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University-wide Center for Aging established

BY ELLEN THOMPSON

T o meet the needs of the increasing population of older Americans, Washington University has established a new, University-wide Center for Aging. This collaborative effort will apply the University's resources to help older adults achieve a more satisfying quality of life.

The center's focus is on productive aging," says John C. Morris, M.D., director of the center and the Harvey and Dorismary Havey Professor of Neurology in the School of Medicine. "Our goal is to enable older adults to remain engaged and live happier, healthier lives.

The center is made possible by a gift from Harvey A. and Dorismary Hacker Friedman, who have had a longstanding interest in aging-related endeavors at the University. Their financial support is critically important to the center. With the help of the center, the University's resources and those of other community organizations, both the University and St. Louis communities will benefit.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the older adult population will more than double to 70 million by 2050, with one in every five Americans 65 or older.

"For years, Harvey Friedman has provided the vision that Washington University is the appropriate place to focus on aging," said Eric Richards, Ph.D., associate professor of biology, who studies plant-pathogen interactions. "The Richards lab specializes in epigenetics, a biological field that deals with information stored "above and beyond the gene," referring to the Greek meaning of the term. The researchers found that the bal dwarf plant, named "bal" for its shape, constantly perceives a pathogen attack even though it has the exact same DNA sequence of a non-paranoid plant.

"So you've got something that looks like a mutation and behaves like a mutation, but it's actually caused by the packaging of the DNA and not by the DNA sequence itself." - ERIC RICHARDS

The research shows that there is a cost to resistance in plants. In the bal plant, the R-gene is more hyperactivated, constantly fighting off disease even when no pathogens are present to pose a threat. The resulting dwarf plant is more resistant to bacterial infection.

Some aging-related memory loss may be reversible, research says

BY GERRY EVERDING

T he gradual loss of cognitive functions, especially memory skills, is often a consequence of human aging. Now, research from the University's Howard Hughes Medical Institute has used sophisticated brain imaging techniques to pinpoint cognitive mechanisms behind age-related memory difficulties and to confirm that some factors associated with these difficulties can be reversed with the proper support.

"Our study shows that older adults have plenty of underutilized cognitive resources in the left frontal cortex that can be harnessed and used for more efficient memory processing," said Randy L. Buckner, Ph.D., a senior author of the study, which was published online in the journal Neuron.

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BY AMY CLENDINEN

T he campus computer network connections to Olin Library are getting a new home. And part of the moving process means that the network will be down for a short time.

Starting at approximately 5:30 p.m. March 4, the University's Web site will be inaccessible. If everything goes well, it will be back up by 7 a.m. March 5.

"If the relocation of the campus network as part of the renovation project that they are doing here in the library," said Bill Fryman, supervisor of Systems Operation and Support at Olin Library. "We are moving from one room to another, but the work the contractor is doing on the fiber-optic cable is the reason for that length of time."

In addition to the University's Web site, during this time there will be no access to the library's Web site, the library catalog, library e-mail, Riles and ILLiad.
Chib named 1st Hartkopf professor in Olin School

BY ROBERT BATTISON

Siddhartha Chib, Ph.D., has been named the first Harry C. Hartkopf Professor in the Olin School of Business.

The professorship, established by University alumni Harty and Ruth Hartkopf, honors Harty Khurana’s deceased father, a longtime member of the St. Louis banking community.

"Professor Chib’s pioneering work in the analysis of time series, and especially stochastic volatility, has contributed to the scientific analyses of credit risk, the quintessential exposure of banks," said Stuart E. Greenbaum, Ph.D., dean of the Olin School. "Chib’s work also helped to facilitate the implementation of 'Value at Risk' models, widely used in assessing risk and performance of financial institutions." Chib specializes in Bayesian statistics and econometrics.

"Markov Chain Monte Carlo Methods," a research specialty, and combined simulation-based inference in generalized linear models of stochastic volatility.

In recent papers on the topic, Chib and his co-authors extensively described the methodology on simulated data and then applied it to daily returns data on the Standard & Poor’s 500 stock market index. The paper also discusses the likelihood function of these models, which can be computed using the particle filter algorithm.

"Sid is one of the main reasons I was drawn to the University," said Harry T. Hamilton, Ph.D., professor of finance and entrepreneurship.

