**Mars mission gets boost from WUSTL**

**By Jim Dixon**

Young people with eye diseases that damage the inner part of the retina and optic nerve are significantly more likely to have sleep disorders than those with other types of eye disease or those with normal vision, according to a study involving more than 2,700 people at the Washington University School of Medicine.

In the February issue of the journal *Ophthalmology*, the investigators report on a study involving 2,700 subjects, ages 12-20, from the Missouri School for the Blind and 124 students with normal vision.

The visually impaired students were divided into two groups: those whose visual problems were related to optic nerve disease and those whose vision loss did not involve the optic nerve.

They also were nine times more likely to be pathologically sleepy (napting 20 or more minutes per day) than those with normal sight. They were nine times more likely to have pathological sleepiness than children who were blind from nonoptic nerve diseases.

"We suspect these patients have difficulty using daylight to synchronize their internal rhythms to the outside world," said senior investigator Russell N. Van Gelder, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences and of molecular biology and pharmacology.

In recent research, Van Gelder found that the retina contains not only the photoreceptor cells—rods and cones, which translate light into vision—but also houses nonvisual, or intrinsically photosensitive, cells—ipsilateral retinal ganglion cells (ipRGCs), neurons that detect light and synchronize the body's internal clocks.

**Optic nerve disease, sleep disorders linked**

"We are looking for all types of entries, from all media types," SI$ Marti (left) said.

"I also realized the importance of the Internet and how it is useful. We are looking for all types of entries, from all media types." SI$ Marti (left)

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Public intellectuals in focus of Conversation

By Susan Kellenberg McGinn

Public intellectuals — a class of specialists or all-purpose thinkers — will gather from 10:11-11:30 a.m. Feb. 12 in Graham Chapel to have a “conversation” about well, public intellectuals.

As part of the University’s yearlong 150th anniversary celebration, Arts & Sciences is sponsoring “Conversations,” a four-part series bringing some of the nation’s top scholars together to discuss key issues that will affect the future of the University, the community and the world.

Gerald L. Early, Ph.D., the Merle E. Kling Professor of Modern Letters in Arts & Sciences, will moderate the discussion on “Public Intellectuals,” the third topic in the series.

Joining Early will be Michael Berube, the Paterno Family Professor in Literature at Pennsylvania State University; Howard Brick, Ph.D., professor of history in Arts & Sciences at Washington University; Stanley Crouch, a columnist for the New York Daily News; Marjorie Garber, the William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of English and director of the Humanities Center at Harvard University; and Washington University’s Ursula Goodenough, Ph.D., professor of bioinformatics in Arts & Sciences, who hosts a joint appointment as associate professor of anatomy in the School of Medicine.

A noted essayist and American cultural critic, Early is also a professor of English, of African and Afro-American Studies (AFAS), and of American Culture Studies, and director of The Center for the Humanities and intensities co-director of AFAS, all in Arts & Sciences.


Early notes that taking on writing assignments “has made some people, more than a few, think about me, to see a bit of a difference in my own inclination, a public intellectual. I would certainly fit the current description of such a person: I am a university professor; I have an advanced degree and a recognized area of academic expertise. I write for publications that enjoy a general, albeit, highly partisan, readership.”

Early continues: “I find the term ‘intellectual’ pretentious, a word suggesting some sort of sage-like figure, a person one is not likely to find among the common people...I wish, to be plain-spoken about it, to call a thing by its right name, as old folk might say, and my right name is simply ‘writer’...yet he concedes that “sometimes, one must accept what is.”

See Conversation, Page 7
Mechanism triggering blood flow identified
Insights may help neurology, diabetic patients

By Michael C. Perry

A mystery of basic cell metabolism that has persisted for a century has come a major step closer to giving up its secrets. University scientists have identified a mechanism that triggers increased blood flow to brain cells actively engaged in work.

"One can pick out any number of diseases in which knowing how increased blood flow in the brain is activated, will be very important and useful," Marcus E. Raichle, M.D., professor of radiology, of neuropsychology and of psychiatry, was intrigued. Williamson, the lead investigator for the other University study appearing in PNAS, was less certain. "I was not sure the connection was there, but knowing how the increase is triggered will provide vital aid to answering that question." Raichle, who led the PNAS human study also directed a 1988 study that found increased brain activity was linked to increased blood flow, much more than brain cells' consumption of oxygen.

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**SoHo in Hollywood • Taste of the Town • The Rural Studio**

**Benedict to speak on constitutional responsibility**

**By Kurt Muller**

Michael Benedict will present “The Constitutional Responsibility of the American People” for the Assembly Series at 11 a.m. Feb. 11 in Graham Chapel.

