University to continue efforts to fund remaining objectives

BY MARVIN R. MEINZ

When the University officially closed the books on the 2002 calendar year, gifts and commitments to the Campaign for Washington University totaled $1,303,616,843 — some $3 million more than the $1.3 billion goal of the campaign that is scheduled to run until June 30, 2004.

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton said, "The leadership of Sam Fox and John McDonnell, co-chairs of the campaign, and the members of the Campaign Steering Committee, to the enthusiastic efforts of our many volunteers, and said, "Thanks to the leadership of the Board of Trustees, said, "Ibby and I are very honored. Our good intentions are legendary, even in a city known for its citizens' generosity." The Washington University Society of Washington University (WSWU) established its scholarship fund in 1989. In addition, she is past president of the Wellesley College transfer students. In 1995, she chose Bill and Ibby Danforth, the more than 80,000 alumni and friends who are already participating in the campaign, we have reached this impressive milestone, 18 months ahead of schedule," and "we are most grateful." “And we are most grateful." "Much has already been accomplished," Wrighton said, "but there are high priorities we set in Project 21 that are still to be fully funded. As my predecessor Bill Danforth often said, 'A great university is a work in progress.' That is certainly the case at Washington University." Project 21, started in 1993, was the most intensive planning process ever undertaken by the University. The Board of Trustees, deans, faculty and the National Councils — made up of some 300 alumni, academics and corporate leaders from across the country — carefully examined each area of the University. They identified more than $1.2 billion in high-priority needs and opportunities necessary for the University to maintain its service both to its students and the wider world early in the 21st century. Trustees then decided to launch the Campaign for Washington University to secure the necessary resources to address those priorities. "The importance of this campaign is not in the dollars raised, but in the opportunities it is opening up to our students and faculty," emphasized Trustee Sam Fox, chairman and chief executive officer of Harbours Group Ltd., who is heading the public phase of the campaign. "The dollars are only enablers," Said Campaign, Page 6

Danfords receive Harris community service award

BY BARBARA REA

The Jane and Whitney Harris St. Louis Community Service Award, a generous and unique act of philanthropy that provides financial support for area charitable organizations, has been awarded this year to Elizabeth (Ibby) and William H. Danforth (left), recipient of the Jane and Whitney Harris St. Louis Community Service Award. Selection committee chair Lou Fusz Jr, looks on.

Hypertension
Possible new mechanism discovered

BY DARRELL E. WARD

Genetic differences that prevent tiny blood vessels from relaxing may be one reason why some people have high blood pressure, or hypertension, according to research led by scientists in the School of Medicine.

The findings are published in the February issue of the Journal of Clinical Investigation.

“These findings provide new insights into the cause of hypertension and how normal blood pressure is regulated,” said lead investigator Kendall J. Blumer, Ph.D., professor of cell biology and pharmacology. “This may lead to a way of determining the underlying cause of a person’s hypertension and the most effective treatment for that individual.”

Blood pressure is the force exerted by the blood against artery walls. Ninety percent of American adults in the United States is estimated to have above-normal blood pressure.

The condition is most common in African-Americans and the elderly. Uncontrolled high blood pressure usually increases risk of stroke, atherosclerosis, heart attack and kidney failure, and it can aggravate symptoms of diabetes.

Several classes of drugs are available to treat high blood pressure, but there is no way to determine which drug will best help particular patients because the underlying cause of the disease is carefully examined each area of the University. They identified more than $1.2 billion in high-priority needs and opportunities necessary for the University to maintain its service both to its students and the wider world early in the 21st century. Trustees then decided to launch the Campaign for Washington University to secure the necessary resources to address those priorities. "The importance of this campaign is not in the dollars raised, but in the opportunities it is opening up to our students and faculty," emphasized Trustee Sam Fox, chairman and chief executive officer of Harbours Group Ltd., who is heading the public phase of the campaign. "The dollars are only enablers," Said Campaign, Page 6

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**WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS**

**WUSTL joins other schools in supporting affirmative action**

Washington University is one of 37 private colleges and universities nationwide to join Carnegie Mellon University in filing an amicus curiae (friend of the court) brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in support of the University of Michigan and the right of universities and colleges to consider race or ethnicity as one among many factors in the selection of students for college. The institutions filing the brief argue that doing so is essential to achieving for all their students, minorities and non-minorities alike, the educational benefits of a truly diverse student body.