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Kingsbury Ensemble in concert

BY LIAM OTTEN

The Kingsbury Ensemble, which performs in various costumes and instruments appropriate to the reign of Louis XIV, will present a concert at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 24 in Holmes Lounge in Ridgley Hall.

The program includes music of Marin Marais, Jean Bonnemort, François Molière, Louis Cæsár Hervélos and Jacob Riis.

Based in St. Louis, the Kingsbury Ensemble was founded in 1993 to perform instrumental and vocal music of the Baroque and Classical period, using

Chib: Bayesian statistics specialist

"He has been one of the leaders in developing Bayesian statistical methods that standardize and economize the process of estimating real data in a variety of fields, including economics and finance, to estimate or compare different models of behavior." Chib, a professor at the business school from 1990-92, has returned to the Olin School as associate professor of econometrics and statistics in 1992 and was made a full professor in 1997.

Previously, he taught at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and has been a visiting professor at Columbia University.

Chib earned a master’s degree and doctorate in economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara; a master of business administration degree from the Indian Institute of Management in Delhi; and an undergraduate degree from Calcutta College's at Delhi University in India.


"He is the author of numerous scholarly articles and two books that appear to be at the cutting edge of research in international business and research in finance and economics," said Harry T. Hamilton, Ph.D., professor of finance and entrepreneurship.

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Eating Disorders Awareness Week Feb. 24-28

BY NEIL SCHOENHERR

The annual Eating Disorders Awareness Week will be held Feb. 24-28.

The event, titled "Celebrating the Student Body," is sponsored by the Office of Health Promotion and Wellness: Reflections, a student group dedicated to educating the University community about body image and eating disorders and Student Union.

"Many college students struggle with body image and eating concerns," said Melissa Ruwich, coordinator of health promotion and wellness. "This awareness week gives them useful information with which to help themselves or their friends."

The highlight of the week is a lecture by medical critic Jean Claude Chib titled "Slim Hope: The Obsession With Thinness at

Chib: Bayesian statistics specialist

7 p.m. Feb. 24 in Graham Chapel.

Kilbourne, who has twice been named Lecturer of the Year by the National Association of Campus Activities, will speak about eating disorders and negative body image as often-overlooked problems in a society that can hit especially hard at competitive universities.

"There is literally free and open to the public and will be followed by a question-and-answer period."

The week continues with a Feb. 25 lecture by Chib titled "Eating Disorders: What to Know and What to Do" at 8 p.m. in Friedman Lounge in Wool Student Union.

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Critical illness, injuries focus of national project

By Gila Z. Reckes

In the first national effort of its kind, the United States is taking the lead in addressing critical illness and traumatic injuries, such as motor vehicle accidents and gunshots and burns.

The School of Medicine is one of the primary institutions involved in the project, called CAMP (Collaborative Approach to Multicenter Project). The project is supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) of more than $37 million on the project.

After severe trauma or stress, the body's natural defense mechanism is overwhelmed, causing a catastrophic cascade of cellular and physiological changes resulting in organ failure. As a result, critical illness and injury account for more than 1 million deaths in the United States each year, typically taking the lives of young, otherwise healthy individuals.

Until now, there has been no national effort systematically coordinating research and care for this population.

CAMP is part of the first-ever national agenda for injury prevention and research. "The group is the first in the country to bring together physicians, psychologists, social workers, university and school administrators, and public safety professionals to form an interdisciplinary team to address this very, very serious problem," said Denise Rodgers, M.D., associate professor of surgery and principal investigator of the CAMP project. "It is the first effort to bring together these experts to work as a group to address the problem of critical illness and injury.

The group of 19 medical centers will compile an extensive database including demographic, genomic and physiological information about patients with traumatic injuries. In addition, the group intends to develop standard operating procedures for burn and trauma patients and to identify research programs to study the most relevant animal models.

Trauma and the body's response to injury may activate or inactivate thousands of genes. Scientists have already discovered a cluster of approximately 50 genes that regulates yeast's reaction to common forms of stress and injury. We may actually be taking things one step further by trying to intervene during the body's natural, adaptive response," said Rodgers.

"We may actually be taking things one step further by trying to intervene during the body's natural, adaptive response," said Rodgers.

