Students volunteer during spring break

By Neil Schonberg

Ahh — spring break. A time for recreation, rejuvenation and fun. Or, for many WUSTL students, a time for hard work, reflection and a greater sense of purpose.

Hundreds of students will spend the break, which begins Monday, March 10, and extends through March 16, on service trips in places as far away as Buenos Aires, Argentina, and as close as downtown St. Louis.

“We’re thrilled to see the diversity, quality and number of service trips this year and hope to see continued growth in upcoming years,” said Stephanie Kurtz-Benveniste, director of the Community Service Office and associate director of the Richard A. Gephardt Institute for Public Service.

“Service trips provide a wonderful opportunity for students as well as staff and faculty to do something meaningful during a vacation that can have great community impact and transform one’s life perspective at the same time.”

Several students traveled to Belize last spring break with a Campus Y Wth, Tara Singh (left), now a junior majoring in psychology in Arts & Sciences, helped tutor children in a Belize City YMCA.

When constructing the 9,000-square-foot Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology’s Center for Clinical Imaging Research inside of Barnes-Jewish Hospital, crews had to lift a massive piece of imaging equipment up to the 10th floor from the outside using a crane. (Inset, above) Crews wait inside an exterior opening on the hospital’s west side to usher in the scanner.

Practicing information retrieval is key to memory retention

By GERRY EVERLING

Learning something once — like the fact that “berg” means “mountain” in German — and studying it over and over may do little to help you remember it in the future. The key to future recall, suggests a new study from Washington University, is in how often over time you actively practice retrieving that information from memory.

“The take-home lesson is that learning and retention involve the active processing of information, and a passive reading of material is simply not enough to retain it well,” said Jeffrey D. Karpicke, Ph.D., now assistant professor of psychology at Purdue University.

“Their findings confirm what poor test-takers have known all along — doing well on an exam often has less to do with what you have read or been exposed to and everything to do with your ability to retrieve that information from memory when prompted.”

“If a student is studying for a test, especially a short-answer or essay test, he will be asked to retrieve certain information that was covered,” Karpicke said.

“What better way could there be to prepare for the test than to engage in the same processes — the active retrieval of information — that will be required on the test?”

Science has explored the relationship between study and testing success for more than 125 years, but what sets this study apart is its focus on the
New professors in Arts & Sciences, architecture

Economist Williamson becomes first Brookings Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences

BY BARBARA REA

Stephen D. Williamson, Ph.D., has been named the first Robert B. Brookings Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences. The professorship, established in 1986, was the first to be endowed in the Sam Fox School of Architecture and Urban Design. The brother and sister, both alumni of the University, also created the Ruth and Norman Moore Professorship in Architecture. A formal installation ceremony for McCarter took place Nov. 19, 2007, in Steinberg Hall.

"Ruth and Norman Moore were distinguished professionals and dedicated alums," Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton said. "As a result of their generosity, Washington University has attracted a number of talented architects to teach in the Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Design, for which we are very grateful."

Rephrasing the Chancellor's expression of thanks, Carmen Colengi, dean of the Sam Fox School of Visual Art & Design, said, "I am very grateful to the Moore family for this distinguished position that helps us attract a senior professor with the experience and vision of E. Desmond Lee Professor for Collaboration in Architecture, The Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Architectural Record and Bauldron.

Robert L. Kahn and "On By Frank Lloyd Wright" were finalists for the inaugural Royal Institute of British Architects International Book Awards in 2006. On three occasions, McCarter has been an appointed visiting scholar for the American Academy in Rome. Other honors include a 2002 Rachel Foundation Traveling Studentship, a 1999 Graham Foundation grant for his work on Frank Lloyd Wright; and the 1983-1984 Design Fellowship. McCarter has served as a juror for the annual Brno Zevi Prize. This year, McCarter received a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

WUSTL offers spring break vehicle storage

Students or employees who do not currently hold an annual parking permit but wish to secure their vehicles on campus during spring break (March 7-16) may do so after obtaining a placebo from Parking Services. Individuals must go to the Parking Services office, located at 6301 Kingsland Road, during business hours (8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday). A complimentary parking place will be displayed on the vehicle dashboard.

The approved vehicle storage location also takes place at that time.

Permmit holders may store vehicles on campus in the designated storage areas during spring break but must first contact Parking Services to provide vehicle storage location and emergency contact information. Please note that even during break periods, evening parking permits can be purchased from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information about vehicle storage during spring break, please contact Parking Services at 935-6691 or e-mail parktrans@wustl.edu.