"Washington University supports affirmative action as an effective means of achieving a diverse academic community," Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton said. "A diverse community strengthens the educational experience for all students."

The 19-page brief outlines reasons for supporting affirmative action and why the university supports the policy.

Here are some excerpts from the brief:

"If we are united in our pursuit of excellence in education, and our shared commitment to embracing the diversity among our students, including racial diversity, is essential to that shared commitment. Long before Justice Potter Stewart's opinion in Bakke, Amici sought to achieve racial diversity on its campuses. Amici have remained committed to affirmative action not because they believe students of the same race have the same point of view, but because race is one of many factors that contribute to each student's perspective and unique interactions among students..."

"Amici respectfully submit this amicus brief in support of the University of Michigan in filing an amicus curiae brief in support of the University of Michigan..."
School of Medicine researchers have had contact with cat feces, soil, water, cat litter or objects that host parasites may not always represent stable, long-term associations.

"Our findings raise the possibility that other parasitic diseases may also radially change their lifestyle by a similar mechanism and hence present new threats of infection," said study leader L. David Sibley, Ph.D., associate professor of molecular microbiology.

About 35 million Americans — and up to a quarter of the world's population — are thought to be chronically infected with Toxoplasma. However, people with weakened immunity and pregnant women typically develop severe toxoplasmosis, a neurological disease that can lead to birth defects, brain inflammation and vision problems.

The infection usually is acquired by accidentally swallowing from contaminated soil, water or litter on objects that have had contact with cats or cats. The infection also can be acquired from eating raw or partially cooked meat, especially chicken, pork, lamb or venison.

Grant-writing series benefits faculty, students

Mark your calendars for the Academic Women's Network Brown Bag Series on Grant writing! Each session, which will be held on noon on April 16, 18 & 23 in Cori Auditorium.

The series of three classes — which is open to male and female post-docs and faculty — offers a series of helpful tips on grant writing. Topics include:

1. Getting ready to submit: sources and mechanisms of funding, preparation- tips and interactions with the National Institutes of Health.
2. Short presentations: submit an open question-and-answer session.

Book fair to offer great deals Feb. 26-27

The Department of Central Administration will sponsor a book fair from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Feb. 26-27 on the second floor of the Clinical Sciences Research Building, New York Times best sellers, children's books, photo albums and more are 30 percent to 75 percent off retail prices.

Outstanding service

Longtime friends Laurie Dean (left) and Angela McClarney flank Mary Feld, scheduling coordinator for the Academic Women's Network, at the Cashier's window. Feld received for 25 years of service to the University at the Central Administration Service Awards luncheon Feb. 5. The annual Central Administration Service Awards recognize School of Medicine staff with 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service.

Hepers virus destroys detection mechanism

Hepers viruses are notorious for their ability to hide from the immune system and establish lifelong infections. School of Medicine researchers have discovered how one mouse herpes virus escapes detection.

The study appeared in a recent issue of the journal Immunity. "These findings not only provide a better understanding of viral infections, they also offer novel insights into basic cellular processes in the immune system," said study leader Ted H. Hansen, Ph.D., professor of genetics.

Like police cars chasing a neighborhood, immune cells known as cytotoxic T cells patrol the body looking for signs of trouble, such as virus-infected cells.

Cells communicate with the immune system by displaying protein fragments on their surface, including viral proteins. When cytotoxic T cells find viral proteins on a cell's surface, they destroy the cell and thereby eliminate the virus.

