**Driving ability declines with age, Alzheimer's**

By Gila Z. Rickers

In one of the first studies to track driving performance over time in older adults, University researchers found driving abilities predict mortality in women with early Alzheimer's disease and to a lesser extent, in older adults without dementia.

The findings appear in the October issue of the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.

"As we expected, people with dementia, generally in the mild stages, declined faster than the nondemented individuals," said senior author Janet M. Dukich, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology and of occupational therapy. "But it is very interesting that there also was a decline in some of our nondemented participants. This is a precursor to the preclinical study, but it suggests testing individuals with mild dementia every six months can be useful to identify those who become ill faster."

Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia in older adults and affects about 4.5 million Americans. Affected individuals experience memory difficulties and problems with attention and eventually lose the ability to perform complicated tasks such as driving.

But according to co-author John C. Morris, M.D., principal investigator of the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and the Harvey A. and Dorismary Hacker Friedman Distinguished Professor of Neurology, it's impossible to predict driving performance based solely on an individual's age or general health once they have been diagnosed with dementia.

That's why the research team, which also included Linda Hunt, Ph.D., formerly at the School of Medicine, was honored with the Carl Reckess Award. Johnson, the Norman J. Stupp Professor of Medicine and Otolaryngology, it's impossible to predict driving performance based solely on an individual's age or general health once they have been diagnosed with dementia.

**Faculty achievement**

Lee Epstein, Ph.D. (left), and Eugene M. Johnson Jr., Ph.D., greet each other at the Faculty Achievement Awards Ceremony Sept. 30 at the Eric P. Newman Education Center on the Medical Campus. Epstein, the Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished Professor in the School of Medicine, was recognized with the Arthur Holly Compton Faculty Achievement Award. Johnson, the Norman L. Shugh Professor of Neurology and professor of molecular biology and pharmacology, and director of the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center in the School of Medicine, was honored with the Carl and Gerty Cori Faculty Achievement Award.

Metzidakis are newest faculty member

By Neil Schoenherr

The residents of Park/Mudd Residential College might notice some changes happening in their dorm this year — talent shows, jazz music festivals. It's all part of Stamos Metzidakis' plan to bring a faculty presence to the residential college and add a little fun to the process.

Metzidakis and his wife, Sarah, are the newest faculty family living in the South 40. They are the fifth family to accept the University's invitation to live rent-free on campus for three years since the faculty family program was started in 1999.

Officially, their role is to integrate academic and residential life.

"When this idea was proposed to me, I thought it was something I just couldn't pass up," said Metzidakis, Ph.D., professor of French and of comparative literature, both in Arts and Sciences.

"The whole staff has been so helpful getting us settled and taking care of our daily needs. It's been a wonderful experience so far.

"Metzidakis, who moved into his new apartment in Park/Mudd in July, has roles as helping add a faculty presence to everyday residential life.

"I think we are there to show the students, more than anything, that we are real people and that they have a life, that they are not only people who walk in and out of a classroom," he said.

**More on Page 3**

**Alzheimer's creates a void at WUSTL, leads to better treatment of the disease.**

Graduate students Huping Luo (left) and Shabab Roy flank Millorad P. Dudukovic, Ph.D., the Laura and William J. Dreeklein Professor of Environmental Engineering and chair of chemical engineering, as they view catalyst particle motion in a slurry system in the Chemical Reaction Engineering Laboratory. Dudukovic is an associate director of the new multi-institutional Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis.

WUSTL joins new center; goal is to develop environmentally friendly chemical processes

By Tony Fitzpatrick

Washington University is joining two other universities in forming a new center devoted to developing the basis for environmentally friendly chemical processes.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has announced that the Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis (CEBC) has been selected to receive $71 million under the NSF Engineering Research Center (ERC) program. Additional funding streams and donated facilities as a result of the award are expected to bring the total package value to nearly $30 million.

