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microbes can increase body fat

By Gwen Ericson

The microorganisms that normally live in the gut can increase body fat, according to School of Medicine researchers. They found that gut microbes can open the "gate" fat uses to enter the body's fat cells, keeping the gate to fat cells closed. The findings were reported in the Nov. 2 issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

"Finding that Fiaf is directly manipulated by the gut microbiota is intriguing," said senior author Jeffrey I. Gordon, M.D. "It raises the possibility that an individual's predisposition to obesity or leanness may be partly determined by the composition of the microbes living in the gut." Gordon is the Dr. Robert I. Glaser Distinguished University Professor and director of the new Center for Genome Sciences, which was launched as part of BioMed 21, the University's initiative for using the latest knowledge of the human genome to develop new ways to diagnose, treat and ultimately prevent a variety of human diseases.

Treatments for obesity that require long-term dietary changes almost always fail. According to Gordon, "That small gesture made a big difference in her life, and I decided to start a program at the University to assist freshmen in their adjustment to university life by bringing them some flavor of home."

The program has continued to increase in popularity on the strength of glowing reviews from students and host families. Zwerging Wrighton has even expanded it to include upperclassmen.

"We have placed approximately 60 students with about 50 families this year alone, and there are students from previous years still enjoying time with their host families," she said. "We have more interested families looking to host students. Families love the opportunity to engage in the life of the University, and students love spending time away at school.

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"Dancing the night away" a group of students "gets down" during the annual Dance Marathon Nov. 6 in the Athletic Complex. More than 350 students attended the 12-hour overnight event, helping raise more than $45,000 for the Children's Miracle Network.

Home Plate program eases student transition

By Neil Schoenheimer

For some students, heading off to college and being completely on their own for the first time can be a daunting process. Thanks to the Home Plate program, some University students are enjoying a little bit of home away from home. Home Plate, started by Rita Zwerging Wrighton, wife of Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton, aims to enhance students' experiences by connecting them with host families from the University community and surrounding areas for home-cooked meals and outings around St. Louis.

"Many students greatly enjoy their experience at the University," Zwerging Wrighton said. "But I think this program has the potential to help them live well here. It makes a big difference in softening the adjustment process for freshmen."

Freshman Amananthina Quintana-Morales experienced her first Home Plate dinner this semester and had a great time. "The family I ate with was very nice and they made me feel comfortable in their home," she said. "It was great that they were an architect and a historian because those are two things I am interested in, and we had a lot to talk about."

"The dinner was excellent, and it was wonderful to get off campus for an evening," Zwerging Wrighton started Home Plate three years ago to help students find a family environment and provide them with the little touches of home they often miss while they are away at school.

A personal experience inspired Zwerging Wrighton to initiate the program. "During my daughter's freshman year of college, she learned to deal with many adjustments, including homesickness," Zwerging Wrighton said. "I was so happy when a professor invited her over for dinner."

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used to track such critical information as storm surge patterns, and then using that data to update the minimum election results while analyzing their demographic distributions. A technical implementation committee is working to install the software in labs across campus and to provide faculty, students and staff access, according to Stefan R. Falke, D.Sc., research assistant professor in the Environmental Engineering Science Program and Center for Air Pollution Trends, Impact and Analysis (CAPITA).

GIS is a common tool in our data analysis research at CAPITA, and many other faculty in every school at the University use it in different ways," Falke said.

"We have GIS has been around for well over 30 years, recent advances in information science and technology have made it more practical, allowing someone who is not necessarily a GIS guru to successfully apply it in their work."

In this initial year, Arts & Sciences School of Engineering & Applied Science and University Librarians have collaborated to purchase the software and are beginning to develop a model for faculty- and student use of GIS and ArcGIS, go online to gis.wustl.edu. Click on the "Flex Spending Open Enrollment" link and follow the directions.

Open-enrollment brochures and enrollment forms are also available at the human resources office in North Brookings Hall and the benefits offices at the Medical Campus (4480 Clayton Ave.) and West Campus (Suite 250).