Molecules known as major histocompatibility complex class 1 (MHC class I) are responsible for displaying the protein fragments, known as peptides, on the cell surface. Cells make flecks of MHC class I molecules, each of which is assembled from two separate pieces plus the peptide. After each MHC class I molecule is completed, it travels to the cell surface to display its peptide to placing immune cells.

MHC class I is the body's most important mechanism for fighting off most viral infections," said lead author Lonne P. Lybarger, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow in genetics. Not surprisingly, herpes viruses have evolved ways to block that immune response.

Hansen, Lybarger and their colleagues used a mouse virus known as gammaz-herpesvirus to discover exactly how the virus does this. The virus is closely related to the human herpes virus associated with Kaposi's sarcoma, a cancer of blood vessels that occurs in some people with AIDS.

Research has shown that cells assembled MHC class I molecules with the help of other molecules known as chaperones. In this study, the investigators found that in cells infected with gamma-2 herpesvirus, a viral protein known as mK3 joins the chaperones as they prepare to assemble an MHC class I molecule.

Then, as assembly occurs, the mK3 protein causes a subtle change in the MHC class I molecule that marks it as waste. Instead of traveling to the cell surface it as should, the MHC class I molecule is shunted off to the side and destroyed.

"The finding that mK3 requires chaperones molecules to function and hides out with them came as a surprise," Lybarger said. "It represents a new strategy for blocking immune detection, and it suggests that there probably other viral proteins that use host molecules to target MHC class I."
**Exhibitions**

**Contemporary German Art Recent Acquisitions.** Continues through April 30. Gulfcoast Gallery, Washington University Libraries, 8001 N. Campus Dr. (Also Feb. 22, 8 p.m., Feb. 23, 2 p.m.)

**Dafen Resistance Engravings, c. 1740-1780.** Presentation of a new exhibition catalog. Room 3907, Philip Needleman Library, 935-8212.

**How to submit University Events**

Submit "University Events" items to Genevieve Fudzick via:
1. e-mail — recdept@wustl.edu
2. campus mail — Box 1073; 3. fax — 935-5780.

**Film**

Tuesday, Feb. 21

11:30 a.m. Pedalos Grand Rounds. "Conventional Adrenal Hypoplasia" by Dr. White. Join us for our annual grand rounds! Room 300, 935-6006.

4 p.m.ビジョン Research Seminar: "Reducing the Developmental Circadian Clock" by Sean Golden, prof., of biology, Tel Aviv University, Israel, 935-8212.


7 p.m. "Optimizing Web Site Breakfast Briefing." No need to be a Web expert. Join us for expanded calendars for the Hilltop Campus (wustl.edu/calendar) and the University Feb. 21-March 6. Visit the Web University is made possible with a portion of their last tour.

**Worship**

**Wednesday, March 1**

5 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. U. of Chicago. Athletics Complex. 935-7195.

**Sports**

Thursday, Feb. 27


**University Events**

**Filmmaker Sandra Bernhard** — actress, author, singer and much more — will give a special one-night-only performance, 8 p.m. March 1 for the Edison Theatre OVATION! Series. Bernhard made her off-Broadway debut in 1988 with the one-woman show "Without You." Her five-piece rock band, The Love Machine, toured the country with fellowpheres after the meaning of irony after September 11. Bernhard recorded her first album as a vocalist, "I'm Your Woman," in 1983. Her second album, "Excuses for Bad Behavior Part I," released in a one-woman tour of the United States, Europe and Australia. She performed on the main stage at Lilith Fair '99 with artists such as Sarah McLachlan, Sheryl Crow and Christie Hynde and opened for Deep Purple during a portion of their last tour.

Bernhard's performance at the University is made possible with support from the Missouri Arts Council, the Midwest Arts Touring Network and the Regional Arts Commission, St. Louis.

Tickets are $30 and are available at the Edison Theatre Box Office or by phone at 935-6543.

_Antigala_ in conjunction with Sandra Bernhard’s Edison Theatre performance. The Friends of Edison Theatre will host the second annual ANTI- GALA, a pre-performance dinner that year this bond on a Mardi Gras theme. For more information, call 935-6543.

