown to more than 30 members since its inception.

Facility Resource Directory being compiled

The Faculty Resource Directory that will list faculty members, their areas of academic specialty and their offices.

The goal of the directory is to create a resource that will help RAAs and RCDs identify faculty members who are willing to lend their talents to enhance a wide array of programs in the residential colleges, said KJ Holmes, RCD of Koemig and Iggot residence halls and chair of the Academic Success Committee.

Holtman said he is hoping the directory will be released in January. "The Faculty Resource Directory will facilitate student-faculty interaction and help create a more open community between faculty and students," Holtman said. "It communicates to the faculty that we in residential life want to support academics in and out of the classroom. It also helps us pinpoint faculty members who are interested in coming to the South 40 and Northwest Territory — Lopata House/Small Group Housing and Millbrook Apart- ment — for programs.

Raj Persaud, director of faculty reception hosted by the Academic Success Committee at 4:30 p.m. Nov. 28 at the Fireside lounge in Olin's Cafe on the South 40.

The reception will be a way for interested faculty members to meet the student representatives of the Academic Success Committee and learn more about how the South 40 is working to integrate academic and residential living.

Faculty members also will be given an opportunity to include their information in the Faculty Resource Directory. After the reception, students will be leading tours of programming and classroom spaces available on the South 40.

Contact KJ Holmes — 933-8294 or rholtman@wustl.edu — to make a reservation.

Faculty reception Nov. 28 to learn more
Members of the University community file into Lopata Gallery for a recent Cheap Lunch, a weekly event organized by En Council, the School of Engineering and Applied Science's student council. Cheap Lunch won the "Best Event" award at the 2001 National Association of Engineering Student Councils national conference.

En Council receives top national award

By Tom Fitzpatrick

"Council, the School of Engineering and Applied Science's student council, received the Best Engineering Student Council Award at the 2001 National Association of Engineering Student Councils (NAESC), have the most article submissions to the NAESC Magazine, and invite schools from across the nation to Vertigo, our massive annual dance party," said Jonathan Wetherbee, president. "We are increasing our ties with other organizations on campus in order to continue providing unique and successful events that impact the lives of the engineering students." Wetherbee, a founding member of En Council, said that the council is a whole worked exceedingly hard on all of our events, currently over 40 different events and growing.

"Each year, NAESC presents certain awards to councils. Last year, we did not win any awards. This year, En Council received a lot of national recognition. In an organization that has approximately 60,000 members each school year, to earn an honorable mention is quite an accomplishment."

Washington University's En Council also received three honorable mentions in the Most Unique Council, Best Web Site and Best Photos categories. The University's En Council sent seven delegates to the national conference for engineering student councils. These conferences are set up in conjunction with the NAESC and are used for members of engineering student councils to meet people from similar organizations from other schools. The connections are used for idea-sharing with the idea of council improvement.

Now that we have the title, En Council will be working even harder to earn it again next year," said Phil Kirschner, En Council president. "We are increasing our ties with other organizations on campus in order to continue providing unique and successful events that impact the lives of the engineering students, the University family as a whole, and the community outside of our school."

One unique and successful event is Cheap Lunch, held every Wednesday during the semester in Lopata Gallery from 11 a.m. until the pizza runs out. It has been run for more than 10 years and has maintained much the same prices for the past seven years, according to Rachel Nordgren, fall 2001 Cheap Lunch chair.

"Cheap Lunch is run simply as a student service," Nordgren said. "Some weeks we lose money, and any money that is made is used for special events such as Valentine's Day, Halloween, snow days and so on. It's open to everyone, and we've diversified the attendance a lot over the last year after we had it outside." The standard price for two slices of pizza, chips, cookies and soda is $2.50 for extra dollars, you get two more slices of pizza, Nordgren said.

En Council has a contract with the Papa John's restaurant at the corner of De Baliviere Avenue and Waterman Boulevard for the pizza. Cheap Lunch will start again in January, after winter break is over. "Cheap Lunch has become more than just an event; it's a community of devoted patrons and staff, who come together every week to socialize, work, and — obviously — eat," Kirschner said.

"Now entering its fifth year, the Cheap Lunch program strives to perform music from the 17th and 18th centuries in a historically accurate manner. Singers cultivate an entrepreneurial academic project in which students will design and operate the manufacturing of 50 housing units in Rhode Island.