Forms must be returned to the benefits office at Campus Box 1190 or via fax (935-8198). Late applications will not be accepted.

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School of Law Dean Joel Seligman, J.D., the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor and honorary chair of the Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy in Arts & Sciences, also will be among the panelists.

Anjum V. Thakor, Ph.D., the John T. Simon Professor of Finance in the Olin School, will give closing remarks.

The topics include financial markets; the potentially contrasting issues in the European Union; the role of directors in a post-Sarbanes-Oxley environment; the future trends in executive compensation and their roles in corporate governance; and the role of financial market participants and their external constituents in the corporate governance process.

Each session will last approximately 75 minutes, with roughly half the time devoted to discussions between panel members and the audience.

Charles F. Knight, chair and interim dean of Arts and Sciences, and Luci Emerson, will be the featured lunch speaker.

For more information, call 935-4179.

Black justice coalition president to talk

BY JESSICA MARTIN

Keith Bovink, professor of the National Black Justice Coalition, will lecture on race, sexuality and politics at 1 p.m. Nov. 13 in Brown Hall, Room 100.

Bovink, a prominent author and speaker, was a special assist- ant to the president and director of specialty media in the Clinton administration.

"As an openly gay black man, Keith Bovink is able to speak to the challenges and celebrations of the intersection of race and sexual orientation," said Vincent Brown, a distinguished University Professor and honorary chair of the Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy in Arts & Sciences.

"It goes without saying that there is a special place in the history of Virginia of people fighting for their rights, and the University has a unique opportunity to bring that to mind," Bovink said. "As a former Virginia resident, I am very excited to speak at the University in the context of its significant history."

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Obesity risk likely linked to genes

By Michael Purdy

University researchers are seeking genetic markers for obesity, and a new paradigm. We have to consider novel methods for trying to digest so much information and find patterns that make sense. So, we must think of the boundaries of this study. The researchers will statistically account for lifestyle choices of people in the FHS including initiatives such as diet, smoking, drinking and physical activity. This will enable them to isolate the effects on obesity that are solely genetic.

"Once we've located the genetic variants found in obese people, we will look at the dataset to see if the same people also got far from any of the diagnoses exaggerated by being overweight, diseases such as diabetes, lipid disorders, hypertension and coronary heart disease," Borecki said.

"We can then look for commonality among obese people — we can ask if any genes linked to obesity are involved in a process that leads to high blood pressure, for example.

Ultimately, researchers must isolate genes related to obesity to point to options for preventing and treating obesity and related diseases.

Collaborators on the project with Borecki include Michael A. Province, Ph.D., professor of biostatistics and of genetics; Richard Myers, Ph.D., of Boston University; and Kari North, Ph.D., of the University of North Carolina.

Inner-city kids needed for asthma-control study

By Michael C. Purdy

University researchers are seeking asthma-control study participants to include almost 12,000 children and adolescents for a national asthma study. Obesity rates have been steadily rising, but the most dramatic increases have occurred among urban youth. And the increases have occurred even as new and improved drugs for controlling and preventing asthma symptoms have become available in recent years.

The Asthma Control Evaluation (ACE) study will examine the potential advantages of using a new lung function test to help doctors more closely monitor patients with this disease.

The procedure is a breathing test approved by the FDA. It involves measurement of exhaled nitric oxide, a naturally occurring gas that is present in everyone's lungs but is increased during periods of uncontrolled asthma.

Researchers hope the test will allow clinicians to better assess how well their prescribed therapies are controlling their patients' asthma.

Participants must live in urban St. Louis or adjacent areas and be willing to complete eight study visits as part of the consortium. More than 500 asthma people ages 12-20 will be enrolled in ACE nationwide.

Locals 52 people with persistent asthma are being recruited.

For more information, call 314-935-7040 or visit www.wustl.edu/asthma.

Diabetic symptoms could be explained by controversial theory

By Michael C. Purdy

A controversial theory about how diabetes causes extensive tissue damage appears in the November issue of Diabetes. At stake in the heated debate over the theory are researchers' efforts to find new ways to deal with complications typical of diabetes.