Benedict holds a professor of history at the Moritz School of Law at Ohio State University, and his academic and legal history, the history of civil rights and liberties, and the federal system.

In addition to more than 40 published essays in American history and law journals, he has authored or co-authored several books, including his most recent, "Compromises of Principle: Congressional Republicans and Reconstruction" — all often required reading for history students.

He also wrote the widely used text, "The Blessing of Liberty," and a companion book, Sources in American Constitutional History.

In collaboration with Vivien M. Hart of the University of St. Louis, Benedict is developing a conference and a reader on comparative constitutional traditions.

He is completing a series of essays on the great Civil War era Supreme Court and his new book, "Justice Supreme Court Justice Salmon S. Chase.

Additionally, he is completing a study of the politics and law of Reconstruction. Benedict has received support from the Ohio State Bar Foundation to prepare a two-volume work on the history of Ohio law.

Assembly Series talks are free and open to the public. For more information, call 935-3240 or go online to wupa.wustl.edu/assembly.

**Rabbi Talve to give Assembly Series talk Feb. 12**

**By Barbara Rea**

Rabbi Susan Talve, the founding rabbi of the J Camp, the nationally renowned Jewish summer camp in St. Louis, will give an Assembly Series lecture for the Assembly Series on Thursday, Feb. 12, in the Women’s Building Formal Lounge. Her talk will serve as the Rabbi Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman Memorial Lecture.

Through her leadership in the Central Reform Congregation and in the Jewish community of the city of St. Louis — and her community outreach programs — Talve is working to improve relationships among groups and to improve conditions for those in need.

In addition to performing lifecycle events and leading worship services for the 700 households in the congregation, she teaches Jewish and non-Jewish youth and adults courses on Jewish life and thought.

She has forged a relationship with the largely African-American congregation of Congregation Beth Israel in East St. Louis, and a public-school mentoring program that has won national acclaim as a positive response to racism and violence.

She helped found and continues to lead a group at St. Louis Children’s Hospital for families of children with congenital heart defects.

Active in a range of social justice programs and organization in the community, Talve has served in a leadership role for the Jewish Council for Social Service and the Missouri Jewish Political Action Committee.

Assembly Series talks are free and open to the public. For more information, call 935-3240 or go online to wupa.wustl.edu/assembly.
Political humorist Kate Clinton at Edison

BY LIAM OTTEN

The self-described "oldest living, continuously performing lesbian political comic in America" in wetting her way to Washington — Edison University, that is — for the Edison Assembly Series. A one-night-only performance will begin at 8 p.m. Feb. 15. Clinton is the author of "Orange County" and "The Righteous Road Show," and a frequent performer on "Late Night with David Letterman," "The Arsenio Hall Show," and "The Rosie O'Donnell Show." She served as "host for the hit "Liberation," the first all-feminist talk show." Clinton's six-episode comedy series includes "Girls in Groom, Comedy You Can Dance To and Read These cvh Books," a book based on her monologues, was published in 1998, and the audio companion was named "One of the 10 Best Audiobooks" by Publishers Weekly. She has also written for The New York Times and other publications.

Clinton will appear in the film "Love Letters," directed by Alan Rudolph, and was one of four lesbian comics featured in Laughing Matters, an award-winning documentary produced by Andrea Meyerson. She has appeared off-Broadway on several occasions, and in 2001 replaced Dick Cavett on Broadway as the narrator of The Rocky Horror Show. In 2002, she appeared for six weeks in the New York production of The Vapecolliou. "Kate Clinton cuts through 10,000 miles of badness with a single brilliant insight, complete with punch line," said Tony Kushner, author of Angels in America.

The San Francisco Chronicle said, "Clinton's appeal runs deeper than quotable lines, to a buoyant, removed attitude that can connect seemingly distant dots." Tickets are $28 for the general public, $25 for seniors, and $24 for WUSTL faculty and staff. 935-5694. All WUSTL students are eligible. Tickets are available at the Edison Theatre Box Office and through all MetroTix outlets. For more information, call 935-4943-

Marcus residency

Dance/Performance Activator Jean Erkert leads a recent workshop in improvisation techniques for the Performing Arts Department's Dance Program in Arts & Sciences. Erkert, the Dance Program 2003-2004 Marcus fellow, is in former active director of the Samba Malengo, a world music group, and teaches at Columbia College in Chicago. She authored the book Harnassing The Wind: The Art of Teaching Dance, published in 2003. The Marcus residency was established by Morris D. Marcus, M.D., a dermatologist and professor emeritus in the School of Medicine, in memory of his wife, Margaret, who was a dancer, teacher and choreographer.

