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Architectural dean advisory committee appointed

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton has appointed an advisory committee to assist him in the search for the next dean of the College of Architecture and the Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design. Both the College of Architecture and the Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design are part of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, a new academic and administrative unit that also includes the College of Art, the Graduate School of Art, and the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum.

The new individual will succeed current Architecture Dean Jerome J. Sienkiewicz and will report directly to Carmen Golembeski, the recently appointed dean of the Sam Fox School, who will arrive on campus July 1.

The Advisory Committee for the Appointment of the Dean of the College of Architecture and the Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts is charged with identifying 3-5 individuals with the intellectual, administrative, personal and leadership qualities sought for the new dean, said Wrighton, who hopes to complete the appointment process by July 1.

Wrighton has named William A. Peck, M.D., the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Distinguished Professor, as the committee’s chair. Peck, former dean of the School of Medicine and executive vice chancellor for medical affairs, is director of the University’s Center for Health Policy.

Committee members are:
- Rachel A. Deutsch, a graduate student in Architecture, Paul Donnelly, the Rebecca & John Guldner professor of Architecture, and
- Barbara Rea

It’s Official

Washington People: It’s Official

Jan. 20, 2006

Washington University in St. Louis

Volume 30 No. 18

Medical News: Variation in gene raises risk for alcohol dependence

Music: WUSTL Chamber Orchestra

to honor Mozart with Jan. 23 concert

Washington People: Bo Kennedy

stresses for a painless pediatric ER
On the occasion of Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2006, Mark S. Wrighton addressed the University community in terms of his commitment to strengthen diversity, improve gender balance, and focus more on inclusiveness.

Washington University is one of the finest research universities in the world, and, indeed, the world—thanks to the support of our students, our alumni, students, faculty and staff, and our friends. As we write this, we are more aware than ever how important it is to attract more members of minority groups and future leaders of our country. Our university is stronger today than it was a decade ago. We are not, however, the national leaders we want to be.

Our annual holiday in his honor—Martin Luther King Jr. Day—serves to remind us of his important contributions and the work that still needs to be done. Ours is a community with a long and proud tradition of diversity, improving gender balance. This is the second year in a row that I have addressed the community this way.

Graduate School of Arts & Sciences
Graduate School of Engineering & Applied Sciences
Graduate School of Law
Graduate School of Medicine

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Variation in gene increases risk for alcoholism

By Jim Dittmer

A team of researchers led by School of Medicine investigators has found that a genetic variant for a bitter-taste receptor on the tongue is associated with an increased risk for alcohol dependence. The research team studied DNA samples from 262 families, all of which have at least three affected family members participating in a national study called the “Multicenter Collaborative Study of the Genetics of Alcoholism” (CGOA).

Goates’s study reports in the January issue of the American Journal of Human Genetics on the variation in a taste receptor gene, called TAS2R16, on chromosome 4:

“In earlier work, we had identified chromosome 4 as a region where there was likely to be a gene influencing alcoholism risk,” said principal investigator Alson M. Goate, D.Phill., the Samuel and MoS. Ludwig Professor of Genetics in Psychiatry. “There’s a cluster of bitter-taste receptor genes on that chromosome, and there have been several papers suggesting dietary habits might be influenced by variations within those receptors. So we decided to look closely at these taste receptor genes.”

Because taste receptors tend to vary a lot in the general population, Goate and her colleagues had the opportunity to look at a large number of differences in genetic sequences and determine whether certain sequences might influence risk.

In this study, they concentrated on TAS2R16, which helps regulate the response to bitter tastes. They found a single base variation in the TAS2R16 receptor gene that seemed to vary at an increased risk for alcoholism. In cell-culture experiments, Goate found that the variant receptor produced by this gene was less responsive to bitter compounds.

“TAS2R16 shows some genetic variation that is very common in African-Americans — almost 75 percent of African-Americans have the variant, whereas only 0.6 percent had this variation in European-Americans,” Goate said. “Although the incidence of this polymorphism is higher in African-Americans than in Caucasians, it is still larger in African-Americans where this genetic factor, the variant in the TAS2R16 receptor gene also significantly increased risk in those Caucasians who carried the genetic variation.

The fact that this particular genetic variation is more common in African-Americans does not necessarily mean African-Americans will have a higher incidence of alcoholism. “I don’t think our result has any implications for the levels of alcoholism within different populations,” Goate said. “We know that this polymorphism is more common in African-Americans than in Caucasians, but the frequency of this genetic factor is still similar between the two groups because many genes and environmental factors influence risk.”