"Being able to publish the online appearance of the editorial, which landed us the room we needed to publish our hypothesis," said Ingrid B. Borecki, Ph.D., associate professor of biostatistics and of genetics, "creates 43 percent of all cases of end-stage renal disease.

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The Reduced Shakespeare Company, those "bad boys of abridge-
ment," will return to Edison Theatre Nov. 19-20 for the St. Louis
premiere of All the Great Books (abridged).

Salsa Dancing • Cloud Nine • Medical Manuscripts

Comedy troupe to tackle All the Great Books at Edison

By LIAM OTTO

Confused by Confucius? Not to worry! Later this month, the world-renowned Reduced Shakespeare Company, those "bad boys of abridge-
ment," will return to Edison Theatre for the St. Louis premiere of All The Great Books (abridged) in a action-packed liter-
ary romp through everything you should have read in high school but probably didn't.

Performance presented by the Edison Theatre OVATIONS! Series, will begin at 8 p.m. Nov. 19-20.

All The Great Books marks the third trip to Edison Theatre, fol-


All The Great Books begins when a group of busy commuting stud-

eints (played by the audience) dis-
covers that their English teacher has been trampled at a L.C. Bow-

eling sign-up. To help them pass a critical test, the football coach, drama teacher and a slightly
-
drift-druid teacher attempt to cover 83 books in 98 minutes, em-

ploying all manner of improvisation, comic customs and shame-

less gags.

Highlights include the juggling Brothers Karamazov, a footbal-

linspired little Woman and a bachelorette dancing with gaine

Jane Austen, George Eliot and Virginia Woolf.

The Reduced Shakespeare Company

Since starting in 1988 as a pas-

sion project at the Illinois Rene-

ssance fair, the Reduced Shakes-

peare Company has created five

major stage shows, three television programs and numerous radio

pieces.

The company's first two shows — The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged), which de-

buted in 1987, and The Complete History of America (abridged), which debuted in 1993 — are London's longest-running com-

edies, having played in repertory at West End Theatre's Criterion Theatre since 1996. The Bible joined the London rotation in 2003, giving the troupe more West End shows than Andrew Lloyd Webber.

For television, the company filmed a live performance of The Complete Shakespeare for PBS and

won and starred in The Ring. Reduced, a half-hour version of Wagner's epic Ring Cycle, for Britain's Channel 4.

Other credits include reducing the Edinburgh Festival for the

BBC and the soap opera Glencoe.
Short-story writer Hempel to speak, read

By LIAM OTTEN

The Washington University Symphony Orchestra will perform Friday at 8 p.m. in Schnuck Hall, Room 201.

On Stage

Friday, Nov. 12

Shubert "University Events" features "Green" by Green Pacific, a musical comedy. Includes intermission. (1) e-mail= mcinv@wustl.edu (2) forum= http://wustl.ctx.net/Webradio (3) phone= 935-4705

Saturday, Nov. 13

7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Urology Grand Rounds, Ann Arbor, MI. "Future trends in the management of bladder cancer." Registration deadline: Nov. 8. (616) 763-4102.

Saturday, Nov. 20

23 p.m. Cell Biology and Physiology Seminar. "Control of neuronal activity in the hippocampus." Friday publication date to a week prior to the publication date.

Music

Sunday, Nov. 14


Friday, Nov. 19


Saturday, Nov. 20


Sports

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Tuesday, Nov. 23

23 p.m. Interdisciplinary Seminar Series in Special Audience, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO. "Interdisciplinary Seminar Series in Special Audience." Includes intermission. (6) phone= 364-8653.

Wednesday, Nov. 24


Thursday, Nov. 25


Friday, Nov. 26


Washington University in St. Louis

Nov. 12, 2004    5

The performance is free and open to the public. For more information, call 855-4384-1.

