Research: Jupiter moon vaporizing rock gases into its atmosphere

By Tony Fitzpatrick

The hottest spot in the solar system is neither Mercury, Venus, nor St. Louis in the summer. In fact, one of the four satellites that the Italian astronomer Galileo discovered orbiting Jupiter almost 400 years ago, takes that prize. The Voyager spacecraft discovered volcanic activity on Io more than three decades ago, and subsequent observations show that is the most volcanically active body in the solar system. The Galileo spacecraft found volcanic hot spots with temperatures as high as 2,910 degrees Fahrenheit (1,610 degrees Celsius). Now, WUSTL researchers’ computer models of volcanic eruptions on Io show the lavas are so hot that they are vaporizing sodium, potassium, iron, and iron, and probably some gases as well, into its atmosphere.

Using an updated version of MAGMA, a versatile computer program he developed 15 years ago with a Harvard University colleague, Bruce Fegley Jr., Ph.D., professor of earth and planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences, found that some of these elements are vaporized at least partly as single- gas ions. Others are vaporized in different molecular forms — for example, sodium chloride, silicon dioxide, and iron monoxide.

“Reaction of these gases with sulfur and chlorine species in vol- canic gases could lead to the formation of such unusual gases as sodium chloride, potassium chloro- ride, magnesium dichloride and iron dichloride,” Fegley said. In 2000, Fegley and former WUSTL colleague Michael Zool- mer discovered on Io. “Therefore, these observations

Sees Gases. Page 6

New faculty fellows living in South 40

By Neil Schoenherr

Residents living in the Wayman Crow and Robert S. Brookings residential colleges may have noticed a new face around the dormitories this semester. Robert T. Vinson, Ph.D., assistant professor of history and of African and Afro-American Studies, both in Arts & Sciences; and Andrea J. Heugatter, adjunct professor of technical writing in the School of Engineering & Applied Science and director of engineering undergraduate admissions, enjoy a conversation with freshmen Kevin Tang and Shi Su. Heugatter is one of the two new faculty fellows in the South 40. “Living with stu- dents, as opposed to visiting them, presents a new set of challenges and opportunities,” she says.

Robert T. Vinson, Ph.D. (left), assistant professor of history and of African and Afro-American Studies, both in Arts & Sciences, talks with senior Darius Bates. “Being a faculty fellow has really im- 

proved my teaching, because I feel I know students on a different level now,” Vinson says.

Am please to tailor programs that help women reduce risky behavior and to comply with program recommendations. “We’ve had some success in the past with peer-led interventions among drug users,” Cotter said. “But we need to im- prove access to available services and to educate these women about the best ways to reduce high-risk behaviors and increase their knowledge about HIV and other sexu- ally transmitted diseases.”

In India, Cotter’s group will work with the wives of men who engage in high-risk substance abuse and sexual behaviors, including sex with prostitutes. “Previous studies in HIV prevention have tended to target female commercial sex workers, but our study will look at wo- men who are at risk because their husbands engage in risky behavior,” Cotter said. “It’s very important in that by helping to give these women the tools they need to protect themselves, especially because India is con- sidered to be an epicenter of HIV spreading the next decade.” Cotter’s team will also study the use of so-called “club drugs” — Ecstasy, ketamine, methamphetamine, and others — among young people in Taiwan. Ongoing research has suggested that young people who use these drugs are more likely to engage in risky behavior, including sex with prostitutes.

Residents of the group are gen- erally eager to listen to each other’s points of view,” Cotter said. “Other campuses may have a more balanced perspective.”

Arabi Ben Abdallah of the Department of Psychology’s Epidemiology and Prevention Research Group monitors teen-age behavior for the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Cottier’s team will also study the use of so-called “club drugs” — Ecstasy, ketamine, methamphetamine, and others — among young people in Taiwan. Ongoing research has suggested that young people who use these drugs are more likely to engage in risky behavior, including sex with prostitutes.