Spring break, spring forward

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A better drug for osteoporosis might duplicate that effect. Their synthetic version of human bone morphogenetic protein 7, called Boniva and Actonel, work by in- teracting with growth factors to stimulate bone formation. The drugs have to be injected daily to make it difficult to administer.

"By removing Notch, we were able to look for genetic similarities and differences between the bones, Quatran said.

"The genetic code of corn con- sists of 2 billion bases of DNA, the chemical units that are repre- sented by the letters, T, C, A, and G, making it similar in size to the human genome, which is 2.9 bil- lion letters long. By comparison, the rice genome is about 400 million bases.

"Sequencing the corn genome was like putting together a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle with lots of blue sky and blue water, with only a few small sailboats on the horizon," Wilson said. "There were not a lot of landmarks to help us put together the genome together."

The United States is the world's top corn producer, growing 44 percent of the global crop. In 2007, U.S. farmers produced a record 13.1 billion bushels of corn, an increase of nearly 25 percent over the previous year, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Corn's genetic blueprint unveiled by University of Arizona in Tucson, where the researchers' data and analysis is housed, is the second to be completed of any crop and the first crop to have the genetic blueprint of the entire plant, said John Kotyk, Ph.D., research associate professor of radiology and associate director of the CCIR, who was one of the lead researchers on the project. "We now have the genetic blueprint of corn and we can search the entire genome for any gene of interest," Kotyk said.

"Corn is only the second crop after rice to have its genome se- quenced and scientists will now be able to look for genetic similarities and differences between the crops, Quatran said.

"This first draft of the genome sequence is exciting because it's the first time we can see the blueprint for the corn plant," Wilson said. "Scientists now will be able to accurately and efficiently probe the corn genome to find ways to improve breeding and sub- sequently increase crop yields and resistance to drought and disease."

"There's a lot of great research on the horizon," said plant biologi- st Ralph S. Quatran, director of WUSTL's Genome Sequencing Center, and an N.I.H. 20th An- nual Maine Genetic Conference in Washington, D.C.

"We now have the genetic blueprint of corn. This information can be used for genes that make corn more nutritious or more efficient for ethanol production, for example."

Corn is a key crop for researchers working to im- prove varieties of corn and other cereal crops, including rice, wheat and barley.

A breakthrough came while the researchers were studying how immune bone cells turn into osteoblasts. They were inter- ested in a particular molecular messenger, called Notch, that di- rects the maturation of many kinds of immature cells. The scientists developed mice that had no Notch in their bones and saw that their bones grew much denser than usual because the number of osteoblasts in- creased threefold. Further testing confirmed that Notch inhibits the development of immature bone marrow cells into osteoblasts, a fact that was not known before. "By removing Notch, we could push precursor cells within the bone marrow to become osteo- blast," Long said. "Long cautioned that sustained inhibition of Notch in the bone marrow can also rev up osteoclast production. This was previously shown in a research collaboration with John Kopan, Ph.D., the Wilma and Russell Messing Professor of Pathology and Immunology, Raphael Kopau, Ph.D., professor of develop- mental biology, and colleagues, published in the journal of bio- logical Chemistry in December 2007."

"It's possible that giving a Notch inhibitor at a low dose or for a short time could stimulate bone formation without over- activating bone resorption," Long said.

"Long said drugs are already under development that can improve bone formation through Notch signaling.

"There is a robust effort to de- velop chemicals that inhibit one of the enzymes in the Notch path- way because the same enzyme is implicated in Alzheimer's disease," he said.

Working through the Univer- sity's Office of Technology Manage- ment, Long has filed for a patent for the use of Notch chemical inhibitors to stimulate bone formation.

World Glaucoma Day set for March 6

"My lab is interested in identifying reagents that will stimulate primitive cells in the bone to become osteoblasts, the cells that add new bone material," Long said. "There is clearly a need for these types of reagents for osteo- porosis treatment."
Sam Fox School to host symposium on ‘Blackness’ March 6

Digital Photography • Cairo Station • Jazz at Holmes


Monday, March 7
9:15 a.m. Pediatric Grand Rounds.


Exhibits


digital photography • Cairo Station • Jazz at Holmes

Exhibit "Diving into the Past: Adinkra Cloth across the Diaspora," through April 10 in the Kemper Art Museum, 935-4523.