"The CEBC is a multidisciplinary, multi-university research center led by the University of Iowa, with the University of Washington and Washington University serving as core partners. Its mission is to develop chemical processes that are environmentally friendly as well as economically viable, and moreover to implement them in practice," said Huy C. Do, Ph.D., professor and head of the Department of Chemical Engineering at Washington University.

"The CEBC is the development of "green" chemistry techniques and the application of green engineering principles that will enable the $340 billion-per-year chemical industry to yield economic benefits to keep the environment clean," the CEBC director is Bala Subramaniam, Ph.D., the Eli E. and Marjorie G. Streb Distinguished Professor in Chemical Engineering and professor of chemical engineering at Iowa.

Metzidakis are newest faculty member

"Participation in this center … will help us and our collaborators truly abide by the principles of green chemistry and green engineering to make these chemicals in a clean way."

**Shaping the Future**

This Week In WUSTL History

Oct. 10, 1858
The Board of Directors approved a resolution creating the office of chancellor.

Oct. 11, 1993
WUSTL hosted the first debate of the presidential campaign, featuring President George H.W. Bush, the Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton and W. Bush Pent.

Oct. 12, 1962
Thomas H. Eliot was inaugurated as the 12th chancellor, serving until 1971.

This feature will be included in each "WUSTL in History" column in observance of Washington University's 150th anniversary.
Grad student leaders to meet here Oct. 10-12

BY SUSAN KILLENBERG-MCGOWN

G

Grad student leaders from across the country will meet this weekend at the University Oct. 10-12 to exchange ideas about what top schools are the key issues in graduate education in the 21st century. The National Conference on Graduate Student Leadership, part of the University's 150th anniversary celebration, will bring to campus 42 graduate student delegates from the 14 universities in the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation's "Responsive Ph.D." program. The conference will feature plenary and panel sessions, as well as informal discussions with the delegates, including three from Washington University.

"This is a unique opportunity to hear what graduate and professional student leaders think are the perplexing challenges and promising practices in graduate education in the 21st century," said Tabitha Knerr, Ph.D., associate dean in the graduate school and co-chair of the conference for student leaders. "The conference for student leaders is crucial, for it engages the next generation of intellectual leaders in the debates. Those are the individuals who will determine the nature of academic and professional life and the promise to humanize the human condition beyond academia." Both Weisbuch and Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton will speak at the conference.

"Washington University, with its graduate Dean Bob Thach, has taken a national leadership role in improving doctoral education," Weisbuch said. "This conference for student leaders is crucial, for it engages the next generation of intellectual leaders in the debates. Those are the individuals who will determine the nature of academic and professional life and the promise to humanize the human condition beyond academia.

The three student delegates representing Washington University at the conference are Aline Boss, a doctoral student in biology and biomedical sciences; Julie H. Gabel, a third-year law student; and Scott A. Hendrickson, a doctoral student in political science in Arts and Sciences.

For more information, call 935-7555.

Atlantic Monthly ranks WUSTL No. 11

BY NEIL SCHONHERR

The Atlantic Monthly magazine has created its first ranking of all types of colleges and universities, and Washington University is rated 11th in the nation.

The top 10 schools in order are: the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton University, the California Institute of Technology, Yale University, Harvard University, Stanford University, Columbia University, the University of Pennsylvania, Brown University and Swarthmore College.

"This review of colleges and universities has evolved into a campus-wide program," said Robert E. Thach, Ph.D., president of the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, agreed. "The foundation, which is providing support for the conference, selected Washington University in 2001 as one of three universities to inaugurate its "Responsive Ph.D." initiative aimed at improving doctoral education in the United States."

"Washington University, with its graduate Dean Bob Thach, has taken a national leadership role in improving doctoral education," Weisbuch said. "This conference for student leaders is crucial, for it engages the next generation of intellectual leaders in the debates. Those are the individuals who will determine the nature of academic and professional life and the promise to humanize the human condition beyond academia."