The problem is complex, however. Studies show that even mice with identical genes respond differently to the same type of injury. So the team is also studying how environmental factors influence the outcome. Gene activation triggers the formation of messenger RNA, which the body reads like a genetic code into proteins that carry out the genes' command. Researchers hope to understand and predict how an individual will respond to a given trauma and thereby help physicians choose the best treatment for each patient.

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Second Guze symposium focuses on college-age drinking

By Jim Dayton

The second Guze Symposium on Alcoholism, which will be held March 2-7 at the Eric P. Newman Education Center, will focus on the challenges of college-age drinking.

The symposium will feature local and national speakers discussing the prevalence of drinking at college campuses, short-term and long-term consequences of college drinking, and challenges and opportunities in the prevention and treatment of college-age drinking.

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton will open the symposium, which will be held March 2-7 at the Eric P. Newman Education Center. The symposium will feature local and national speakers discussing the prevalence of drinking at college campuses, short-term and long-term consequences of college drinking, and challenges and opportunities in the prevention and treatment of college-age drinking.

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**University Events**

**Friday, Feb. 22**

- **11 a.m. Pediatric Grand Round.** "The Early Recognition and Royal Blood." Dr. Ben Pottenger, assistant professor of medicine, pediatrics, at the St. Louis Children's Hospital. Schoole of Medicine (medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html).
- **2 p.m. Anatomy and neurobiology seminar.** "The Deconstruction of Hemodynamic Reserve." Dr. Thomas D. Fullbright, associate professor of medicine, in the Bryan Life Sciences Building.

**Saturday, Feb. 23**

- **11 a.m. Masters of Liberal Arts Seminar series.** "The Modern Global University." Dr. Thomas D. Fullbright, associate professor of medicine, in the Bryan Life Sciences Building. The seminar will discuss the history of the study of disease in the modern world.

**Friday, March 1**

- **11 a.m. Neurology and neurological surgery seminar.** "The Pathogenesis of Epilepsy." Dr. David Gottlieb, professor of medicine, in the Bryan Life Sciences Building. The seminar will focus on the development of new treatments for epilepsy.

**Music**

**Sunday, Feb. 24**

- **1 p.m. Senior honors recital.** "Comparative Investigations of the J. P. Morgan Library."

**Monday, March 4**

- **4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series.** "The Role of the Immune System in Cancer." Dr. Abraham Kupfer, professor of medicine, in the Bryan Life Sciences Building. The seminar will discuss the latest research in the field of immunology.

**Wednesday, Feb. 27**

- **4 p.m. Poetry Discussion.** "The Poems of Robert Frost," Dr. Wendy Gillespie, viola da gamba. The seminar will focus on the poetry of Robert Frost and its contemporary relevance.

**On Stage**

**Friday, Feb. 22**

- **1:15 p.m. Jummuah Prayers.** Prayer at the Olin Library, 920 University. The prayer will be led by Muslim students.

**Worship**

**Friday, Feb. 22**

- **11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass.** St. John Vianney Catholic Center, 8000 Forsyth Blvd. The service will include worship music and readings from the Bible.

**Saturday, March 2**

- **11 a.m. event!** For young people ages 13-18. "Youths in Crisis." St. Louis Public Library. For more information, visit (medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html).

**Friday, Feb. 22**

- **8 p.m. Performing arts dept. performance.** "The Nutcracker." St. Louis City Theatre. The performance will feature live music and dance.

**Saturday, March 2**

- **11 a.m. event!** For young people ages 13-18. "Youths in Crisis." St. Louis Public Library. For more information, visit (medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html).
William Kohn, professor emeritus in the School of Art, has received the 2002 Missouri Arts Award, the state's highest honor for achievement in the arts. Gov. Bob Holden and wife Lori Hauser Holden presented the award to a standing and cheering audience at the Capitol Rotunda in Jefferson City.

Kohn, a painter widely recognized for his large, colorful landscapes based on travels to Mexico, India, the Grand Canyon and other sites around the world, has said that his first reaction upon being notified was "total surprise — how did they find me?"

Lori Holden, who introduced the artist, said that Kohn has been described as "Missouri's arts ambassador," adding that he "has served the greater St. Louis community as a painter, computer artist, performance artist, art educator and mentor for more than 40 years."

"Kohn has traveled widely and has emerged as an artist of talents as an artist, gifted teacher, and unofficial ambassador in numerous countries," Holden continued, but also noted that the University City native has remained committed to his hometown.