Friday, Feb. 8


Monday, March 3


Wednesday, March 5


**Lectures**

Friday, Feb. 21

11 a.m. "Computing for the Application of Information Technology Technical Briefing. " Join us for a brief update on how our new interface design and usability training tools are being used. This week's update will be Open to all. Call 301-347-1100.

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California artist James Barsness lends his gold leafing and newspaper-cutting expertise to the largest in the country. "If an artist needs a print from a newspaper," quipped Director Joan Raphael Ferrer and Annette Varvares, including Roy Lichtenstein, and internationally known artists, Barsness and others will make/draw major area, the economic Advisers LLC and an alumnus. David Nicklaus, senior writer and business columnist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, will moderate.

Barsness has been a member of the faculty since 1982, joining the School of Arts and Letters, economics, investment studies and applied statistics. Nicklaus has been a business writer and columnist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch for more than 21 years. As a senior writer, he pens three columns a week on the economy, local public finance and related legislative studies. His work centers on the study of distribution of resources and responsibilities in federal systems in the presence of fiscal competition.

Barsness has been published in many scholarly journals, including the Journal of Urban Economics, the Journal of Public Economics and Public Choice. Rothstein is president of Macroeconomic Advisers, a company he co-founded with fellow alumnus Joel Prklenak and former economics professor Laurence Meyer, Ph.D., in 1982 as Laurence M. Meyer & Associates. As such, Varvares serves as a consultant to key agencies of the U.S. and Canadian governments, major trade associations and private corporations. His firm is recognized as one of the most accurate forecasters of the economy. As an expert on economics and the public sector, Rothstein’s research has focused on social choice theory, political economy, local public finance and related legislative studies. His work centers on the study of distribution of resources and responsibilities in federal systems in the presence of fiscal competition.

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barsness experiences cutting-edge island press

By Lm Ottien

California artist James Barsness makes big, messy drawings that incorporate everything from graphite and ballpoint pen to gold leaf, tarlaton (a sort of starched cheesecloth) and newsprint. Not an approach that lends itself to the identically crafted editions of traditional printmaking, but perfect for Island Press, the School of Art’s collaborative printshop.

Since its founding in 1978, Island Press has garnered a national reputation for using new and experimental techniques to create mixed-media and one-of-a-kind multiples. For example, in the printmaking­/drawing major area, the student must master more than 100 prints by dozens of nationally and internationally known artists, teach himself to print, and produce a finished print in one semester. By third year, students are so little time, "quipped Director Joan Hall, the Kenneth E. Hudson Professor and coordinator of printmaking/­drawing.

"It is much more adventurous than a commer­cial shop," Hall added, noting that Island Press boasts a 5 by 10-foot etching press that is among the largest in the country. "As an artist, the only thing a student says, ‘I want to do this,’ we say, ‘This is a great opportunity for you!’ We help them see what the techniques will do and then translate them back into their own work.

Barsness recently spent a weeklong residency mastering the art of color etching, an unconventional process popularized by printmaker founder Peter Maceli and one of the cornerstones of printmaking. University, he developed his own, unconventional process popularized by printmaker founder Peter Maceli and one of the cornerstones of printmaking.

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Researchers discover possible hypertension mechanism from Page 1

unknown in 90 percent to 95 percent of cases. Scientists have long known that genes — proteins — control essential functions such as hormones and neurotransmitters, but they know little about the specific genes that control tiny arteries known as arterioles to control blood flow in order to increase or decrease pressure to these tissues. These genes also help regulate blood pressure by altering electrolyte and fluid levels in the kidneys.

But the precise mechanism through which these signaling pathways maintain normal blood pressure despite rapid changing conditions — such as quickly standing up or suddenly running — remains poorly understood.

Recent research has suggested that a protein known as regulator of G protein signaling 2 (RGS2) is involved in this process. Blumer and his colleagues studied the hypothesis that by lacking both copies of the rgs2 gene, which is responsible for RGS2 production, mice would lack only one copy of the gene, ultimately resulting in normal mice.