Democratic Rep. Melvin Price (seated), who served Illinois from 1945-1986, visits the University's computer center in November 1986. Some of the equipment in the center had been used to track orbits of the Russian Sputnik satellite. (Price with Price are from left) Edwin Roth, cartographer and astronaut; Robert Cohn, technical supervisor; and Harvey S. Cohn, director of the computer center. The use of computers has increased exponentially over the years. The most recent example of this at the University is the Arc Technology Center at Olin Library, where students, faculty and staff can digitize old images, text, slides and videotape; prepare interactive tutorials and course modules; and develop multimedia with sound, video, animation, images and text.

Washington University is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2003-04. Special programs and announcements will be made throughout the year-long observance.
John G. Csernansky, M.D., the Andrew B. and Gretchen P. Jones Holtzman, M.D.
Assembly Series welcomes Brenner, Gomes Oct. 14-15

Brenner has made numerous contributions to the fields of genetics and biology. In 2002, he won the Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine for his research on the nematode roundworm. His work has paved the way toward the understanding of a multifaceted organism and was a significant factor in the development of the Human Genome Project.

Born and raised in South Africa, Brenner studied at Oxford and Cambridge universities in the 1970s. From 1979-

1986, he served as director of the Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology at Cambridge University. He is currently a distinguished professor at the Salk Institute of Biological Studies in La Jolla, Calif. He also serves as president of the Molecular Sciences Institute in Berkeley, Calif., a private institute he founded in 1994 to advance interdisciplinary research in fields such as genetics, genomics and computational biology.

Brenner has been part of many landmark scientific discoveries over the years. He was one of the first to work on C. elegans and Cell's model for the DNA double helix. Brenner and his colleagues discovered messenger RNA, which can be translated into proteins. Working with Crick, he also proposed that a single amino acid is coded by a triplet of RNA.

His work in genetics and at the molecular level has led to major gains in understanding a range of diseases, including cancer, AIDS, strokes and neuropsychiatric disorders.

Brenner's lecture will discuss some of the questions raised by the completion of the Human Genome Project. He will talk about both the benefits and the fears brought on by recent breakthroughs in genetics research and his belief that the brain is mighty, not the genome.

Gomes was chosen to participate in the presidential inauguration at The White House. He will face a tough crowd in those conversations, but he’s learned to speak in a language that is “readable.”

His advice on how to focus on what he considers the important things in politics is this: “Before addressing the need for distancing between the ‘plausible lies’ that our society defines as ‘the good life’ and the fantastical truths that hold our lives can exist beyond the limits of happiness."

His pages also contains a number of other books, including many honorary degrees and being named an honorary fellow of Emmanuel College at the University of Cambridge, whereas a biography of Merton has been established.

In 2001, he received Harvard’s Paine Award. He also holds the position of trustee of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

This year, Gomes was named to the Order of the British Empire, where he is also an honorary fellow of Emmanuel College.

Gomes has written a number of books, including the "fantastic truths" and "the plausible lies" that he believes hold the key to happiness.

His most recent book, "The Good Life," is published by Doubleday.

Gomes debunks the notion of a "perfect life" and the "fantastic truths" that holding a number of honorary degrees and being named an honorary fellow of Emmanuel College at the University of Cambridge.

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Critic Vendler, poet Graham in ‘Conversations About Poetry’

By LAM OTTEN

Hailed in literary journals and on radio and television as one of the nation’s most influential poets, Jorie Graham is among our most loved — and shortest — poets. Her books include coming Oct. 14 a new volume of verse, Poems 1974-1994, for which she won the National Book Critics Circle Award in criticism.