"Cairo Station," a show of photos taken in Cairo, will be on display at the Kemper Art Museum through April 21.

"Jazz at Holmes," a program of jazz music, will be held at Holmes Hall, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., every Monday.

Films

Monday, March 24
7 p.m. "Janih: Islamic and Near Eastern Modern Cult Film Series. "Cairo Station." Wilton Hall, Rm. 214. 935-9597.

Lectures

Thursday, March 6

9 a.m. Sam Fox School Symposium: "Architecture, Art and the Experience of Well-Being," with Christopher Barlow, professor of computer science and engineering, at the Kemper Art Museum, 935-9597.

Review room debuts a photograph of Le Corbusier’s iconic “Notre Dame du Haut” (1955) under construction in Ronchamp, France. The image — by the Hungarian-born photographer Laszlo Halasz, who worked with Le Corbusier from 1949 until the architect’s death in 1965 — is currently being exhibited in the "LeAura of Architecture-Ronchamp through Herve." Curated by Carl Safier, professor of architecture, the exhibit marks the opening of a new student-built gallery/review room located in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts Steinberg Hall. Safe worked with Herve in Paris in the mid-1950s.

Infection Disease Research Lecture, "Meningitis and Meningococcal Disease," with Gregory L. Duncan, professor of molecular microbiology and immunology, at the School of Medicine, Cupples II Hall, Rm. 218. 362-6946.

Monday, March 10
11 a.m. Midwest Regional Center of Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infections.” Jeffrey Townsend, asst. prof, of pathology & immunology, at the Medical School, 935-9597.

Tuesday, March 11

Wednesday, March 12

Thursday, March 13

The symposium will provide an opportunity for critical reflection on the role that race plays in the creation and construction of art and architecture.

“This is the first in a series of planned symposia that will explore issues of race, gender and ethnicity as they relate to the practice of architecture and the visual arts,” said Carmon Colanino, dean of the Sam Fox School and the E. Desmond Lee Professor for Collaboration in the Arts.

“These are critically important topics, and we’re thrilled by the positive response we’ve received from all of our community partners.”

The symposium will begin with a coffee reception at 9:30 a.m., followed at 10 a.m. by opening remarks from Chancellor Stenger, Chancellor Marc W. Wrighton and Sam Fox School Dean L. Thompson.

The symposium concludes at 7 p.m. with a reception in the Kemper Art Museum. “Architecture, Art and the Experience of Blackness” is cosponsored by the School of Art and Architecture at St. Louis University, Townsend Thompson’s courses teach about the role of art and architecture in society, and the Student Union’s Black Student Coalition. Additional support is provided by the School of Architecture and the University’s Office of Equity and Diversity. For more information, contact the School of Architecture at 362-2762.”

Other presenters include Yolande Daniels, assistant profes- sor of architecture at Columbia University and co-founder of the historic firm of Hammer & Hammer; and University trustee Ronald J. Hamers, professor of computer science and engineer- ing, both in Arts & Sciences. All events are free and open to all. For more information or to register, call 935-9307 or e-mail samfoxschool@wustl.edu.

"So"e, by the acclaimed artist Willie Cole, consists of shoes, wire, washers, screws and a shelf. Cole, whose work is included in the exhibition “On the Margins,” on view through April 21 in the Kemper Art Museum — will be a presenter at the March 6 symposium. Photo by Jason Mundella, courtesy of Alexander and Bonin, New York.
Assembly Lecture Series to tackle pulsars, poetry

By MARY KAYTEN

Radio astronomer and astrophysicist Jocelyn Bell Burnell, Ph.D., the first to discover pulsars, will describe her landmark discovery that led to the Nobel Prize in Physics on Tuesday, March 18, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Center for the Exploration of the Mind, 4565 McKinley Ave. 286-1123.

Jocelyn Bell Burnell was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland. She earned a bachelor's degree in physics from the University of Glasgow in 1965, followed by a doctorate in radio astronomy from the University of Cambridge in 1969.

She is an enthusiastic communicator of science and has a strong commitment to education and public engagement. She has taught and conducted research at University of Southampton, University College London and at the Royal Observatory in Edinburgh.

Jocelyn Bell Burnell received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Bath and taught physics at the Open University from 1981 to 1993. She also spent some time as a distinguished visiting professor at Providence University.