Burns' research on professionals in Rhode Island has been published in various anthologies, including "Reflections on Architectural Practices in the Nineteenth Century," the Journal of Architecture and Planning Research, and the Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians. Her drawings and writings on the physical site as a factor in architectural design and thinking have been published in Landscape Architecture and the Journal of Architecture and Planning Research, among others, and are on display in "Drawing/Building/Text" and "Thinking the Present." Burns studied at Bryn Mawr College and earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Yale University in architecture.

For more information, call 935-6441.
Device to boost heart's electric signal tested in two studies

By Gill Z. Rechits

A new heart-assist device being tested by School of Medicine researchers may help patients with moderate cardiac failure to function temporarily without a full-tilt life-threatening heart rhythm problem.

In rough one-third of patients with congestive heart failure, the sinus and atrioventricular nodes are functioning well, but two of the three sub-chambers of the heart, the right side relative to the left, are not coordinated. The device's purpose is to simultaneously deliver the electric signals necessary to help the heart function more efficiently and effectively.

As a result, the electric signal fails to reach the right and left lower chambers at the same time. When the two sides of the heart are not synchronized, mechanical energy left over is used for no purpose, Johnston said.

"These clinical trials will allow us to determine which patients will benefit most so that we can further target the therapy," Gregory A. Ewald, Ph.D., professor of genetics and the work of many people," Johnston said. "We are looking at the DNA sequences that regulate genes for more insight that can be used to improve the risk profile in patients who otherwise may be at an increased risk for coronary artery disease," Moon said.

"It isn't something I would recommend because there are other ways to lower risk, such as changing your diet, staying away from cigarettes, getting more exercise and controlling blood pressure," Moon said.

"We already have implanted biventricular pacemakers in about 50 patients," Ewald said. "Some have had a dramatically positive response, many have had an improvement in symptoms. In some patients, it may even remove the need for more drastic procedures in the future, such as heart transplant or implantation of a ventricular-assist device."

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Several of the School's medical students are also participating in the clinical trials, including the center's director, Gregory A. Ewald, Ph.D., professor of genetics and medicine.

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With dedication, deliberate violin; Hank Dutt, viola; and Harrington, violin; John Sherba, live performance. The first with a handful of new works that OVATIONS! Series. Hendrix, Buddy Holly or mixing new works by such avant-string quartet's stuffy image, employs an electronic soundtrack (David Harrington's son), which "Requiem for Adam" (composed 1973, the Kronos Quartet is 6 p.m. Japanese Film Series. Monday, Nov. 19 6 p.m. Near Eastern Film Series. Monday, Nov. 26 6 p.m. Chinese Film Series. "Max Weber In America and Other Banquet." Room 219 Ridgley Hall. Through Nov. 30. Werner Gephart, Fulbright activities taking place at Washington University. For expanded calendars for the School of Medicine (medschool.wustl.edu/events/). The Universe at Midnight* Bringing Home the Bacon* DNA Repair The two performances find the arrangements and new works by god and father of Zeus, Kronos has emerged over the last three decades as the most influential new music ensemble of our time. Kronos has released nearly 30 albums and numerous international awards, including three Edison Awards (1989), which earned composer Terry Riley nominations for Best Classical Contemporary Chamber Music Performance; Early Music America Awards for Adventurous Programming (United States); the Australian Broadcasting Con- string quartets (1998), which received nominations for Best Classical Album and Best "Dances For Peace" (1989), for which composer Terry Riley received a nomination for Best Classical ContemporaryComposition; and "Different Trains" (1988), which earned composer Steve Reich a Grammy for Best Classical Contemporary Composition. Tickets are $25 and are available at Edison Theatre Box Office, 935-6543, and through all MetroTix outlets, 534-1111. For more information about the Kronos Quartet or any other performing master class, call 935-6543.
**Volleyball wins 3; quarterfinals next**

The Bears, ranked third nationally, advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Tournament by winning 3-0 at 30-27, 25-30, 30-21 in three straight days defending national champion Central College (Iowa) in the Central Regional championship match Nov. 10 at the Field House. The win moved them into the quarterfinals for the 14th time in 15 tournaments. The Bears will face top-ranked University of Wisconsin-Whitewater at 1 p.m. Saturday.

**Women's cross-country qualifies for NCAAs**

The women's cross-country team qualified for the NCAA Championships for the second consecutive season with a third-place finish at the NCAA Midwest Regional Championships Nov. 10 at Augustana College in Rock Island, Ill. The Bears finished with 140 points. Sophomore Emily Lashbrook crossed the line in fourth place with a time of 24:34 on the five-kilometer course. Fellow sophomore Mandy Kohl was 13th in 18:14, and Melanie Mielke was 25th at 18:40. The NCAA Championships meet will be held on the same course in Rock Island Nov. 17. The Bears finished 18th in their first-ever NCAA women's cross-country meet.