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Whiteness conference hosted by law school

BY JESSICA MARTIN

T

he School of Law will host an interdisciplinary conference on "Whiteness: Some Critical Perspectives" from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 29 in the Bevan Court Meeting Room. Registration and a copy of the conference proceedings are free and available to the public.

This important conference, which brings together leading scholars from fields of critical race theory and whiteness studies, will explore the ways whiteness and white privilege, entrench and reproduce themselves, said Barbara J. Fagg, J.D., professor of law and conference organizer.

"We begin with a jigsaw puzzle," Fagg said. "Juxtaposing each piece creates a picture of what whiteness is and what it does - a picture that is continually incomplete and always in motion."

The conference will begin with a roundtable discussion focusing on "Whiteness and Race," featuring professors of race and ethnic studies from the University of Illinois, University of Kentucky, George Washington University, Yale and Stanford University. The panel will also address how race and whiteness impact the unspoken norms of bias and punishment.

The second panel will look more closely at white privilege, with presentations on white privilege and power as experienced by minority and immigrant communities, white privilege and racism in the workplace, and white privilege and the police.

The third panel will look at "Whiteness and Gender," focusing on whiteness as an element of gender dynamics in the U.S., and the ways in which whiteness is a gendered issue.

The final panel will examine the relationship between whiteness, race and identity, with presentations on the role of whiteness in the field of gay and lesbian studies, the role of whiteness in immigration and the role of whiteness in the field of social work.

Panelists will include: Jorge Cueto, professor of political science at the University of Illinois, Chicago; Barbara J. Fagg, professor of law at the School of Law; Tommie David Hurst, professor of sociology at the University of Kentucky; Andrew A. Lomax, professor of political science at Florida State University; and Kimberly K.Iliff, assistant professor of sociology at the University of Washington.

Panelists will also address the role of whiteness in the field of law, with presentations on the role of whiteness in the field of immigration and the role of whiteness in the field of social work.

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Incridely dedicated
Ben Abdallah receives service award

By Kim Lyle

When research statistician Arbi Ben Abdallah, Ph.D., went to the Senior Administrator Lunch last year, he was simply looking forward to a good lunch. He had no idea he was about to receive the highest honor awarded to a medical staff member.

"He was totally surprised," he said. "The fact that I was nominated was honor enough." The Dean's Distinguished Service Award annually recognizes an employee whose outstanding contributions exemplify an exceptional commitment and dedication to the School of Medicine.

Two decades ago, Ben Abdallah came to the University from Tunisia, North Africa, to earn his doctorate in economics at Arts & Sciences. In 1994, he took a position as a statistical data analyst with the Department of Psychiatry's Epidemiology and Prevention Research Group (EPRG) headed by Linda Cottler, Ph.D., professor of epidemiology in psychiatry.

Now as a research statistician and economist, Ben Abdallah supports trainees, researchers and medical students working in smoking, genetics and substance abuse. For example, he has worked with Dr. Gail Wilensky, a senior fellow of the Brookings Institution, on the economic consequences of smoking.

"I feel very connected to the University and how supported everyone here is of each other," he says, "I feel very connected to the people here.

His co-workers say he is "the glue that holds the pieces of the EPRG together."

"I could give you hundreds of examples why Arbi should be honored for his distinguished service not only to the EPRG, but also to the whole University," Cottler says.

"He is always willing to help out, and he never resists until the job is perfect — not done, but perfect. He anticipates the work and is eager to take on any part of the work load."

For decades, the EPRG staff calls Ben Abdallah, who recently became a U.S. citizen, a quiet leader who works in the background to advance all of the group's projects. His great work ethic, thoughtful and sensitive decision-maker coupled with his amazing knowledge of statistics and computers are a few of the reasons his co-workers were compelled to nominate him.

When he's not working on research projects for the EPRG, Ben Abdallah spends time tending to the hundreds of tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, eggplant, artichokes and corn that line his garden. He loves sharing his harvest with his co-workers, friends and neighbors.