Goate hopes to replicate these findings in human taste tests, to verify that individuals with this variant also tend to be less sensitive to bitter tastes as suggested by the cell-culture experiments.

preferred treatment method for advanced ovarian cancer announced

By Givens Ericksen

The National Cancer Institute (NCI), part of the National Institutes of Health, has issued an unprecedented encouragement for treatment with anticancer drugs via two methods, after surgery, for women with advanced ovarian cancer.

The combined methods, which deliver drugs into a vein and directly into the abdomen, extend overall survival for women with advanced ovarian cancer by about a year.

The Sinai Cancer Center participated in the NCI-supported research leading to the announcement.

Coccurring with the NCI’s announcement, the New England Journal of Medicine published the results of a recent clinical trial in the NCI-supported research network known as the “Gynecologic Oncology Group” (GOG), in which the University is a member. The trial was the eighth to randomized, multicenter clinical trials, including this most recent study, clearly show the value of IP chemotherapy as an extended life for women with advanced ovarian cancer,” said Philip Donis, M.D., chairman of the GOG.

“IP chemotherapy has been used for ovarian cancer of the female reproductive system for more than 15 years,” said Philip Donis, M.D., chairman of the GOG.

“The 205 women treated via the IP route fared better, even though most of them received fewer drugs than the six planned treatments. Complications associated with the abdominal catheter used to deliver the IP chemotherapy were the main reason only 68 of the women completed all six IP treatments.

Women who received IP chemotherapy had significantly higher survival rates than those treated with IV chemotherapy alone, but men of this recent study received fewer than those treated with IP chemotherapy in the first place. More studies are needed to determine the best IV drug regimen and the optimal number of IP treatments. Future trials also will address how to reduce toxicity associated with IP administration.
Civil Liberties in Wartime • Benefit Concert • Blood Drive
Access to justice speaker series continues Jan. 25

By JESSE MARTIN

One of the nation’s top experts on the First Amendment and free speech in war-time, the prominent constitutional law professor and author of the book “The Presumption of Liberty: From Obedience to Intimacy or How Love Conquered Marriage and an associate justice for the ‘War Crimes’ Trial of the Nazi Titans, is part of the spring lineup for the School of Law’s right to speech series. Titled “Access to Justice: The Social Responsibility of Lawyers,” the event will bring the University out-

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Wide recognition as a leading intellectual figure, Gass has received many awards and honors, including the 1995 Gemini Bertell Wi- men Lawyers of Achievement Award presented by the National Women's Political Caucus and the American Association, the National Wo- men's Political Caucus, and the National As- sociation of Democratic Women. She also has received teaching awards at St. Louis and Harvard.

Other spring Assembly Series speakers are listed below. The talks will begin at 11 a.m. in Graham, unless otherwise noted.

Stephanie Coontz's research focuses on family and gender roles in our society's contemporary, idealistic view of marriage. She traces the history of marriage and of family studies at The Evergreen State College is the associate professor of American, American Studies and the Nostalgia Trap. Her talk will be at 7 p.m. Jan. 27. At 4 p.m. Feb. 2, West will give a talk based on her most re- cent book, The Question of the Century: Winning the Fight Against Imperi- alsim and the Nostalgia Trap. The author of 14 books, West also has produced a rap CD and has been featured in The Matrix films.

If you can't take a trip to Mars, you may want to stop by to see the exhibits at the Missouri Science Center. The March 1 Assembly Series lecture will be announced at a later date.

There are no Assembly Series lectures scheduled for March 8 and 15, April 5 and June 10.

Environmental historian William Cronon says the human community interacts with nature and how they might improve their environment. His talk will be at 4 p.m. Feb. 13 in Steinheil Hall. Auditi- ng for the lecture are listed below. The theft occurred at 5 p.m. Dec. 21 and 8:20 a.m. Dec. 22.

For more information, contact your benefits department.

"Physicians need to be aware of the potential manifestations of CMI, metabolic syndrome, and metabolic syndrome is a key example," Blanchard said.

There's quite a bit of literature on this condition, and there are ongoing efforts to help those who have it. In some cases, if you can take a trip to Mars, a trip to a planet on the scale of Mars, that's the bill perfectly.

"History of psychiatric condi- tions does not appear to place veterans at a significantly increased risk of depression or anxiety," Blanchard said.

It should not be taken as an indication that CMI is all in the symptom of the veteran's head; the condition has real-world effects on their lives. Depression is a slowly developing condition, and which are very real, including objective symptom reports from the participant...and a large waist size...