"Using the arts as a catalyst, Kohn was instrumental in redeveloping the Skinker-DeBaliviere neighborhood in St. Louis, where he has maintained his studio and for many years," she added.

"I've lived in a lot of places but only moved a short distance," Kohn said wryly. "Still, there's been a lot of variation.

Kohn earned a bachelor's degree from Washington University's School of Fine Arts in 1953 and then studied printmaking in Paris with master printmaker Stanley Hayter. He returned to Europe in 1954 with the U.S. Army, afterward studied Spanish in Mexico City and earning a master's degree in Fine Arts from Mills College in Oakland, Calif.

In 1962, Kohn and his wife, Patricia, a Japanese freighter for an 18-month, 23-country excursion but in 1963 returned to St. Louis, where Bill joined the faculty at the School of Art. Still, the appetite for travel remained unabated, and in 1966 he spent the couple months in India, on a Fijibhrt Scholarships, exploring the country via motor scooter.

More recent trips have included Machu Picchu, Mexico, Jaipur and Khajuraho, India, and Florence, Italy. Kohn's work is included in numerous public and private collections and has been featured in one-person shows at the St. Louis Art Museum, the J. Cigno Gallery in Chicago; the University of Buenos Aires in India; the Casa de la Cultura in Orizaba, Mexico; The Alacran in Seville, Spain; and the Contemporary Art in St. Louis, among others.

Since 1970, his exhibition openings have themselves become multimedia events, featuring dance, poetry, original music and slide (now DVD) projection of his works and those of other artists.

Next fall, the School of Art will honor Kohn with a retrospective exhibition at the Des Lee Gallery (1627 Washington Ave. in St. Louis). The show will feature large paintings that trace Kohn's artistic evolution from abstraction to figuration, as well as numerous watercolors based on his travels, beginning with studies of art—destroyed—Bamiyan Buddha in Afghanistan. At the same time, an exhibition of Kohn's most recent paintings — inspired by Brunelleschi's Duomo in Florence — will debut at the Ellis Smith Contemporary Art Gallery (4277 McPherson Ave. in St. Louis). The Missouri Arts Board is sponsored annually by the Missouri Arts Council and given in recognition of contributions — physical, thory, arts organization, leadership in the arts and education. Other artists whose work was presented included Beck Grimes of St. Joseph, the Kansas City Ballet; folklorist Gordon McCloud of Springfield, Mo.; Linda Melikian, a high school teacher and ars advocate from Sikeston.

100 backstroke and made NCAA provisional times in both. For the men, junior diver Bryan Broun, who is headed for the NCAA Championships, took third on the one and three-meter boards. Fellow junior Matt John- son qualified provisionally for the NCAA Championships with a third-place finish in the 50 free, then added a fifth in the 100 free.

Women's tennis rolls to Principia Invitational
Freshman Katie Cook made her presence felt in her first college experience, at the Principia College Invitational, winning the first and second singles title with two wins. Jenny Stein was second with a 2-1 record, falling to Cook in the final. In the third and fourth singles draws, Laura Greenberg went 3-0 to capture the title, defeating teammate Shipla Reddy in the championship match. Kat Copiozo won the fifth and sixth singles title with three wins and teamed with Ruth Mathis in the first doubles title. Reddy and Cook were also winners in the second doubles flight.

"Swimmers do well at UAA meet"

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams posted impressive individual performances as both teams finished second at the University Athletic Association Championship at Emory University in Atlanta. Senior Kylezik captured UAA titles in the 100 freestyle and

"Women's hoops fights for more two victories"

The top-ranked women won two tough games at Brandeis University and New York University (NYU) as they extended their winning streak to 35 games, the longest in the NCAAs, men or women. Senior Kristi Eller scored 16 of her game-high 23 points in the second half as she helped the Bears to a 79-72 victory at Brandeis Feb. 15 at the Red Auerbach Arena. Brandeis led 43-41 at the half. With the score tied at 65 Eller hit a three-pointer and feathill Hailshausen added a free throw and a lay-up to give WU a six-point lead. Labargue and Crowley each scored 16 points in the second half. The Bears' podium at NYU Feb. 16 in the 78-60, WU scored 12 of the final 18 points in the second half to break a 30-30 halftime tie. Labargue hit her third three pointer and Crowley followed with a 15-footer as the Bears extended the lead to 61-46 with 6:18 to play. Crowley led the Bears with 30 points and Labargue had 18 points and seven rebounds.