Almost $150 million has been raised for giving toward these and other projects. Approximately $75 million is still needed to complete the projects under way or on the drawing board.

unrestricted annual support

Researchers discover possible hypertension mechanism — from Page 1

goal of adding $375 million in new endowed funds for scholarships and fellowships.

Academic programs, student life, libraries

Simultaneously, research quality education and cutting-edge research is especially costly, with many faculty still continuing the final 18 months of the campaign. During the past fiscal year, donations were received from individuals and friends provided $13.5 million through the Annual Fund.

The goal is to increase that number to $15 million annually by the end of the campaign. We are still at least 30 percent of alumni participating and 10 percent of the institution widely recognized for the quality of its teaching and research, and a vision for an even better future is what is driving this campaign," said Board of Trustees Chairman John F. Noonan, Jr., chairman of the board of McDonnell Douglas Corp., who headed the kickoff phase of the campaign.

"We can be extremely proud of what has already been achieved through the campaign, but there is so much more we can — and must — do to help the University achieve the full potential for good of our community and society.

The leadership phase of the campaign was the recent groundbreaking for the University had 138 endowed and the libraries; (3) new construction, renovation of facilities; and (4) unrestricted annual support.

People

Attracting and retaining outstanding people — faculty and students — is an objective shared by all at research universities.

When the campaign started, the total endowment in University, significantly fewer than other research universities.

The hope is to double that number by the end of the campaign. We are confident that we can continue to make significant contributions. For example, the $15 million McDonnell Douglas Fellowship is a good enough for an automatic $1.3 billion for the next campaign.

"Washington University is an essential role in everything the University does, and the main source of funds to support day-to-day operations comes from the Annual Fund.

"You can help us to continue our support for the best possible physical environment for teaching, learning and discovery. We can be extremely proud of what has already been achieved through the campaign, but there is so much more we can — and must — do to help the University achieve the full potential for good of our community and society."
Daniel F. Danforth Award for Service.

William Danforth has served in various capacities at Washington University.

He served as President of the University from 1965-1971 and again from 1991 to 1995. During his tenure, he led the University through a period of extraordinary growth. He was also a member of the University's Board of Trustees from 1965-1999.

In 1971, he became the chairman of the National Academy of Medicine faculty.

From 1965-1971, he served as president of the University and has been awarded the University's Lifetime Achievement Award.

In 1983, Dr. Danforth was awarded the Harris Youth Enrichment Award.

Society Award for Service.

Dr. Danforth has been a patron of the Eliot Society and a member of the boards of WSWU and The Woman's Club.

He has a deep commitment to education and has been a vocal proponent of it in every way imaginable. Dr. Danforth has served on the Board of Directors of the American Youth Foundation.

He is chairman of the board of directors of the Plant Science Center and heads the Coalition for the Preservation of Science.

Dr. Danforth's work has been recognized with awards such as the Green Light Award for Service. Furthermore, he is a life member of the Eliot Society and a member of the boards of WSWU and The Woman's Club.

Dr. Danforth's dedication to education has been evident throughout his career at Washington University. His commitment to educational excellence and his contributions to the university have been recognized with numerous awards and honors.

His leadership has guided the university through periods of both challenge and opportunity. Dr. Danforth's impact on the university and the greater community cannot be overstated, as he has been a true leader in promoting education and providing opportunities for all.

Washington University Policy on Discriminatory Harassment

The Washington University Record publishes this policy yearly as a service to the University community.

I. Policy statement

Washington University is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty, and staff members have the opportunity to work and study in an environment free of harassment.

II. What is discriminatory harassment?

Discriminatory harassment is unlawful and objectionable behavior. It includes any conduct that a reasonable person would find sufficiently severe, pervasive, or objectively offensive. The most useful communication will be that which is intended to and preventing harassment, the university's policy and procedures are designed to address and prevent discrimination.

The University will not tolerate any form of discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation, veteran status or disability.