The men's team, ranked 24th nationally, finished in ninth place with 253 points, four spots shy of qualifying for the NCAA meet. Senior Pat MacDonald was the top finisher (22nd) for the Bears, as he qualified for the NCAA cross-country meet for the second time.

**Swimming & diving travels to Kirkville**

The swimming and diving team traveled to Kirkville, Mo., to compete in the Truman State Invitational Nov. 10-11. The women's team posted a 9-0 record while the men's team was 0-4, as the Bears swam against eight of the top teams in Division II.

**Football doesn't get NCAA playoff berth**

Despite finishing with an 8-2 record and winning its second straight Big Eight Conference title in three years, the football team didn't receive an invitation to the NCAA Division III Playoffs, announced Monday Nov. 11. The Bears won eight games for just the fourth time in school history and also extended their school-record streak of winning seasons to nine.

**Tuesday, Nov. 27**


**Wednesday, Nov. 28**


**Sunday, Dec. 2**

8 p.m. Acoustic City Concert Series. Peter Murphy and K.D. Lang, acoustic/mixed genre with a uniquely virtuosic cellist. Cost: $30 in advance, $20 at door for WU students, faculty and staff. Info: 935-1756.

**And more...**

**Monday, Nov. 12**

8 a.m. STARS Future Career and Clinical Practicum. Sponsored by St. Louis STARS Training Team (principal investigator: Dr. B. J. Evans, R.N.C., M.S.). Room 475, Missouri Medical Medical Sciences Bldg. 935-9554.

**Tuesday, Nov. 20**

11 a.m. Free lunch. CellStar. Room 712, Missouri Medical Sciences Bldg. 935-9554.

**Thursday, Nov. 29**

Noon. Catholic Mass. Dining Hall, St. Louis Campus, St. Louis. 935-9191.

**Friday, Nov. 30**

11 a.m. Free lunch. CellStar. Room 712, Missouri Medical Sciences Bldg. 935-9554.

**Saturday, Dec. 1**

9 a.m. The Bears' basketball McDaniel Classics Tournament. Cost: $9 for students, $12 for faculty, students and staff. Info: 935-6200.
Bill Peck is not without one of the most effective leaders in the history of American medical education, and his tenure as dean and executive vice chancellor reflects exceptionally well by all measures on what is one of the finest medical schools in the world.

Max S. Wrighton
Department of Biostatistics and Department of Emerging Pathogens Institute

Bill A. Peck, M.D., joined the Washington University faculty in 1976 as the John E. and Ada C. Black Professor of Medicine, co-chair of the Department of Medicine and physician-in-chief of Jewish Hospital. In 1989, Peck was appointed vice chancellor of medical affairs, dean of the School of Medicine and president of the Washington University Medical Center. He was named the University’s executive vice chancellor for medical affairs in 1993.

During the dozen years of his leadership, the School of Medicine has emerged as the most selective medical school in the nation, as well as being ranked nationally by U.S. News and World Report. Ten of the school’s programs and departments are ranked by U.S. News among the top 10 in the nation.

Many of the clinical and research faculty are recognized not only locally and nationally for excellence in their medical fields. In fact, the School of Medicine has increased dramatically, and today the University of Washington’s School of Medicine ranks third in National Institutes of Health (NIH) extramural research funds made to U.S. medical schools. Tightly linked with the School of Medicine’s School of Public Health, the University’s School of Medicine in 2000-01 was more than $4 million in research and development and private sources.

The unique strengths of the national and international leadership in several of these new institutions.

In the first abstract, brain images from children and adults matched for performance looked similar overall, but there were specific differences. Some regions, such as the left frontal cortex, were active toward the front of the brain, were active only in adults, while other regions, such as those involved in vision, were more active in children. This implies that children and adults use different strategies to perform the same task.