Thursday, Feb. 19


4 p.m. Chemistry Seminars. "Recent Advances in Inorganic Nuclear Magnetic Resonance." David Harvey, assoc. prof. of chemistry. One Stop, U. Mallinckrodt Student Center.

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On Stage

Friday, Feb. 6

8 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. George N. Morgan, Pan-Hellas St. Club. 935-4481.

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Sports

Friday, Feb. 6

8:30 a.m. Women's Basketball vs. U. of Rochester. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

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U College lectures to focus on memory

BY ANDY CLINEHEDN

The Master of Liberal Arts (MLA) Saturday Lecture series, sponsored by the MLA Program in University College, will feature four University experts addressing the concept of "Commemoration: Public and Private Meanings of the Past in the Present for the Future.

"In selecting the MLA series this year, we drew inspiration from the overall Sesquicentennial theme of "Rediscovering the Past, Shaping the Future,"" said the series coordinator, Minsook Han. "The series will examine not only the role of memorials and commemoration and interpretation as a political act, but also the role of commemoration in the community, and in the private sphere."

"We're delighted to have four distinguished scholars examining these issues from different perspectives," said the series coordinator. "Each lecture will take place from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays in February inside the Fine Arts Building in McDonnell Hall. The schedule is listed here."

Lecture series schedule

All lectures are free and open to the public and begin at 1 p.m. Monday-Friday, Feb. 16-20. For more information, call 935-4705.

February 16, 1 p.m.: "Image, Space and Materiality". Lecture series schedule

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William's Early play McVay: a "remarkable" experiment - from Page 1

The story centers on Vashya Shontine (shorten Daniel Hirth), a courtier and son of an aristocratic princess, is a rude and disagreeable young man who has a habit of teasing his older sister, Vashya Shontine, the vulgar and manipulative older sister, is a cruel and cunning woman who enjoys causing mischief and playing games on others. Vashya is also a fierce and泼辣, who is known for her sharp tongue and quick wit. She is often seen plotting against her younger brother, who she views as a threat to her position and influence.

McVay's play, "The Secret Year," is a story about the lives of two sisters, Vashya and her younger sister, Lila. The play takes place in the 1930s, during the Great Depression, and explores the struggles of young women seeking to find their place in society.

In the opening scene, Vashya is shown as a vain and shallow woman who is obsessed with her own beauty and status. She is seen preening in front of a mirror, admiring her reflection and commenting on her own attractiveness. Vashya is also shown as a manipulative and cunning woman, who uses her charm and wit to get what she wants.

Lila, on the other hand, is shown as a more reserved and thoughtful young woman. She is shown reading books and studying, and is depicted as a kind and gentle person who is interested in learning and growing. Lila is also shown as someone who is not interested in the materialistic trappings of society, and is more concerned with intellectual pursuits.

As the play progresses, the tension between the two sisters grows, and their relationship becomes more complex. Vashya and Lila are shown to have contrasting values and priorities, and their differences are highlighted throughout the play.

In the end, "The Secret Year" is a story about the challenges and struggles of young women in a difficult time, and the importance of finding one's own path in life. The play is a poignant and thought-provoking exploration of the human experience, and is sure to resonate with audiences of all ages.
Mariani returns; named deputy general counsel

By ANDY CLENDENNEN

Randy Mariani liked the record.wustl.edu

Jan. 28

2:45 p.m. — An unknown per-

Jan. 31

1:25 p.m. — An unknown per-

Feb. 2

2:25 p.m. — In two separate inci-

Jan. 29

9:48 p.m. — An unknown per-

Campus Watch

The following incidents were reported to University Police Jan. 28-Feb. 3. Readers with information that could assist in investigating these incidents are urged to call 935-5555. This information is provided as a public service to promote safety awareness and is avail-

Record

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Washington University community news

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Where to send address changes

Washington University, Campus Box 1070.

Washington University in St. Louis

Washington University in St. Louis
Rob Wild loves the daily challenges in the Office of Residential Life

Rob Wild, associate director of residential life, leads a recent program for students: "Students love working with him, and his warm personality and well-known sense of humor make him approachable and fun to be around," says Justin X. Carroll, assistant vice chancellor for students and director of residential life.

"He's bright, thoughtful, organized — and not only that, he has a great sense of humor and is a delightful colleague," said Karen Coburn, assistant vice chancellor for students and associate dean for freshman transition.

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