Fibromyalgia syndrome affects sufferers with persistent, widespread pain. Chronic fatigue syndrome leaves sufferers with a dramatic loss of energy.

While acknowledging that these conditions can have serious effects on veterans' health and quality of life, Blanchard notes that they are both based on sub- jective symptom reports from the participant.

Blanchard is conducting a fol- low-up study of the current study with CMI and without depression. The study is ongoing and will include a large number of patients with metabolic syndrome.

In addition, the study will also include veterans who have not been diagnosed with CMI, the prevalence of metabolic syndrome is a key example of our understanding of this condition.

"The study of metabolic syndrome is a key example of our understanding of this condition," Blanchard said.

To schedule an appointment with TIAA-CREF, go online to www.tiaa-cref.org or call (800) 842-0505, ext. 5613.

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Center for the Humanities announces Faculty Fellows

The Center for the Humanities at Arts & Sciences has announced its spring 2007 Faculty Fellows. The recipients are Patrick Burke, Ph.D., assistant professor of music; Gerald Illenbruck, Ph.D., professor of history; and Akiko Tsuchiya, Ph.D., associate professor of Spanish, all in Arts & Sciences.

Each will spend a semester in residence with the center, researching a new book project while attending a variety of presentations and giving one formal, public lecture about their work.

Burke will conduct research for Come In and Hear the Truth: Jazz and Race on Manhattan’s 32nd Street, 1930-1950, an examination of New York’s 32nd Street nightclub district from the Great Depression into the postwar era. Burke argues that jazz of the period both reflected and helped to shape the identities of migrants and the racial ideologies of their kin. Tsuchiya’s identity-as-self-definition. In particular, Illenbruck will focus on the concept of identity-as-self-definition. In particular, Illenbruck will focus on the concept of identity-as-self-definition.

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Carlson’s retirement didn’t keep him away from campus; he was still visible at Simon Hall, according to Gary M. Hochberg, Ph.D., associate dean of under-graduate programs at the Olin School. “Art cared deeply about his teaching and about his students,” Hochberg said. “Even after he retired, he continued to be involved with his school, the emeritus faculty office here in Simon Hall and having lunch at Whitmore House – every day at 11 a.m. on Thursdays.”

Hochberg said that when he started working at the University, Carlson was one of the first people to welcome him. “I have a vivid memory of Art and the late Ray Hilgert (professor emeritus of management and industrial relations) standing in the doorway of my first office in Prince Hall, welcoming me to the school and telling me folklore about the place,” Hochberg said. “I will be missed by those of us who were fortunate enough to have known him.”

Carlson is survived by his wife of 61 years, Lorriane; son George A. Carlson; sister Pauline Freidrichs; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Services were Jan. 19 at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion in University City.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be sent to The Hospitality Room Fund at record.wustl.edu or contact Jian Leng, associate director of the center, at 935-4008 or cenhum@artsci.wustl.edu.

Nicholas, 93

Elizabeth “Betty” Nicholas, secretary to the dean of Arts & Sciences from 1959-1992, died Monday, Dec. 5, 2005. She was 91. In 1933, she joined The Sigma Chi Club at Washington University and was an elected official from 1985-88.

Rola, 82

Mary “Peet” Rola, administrator and assistant in the Department of Otolaryngology at the School of Medicine from 1965, died Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2005. She was 82.

Upton, 88

Mailer Upton, Ph.D., dean of the School of Business and Public Administration from 1951-54, died Monday, Dec. 19, 2005, at his home in Fontana, Wis. He was 88.

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While pursuing a doctorate in sociology, Hoffer worked with a small research group at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

The group, called “Urban Links,” conducted HIV prevention projects and special research on ethnographic research, which required observing and interviewing drug users’ behaviors within the natural context in which they occurred. This meant establishing rapport with drug users and going into the field with them. In fact, the work is so ethnographic case study of how these two home-tour heroin users, Kurt and Danny, and the nexus for their addictions.

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The ouchless ER doctor

Bo Kennedy, M.D., does all he can to ease the pain of young patients

Bo Kennedy, M.D., lets 2-year-old Jordan Schneider check out his stethoscope. Kennedy treated Jordan for a dislocated elbow in the St. Louis Children's Hospital Emergency Department.

Bo was here before our division of pediatric emergency medicine arrived. "He is passionately about alleviating the pain and anxiety of children in the emergency department and has become a leader in clinical investigation in this area. He rose here when our program existed, and we are fortunate to have benefited from his many contributions over the past 20 years."