In the second abstract, Timm Hannula, first author of a study with Schlaggar’s team, reported a functional difference between the two groups. In fact, children required to speak aloud while being scanned. This was more related by a second strategy the team employed, a newly developed method of analyzing imaging results called event-related FMRI, developed in part by researchers at the University of Washington during an FMRI study. Participants repeat a task, such as speaking, and out of the entire set of repetitions are averaged together to produce an image of brain activity during the set of repetitions will cloud the final result of speaking tasks rarely used. Schlaggar’s team used event-related FMRI to analyze such repetition individually. They reasoned that head movements while speaking occur before the brain activity changes register on an FMRI image. In event-related design, the researchers believe that the brain could not be confused while performing the task. Speaking requires significant head movement, speaking tasks rarely used.

Schlaggar’s team found that the new strategies endowed in fact yield clear images sufficient for studying activation patterns. In their abstract, they highlight several of these new methods used.

"We’re still trying to identify where the boundaries are between functional areas of the brain," Schlaggar said. "Tim’s study is a step forward in identifying regions and how they are used, which we can use developmental relationships to help clarify the organization of the brain."

Another problem that has prevented FMRI from being used to its fullest potential is the fact that brain shape and variability are too great across individuals to be directly compared with adults. In the third abstract, H.S.C. Kang, also a graduate student on Schlaggar’s team, found that most brain regions are only a few millimeters apart. This difference is too small to be measurable when imaging the comparable populations.

"Once you adjust for these differences, you can find a way to optimize the strategies to address them, you can make the scanner so stable and get stable, consistent, reliable results that will help us understand what’s really going on in children," Schlaggar said. "But most important is to understand how a child’s brain responds to trauma and disease so we can help pediatric neurology patients recover as much function as possible."
Introducing new faculty members

The following are among the new faculty members on our Campus. Others will be introduced periodically in this space.

Lara Bovilsky, Ph.D., joins the Department of English in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. She earned her doctorate from Brown University in 1995 and a doctorate from Duke University in 2001. Her teaching and research interests include 16th- and 17th-century poetry, criticism, culture, gender and sexuality, and early modern colonialism. She also has taught in questions of curriculum and helped redesign the graduate teaching sequence at Duke.

Erin McGlothlin, Ph.D., joins the Department of Germanic Languages & Literatures in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. She earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Texas in 1993 and a master’s degree in 1996 and a doctorate in 2001, both from the University of Virginia. Her research interests include literature of the Holocaust, women’s literature, autobiography, theater, and 18th- and 19th-century literature.

Margaret G. Garb, Ph.D., joins the Department of History in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. She earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Vermont in 1985, a master’s degree from the University of California, San Diego, in 1991 and a doctorate from Columbia University in 2001. Her research interests include housing, urban community and American cities, especially Chicago and New York. She is a regular news and community contributor for the Real Estate section of The Chicago Tribune and a former police reporter for the Chicago Sun-Times and a New York police officer.

Satadru Sen, Ph.D., joins the Department of History in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. He earned a bachelor’s degree in 1991 and master’s degree in 1993 from the University of California, Berkeley, and a doctorate in 1998 from the University of Washington. Formerly an assistant professor at Purdue University, his research interests include colonial discipline and punishment regimes and their impact on gender and social disruption over time.

Andrew Mertha, Ph.D., joins the Department of Political Science in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. He earned his bachelor’s degree in 1987 and master’s degrees in political science and in public policy in 1989, both in political science from the University of Michigan. His research interests include international relations and comparative politics, with specific interests in East Asia and East Asia. He has a joint appointment in international and area studies.

Of note

Eric Mumford, associate professor in the School of Architecture, recently participated in a seminar on Team 10, held Nov. 5 at the Technical University in Delft, Netherlands. In the 1950s, Team 10 — a group of youthful members of CIAM (International Congress of Modern Architecture) — rejected CIAM’s concept of the industrial city as a series of functionally zoned areas linked by transportation routes, instead emphasizing dense, mixed-use spaces and the possibility of urban growth and change over time.

Steven J. Mennerick, Ph.D., associate professor of neurology in psychiatry in the School of Medicine, has received a four-year, $952,600 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for research titled “Control of Sympathetic Glutamate Release”...

David H. Gutmann, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of genetics, neurology and pediatrics in the School of Medicine, has received a three-year, $867,084 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for research titled “Protein 4.1 Tumor Suppressor in Menin-Pathogenicity.”

Robert P. Bendzka, research fellow in neurology, has received a three-year, $187,024 grant from the National Institute on Aging for research titled “Effects of apol and Abeta Structure and Neuroinflammation.”

Ramesh K. Agarwal, Ph.D., the William Palm Professor of Engineering, received the American Society of Mechanical Engineering’s Fluids Engineering Award for 2001...