How to submit "University Events"

Sub... "University Events" items to Green Pacific of the WPSR, Room 401, Central Mall, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195. All e-mail replies to the "University Events" e-mail address will be acknowledged. Items will be posted in the order received. Please include the following information in your submission:

1. Event information: name of the event, date, time, location, and phone number.
2. Contact information: name, phone number, and email address.
3. Event description: a brief description of the event, including any special features such as refreshments, parking, or admission fees.
4. Web link: a link to the event's website or other online resources.
5. Any other relevant information.

For more information, call (503) 935-6603 or e-mail woserv@wustl.edu.

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Bon Appétit employee wins national recognition

By ANDY CLENDENN

Felicia Keeper, a Bon Appétit cashier who also waits on tables at a local Hard Rock Cafe in Ridgely Hall, was recently honored as America's A-Star Awards Celebration in Orlando.

Group Homes, the parent company of Bon Appétit and several other food-service providers, recognizes its customers for outstanding help in the campus.

"When I first found out I had won something, I thought, 'Is this real, you're kidding,'" Keeper said.

Keeper was Bon Appétit's Mid-Western winner of the A-Star awards dinner, at which 300 of Compass Group North America's 117,000 employees were honored.

"The whole crew at Holmes is wonderful," Nichols said. "Every customer, she gives a lot of credit to her co-workers.

"We see just like a family here," she said. "When I was down there, I called them and just said I was thinking about them and wanted to call them.

"That award was such a huge honor. It's a wonderful trip and what's really worth it. They treated you like you were famous. They catered to us all. It was unbelievable. You didn't have to do anything but enjoy yourself and relax.

"The only sad part was that I was separated from my son, who is 3. It was the first time we had been separated. But other than that, I had a blast."

Felicia Keeper (second from right) signs autographs on the red carpet behind the Hard Rock Live just before being recognized at Bon Appetit parent company Compass Group North America's A-Star Awards Celebration in Orlando.

Food

150 choices on any given night — From Page 1

operation this size (see box at far right) depends on some of Bon Appétit's 220 campus-wide employee's starts early every morning. The first baker shows up around midnight; the cook for the spins around 4 a.m., the baker is in full swing at about the same time; and around 5 a.m., the commissary driver comes in and picks up the freshly-baked items to deliver them to one of the 17 outlets on the Hilltop Campus.

The Charles F. Knight Executive Education Center and Whittemore House have their own meal-preparation arrangements. At this location alone, Foley said, referring to Whittemore Student Center, "we get two tractors worth of food products, except for Sunday. Seventy percent of the food can survive and there's no need to scrap that.

They make fresh-baked goods every day, soups are made fresh every week, and we're using some of the fresh vegetables we're getting. And we're starting to make those from scratch now.

Having a central kitchen where almost all food on campus is prepared is essential to the smooth operation of Bon Appétit. With the influx of fast diets, trendy diets and students who can have changing attitudes about health, diet and nutrition, flexibility is one of the keys to the success of a particular menu.

Every summer, Bon Appétit management and Steve Hoffner, A large part of that comes to hiring good, qualified people. They are just awesome people to work with. The dining hall on the upper level of Wohl Center probably best exemplifies just that.

Our all-you-can-eat" barbecues" includes meals for even the most discerning person. Our selections feature native and native, another feature traditional comfort foods. The grill has an of grilled chicken or a specialty item such as grilled salmon or beef.

Another station has staples and pasta, another features full comfort foods. The grill has an of grilled chicken or a specialty item such as grilled salmon or beef.

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Obituaries

Golding, emeritus professor, 81

By Kim Leydig

R emooved neurosurgeon Sidney Goldring, M.D., pro-

fessor emeritus and former head of neurological surgery at the School of Medicine and Barnes-Jewish Hospital, died Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2004, in St. Louis from complications of Alzheimer's disease. He was 81.

Sidney Goldring's position at Washington University and the field of neurological surgery is secured by the many grateful patients that he treated, the neuro-
tonomists who recognized his investigative work that he did," said Robert L. Grebin, M.D., pro-

fessor of pediatrics in the Department of Pediatrics, "and scientists.