Men's hoops clinches UAA title, NCAA berth
The welcomed the two games, thumping Brandeis 95-73, then blowing out NYU 77-49 two days later. The wins clinched the University Athletic Association title outright and the NCAA tournament but that automatically goes to the conference champs. The wins also tied the single-season record of 36. Junior forward Chris Jeffries poured in a career-high 31 points in 13 shots of the field and 12-16 at the free throw line and added seven rebounds against Brandeis. The Bears led 48-54 at the half and didn't let up, opening the second half with a 13-6 run. WU's 19th straight win came at the expense of NYU, as four straight three-pointers — two by Matt Tabak and two by Jarrod Rook — gave WU an early 16-3. The third and fourth quarters saw the Bears a comfortable 25-point lead as they maintained the rest of the way. Rook finished with a game-high 15 points and five rebounds. For the men, junior diver Bryan Broun, who is headed for the NCAA Championships, took third on the one and three-meter boards. Fellow junior Matt Johnson qualified provisionally for the NCAA Championships with a third-place finish in the 50 free, then added a fifth in the 100 free.

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Selection show live
The field for the NCAA men's and women's Division III basketball championships will be unveiled Feb. 24. The men's bracket will be announced at 8 p.m., followed by the women's bracket at 8:30. Fans can follow along on the Bears' website at bearsports.wustl.edu.

Junior Jennifer Rudis goes up for a shot against the University of Rochester in recent action. Rudis leads the team with 8.1 points per game.
Memory
Brain imaging tracks activity in certain areas — from Page 1

The study offers strong evidence that older adults gradually lose the control of robust memory functions that is maintained in young adults. "We want to keep older people functioning in their communities," Morris said. "We want to give them a very high level and keep healthy older people living independent lives." According to Morris, an important question to address in future studies is the relation between the cognitive deficits found in healthy elderly people and those with Alzheimer's disease.

"We really don't know the answer," Morris said. The study was supported by the National Institute on Aging at the National Institutes of Health, the Alzheimer's Association, the J.M. and Helen Dolan Foundation, the Harvey A. and Dorismae Hacker Friedman Professor of Neurology, the James S. McDonnell Foundation, and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

A Hughes honor Joseph Thompson, Ph.D. (second from left), lecturer in African and Afro-American Studies and English, both in Arts & Sciences, helps unveil a new stamp of poet and author Langston Hughes recently at the downtown St. Louis Post Office. With Thompson are Stanley Franklin (left), chief executive officer of Network Food Stamping, and Mark Anderson, St. Louis postmaster. The release of the stamp coincides with the 100th anniversary of Hughes' birth — on Joplin, Mo. — and the 25th anniversary of the Black Heritage Series of stamps.

Center
To provide research, education and service — from Page 1

adult levels.

A new study by Morris' leadership and the Center for Aging will help promote cognitive rehabilitation therapies for older adults. "We really don't know the answer," Morris said. The study was supported by the National Institute on Aging at the National Institutes of Health, the Alzheimer's Association, the J.M. and Helen Dolan Foundation, the Harvey A. and Dorismae Hacker Friedman Professor of Neurology, the James S. McDonnell Foundation, and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Use the World Wide Web to obtain complete job descriptions. Go to hr.wustl.edu (Hilltop) or medicine.wustl.edu/wumshr (Medical).
A recent "Bridging GAPS" event, which promotes interaction among students from diverse backgrounds, was held at Gray St. It featured a panel discussion on the importance of diversity in higher education and a networking reception.

Bridges Awards were presented to student groups that promote interdisciplinary collaboration and community service. The awards recognize groups that have shown significant impact in their respective fields.

Communication among students is crucial for the success of any academic program. The "Bridging GAPS" event provided an excellent opportunity for students to connect with one another and share their ideas and experiences.

The "Bridging GAPS" event was organized by the Office of Student Life and the Division of Student Affairs.

Bridges Awards recognizes student groups that are transforming the campus community through their innovative and impactful initiatives. The awards aim to foster a culture of collaboration and mutual support.

Nearly 100 student leaders attended the event, which featured presentations by award-winning groups and a keynote speech by a distinguished guest.

