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Nearly half of all U.S. children will use food stamps, expert says

By Jessica Martin

Holidays and tables full of delicious food usually go hand-in-hand, but for nearly half of the children in the United States, this is not guaranteed.

"Twenty-nine percent of all U.S. children will be in a household that uses food stamps at some point during their childhood," said Mark Rank, Ph.D., the Herbert S. Hadley Professor of Social Welfare in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work.

"Food stamp use is a clear sign of poverty and food insecurity, two of the most detrimental economic conditions affecting a child's health," Rank said.

According to Rank, the substantial risk of a child being in a family that uses food stamps is consistent with a wider body of research demonstrating that U.S. children face considerable economic risk throughout their childhood years.

"Rather than being a time of security and safety, the childhood years for many American children are a time of economic turmoil, risk and hardship," Rank said.

Rank's study, "Examining the Risk of Food Stamp Use and Impovishment During Childhood," is published in the current issue of the Archives of Pediatric Adolescent Medicine. Other study findings include:

- Ninety-one percent of children will be in a household that uses food stamps. This compares with 37 percent of white children.
- Ninety percent of black children will be in a household that uses food stamps for five or more years during childhood.
- Ninety percent of children with single parents will be in a household receiving food stamps, compared with 37 percent of children in married households.
- Looking at race, marital status and education, food stamp use appears to increase as the years go by. Ninety percent of black children and those without a degree are not married with less than 12 years of education have a cumulative percentage of residing in a food stamp household of at least 25 percent by age 10.
- "Understanding the degree to which American children are exposed to the risks of poverty and food insecurity across childhood is essential information for the health-care and social service communities," Rank said. "Even limited exposure to poverty may have detrimental effects upon a child's overall quality of health and well-being.

The study, co-authored with Thomas Hirsch, Ph.D., was conducted at Cornell University, is based on an analysis of 30 years of data collection and examination taken from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) and looks at children between the ages of 1 and 20. The PSID is a longitudinal survey of a representative sample of U.S. individuals and their families interviewed annually since 1968.

Rank's areas of research and teaching have focused on issues related to poverty, social welfare, economic inequality and social policy. His first book, "Living on the Edge: The Realities of Welfare in America," was published in 1994 and explored the circumstances of surviving on public assistance and achieved widespread critical acclaim. His book "One Nation, See Food stamps, Page 2

Looking toward our energy future

Steven F. Leer (left), president and CEO of Arch Coal, and Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton listen as Maxine L. Savitz, Ph.D., vice president of the National Academy of Engineering and a member of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, answers a question from the audience at America's Energy Future, a symposium to discuss the National Research Council's roadmap for the country's energy future. The symposium was held Nov. 2, in Simon Hall and was sponsored by the International Center for Advanced Renewable Energy and Sustainability (I-CARES). Wrighton delivered the keynote address summarizing the council's report.

Skills tests like 'connect the dots' may be early Alzheimer's indicator

By Michael C. Purdy

A study of mental decline in the years prior to diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease suggests that changing the focus of testing may allow physicians to detect signs of the disease three years earlier.

Current cognitive testing typically focuses on episodic memory, or the ability to remember things such as word lists or information from a reading. But School of Medicine scientists found that another class of mental abilities known as visuospatial skills begins to deteriorate up to three years prior to diagnosis. These skills are tested with tasks such as connecting the dots or using a guide to build a structure with blocks.

"We may need to rethink what we look for as the earliest signs of mental change associated with Alzheimer's disease," said senior author James Galvin, M.D., associate professor of neurology, of neurobiology and of psychiatry. "If we can better recognize the first signs of disease, we can start treating patients earlier, and, hopefully, with new treatments, we can slow or perhaps even stop their progress into dementia."

The results were published in the October issue of Archives of Neurology.

Galvin and his co-authors analyzed long-term data from volunteers at the Memory and Aging Project at the University's Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC). For three decades, researchers have been regularly conducting extensive testing of volunteers to uncover the factors associated with the normal, healthy retention of mental function in seniors. The new study analyzes data on 444 volunteers ages 69-101 that were gathered between 1979-2006. Scientists categorized cognitive testing results into a global measure of cognitive abilities as well as three specific types of mental skill episodic memory.

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It’s in the jeans

Stephen F. Brauer (left), James M. McKeavy, Ph.D. (center), former dean of the School of Engineering & Applied Science, and Camilla T. Brauer tour the new engineering building. It’s 111 the J6anS

Stephen F. Brauer (left), James M. McKelvey, Ph.D. (center), former dean of the School of Engineering & Applied Science, and Camilla T. Brauer tour the new engineering building.