By Abdallah’s own estimate, spending time with his wife, M. Linda E. Warren, forum director of the Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy in Arts & Sciences, and their two children, Miriam, 14, and Leah, 11, in addition to playing soccer, he also coaches his daughters’ teams.

With his never-ending dedication to work and family, Ben Abdallah’s co-workers constantly tease him about finding time to eat and sleep.

"Arbi’s devotion to his job is incredible — he stays until he gets the job done, no matter what time of day or night," Cottler says.

"He has the best work ethic I have ever seen, and we are all fortunate to have the privilege of working with him.

Nominate co-workers for dean’s awards

The Dean’s Distinguished Service Award continues to be the highest honor awarded to a medical staff member while the other awards — research support, operations staff and clinical care — highlight commendable efforts within defined job classifications.

All awards include cash prizes and recognition at the Senior Administrator Luncheon.

For detailed information and nomination forms, go online to upload worksheets, job sheets or check posters distributed throughout the Medical Campus.

Nominations must be received by Nov. 1.

Health-care challenges are focus of conference

Increases in spending partly attributed to aging population

By Cynthia Erickson

"Health care resembles an oversized teenager who keeps pestering the financial systems on his clothing. He’s already the largest kid in the room and he threatens to grow until there’s no space left in it for anybody else," said Henry Aaron, senior fellow of Policy in the Olin School of Business.

The cost of health care is one of the largest components of the U.S. economy and is rising faster than the rate of inflation.

Increases in health-care spending have been attributed in part to an aging population. Others have pointed to a point of biomedical research and development that has brought technological innovations and an investment of billions and not millions, "Inappropriate, unwanted or unnecessary treatment decreases the quality of care and drives up costs," he said.

Select areas need to be implemented to improve the efficiency of care and reduce administrative waste. "The difficulty is that this is going to require an investment of billions and not millions," Wilensky said.

Beyond the problem of cost, another less visible, but equally thorny problem exists: disparity in the care provided to well-insured people as compared to minorities.

"Public health service is underfunded and unevenly distributed," said James Kimney, president and chief executive officer of the Missouri Foundation for Health.

"This is a substantial gap in health status and emerging illness among some groups within the population."

Disparity arises from several sources of inequality.

"The political process is not engaging even one of the problems of disparity in an effective fashion," Kimney said.

Politics raise barriers to solving health-care problems, explained former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher.

"It took six years after the surgeon general’s report detailing the health consequences of smoking for Congress to pass the law requiring a warning on packs of cigarettes," he said.

The need to repair our health-care system, or need to the solutions will need to be implemented to improve the quality of care and reduce administrative waste. "The difficulty is that this is going to require an investment of billions and not millions," Wilensky said.

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"The political process is not engaging even one of the problems of disparity in an effective fashion," Kimney said.
The result is a visually and dramatically stunning exploration into issues of identity, isolation, community and the abuses of modern existence.

Founded by Meineck in London in 1991, the Aquila Theatre Company consists primarily of American and British actors and has toured to critical and academic acclaim throughout Europe, the United States and Canada. The Aquila Main Company continues Aquila's commitment to adopting works of classic fiction for the contemporary stage. In 2002, the company made its St. Louis debut at Edison Theatre with The Wrath of Achilles, a retelling of Homer's The Iliad, and Shakespeare's The Tempest. In 2005, Aquila returned with a new production of Shakespeare's Othello.

Other tours have included Agamemnon (1991); Ajax (1992); Coriolanus (1995); The Odyssey/ The Story of Achilles (1996-99); King Lear/ The Odd/Oddments (1999-2000) and Much Ado About Nothing/Symphony Of The Heavens.

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The result is a visually and dramatically stunning exploration into issues of identity, isolation, community and the abuses of modern existence.
Concert to celebrate Dvorak, Ives

By LIM OTTEN

This year marks the 50th and 100th anniversaries, respectively, of the birth of Charles Ives and Antonin Dvorak.

At 7:30 p.m. Oct. 24, more than a dozen WUSTL students and faculty will converge on the Pepin International Center, where a chamber music program will feature performances of several of Dvorak's and Ives's Works.