For more information about the "Bridging GAPS" initiative and the Bridges Awards, please visit the website of the Office of Student Life at studentlife.wustl.edu.
David M. Becker is intimidating and rigorous, yet he remains 'one of the most beloved faculty members.'

By Deb Aronson

University Professor. Says Becker, the Joseph H. Zumbalen Professor of the Law of Property and associate dean for external relations, works with second-year law student Scott Jahan. On teaching, Becker says, "I knew one month into it I would never go back. It was intoxicating... and there was nothing else I wanted to do." After that one year, Becker had several teaching options. He opted for Washington University, in part because of its strong tradition of teaching.

"The history, culture and tradition of teaching at Washington University is very rare, emphasizing small classes and lots of one-on-one teaching," he says. "I thought to myself, 'I'm going to like this.'"

His fans are not his students: "It's not just genes," says the 66-year-old, "It's that it's contagious. Now that you spend your life around young people, it does delay aging. In the same way that young people come into my life each year."

Becker is a competitor by nature. He is crazy for sports — basketball, tennis, running 10 miles. On the playing field, Becker is as focused as he is in the classroom. He has received a letter from the St. Louis Cardinals game when David M. Becker, J.D., professor of law, joined his father's Chicago law firm and became the firm's first African-American partner. Becker played for the Chicago Cardinals."

David M. Becker, J.D.

Title: Joseph H. Zumbalen Professor of the Law of Property and associate dean for external relations

Years at the University: 20

Awards: University Faculty Day award (1987); first recipient of Law Alumni Teaching Award (1989)

Hobbies: Reading; listening to classical, jazz and opera; sports (participating and watching); Italy (the people, the culture, the language)

Family: Wife, Sassie, married 45 years, two children, Laura, 39, and Andrew, 36.

"David is soft-spoken but not taciturn; he is reserved but not shy; and he has both a powerful intellect and a deep sense of humor," notes longtime friend E. Thomas Hannafan, J.D. '70, professor of law, Minnesota Law School and friend of Becker's for close to 20 years. "He has phenomenal memory and is always finding ways to connect conversations from two years ago with today. He is a true mensch — by that I mean someone who is positive, optimistic and generous in his thoughts and deeds toward others."

Becker's response to these accolades is the equivalent of a verbal shrug. "Either you advantage yourself in the richness and diversity of the students and their lives or you don't," Becker says. "If you do, it gives you the opportunity to enrich and grow your own life."

"My best friends are my former students, and I have many best friends," Becker believes. "They are the people who have seen the best in me in the richness and diversity of their friendship, then Becker is a very rich man."

"Becker is not the boisterous, backslapping, outgoing sort of teacher," Hannafan says. "He is lean, balding, dressed in jacket and tie. Becker's voice is quiet; his words are measured. Even his office is Spartan. There are few photographs or other mementos."

What makes David's teaching distinctive is that he teaches with an intensity about him that students appreciate. They quickly see that the intensity is not about being harsh. Instead it stems from his deep desire to teach his students to think critically and analytically — to think like lawyers. Yet, as rigorous as he is, David's student evaluations are still consistently at the top of the charts.

"It was intoxicating. I knew I could do it, and there was nothing else I wanted to do." Becker's students appreciate, "What I thought was a simple, one-issue case turned out to be a case with many, many more layers. It's bigger than you think."

"Becker teaches property law to first-year students, is not a pushover. Inside the classroom he leads his students, via carefully constructed Socratic method, through the intricacies of case after case."

"It's an intimidating way to learn, especially for first-year students. The atmosphere in the classroom intensifies and the level of confidence is exhausting for both students and professor. Becker, an avid athlete, likens it to playing basketball or running 10 miles."

"What makes David's teaching distinctive is that he teaches with an intensity about him that students appreciate," says Daniel J. Keating, J.D., the Tyrrell Williams Professor of law and associate dean for academic affairs. "They quickly recognize that the intensity is not about being harsh. Instead it stems from his deep desire to teach his students to think critically and analytically — to think like lawyers. Yet, as rigorous as he is, David's student evaluations are still consistently at the top of the charts."

"First and foremost a teacher, an honors graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, and colleague of Becker's for close to 20 years. "He has phenomenal memory and is always finding ways to connect conversations from two years ago with today. He is a true mensch — by that I mean someone who is positive, optimistic and generous in his thoughts and deeds toward others."

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