Among the treatments that Kennedy has pioneered is the use of buffered lidocaine — injected with tiny, 30-gauge needles — to blunt the pain of starting an intravenous line. Even sleeping babies only stir a little but don't wake when he hooks them up.

Another is the combination of two drugs, ketamine and midazolam, which he tested in children with forearm fractures who needed to move in the radiology department. The results were clear: ketamine worked better and caused fewer breathing complications than ether or other anesthetics. Over time, this view has become a standard treatment for a variety of serious procedures, such as treating burns.

"There were more minor procedures, such as suturing lacerations, where we really only needed a local anesthetic and lighter seda-
tion," he says. "Using ketamine seemed like using a sledgehammer when a tack hammer would do."

Working with colleague Janet D. Iuliano, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics, Kennedy began to take a fresh look at nitrous oxide or "laughing gas," often used for dental procedures, such as suturing lacerations, in conjunction with ketamine for a variety of painful procedures, such as treating lacerations.

"One 2-year-old with facial lacerations was screaming at the idea of putting on topical anesthetic gel, but when he was given the nitrous oxide, his screams turned into giggles," Kennedy says. "Then things considered."

"That has helped me address, at 3 in the morning, a mom whose child may have a problem that has been going on for weeks or months," he says. "Why tonight? There must be something that I'm missing, most recently for fractured forearms, in conjunction with injected lidocaine. Again, this combination was as effective — and easier on the child — than the nitrous oxide had joyous results.

"When you're interacting with people, work on the assumption that they are doing the best they can, all irrepressible proposal: cycling to Alaska to visit their sister. This time, Kennedy invited his girlfriend, a pediatric nurse, to join them and she said yes — both to the trip and to a wedding. The 3,500-mile trek became their honeymoon; once in Alaska, they spent a year working and having outdoor adventures.

"Back in St. Louis, Kennedy rejoined his old division, where he has since held administrative roles organizing its educational programs as associate director for education, and directing the Pediatric Advanced Life Support Program. From 2003-05, he served as medical staff president, working with anesthesiologist John D. McAllister, M.D., to create a pain and sedation committee. He also helped develop some of the original trauma center regulations for the state of Missouri.

Kennedy and his wife, Carol, have four children: twins Greg and Scott, 19, both freshmen at Washington University; Julie, 16; and David, 17. The Glendale-based family enjoys backpacking vacations — "the more rigorous, the better."

"One week was on a narrow beach, and everybody got real bored by that," says Kennedy, who enjoys creating environments to work by bicycle several times a year. Research still beckons, especially the idea of tailoring pain management to a patient's preference. Trying to determine exactly which child will do best with which medication is a long-term goal. How long will it take to do it right?" a lifetime,” he says, anticipating the challenge.

Robert M. “Bo” Kennedy

Washington University: Associate professor of pediatrics

Clinical and teaching duties: Working as an attending physician in the St. Louis Children’s Hospital Emergency Department, where he serves as a preceptor for pediatric house staff and medical students rotating through the unit. In addition, Kennedy coordinates the Pediatric Advanced Life Support Program; is associate director of the future Nurse Program; and is coordinator of the Pediatric Grand Rounds Conference for Adult Emergency Medicine.

Research interests: Evaluation and reduction of pain and distress in pediatric emergency, sedation tech-
niques and validation repair in young children.

"Bo Kennedy is simply one of the finest pediatric emergency physicians in practice today. He is pas-
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"One 2-year-old with facial lacerations was screaming at the idea of putting on topical anesthetic gel, but when he was given the nitrous oxide, his screams turned into giggles," Kennedy says. "Then each month. "That's what attracted me to medicine — service to others. I can't imagine doing anything else."

Kennedy's own childhood, spent in Virginia and Georgia, charted the course for his career. From his father, a Presbyterian minister, he learned a philosophy that he has seen through many a long night. "When you're treating people, work on the assumption that they are doing the best they can, all photographer’s brother, he undertook a 3,000-mile trek, as the first faculty member of Technology and before he went to X-ray," Kennedy says. "This finding has "a big impact," he says.

Reducing a patient's suffering has sometimes taken a common-sense approach. When children walk into the emergency room, they may be in pain from a broken bone or cut. By the time they get into a room, some 30-60 pain-filled minutes may have elapsed.

"We set up standing orders for the nurses in triage to administer a pain medicine, oxycodone, even before the patient goes to X-ray," Kennedy says. "That can be one of the most painful parts of the visit, because the technology has to move the broken limb to get different views. With the oxycodone kicking in, kids are in much less pain.

Even non-pharmacologic techniques and laceration repair in young children.

Washington University

Jan. 20, 2006

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