Live@EDU undergraduate student e-mail pilot program to begin in January 2010

More than 550 WUSTL undergraduate students will participate in a pilot program beginning in January 2010 to test the University’s e-mail and online service, Microsoft Live@EDU, said Andrew Ortutai, associate vice chancellor for information services and technology.

The University selected Live@EDU to provide e-mail, calendar and Web space to a pilot group of students after several months seeking student and staff input. The pilot is a step toward offering all current students e-mail and online services that are an improvement over the University’s current approach, Ortutai said.

If the pilot is successful, all undergraduate student e-mail will migrate to Live@EDU by summer 2010. Graduate student e-mail services will be evaluated on a school-by-school basis.

Each Live@EDU account includes 10 gigabytes of e-mail storage and 25 gigabytes of file storage, calibrated to meet the needs of social networking integration and Web development space.

Free access to Web versions of Microsoft Office tools such as Word, Excel and PowerPoint is planned for spring 2010. In addition, the Live@EDU address book can be synchronized with University directory, making it easier to find WUSTL e-mail addresses while people are off campus.

Currently, each WUSTL school independently provides e-mail services to students. The features of the different systems vary, and many students have multiple University e-mail accounts.

For more information about this project, e-mail Information Services and Technology at livecomments@wustl.edu.

**Tests**

Plaques can build 10 years before symptoms from Page 1

vissual spatial skills and working memory, which assess the ability to manipulate facts from memory, such as repeating a list of numbers backwards.

Declines in episodic memory and working memory became discernible a year before volunteers were diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. Lapses in the composite assessment of cognitive abilities were detectable two years prior to diagnosis, and visuospatial skills began to decline three years earlier. Galvin said the losses in visuospatial skills were particularly noticeable because testing tasks were more difficult.

Researchers also analyzed the data using a new model that not only detected the peaks in decline in a mental ability but also the acceleration of the decline. Episodic memory declined faster and more slowly than that of both visuospatial skills and working memory, which declinated fastest.

The new perspective may allow doctors to detect signs of Alzheimer’s earlier, but more information will be needed to make a firm diagnosis. To make possible, neurologists at the ADRC are trying to take what they’ve learned in the new study and correlate it with facts, which are physical changes associated with preclinical Alzheimer’s disease. This include such tests as measuring the levels of certain proteins in the cerebrospinal fluid or the amyloid brain plaques, a primary characteristic of Alzheimer’s disease, can begin building in patients 10 years or more before clinical symptoms become apparent, Galvin said.

**Grants**

Significant economic impact on region — from Page 1

- Understanding how current and future global climate change can alter the spread of seeds carried by wind. WUSTL scientists will test a model for wind-driven seed dispersal developed in a large-scale habitat in South Carolina to determine which species result with the U.S. Forest Service to aid in conservation efforts.
- Establishing a program that helps provide financial aid to minority communities in north St. Louis County through breast cancer screening and follow-up treatment, if needed. Deaths from breast cancer among minority women in this community are substantially higher than the national average.
- Developing a potential new treatment in patients with type 2 diabetes that is designed to better regulate the release of insulin and maintain healthy glucose levels.
- Determining whether blood transfusions can prevent "sildenafil" strokes in children with severe sickle cell anemia as part of an international clinical trial of the therapy. Over time, the strokes can cause neurological problems and are a potentially fatal complication of the disease.
- Installing an array of seismographs on the islands of Fiji and on the nearby ocean floor to help determine why some earthquakes occur deep below the earth’s surface, while the rock should be malleable and not susceptible to seismic activity.
- The research may eventually lead to better understanding of volcanoes, landslide systems, earthquakes and other violent geologic events.

The awards have a significant economic impact in the St. Louis region. A recent survey of the economic impact of research grants from the NIH has shown that every dollar of NIH funding to Missouri in 2007 generated $2.09 of economic activity in the community that received the award.

By this estimate, the recent stimulus funding to Washington University will generate well over $200 million in goods and services in and around our region," said Evan Krasner, Ph.D., interim vice chancellor of research.

"Moreover, research conducted with stimulus funds furthers our efforts to improve the lives of all people. Additional stimulus grants will be announced in the coming months. Washington University still has a number of grant applications under review at various federal agencies.

**Faculty book colloquium to feature Pulitzer Prize-winner**

P ulitzer Prize-winning essayist and literary critic Louis Menand, Ph.D., will present the keynote address for "Celebrating Our Books: Recognizing Our Authors," the University’s eight annual faculty book colloquium, at 4 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 17, in Graham Chapel.