The concert is free and open to the public in the Pepin Performance Hall, room C602, in the undated Whittaker Hall.

The program will begin with a group of works by Ives, including one of his 40 piano sonatas. It will be performed by undergraduate Mark Topolleski, and a set of songs previously sung by soprano Christine Johnson, a 2002 graduate of vocal performance.

Violinist Dana Edson Myers, member of the University's WUSTL Faculty, will perform Ives's Piano Sonata in D minor, Op. 44, a hallmark piece of American music for violin and piano.

In addition, Johnson will sing

Ives's At Sun, followed by Adagio Sostenuto, an instrumental piece for Ives based on the song, which will feature Garrison on the bassoon, in a nearly version of the clarinet.

Johnson will also sing Dvorak's much loved Serenade in E-major, Op. 22, which features a quartet of soloists. It will be performed by members of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra and the University's Department of Music.

Ives was a master of vocal music and his works include a number of operas, including The Cruise, which was performed in 1891.

Tuesday, Oct. 2

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Risk for Essential Familial IBD" (GF-1). The Link, area restaurant and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Ambulatory Medicine Night Lecture Series. "Recent Advances in Rheumatology." Josephine Lu, area hospital, and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

Tuesday, Oct. 5

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

5:30 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 6

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Risk for Essential Familial IBD" (GF-1). The Link, area restaurant and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Ambulatory Medicine Night Lecture Series. "Recent Advances in Rheumatology." Josephine Lu, area hospital, and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 7

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 8

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Risk for Essential Familial IBD" (GF-1). The Link, area restaurant and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Ambulatory Medicine Night Lecture Series. "Recent Advances in Rheumatology." Josephine Lu, area hospital, and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 9

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 10

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Risk for Essential Familial IBD" (GF-1). The Link, area restaurant and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Ambulatory Medicine Night Lecture Series. "Recent Advances in Rheumatology." Josephine Lu, area hospital, and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 11

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 12

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Risk for Essential Familial IBD" (GF-1). The Link, area restaurant and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Ambulatory Medicine Night Lecture Series. "Recent Advances in Rheumatology." Josephine Lu, area hospital, and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 13

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 14

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Risk for Essential Familial IBD" (GF-1). The Link, area restaurant and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Ambulatory Medicine Night Lecture Series. "Recent Advances in Rheumatology." Josephine Lu, area hospital, and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 15

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 16

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Risk for Essential Familial IBD" (GF-1). The Link, area restaurant and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Ambulatory Medicine Night Lecture Series. "Recent Advances in Rheumatology." Josephine Lu, area hospital, and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 17

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 18

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Risk for Essential Familial IBD" (GF-1). The Link, area restaurant and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Ambulatory Medicine Night Lecture Series. "Recent Advances in Rheumatology." Josephine Lu, area hospital, and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

Wednesday, Oct. 19

4 p.m. Neuroscience Seminar Series. "Graduate General Pathways Program in Neuroscience." The Eric P. Newman Education Center.

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Wednesday, Oct. 20

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Risk for Essential Familial IBD" (GF-1). The Link, area restaurant and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.

4 p.m. Ambulatory Medicine Night Lecture Series. "Recent Advances in Rheumatology." Josephine Lu, area hospital, and of medicine, Purnell H. Newman Education Center.
Phillips is National Book Award finalist

BY SUSAN KILENBERG MCGANN

Philips Carl Phillips, professor of English and African and Afro-American Studies, both at the University of Massachusetts and a faculty fellow at Washington University in St. Louis, has received the 2003-04 National Book Award in poetry. Phillips was selected for his seventh collection of poetry, The Lost of Love: Poems, published in February by Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Phillips said he wrote the poems in this collection as an exercise of physical, emotional and spiritual mysticism, to help him create and destroy in the name of art.

The highly acclaimed poet also was a National Book Award finalist in 1998 for his third collection, The Drunken Carnival, published by Graywolf Press.

Upon learning last week of his second nomination, Phillips said he was speechless.