The U.S. Supreme Court recently handed down a landmark decision (Zadvydas v. Davis) in which it ruled that the U.S. government could not detain indefinitely those immigrants who had been ordered deported but whose countries would not take them back. In support, the court cited “Fear and Loathing in Congress and the Courts: Immigration and Injustice Review,” an article published in the 2000 Texas Law Review by Stephen H. Legomsky, J.D., D.Phil., the Charles F. Nagel Professor of International and Comparative Law.

Laura G. Bogum, M.D., assistant professor of neurology, anatomy and neurobiology and mediator, has received a four-year, $1,375,875 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for research titled “UCPs: Balancing Metabolism and Oxidation in Aging Brain.”

Dormant dance: Renowned choreographer David Dorfman (left), visiting artist-in-residence in the Performing Arts Department in Arts & Sciences’ Dance Program, leads George Warren Brown School of Social Work graduate student Anna Stirling through a master class on modern dance. Dorfman, a 1977 alumnus, was on campus for more than two weeks, performing for the Edison Theatre Ovation Series, leading more than a dozen workshops and collaborating with students on a new work titled “Anytime Love Me I Can,” which will debut Nov. 30 as part of Washington University Dance Theatre's 2001 Season.

Greed and Injustice in Classical Athens

The following students were selected for University Police Hon. 6–11. Readers with information that could assist in investigating these incidents are urged to call 935-0699. This information is provided as a public service to promote awareness and is available on the University Police Web site at police.wustl.edu.

Nov. 8

2:05 p.m. — U.S. Marshals notified University Police of a suspect in the Charles F. Knight Executive Education Center who had active felony warrants. The suspect was taken into custody without incident and booked into St. Louis County Jail.

Nov. 9

5:40 p.m. — A fire at a...

Health

From Page 1

Ummath Hall. The shops are $15 for faculty and staff and $10 for full-time students who have paid the health fee.

Vacancies are available for 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and will be offered until the positions are filled. Call 935-6667 for more information.

Vacancies are also available at the Medical Campus and the School of Medicine students, staff and faculty. For more information, faculty and staff should call 362-8230; students should call 362-3522.

Those who cannot get a flu vaccination on campus are encouraged to call their private physician or the Visting Nurses Association at 918-7171.

The University’s National

unknown origin began in the storage area on the ground level of Millbrook George. The Clayton Fire Department contained the fire to the storage area. An investigation is continuing.

Additionally, University Police responded to five reports of theft and one report each of embezzlement and harassing phone call.

Tragedy Response Web site, wuhs.wustl.edu, provides additional information for coping with the tragic events of Sept. 11, including sources on coping, holiday travel and counseling. Faculty and staff are encouraged to take advantage of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), which is designed to help benefits-eligible faculty and staff and their immediate family members deal with issues that may negatively impact them personally and professionally. The EAP provides up to five confidential counseling sessions, per issue, at no cost to the faculty or staff member using the benefit.

For more information about the EAP, call 1-800-787-8934.

Students seeking to talk to a professional are encouraged to call the Student Health and Counseling Service at 935-6955 for an appointment. Students also can call Uncle Joe’s Peer Counseling at 935-5999.

Campus Watch

The following incidents were reported to University Police Mon. Nov. 6. Readers with information that could assist in investigating these incidents are urged to call 935-0699. This information is provided as a public service to promote awareness and is available at the University Police Web site at police.wustl.edu.

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Campus Authors

Ryan K. Balot, Ph.D., assistant professor of Classics in Arts & Sciences

Greed and Injustice in Classical Athens

(Princeton University Press Nov. 1, 2001)

In this original and rewarding combination of intellectual and political history, Ryan Balot offers a thorough historical and sociological interpretation of classical Athens centered on the notion of greed. Integrating ancient philosophy, poetry and history and drawing on modern political science, Balot demonstrates that the Athenian discourse on greed was an essential component of Greek social development and political history.

Over time, the Athenians developed sophisticated psychological and political accounts of acquisition and a corresponding rich vocabulary to describe and condemn it. Greed figures repeatedly as an object of criticism in authors as diverse as Socrates, Thucydides and Plato — all of whom addressed the social disruptions caused by it, as well as the inadequacy of lives focused on it.

Because of its ethical significance, greed surfaced frequently in theoretical debates about democracy and oligarchy. Ultimately, critiques of greed — particularly the charge that it is unjust — were built into the robust accounts of justice formulated by many philosophers, including Plato and Aristotle. Such critiques of greed, both reflected and were inevitably linked into economic history and political events, including the coups of 411 and 404 B.C.