The colloquium also will feature presentations by two faculty members. William Lowry, Ph.D., professor of political science in Arts & Sciences, is author of "Repairing Paradise: The Restoration of Nature in America’s National Parks." Lori Watt, Ph.D., assistant professor of history and of international and area studies, both in Arts & Sciences, is author of "When Empire Comes Home: Japan’s Economic Reintegration in Postwar Japan."

Organized by the Center for the Humanities in Arts & Sciences and University Libraries, "Celebrating Our Books" is free and open to the public, through seating is limited. R.S.V.P.s are strongly encouraged.

Immediately following the colloquium, a reception and book signing will take place in Holmes Library, where faculty books published in the past five years will be on display.

Faculty books also will be displayed and available for purchase at the Campus Store. Menand is the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Professor of English at Harvard University and a frequent contributor to The New Yorker.

His books include "The Metaphysical Club," winner of the 2002 Pulitzer Prize in History.

**Food stamps**

— from Page 1

Underserved: Why American Poverty Is Growing, which was published in 2004 to critical acclaim.

In 2006, the Freshman Reading Program chose "One Nation, Underserved" as its selection, and Arts & Science books were woven in throughout the semester in classes, discussions and on-campus programming.

In addition, Bank has written numerous articles for a variety of journals such as Social Work, American Sociological Review, Social Work Research and Social Science Quarterly. He has also worked with members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives as well many organizations involved in economic and social justice issues. For a story on his discussion poverty and the results of the study, visit washu.edu/record/news/page/normal/15000.html.

**WUSTL police help ‘warm-up’ St. Louis**

The police department is collecting winter coats for the Kurt Warner First Things First Foundation. To arrange pick-up of coats at offices or departments on campus, call Wendy Ohnss at 935-7499.

**Record**

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School of Medicine Update

Center seeks to solve unsolvable problems in medicine

BY MICHAEL C. PURDY

E ric Luehhardt, M.D., assistant professor of neurosurgery and instructor in the Department of Neurological Surgery, is the new president of Barnes-Jewish Hospital and the School of Medicine, effective June 1.

Luehhardt, who served as interim president since February, is a recognized expert in neurosurgery and surgical oncology.

"I think it's a huge opportunity for us to really step up and make some real advances in the areas of care, research and teaching," Luehhardt said.

Luehhardt, who will be the first Alumni Presidential Chair at the School of Medicine, will have a three-year term as interim president and then will serve as president for four years.

"I'm excited to be a part of this process and to see what opportunities are out there for us to make real impact," he said.

Luehhardt said he is looking forward to working with the faculty, staff and students to achieve the goals set forth by the previous president, Dr. Joseph J. Cuschieri.

Cuschieri, who served as interim president since 2016, is stepping down after completing his term.

"I think we have a really talented and dedicated faculty who are committed to excellence in all areas of our mission," Luehhardt said.

"I'm excited to work with them to continue to build on the success we've had in the past few years."
PAD presents pitch-black comedy ‘Pillowman’ Nov. 19-22

By LIAM OTTEN

There are good parents and bad parents, and then there are the outrageously horrible parents of Katurian Katurian, the writer at the center of Martin McDonagh’s macabre black-comedy “The Pillowman.”

This month, the Performing Arts Department (PAD) in Arts & Sciences presents the “Pillowman” — winner of the 2004 Olivier Award for Best New Play — at the A.E. Hotchner Studio Theatre.

Performances begin at 8 p.m. Nov. 19, 20 and 21; and at 2 p.m. Nov. 21 and 22.

Set amidst a Kafkaesque police state, “The Pillowman” opens in a stark interrogation room, where the adult Katurian — a slaughterhouse worker beginning to find recognition as a writer of gruesome tales — is blindfolded, his brother Michal in the adjoining room.

“His interrogators, the outrageously profane good-cop-bad-cop duo of Tupolski and Ariel, suspect that Katurian’s stories may not be entirely fiction. In fact, they bear remarkable resemblance to a series of grisly child murders that, to Katurian, are nothing but entertaining,” said Antsamita Pillegi, senior lecturer in drama, who directs the cast of seven. “It’s extraordinarily dark, the language is very dense, and there’s a fairly high level of violence — it’s grimmer than Grimm.”

“And yet, ’The Pillowman’ is also hyper-realistically funny,” Pillegi said. “Tupolski and Ariel are uncanny and frightening and say outrageous things almost that makes you feel uncomfortable for laughing. ‘You find yourself laugh- ing, and then look around to make sure everyone else is, too.’