The Middle Eastern writer, poet Graham in ‘Conversations About Poetry’

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Sports

Football quells rally, holds off Rhodes 28-21

The football team held off a late fourth-quarter rally and defeated Rhodes College 28-21, Oct. 14 at Forest Park. The Bears had a 21-10 lead heading into the fourth quarter, but Rhodes was able to break through. Midway through the fourth quarter, Rhodes tied the game at 21-21 on a field goal, bears senior Blake Winstead had a season-long 44-yard return on the ensuing kickoff, which was the Bears five-play drive for the game-winning touchdown, junior Adam Merenda converted with sophomore Brad Durning a 20-yard reception, and junior Garrett Wilson carried the ball to the Rhodes 2-yard line. Merenda scored on a 1-yard run and put the game on the next play to give WUSTL a 28-21 lead. Durning finished the game with 11 catches for a season-high 189 yards as he moved into seventh place all-time at the University with 107 career receptions. Merenda finished 22 of 56 for 333 yards and two touchdowns. McCarty led the Bears on the ground with 18 carries for 76 yards and a touchdown.

Other updates

The No. 2 ranked volleyball team went 3-0, defeating Case Western Reserve University at the University of Rochester, 3-1, and the University of Chicago, 3-0, at the University of Chicago. Association Round Robin No. 3. The Bears (15-6) are 11-2 at the home court, in a season-best 47-7 record against Rochester.

The men's soccer team dropped its UAA opener Oct. 5, 1-0, toMount St. Mary's (Md.) Academy, 3-0. Although the Bears were shut out for most of the game, they netted the game-winning goal at the 83:37 mark to secure the win. Washington University went through seven scoreless periods, but the Tartans lost 3-0 at home.

The women's soccer team won its UAA opener 2-0 over Carnegie Mellon University Oct. 5 at Francis Field. Freshman Sara Schroeder scored both goals for the Bears, who extended their unbeaten streak to 10 games. WUSTL, but not since a season-opening 5-0 setback at No. 2 Wheaton College, Schroeder got the Bears on the board in the ninth minute as the picked up a loose ball in the middle of the field and beat goalkeeper Megan Monseue with a shot to the right of the net.

The men's cross-country team scored 65 points to defeat 10 teams Oct. 4 at the Indiana State Invitational Meet. About 3500 runners were slated for the event.

The swimming and diving team opened the 2003-04 season Oct. 4 against Northeastern Illinois University. The Bears fell 166-68. Despite a strong individual effort, the Bears men fell 191-102 and the men lost 172-119. On the men's side, sophomore Eric Triefenbach won the 100-yard breaststroke in 58.49, five seconds ahead of the second-place finisher. Also, he won the 50 freestyle (21.58) and the 200 breaststroke (2:14.96). Classmate Matthew Sokol edged Michael Al-Dahhan in the 200 free, and followed that with a win in the 100 free.

Sophomore Tracey Hendrick served as the Bears' top scorer, finishing with 7 points. The Bears earned a silver medal in the 200 free relay and won the 400 free relay with a time of 3:47.56. She also won the 500 free (5:14.92).

Paul Thornton has been named the men's and women's track and field coach. Thornton replaces Chad Mihalick, who was named to a position at Florida A&M.

Thornton comes to Washington University from Saint Mary's in Winona, Minn., where he had been the Card-

The couple also enjoys jazz and blues music, watching movies and entertaining. "Rabbits" is a Ramdah Rabo film and won a prize at the 55 school records.

WASHINGhON University in St. Louis

Family

From Page 1

"Students are nice in bars or wearing tennis shoes. They are

We are both very excited about the opportunity to

When Metzidakis isn't teach-

The couple also enjoys jazz and blues music, watching movies and entertaining.

Sports

Stamos Metzidakis, Ph.D. (left), professor of French and of comparative literature, both in Arts & Sciences. His wife, Susan C. Metzidakis, enjoys a doubles game with students almost since the university opened 22 years ago.