She holds a visiting professorship in astrophysics at the University of Oxford and is a fellow at Mansfield College in Oxford.

She has received many honors and awards in recognition of her contributions, including the Michel tooling Award; the Robert A. Millikan Award and the Robert J. Travers Medal. In 1995, she was elected a fellow of the Royal Society and the Royal Astronomical Society.

The ethical dimensions of science remain important to her. Since her school days, she has remained active in the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) and continues to maintain the education of women and the need to dialogue between science and religion.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 353-4200 or visit assemblyseries.wustl.edu.

BY BARBARA REE

This year the Interdisciplinary Project in Humanities (IPH) in Arts & Science presents a lecture series to explore a facet of the artistic terrain that makes us human. This year, the IPH will feature one of the best poets emerging in the landscape, Carl Phillips. He will deliver the Interdisciplinary Talks 4 p.m. March 25 in Umpherston Hall for the Assembly Series.


He uses poems as a way to consider thoughts for his readers. A common thread running throughout his work is the struggle between the assumptions that make us flawed, but wholly human, such as loss, love, desire and regret.

“If I want to carry away any single thought or emotion from poetry, it’s that it’s not only OK to be flawed and struggling — it is OK,” Phillips said in a 2006 profile for Washington University Magazine.

“Try to present poems as opportunities to discover something about self and the world, some complicated thing to solve.”

The author of nine books of poetry and recipient of many top literary awards, Phillips has been named a fellow for the National Book Award, first for “The Lost Girls” in 1998 and again for 2004 for “The Best of the Best.” He is a fellow of the Academy of American Poets Fellowship.

His more recent collections, “Riding Westward,” and “Quiver of Arrows,” are available at the department of English under the title of “The Art of Restlessness: On Poetry and Making.” He is set to present poems as opportunities to discover something about self and the world, some complicated thing to solve.”

Additional lectures will be held in the spring of 2008. For more information on the Interdisciplinary Project in Humanities, contact 353-4200.
A good sport

Justen Yao, 14, puts on a table tennis exhibition during Ellet School Family Night at the women's basketball game Feb. 22. After the game, Justen and his brother Alex, who also performed at the exhibition, gave a free clinic on tables set up in the Field House. Justen Yao was named by the U.S. Olympic Committee to the 2007 Male Athlete of the Year after winning the 2007 National U.S. Junior and Cadet Trials championships. The Yao brothers live in Chesterfield, Mo.

By JESSUP MARTIN

A team of five students from the School of Law recently traveled to Chicago, where they competed in and won the Midwest Super Regional of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

Twenty-four teams from throughout the Midwest participated in the super-regional. In the preliminary rounds, Washington University faced Chicago-Kent College of Law, Saint Louis University, Michigan State University and Northwestern University. In the quarterfinals, the team defeated Loyola University of Chicago, and in the semifinal, the team beat Wayne State University. In the final round, Washington University defeated DePaul University.

Jessica Cosick, second-year law student, was named as an individual contributor, and Ashley Walker, third-year law student, placed eighth out of nearly 100 individual competitors.

The Jessup Competition is the world’s largest competition for law students with more than 600 schools from about 100 countries competing each year. The Midwest Super-Regional is one of six super-regional competitions in the United States, the first stage of the competition.

Winners from each super-regional advance directly to the final. The winner in Chicago means that the WUSTL team is one of 140 teams competing in the United States.

This year’s Jessup competition was based upon a hypothetical dispute involving detention, extraterritorial rendition and treatment of suspected terrorists.

WUSTL’s team advances to the Shearman & Sterling International Rounds of the Jessup competition in Washington, D.C. The International Rounds is the second stage of the competition and will be held on March 27-29 in Washington, D.C., against approximately 120 national teams from around the world.

This marks the second consecutive year that the University has advanced to the International Rounds.

The school has advanced to the International Rounds six of the past 10 years; and Harvard Law School are the only two U.S. Law schools to make this distinction. Last year, WUSTL won the Regional Competition and placed third at the International Rounds, winning the 2006 Best Argument Award for best written submissions.

The Jessup team consists of third-year law students Walker and Rebecca Feldman and second-year law students Cusick, Erin Grohmel and Shahin Shah.