Golding's most influential contributions were in the surgical treatment of epilepsy. Beginning in the 1930s, he developed a tech-
nique that allows the brain to be mapped while the patient is awake, enabling the procedure to be used with children.

"Dr. Goldring was one of the leading academicians of his genera-
tion, and his contributions have been extensive, both in basic neuroscience investigation and its application to human disease," said Ralph G. Dyce Jr., M.D., the Henry G. and Edith R. Schwartz Professor in Neurosurgery at WUSTL.

He is survived by his wife, Lois; sons, Jonathan, Kath-

eryn Coryell, and four grandchildren, Matthew and Julie Coryell and Anne and Emily Goldberg.

For the most current employment opportunities, visit the Human Resources Office at police.wustl.edu.

Campus Watch

The following incidents were reported to University Police Nov. 4-6. Residents with information that could assist in investigating these inci-
dents are urged to call 885-5555. This information is provided as a public service to promote safety awareness and is available on the University Police Web site at police.wustl.edu.

Nov. 4

• 4:31 p.m. — A WUSTL police officer observed a vehicle on Brookings Drive which appeared to be curving the area. A traffic stop resulted in the arrest of one subject in the car who had outstanding fugitive warrants. No num-

erous tools in the vehicle were seized for too much corrosion. An investigation is continuing.

Additionally, University Police responded to four reports of lost articles, two larcenies and one report each of property damage, disturbance and parking violation.

Missing Parts

Hall, Tom Huck, Hung Liu, Peter Marcus, Shimon Okshteyn, Tom Reed and Susan Shie. Pictured is Liu’s woodcut MPIing Past (1992). The Schmidt-McCarty Art Center is located at 2500 College Ave. in Bellevue. For more information, call (618) 322-5278.

Campus Watch:

WUSTL printmaking is the focus of a new exhibition at Southern Illinois University’s Schmidt Art Center. Printmaking: A Contemporary Tradition, on view through Dec. 18, features approximately 20 works by School of Art printmaking faculty as well as pieces published by Island Press, the school’s nationally known collaborative printshop. Artists include Gina Alvarez, Frida Baranek, James Barnes, Lisa Bulawsky, Michael Byron, Nick Cave, Joan Hall, Tom Huck, Hung Liu, Peter Marcus, Shimon Okshteyn, Tom Reed and Susan Shie. Pictured is Liu’s woodcut MPIing Past (1992). The Schmidt-McCarty Art Center is located at 2500 College Ave. in Bellevue. For more information, call (618) 322-5278.

Notables policy

To submit Notables for publi-

cation in the Record, e-mail items to Andy Claudemore at andy@wustl.edu or fax to 855-4239.

Notables

By Aimee Eagleson

Aimee Eagleson is a member of the journalism staff and serves as editor of this section. She can be reached at aimee@wustl.edu.

Campus Watch:

For the most current em-
ployment opportunities, visit the Human Resources Office at police.wustl.edu.
When she was a student in dental school at the University of Chile, M. Rosario Hernandez, D.D.S., 1973; School of Dentistry, University of Chile, D.D.S., 1973

M. Rosario Hernandez, D.O.S. (rear), and student Lindsey Wells examine optic nerves isolated from the optic nerves of African-Americans. "Rosario is constantly energized by the research she does, and she possesses a seemingly endless supply of ideas," colleague Jane Phillips-Conroy says.

Hernandez may not have pictured herself leaving Chile, but she did imagine working in a clinic in the United States. How she got there is the story of a young woman's transition from gingivitis to glaucoma.

BY JIM DRYDEN

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

M. Rosario Hernandez studies the optic nerve — after dentistry school

in awhile, one of them would be gone," she says. "I got to know people that disappeared and then reappeared a few years later. I was not political, but it was a very, very difficult time.

The political situation was what convinced her to come to the United States. How she got from dentistry to studying glaucoma is an equally compelling tale.

An eye for research

Hernandez may not have pined herself leaving Chile, but she didn't see herself drilling molars when she came back to the United States. How she got there is the story of a young woman's transition from gingivitis to glaucoma.

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