Balot contrasts ancient Greek thought on distributive justice with late Western traditions, with implications for political and economic history well beyond the Classical period. Because the belief that greed is good holds a dominant position in modern justifications of capitalism, this study provides a deep historical context within which such justifications can be re-examined and, perhaps, found wanting.
Valerie S. Ratts, M.D., excels in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and in home life

BY GILA Z. RECKESS

Valerie S. Ratts, M.D., balances a demanding medical career and a satisfying home life.

She took inspiration from the many successful female specialists and decided that she, too, could achieve both a demanding medical career and a satisfying home life.

"Today, my graceful balancing act is Ratts' proudest accomplishment.

As an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology in the School of Medicine, she is a member of the infertility team, a wife, a mother of three and, last but certainly not least, a St. Louis Blues fan. Ratts now inspires others. Her Goldman colleagues and family can look to "as proof that robust personal and professional lives are not necessarily mutually exclusive."

Making it "Click"

Valerie S. Ratts, M.D. (left), assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology in the School of Medicine, shows how "Science is a fertile place to be" with pianist Rachel Herrick. "Being a well-rounded person only is important for my own happiness, but also is key for treating patients," Ratts says.

"(Ratts) has more than lived up to my expectations. She is a very bright and meticulous individual who strives to always do what is best for her patients."

Randall R. Omer

"As a medical student at Johns Hopkins University, Ratts discovered obstetrics and gynecology was an equally obvious specialty choice. "Everything about the field just clicked," she recalled. "I love that you take care of a woman throughout her lifetime and really develop a relationship with your patients."

As a specialist in reproductive endocrinology, that's exactly what she does — helps patients from early adolescence to post-menopause.

Ratts' clinical and research efforts focus on a disease called polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), a condition that prevents regular ovulation in 4 percent to 6 percent of reproductive-age women. The symptoms read like a list of the most dreaded problems for any teen-age girl: irregular periods, excessive hair growth, acne, severe acne and weight gain.

So counseling and educating patients when they first develop the disease — typically a couple of years after puberty begins — is cautiously with this population because you're dealing with a young person whose body is still developing and who otherwise is fairly healthy," Ratts said. "I like to focus on education, lifestyle changes and counseling. Diet and exercise become very important for patients' long-term health."

Later in life, when some patients confront difficulties conceiving, Ratts again is there to help. She has been researching new approaches to increase fertility for PCOS patients.

"Ratts' research suggests this interference may be responsible for infertility in patients with PCOS."

Lifestyle changes in young patients may help prevent these fertility challenges. But for adults trying to conceive, she is exploring whether new drugs for insulin resistance, such as metformin, might be helpful.

While continuing to research PCOS, Ratts has again found herself at a promising crossroads.

Collaborating with scientists such as Rita Basuray, Ph.D., associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, she is embarking on a new research endeavor: helping young cancer patients preserve reproductive function.

"This is another area in which I think my expertise in reproductive endocrinology could make an impact," Ratts said. "Again, Ratts is critical, but I think there's a lot more we can do. We're just beginning to explore the different options for the future, and it looks like a very bright and meticulous individual who will do what is best for her patients."

For Ratts, the University has provided a key to yet another perfect decision.

"I didn't just want to live in St. Louis. I had to be at this University," Ratts said. "The program in reproductive endocrinology here is the best in this area, and my colleagues not only are excellent doctors but also are good people, which is important. I feel lucky to be a part of this academic community."

Home is where the rink is

As a member of her community recreation theater's ballet company for her youth, Ratts learned early on the importance of a cultural and physical discipline to complement an intense academic lifestyle. Now that she has the best of both worlds, she easily can find opportunities to continue the message she received at the University."

"Hockey for us is like sitting down at the dinner table," Ratts said. "Not only does she love hockey, but also her daughter knows all the Blues' statistics and her two sons and husband play recreational hockey."

"I think it's incredibly important to not get too focused on your work that you can't see the world around you, and hockey provides a great venue for our family," she said.

According to Ratts, a supportive and active home life allows her to excel at work, too. That lesson is her personal addition to the message she received at the University.

"I try to convey to students that I didn't leave behind the important things, like family and hobbies, in order to succeed," she said. "Being a well-rounded person is only important for my own happiness, but also is key for treating patients. You can apply the most amazing medical skills, but if you don't deliver it in a humanistic fashion, you've lost."