The team is co-coached by adjunct professor Gilbert Simon, J.D., V.O., an associate at the St. Louis firm of Rosenblum, Schwartz & Cocklin; and Doug Glass, F.C., and an alum of the Jessup team; and second-year law student, the law school’s Henry H. Oberthier Professor of Law and director of the Whitney E. Harris World Law Institute.

An opportunity to expand research

-from Page 1

Memory

Active retrieval is critical to learning

-from Page 1

Factors that most influence retention after something is learned include retrieving information before and after something is learned. Thus, retrieval practice provides an enormous opportunity to expand our clinical research programs," said Jost.

"I believe that the results will apply to other more complex materials and in other domains of expertise," he said.

"If we, for example, had a new anti-tumor drug, in the old days, we could only try it on a给药和the drug then waiting months or years to see who had lived and who had died. But by using modern imaging techniques, we sometimes can evaluate the impact of the drug within a much shorter period — a few days or even a few hours.

University earns 'A' in campus safety report

Washington University earned an "A" in a recent Readers Digest report about the safety of college campuses in the United States. The University was ranked eighth out of 135 institutions surveyed.

Reasons surveyed college and university departments about the safety practices. Based on their responses, schools were assigned a grade of A, B, or C.

"We are pleased with the recognition but realize that ranking means little to a person who is the victim of a serious accident on campus or the victim of a violent crime," said Bruce Bock, assistant vice chancellor for environmental health and safety. "That’s why we are continually striving to improve our safety and security programs as well as our disaster-preparedness planning and response efforts.

"The campus safety program at Washington University is a collaborative effort," Bock said, "involving many department, University and student organizations, groups, faculty, staff, students, parents of students, alumni and others. We all work together to foster a culture of safety, where everyone watches out not only for their own safety and security but also the safety of everyone within the University and the surrounding communities."

Break

Opportunities abound for service trips

-from Page 1

"The mission of our best organization, Christian Outreach and Partnership with Appalachian People (COOP), is to provide safe and warm housing for and with low-income residents, with clients partnering to according to their financial situation," Shelley said. "We will help COOP’s clients directly, learn about poverty in the region and experience its history and culture through activities such as visiting a coal mining museum and nearby state parks."

The St. Louis Hills at Washin-nton University recently held the annual service trip for 13 WUSTL students at the Gulf Coast region to assist with the ongoing rebuilding efforts while engaging students in Jewish religious reflection.

Our trip is part of a larger program sponsored by Hillel International to bring Jewish college students to the Gulf Coast for a Hurricane Katrina rebuilding effort," said Jessica Manela.

"More than 1,600 students from all over the United States will gather from January through March to partner with local agencies as they continue the hard work to recover from this devastation." Among other service trips:

"A Campus Y team will build bunk beds at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

"A team of students from the University of Maine earns an "A" in its recent Readers Digest report about the safety of college campuses in the United States. The University was ranked eighth out of 135 institutions surveyed.

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Reasons surveyed college and university departments about the safety practices. Based on their responses, schools were assigned a grade of A, B, or C.
The Center for the Humanities and Sciences Faculty Fellows

The Center for the Humanities and Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis has announced its Spring 2009 Faculty Fellows. The three recipients are: Quinn Barnett, Ph.D., associate professor of English in Arts & Sciences; Andrea Friedman, Ph.D., associate professor of history and women's gender studies, both in Arts & Sciences; and Jeannine Pasek, Ph.D., assistant professor of German in Arts & Sciences. Each will spend a semester in residence at the Center, researching a new book project while attending a variety of presentations and delivering one formal, public lecture about their work.

Bartens project, titled "English Romanticism and the Ethics of Contemporay Irish Poetry," is the first book-length study to relate two periods of literary re- vival—English Romanticism and "National" Irish poetry in response to the Ulster Crisis of the late 19th century. Specifically, she addresses how living Irish poets have interpret- ed and put into practice ques- tions that Romantic poets have been credited with evoking in our conception of the ethical role of literature during a time of political upheaval for which "woman" is at once a synonym and a symbol.

Friedman's project, "Democ- racy, Masculinity, and Chocolat, Race, and the Problem of the Mayor," explores the ways long-standing contradictions in the contours of American democracy and the practices of American citizenship were sharpened durng the early Cold War era. She will use a series of biogra- phical studies to investigate the racial and gender tensions in Cold War era citizenship to illus- trate the ways that the histor- ies of postwar citizenship were being tested, defended and sometimes redrawn.