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III. Confidentiality

It is the policy of the University to protect, to the greatest extent possible, the confidentiality of persons reporting harassment and of those accused of harassment.

Confidentiality is a requirement of the University's obligation to investigate meaningful and, where warranted, correct actions. Even when sexual misconduct is not the basis for the complaint, the University will not release information about a complaint unless the person making the complaint gives written consent.

The University will not tolerate retaliation or discrimination against persons who report or charge harassment or against those who testify, assist, or participate in any investigation, proceeding, or hearing involving a complaint of harassment. In this context, retaliation means speech or conduct that adversely affects another person's job or working conditions or that is motivated by an intent to harm the target person or cause the target person to fear retribution. Retaliation may include, but is not limited to, any inference or implication that a person has been subjected to retaliation in violation of this rule.

Complaints, prepared with or without the assistance of the Coordinator, will be filed with the following committees:

- Faculty and Staff Assistance Committee
- Title IX Grievance Committee
- Human Resources Advisory Committee
- University Judicial Code Committee

The University seeks to protect the rights of all parties, accusers, and accused, to fair procedures.

Complaints of accusations typically have far-reaching effects on the careers and lives of accused individuals. Allegations of harassment must be made in good faith and not out of malice. Knowingly making a false or frivolous allegation of harassment, whether in a formal or informal context, will be treated as a serious offense under this policy and, where it applies, the University Judicial Code shall be applied.

Approved by the Washington University Faculty Senate, December 12, 2003.

Appendix

Discriminatory Harassment Coordinators/Advisers:

- Hilltop Campus:
  - Barbara Schaal, 935-6822 (complaints by students)
  - Ken Roach, 935-8036 (complaints by faculty, staff and others)
- Barnes-Jewish Hospital Campus:
  - Amy L. Betsrian, 935-7745 (complaints by students)
- Hospital Campus:
  - Karen S. Sabet, 935-9174 (complaints by students)
- Medical Campus:
  - Lara D. Dwyer, 935-7481 (complaints by students)
  - April Cotton, 367-7198 (complaints by faculty, staff and others)
A knack for numbers

From crunching figures to clinicians for glaucoma research, Mae Gordon has a passion for details

by Michelle Leavitt

Mae frosts fresh-baked Valentine's Day cookies with husband Robert and son Michael.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

Feb. 21, 2003

WASHINGTON PEOPLE

U

paralleled intensity and an unfaltering drive define Mae Gordon, Ph.D. That relentless motivation, coupled with an innate ability to overcome adversity, began at birth. She was born on a rainy spring day in the harsh confines of an internment camp where Japanese-Americans were housed at the end of World War II.

Once the threat of further Japanese invasion subsided, the American government disbanded the camps, and the Chishula family moved to a vegetable and fruit farm in central Oregon.

The courage and endurance her parents demonstrated in the face of such hardship taught Gordon the meaning of strength. Life on the farm taught her the value of hard work and dedication — traits that enabled her to over-

come financial barriers and earn a scholarship to Portland State University.

The disciplined structure of life on the farm followed Gordon to college. At the break of dawn each morning, she would drive with her father to Portland to pick up farmhands. She would spend the early morning studying at the library. By her junior year, she was a psychology major and had been elected student body vice president.

It was her ability with numbers that led her to the University of Wisconsin to pursue a doctorate in psychometrics. Now, as a professor of biostatistics and of ophthalmology and visual sciences, Gordon is the principal investigator of the coordinating center for two large, multicenter National Institutes of Health (NIH) clinical studies that each enroll more than 1,000 participants.

Her study of an eye disease called keratoconus was the first national-epidemiologic study funded by the National Eye Institute. She also is director of the departmental Biostatistics Core, which provides biostatistical consulting to School of Medicine researchers with NIH grants, a role which allows her work to benefit other departments in the medical school.

Whether it's adding an extra 20 subjects to a study or doing a trial an additional six times, Gordon's work is an integral part of her efforts on designing studies, providing expertise in research design and performing statistical analysis.