"At some level, it means that my work is not only being read, but it is being noticed, which is of particular attention," he said.

"But I also know that there are many other deserving, excellent poets at work, and that non everyone has the same kind of critical attention," he continued.

"This is a wonderful experience, but not that I thought — not that I thought of it. I'm grateful. I'm grateful each time I can write."

Phillips won the first book prize, The Blood, won the 1992 Samuel French Award for Poetry and was named as the work of an outstanding newcomer in the following poetry award.

"My other books are Coyote, (1995), a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Lambda Literary Award, "Beating a Facade in Poetry" (2000), winner of the Lambda Literary Award, "The Tender (2001), winner of the prestigious Kingsley Tufts Award, and "Rock Harbor (2002)."

Phillips also has written two books of nonfiction, including a collection of essays, and a book of essays, "The Reality of Existence in Art and Poetry." He also is the recipient of, among others, a literature award from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Guggenheim Fellowship, the W. Sibyreen Foundation Fellowship, and the Library of Congress, two Pulitzer Prizes and the Academy of American Poets Prize.

Students Group honored with 2003-04 Isserman Prize — from Page 1

This month, the residence will be hosting laundry detergent for residents at a city shelter, and a speaker will talk about the plight of our homeless in St. Louis, she said.

"We also are planning a winter project based on rising health costs and some of the serious health and safety hazards many St. Louis residents face each winter.

"In the spring, we'll be hosting a career-development week with resume, interviewing, networking and meal etiquette workshops," Heugster said her goals as a faculty fellow are simple.

"We want the residents to become comfortable not only talking to us, but also working with a faculty member," he said. "I really want to give students the Chinese language," Heugster said.

"I'm young, only 36, but more important, I'm young at heart," he said.

"Being a member of the group helped me personally, intellectually, and most of all spiritually. It has been that space that I wanted."
A fall full of stories today kicks off the Lifelong Learning Institute’s (LLI) 10th anniversary celebration. Teachers, librarians, philosophers, social scientists, computer scientists — everyone is invited to celebrate.

BY ANDY CLINDSEN

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Mark Rollins, Ph.D., chair of philosophy in Arts & Sciences, discusses research with Kathy Bradford, an advanced doctoral candidate in the Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology (PNP) graduate program. Rollins is known for his work in the philosophy of cognitive science and the philosophy of mind.

Rollins said much has been accomplished since his arrival two years ago.

"I think we began with a vision in the philosophy department that we've been fortunate to see realized to a significant extent," he said. "The PNP program has become an important part of the department and has enabled us to hire these talented and reputable professors, and all of them terrific colleagues.

"Mark Rollins has been an inspiring faculty member and chair of the philosophy department. He has excelled in so many areas — in research, teaching and administration. ... Now, as chair of the Department of Philosophy, he has overseen the rebuilding of our department. I can't stress enough how important his leadership has been in the philosophy department."

EDWARD S. MACHAL

Mark Rollins, Ph.D., studies, teaches and leads the philosophy department into the future

Matters of the mind

Mark Rollins studies, teaches and leads the philosophy department into the future

Program in Arts & Sciences. That program started in 1993, when Roger Gibson was chair, as a graduate program through a grant of $1,320,000 from the James S. McDonnell Foundation: an additional grant of $800,000 was made in 1995. Subsequently, the program was expanded to include an undergraduate major and minor.

"We have a lot more majors than we've ever had, but I think we can do even more. The potential interest in philosophy for students is great, and it's a good major for them, whether they go to medical school, law school or business school.

"I think we began with a vision in the philosophy department that we've been fortunate to see realized to a significant extent," he said. "The PNP program has become an important part of the department and has enabled us to hire these talented and reputable professors, as well as in aesthetics.

"Mark Rollins has been an inspiring faculty member and chair of the philosophy department. He has excelled in so many areas — in research, teaching and administration. ... Now, as chair of the Department of Philosophy, he has overseen the rebuilding of our department. I can't stress enough how important his leadership has been in the philosophy department."