Kapczynski's book project is titled "Leading Men: Recruiting Masculinity in 1950s West Ger- man Cinema." He aims to show that the men of 1950s cinema do not so much lead as they are led. By examining a wide range of filmic production of the 1950s, Kapczynski will argue that the films of the early Federal Republic privilege a masculinity that receives, rather than takes; one that is borne along by history, rather than actively shaping it. Constructing the ideal postwar democratic male subject, the armchair onlooker in the course of world events.

The faculty fellowships, now in their fourth year, are designed to provide both physical and in- tellectual environments for inno- vative, interdisciplinary research and teaching.

The fellowships are open to all tenured and tenure-track fac- ulty in the Arts & Sciences. Winners are selected by a panel at Arts & Sciences.

For more information, con- tact the Center for the Humani- ties at 935-5576 or visit humanities.wustl.edu.

International agreement

Michael Pelle, J.D., assistant dean for international programs and executive director of the Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute, looks on as leaders from Utrecht University, Queen's University, University of ALTO (Italy) and Catholic University of Portugal sign partnership documents officially launching the School of Law's groundbreaking Transnational Law Program. The Transnational Law Program allows U.S. students to study at both the Washington University School of Law and Utrecht University. Initially, these students will spend five semesters acquiring a solid foundation in U.S. law with an emphasis on international and transnational law from an American perspective. They will then undertake three semesters of study in Utrecht, acquiring an appreciation for European law and enhancing their understanding of international and transnational law. Faculty and students from the other three European partners will contribute to the strength of the program.

Recruitment Web site unveiled

By JESSICA DALLES

The St. Louis Regional Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (STLR-HERC) launched its Web site, efterher.edu, announced Laurel Sgan, the STLR-HERC's director. The site is a search engine of available positions at academic institutions in the St. Louis region. It also included on the Web site are resources for those interested in relocating to the St. Louis re- gion, including links to several St. Louis regional attractions, organizations, schools and housing resources.

The purpose of the STLR-HERC is to assist member institutions in the recrui- ting of outstanding faculty and staff members to the St. Louis region. The STLR-HERC members are the Dauphine Danforth Plant Science Center, Fontbonne University, Harris-Stowe State University, Lewis and Clark Community College, Lindenwood University, Missouri Botanical Garden, Saint Louis University, Southern Illi- nois University Edwardsville, St. Charles Community College, St. Louis College of Pharmacy, St. Louis Community College, University of Missouri at Spring- field, University of Missouri, Uni- versity of Missouri-St. Louis and Washington University.

For more information on the STLR-HERC or the Web site, contact Laurel Sgan at sganl@wiserh.org or 935-9206.

For the Record

Notables

Jannada Cul, Ph.D., associate professor of biomedical engi- neering, has received a $35,000 National Institutes of Health R01 grant, subcontracted from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, for a project re- searched titled "Mechanisms of Ul-trasound Mediated Intracellular Drug & Gene Delivery.

Washington University's Central Underground Garage has received the Construction Industry Best Practices Award from the St. Louis Council of Con- struction Consumers. The Best Practices Award recognizes achievement in promoting quali- ty, cost-effective construction. The Central Underground Garage project was recognized, in particular, for best safety prac- tices and zero accidents during construction.

Karen L. Wooley, Ph.D., the James S. McDonnell Distin- guished University Professor in Arts & Sciences, has received a three-year, $443,917 grant from the Office of Naval Research for research titled "The Development of Non-Tonic Anti-Foam Coats Based Upon Nanostructured Surface Complexities."

Obituary

Hunt, former head of physiology and biophysics, 89

Carlton Curfey Hunt, M.D., who headed the Department of Physiology at the School of Medicine from 1967-1983, died Friday, Feb. 8, in Highlands, N.C. He was 89.

A distinguished neurophysi- cian, Hunt made contributions to the understanding of sensory innervation in muscle. During his 16 years of leader- ship at the University, he built a department that was nationally recognized for its excellence in neuropharmacology, biophysics and cell biology. "Dr. Hunt was an extraordinary academic leader in the develop- ment of modern physiology," said Philip D. Stain, Ph.D., the Edward Mallinckrodt Professor and head of the Department of Cell Biology & Physiology. "He recruited and mentored a generation of scientists and leaders who made important con- tributions by building three superb de- partments of physiology, the last of which was among the best in the world where he was a strong and articu- late voice of support of basic science.