"Clinicians, who often know little about statistics and who often are intimidated by most

statisticians, find working with Mae a pleasure. She communicates statistical considerations to clinicians in terms that they can understand," says Paul Palmberg, Ph.D., former WUSTL faculty member, glaucoma expert and now professor of ophthalmology at University of Miami School of Medicine. "She communicates statistical considerations to clinicians in terms that you can understand."

Statistically speaking

It was almost a fluke that Gordon found her home at the medical school.

Twenty-three years ago, Bernard Becker, M.D., then the head of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, asked Gordon to assist statistical aspects of the University's glaucoma studies.

Gordon helped rewrite a grant for the Glaucoma Research Center that initially had been rejected by the NIH. She hooked it into three smaller, more focused requests that all received funding.

She now leads national efforts to study ocular-hypertension treatments, which aim to lower intra-eye pressure and reduce the risk of developing glaucoma. Gordon's team has conclusively shown that medications to reduce inner-eye pressure are very effective in preventing or delaying the onset of glaucoma.

"What Mae proceeded to do was some clever risk-factor analyses that identified subgroups in whom the risk of damage was as high as 24 percent to 36 percent," Palmberg explains.

Gordon's analysis also identified a group of physicians whom she referred to as her "nearly 100 percent" group, a group so high that they had to be reinstated to receive the medication. Gordon's current study includes about 1,000 patients enrolled in 22 different sites across the country. She hopes to combine it with a European study that has 1,100 patients from four countries and is a "Me too" study." Gordon, who is the statistical coordinator, Gordon says it is important to recognize and to save those at low risk from interocular pressure are very effective in preventing or delaying the onset of glaucoma.

"Clinicians, who often know little about statistics and who are often intimidated by most statisticians, find working with Mae a pleasure. She communicates statistical considerations to clinicians in terms that they can understand," says Paul Palmberg, Ph.D., former WUSTL faculty member, glaucoma expert and now professor of ophthalmology at University of Miami School of Medicine. "She communicates statistical considerations to clinicians in terms that you can understand."

Attention to detail

Gordon's statistical training has been in useful in more practical ways as well. When the ocular hypertension treatments study received its initial funding, there was no office space to house the research. So Gordon went on a quest for a place.

During her search, she found some small study areas that were hardly used. So being expert statisticians, Gordon and her staff completed a complete inventory, documented it and found and how many people used the line of areas.

They found it was underutilized.

"No one could argue against this evidence," she says. "We got the space."

Teamwork, a trait she learned growing up on the farm family, has always been a part of her work ethic. As a team leader and project coordinator, Gordon says it is important to recognize and acknowledge those who generate good ideas, rather than rely on what she calls misattribution — a good suggestion that gets credit to the most influential person, not always the originator of the sug-

gestion.

"When I work in teams, I always take care to notice who actually made a suggestion and give them credit for it," she says. "I also learned that in higher-order discussions, you should never assume. I always repeat back to people what I think they're saying so we both know we understand."

"I work long days and weekends too. My staff is so happy when I take vacations, because that's the only time they get a break," she jokes.

Gordon simply doesn't know how to tone down her intensity level. A passionate fitness affi- cionado, Gordon has run three marathons and completed a cycling century — a 100-mile ride. She also recently won the most improved paddler award in her latest hobby, kayaking.

But she's found an outlet for all that intensity: yoga.

"For me, yoga is one of the few things that's physically chal-

lenging and mentally calming," she says.

Although she rarely has time for herself, cooking is one of her passions. She once won a dessert contest for her Greek galas-
tebourinos, a feta-dough fritta custard confection.

She also hosts an annual Japanese New Year's Day party to practice traditional cuisine.

"So much with cooking is about observation — its appear-

ance, the consistency, the taste — all these nonspecifics you begin to appreciate..." she says.

As with everything else in her life, the emphasis is always on the details.

Growing up on a farm taught Gordon that satisfaction is not always easy to come by, but she finds it in hard work and a drive toward perfection.

"There's nothing like wasted time and effort," she says. "Life is too short."