The center is an outgrowth of a science education program for the University and will provide an opportunity to share our interests and ideas with students and to learn from them as well."
of note

Bijoy K. Ghosh, Ph.D., professor of electrical and systems engineering, has received a three-year, $226,101 grant from the National Science Foundation for a study titled "Feedback Control of Visual Pathways with Maximal Sensitivity to Dendritic Currents: Inference and Security." Elliot M. Fried, Ph.D., associate professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering, has received a three-year, $128,915 grant from the National Science Foundation for a study titled "Surface and Atomic-Scale Mechanics of Synthetic Responsive Hydrogels."+

Jonathan R. Goldberg, Ph.D., associate professor of computer engineering, has received a three-year, $499,096 grant from the National Science Foundation for research titled "An Interactive Learning Environment for Introductory Computer Science."+

Jonathan B. Lounes, Ph.D., associate professor of biology in Arts & Sciences, has received a two-year, $11,172 grant from the National Science Foundation for dissertation research titled "Testing Hypotheses of Morphological Differentiation in the Intertidal Animal, Amphipecten Radulae."+


Soviak earned bachelor's and master's degrees in 1948, and is today regarded as a classic. Jack R. Engberg, Ph.D., research associate professor of neurological surgery, has received a two-year, $425,086 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke for research titled "Ankle Strengthening to Improve Gait and Function in CP."+

Paul J. Goodhew, Ph.D., professor of surgery, has received a one-year, $155,000 grant from the National Cancer Institute for research titled "CDNA Methylation and Prognosis in Endometrial Cancers."+

Jin-Moo Lee, M.D., assistant professor of medicine, has received a two-year, $248,423 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke for research titled "The Role of Zinc in Focal Ischemic Brain Injury."+

Stanford L. Peng, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of medicine, has received a three-year, $293,439 grant from the American Diabetes Association for research titled "Role of Ald in the Regulation of Pancreatic Beta Cell Mass and Function."+

Deva B. Becker, M.D., clinical research fellow, has received a one-year, $49,096 grant from the Cleft Palate Foundation for research titled "The Long-Term Clinical Outcome of Surgically Corrected Unilateral Craniofacial Craniosynostosis on Craniofacial Development and Neuropsychological Function."+

Doctoral education forum hosted by GWB

BY JESSICA MARTIN


Through hosting this meeting, we will be able to celebrate over 50 years of doctoral education in addition to discussing national issues in social work, said Nancy Morrow-Howell, Ph.D., professor of social work and chair of the GDB doctoral program. This is the annual meeting of the Association of Schools of Social Work, an organization whose members and directors of established social work/social welfare doctoral programs at secular institutions. It was founded nearly 25 years ago to provide a forum for sharing ideas and strategies and for strengthening members' efforts at enhancing doctoral education.

Marvin Peterson, Ph.D., professor of higher education at the University of Michigan, will give the conference's keynote address. The Center for Educational Design at University: Implications for Doctoral Education. Additional topics that will be covered at the conference include student attrition, interdisciplinary structures, funding for doctoral students, the job market and preparing students for the job market. The meeting is closed to the public for more information, call 935-6605.

Oct. 3 4:34 p.m. — A student reported that his bicycle was taken from his backpack, which she left unattended for about five minutes. The bicycle was secured with a bolt cutter. The monitor and keyboard were left behind. Oct. 6 10:04 a.m. — Two reports of larceny, two lost wallets, one lost report each of trespassing and damaging property.

Oct. 7 10:04 a.m. — The Arts & Sciences computing staff reports that the computer lab was closed due to the heavy use of the lab. The lab will be closed until further notice.
Carol S. North, M.D., professor of psychiatry, prepares interview material for the World Trade Center survival study with Barry Honig, Ph.D., professor of psychology in psychiatry and associate professor of medicine.

Carol North with her Great Danes in Tower Grove Park.

Against All Odds

Psychiatrist and disaster expert Carol North inspires patients, colleagues

people a second time. North teamed with Smith in 1987, and in the years since, has traveled to more than a dozen disaster sites, interviewed more than 2,000 survivors, and analyzed reams of data.