After retiring as department head, Hunt spent four years as a re- search professor at the College de France in Paris. In 1995, he joined the faculty of the University of North Carolina School of Medi- cine. The Association of Chairmen of Physiology gave him in 1997 Distinguished Achievement Award. In 2007, he was elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Hunt is survived by his wife, Mary Arnold, 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchi- ldren. A memorial service is planned for May 31 at the School of Medicine.

—Bob Miller
A fresh look at the past
Kastor's creativity keeps his students captivated

Peter J. Kastor, Ph.D., associate professor of history and of American culture studies, both in Arts & Sciences, talks with Emma Eschenfeldt, a senior majoring in the Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities in Arts & Sciences. "Peter genuinely cares more about teaching than any professor I've ever met," says Megan Lindsay, a 2003 graduate who majored in history and American culture studies. "I was finishing my Ph.D. on the implications of territorial expansion when I learned that WUSTL faculty were considering this new course in the same way," Kastor says. "I had a lot of things other courses were doing, but our students could tie all of it together. American culture studies took off, and there were demands to get involved. We were able to do it.

Over the past decade, Kastor has been the recipient of numerous honors, teaching and advising awards, grants and fellowships. He was awarded one of the first faculty fellowships (2005-06) at the Center for the Humanities in Arts & Sciences and has played a leading role in developing digital projects and building an infrastructure that enables other WUSTL faculty to create digital projects of their own.

This work on digital projects reflects models of collaborative inquiry that were developed by Dering Konig, Wayne Fields and Burhm Schald term and are embedded in the course with his anecdotes, great sense of humor and expansive knowledge of American history. "We know a lot about political theory, the founding of the Constitution, the ideas and ideologies of American leaders and the relationships between presidents and Congress," Kastor says. "But we know very little about how legislation is enacted at a federal level was actually enacted."

"In 1803-04, a member of Congress said there were two ways to govern by force or affection. These two could not get along. The princi- ple is that we are a republic, and we take for granted, are deeply em- bodied in our courses, but our students have come to appreciate this.

An 18th-century world
In many ways, Kastor is a product of his environment. "I grew up in Philadelphia, surrounded by an 18th-century world. The American Revolution was going on, the American Revolution was going on, and the political and social worlds converged," he says. "This leaves a mark.

Kastor earned a bachelor's degree in history with departmental honors from Franklin & Marshall College in 1989. He earned master's (1993) and doctoral degrees (1999) from the University of Virginia.

United we stand
In another project, under contract with Congressional Quarterly Press, Kastor looks at how the United States has governed for- eign people over time, first through territories now part of the United States and later through overseas and extraterritorial jurisdictions that have never become fully incorporated. "It's a topic he explored in his dissertation, which later became the highly praised book "The Na- tions' Cradle: The Louisiana Purchase and the Creation of America" (Yale University Press, 2004).

"Right after the American Rev- olution, there were dramatic differ- ences and geographic breadth, people believed in pragmatic unity for specific reasons," Kastor says. "What can unite us? They asked. Certainly not languages, religions, histories and cultures. These Americans chose a political option: belief in a republic." The challenge of territorial governance established a model for the way Americans think about expansion today, Kastor posits. "But the U.S. swung between the fear and the comfort of having im- perial holdings," he says. "The ways that the U.S. set about integrating territory into a national whole is programmatically very similar to the way Americans think about the recon- struction of Iraq and Afghani- stan." Kastor says. "The U.S. intro- duced representative government, promotes economic stability and development and creates a system that enables other WUSTL faculty to create digital projects of their own.

One student at a time
Kastor has earned a reputation as a teacher and mentor. He raises the bar to daunting heights while creating a comfortable environment that invites competing ideas and opinions.

His course on the American frontier "showed this aspiring sci- entist how rich and alive the humani- ties are," says Aaron Mertz, a Rhodes Scholar and 2006 graduate in physics and American culture studies, both in Arts & Sciences. "It provided the intellectual environment I had not yet found in college." "Peter genuinely cares more about teaching than any professor I've ever met," says Megan Lindsay, a 2003 graduate who majored in history and American culture studies.

For more than two years, I met with him once a week to discuss my projects," she says. "Those meetings did more for my education than all of the classes I have taken. Tomorrow, I get the opportunity to represent the best of Wash- ington University: a warm, welcoming aca- demic community that fosters aca- demic growth one student at a time."