Her first trip was to Indiana to interview the survivors of a plane crash. A military jet hit a Ramadan, and although the pilot ejected safely, 10 people on the ground were killed.

Later that year, she was in New York City, reporting the discovery of dioxin in Times Beach, Mo., in 1982.

She’s also been to Indiana to interview the survivors of a plane crash. A military jet hit a Ramadan, and although the pilot ejected safely, 10 people on the ground were killed.

Late in high school, she became very ill. During her freshman year of college, she was hospitalized and diagnosed with schizophrenia. Medications helped with some of the symptoms, but the side effects were severe.

In spite of the illness, she finished college and even started medical school at the University of Iowa. But her illness worsened her first year and ended up in the hospital again. The University of Iowa didn’t think it was a good idea for North to continue her medical training.

She had been hearing voices. Sometimes the voices told her to kill herself, and she came close to taking her own life. Desperate for some sort of help, North and her family turned to an experimental therapy in which her blood was filtered in a process that might be compared to kidney dialysis. She details the experience in her inspiring book, Welcome Silence.

“They never demonstrated that the treatment was generally effective,” North says. "There were problems with the research, which eventually was abandoned.”

She received the treatment for 20 weeks. During the second week, the voices suddenly stopped.

That was more than 20 years ago. North hasn’t required any medication or had any symptoms of schizophrenia since.

“I see myself as blessed with a sort of personal miracle,” she says. “It was just against all odds because we know from experience in the field that few people recover or do as well as I’ve done.”

“It’s an experience that is so typical that I would classify it as fairly miraculous.”

A unique perspective

North’s next miracle came from the late Samuel Guze, M.D.

When she applied to Washington University’s medical school, the dean’s office asked Guze, the former head of psychiatry and vice chancellor for medical affairs, for his opinion. Years later, he talked about his decision with Barry Honig, Ph.D., professor of psychology in psychiatry and associate professor of medicine.

Sam Guze had always been a champion of people who had mental health problems,” Honig says. “He said Carol’s case was one where as a department and a university, we had to practice what we preached.

He really championed her cause. He had confidence she would succeed.”

North says it’s a tribute to the School of Medicine that she was allowed to continue her studies.

“It’s important that when patients get better they have the opportunity to pursue their dreams,” she stresses.

Early in her studies, North had considered becoming a small-town doc or maybe even a psychiatrist. But then she worked as a research assistant doing psychiatric epidemiology and enjoyed it.

She also felt her own experiences gave her a unique perspective.

“One could make the argument that it doesn’t take somebody with a brain tumor to make a good brain surgeon,” she says. “But in some regards, I have a bit of an edge because I experienced the degree of human suffering that psychiatric illness can bring.”

North has devoted her career to the suffering — not only those who have survived disasters but also to the homeless. For a decade, she was the psychiatrist for Grace Hill Neighborhood Services, where she worked with indigent and homeless people.

She even had to dodge bullets on the job. She was at a Great Hill clinic discussing patient cases with a social worker when a gunfight began outside. They hid out of their chairs and continued working on the floor.

She also made “house calls,” visiting homeless patients in shelters, and occasionally provided services slightly outside of her normal routine.

“I delivered a baby at one of those clinics,” she says. “The primary-care doctor was at lunch, and I was actually the only doctor there when a young woman decided it was time to deliver her baby boy.”

A lifelong love

When she’s not traveling around the world to talk with disaster survivors or working with the homeless in St. Louis, North likes to run. A movement disorder has slightly outside of her normal routine.

“We live silence.

“Carol is one of the true stars in psychiatric epidemiology,” says Charles F. Zusneiki, M.D., the Samuel H. Guze Professor and head of the Department of Psychiatry. “Over the past 10 to 15 years, she has become a national leader in understanding the psychiatric effects of disasters.”

“Carol is one of the true stars in psychiatric epidemiology. Over the past 10 to 15 years, she has become a national leader in understanding the psychiatric effects of disasters.”

Charles F. Zusneiki