Much of the play unfolds through Katurian’s stories and flashbacks, which are narrated and acted out onstage. Of particular importance is the tale, ‘The Writer and ’The Writer’s Brother,’ a semi-autobiographical account of Katurian’s traumatic childhood. Recognizing his budding talent, Katurian’s parents devise a twisted experiment, showing him live and affecting while Michal — of whose existence Katurian is kept unaware — is locked in the next room, chained to his bed. For seven years, the only connection between the brothers are the sounds of Michal’s torches echoing through the walls.

‘In the story, Michal dies, but when Katurian finally breaks down the door, Michal is holding his own story, which is better than anything Katurian has ever written,” Pillegi said. “But that’s just one story…’

‘Now, here’s how the real story goes…’

‘I think McDonagh is basically exploring the nature of live theater,’ Pillegi said. ‘And he’s putting things on stage that frankly just aren’t put on stage. In a way, he’s playing both ends against the middle: realism to the violence. He wants it to be upsetting. McDonagh is also challenging our notions about good and evil and about the nature and purpose of art,” Pillegi said. “How far you can push the envelope, without pushing too far!’

‘Just because you don’t like something — because it’s gruesome or profane or for whatever reason — does that mean its not art?”

The cast is led by sophomore John Gianardi as Katurian and junior Dan Toh as Michal. Sophomore Max Riemann and senior Ben Waldy play Tupolski and Ariel, the good-cop-bad-cop interrogators.

Senior Emily Page and junior Jonathan Eiden play three sets of parents, including Katurian’s. Freshman Melissa Freilich plays children in two of Katurian’s stories.

Sets designs are by Sean Savage, lecturer in the PAD. Costumes are by Ellen Minch. Lighting and sound are by Jonathan Lember and Adina Talve-Goodman. Mark Rubinstein is special effects supervisor.

Tickets — $10 for students, faculty, seniors and $15 for the public — are available through the Edison Theatre Box Office and all MetroTel outlets. For more information, call 935-6543.

Sophomore John Gianardi (center) plays Katurian, the writer at the center of ‘The Pillowman’ opening at the A.E. Hotchner Studio Theatre Nov. 19. Senior Ben Waldy (left) and sophomore Max Riemann play his good-cop-bad-cop interrogators.
Roger Rees brings one-man show on Shakespeare to Edison

By Liam O'Teen

Oscar Award- and Tony Award-winning actor Roger Rees is known for embodying the American audiences for his work on stage, including dazzling English tycoon Robin Colcord on "Cheers," as British Ambassador Lord John Marmaduke on "The West Wing," and, most recently, Dr. Di. Colman on "Grey's Anatomy."

Rees is currently at Edison Theatre, Rees, a 22-year veteran of the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC), will return to the stage with "What You Will," a side- show about Shakespeare—show that combines the Bard's greatest soliloquies with colorful observations about the acting life and offbeat (and occasionally bawdy) tales of behind the scenes.

This special one-night-only performance is presented as part of the Edison Theatre OVATIONS Series.

Offering an actor's-eye-view of the pleasures and challenges of performing Shakespeare, Rees will draw on a wealth of theatrical anecdotes about the acting life and offbeat (and occasionally bawdy) tales of behind the scenes. 

Rees' big break came in 1980 when, at age 36, he started in the RSC's epic two-part "The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby" winning both Olivier and Tony awards. He made his big screen debut in 1983 with "Star 80," and has since been featured in dozens of films, ranging from "The Big Bang Theory" and "A Madam's Night on the Town" to "The Pink Panther" and "Robin Hood: Men in Tights."

Rees also recounts stories from Rees' dinner with Sir Laurence Olivier to Shakespeare's appearances in "What You Will," including Edmund Kean's lurching postu through a series of rivals to "What You Will"'s most beautiful verse, written the San Francisco Examiner. The Washington Post added that Rees "conveys each character with the combination of technique and magnetism that has distinguished the RSC actors of his generation."

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Rees was born in London and originally studied painting and lithography at the famed School of Fine Arts. He worked for a time as a scene painter before joining the RSC in 1968 with his friend Ben Kingsley. At first, he played a series of servants, soldiers and other minor roles but eventually graduated to more substantial parts, including Boleyn in "The New World" and "The Lion in Winter," the king of Cambria in "Much Ado About Nothing" and finally, Henry V.

Dancing the night away Freedom from Smoking, which supports St. LouisChildren's Hospital and SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center.

For more information, call 365-8543 or e-mail edison@ wustl.edu.
Sixth Annual GIS symposium Nov. 19

Writers undergraduate and graduate students can discuss post-graduation choices and how to become successful, fulfilling life, and gain the knowledge and skills of the workforce. The 2009 Association of Moving Image Archivists Conference in St. Louis. The students visited WUSTL Nov. 4-7. Washington University Libraries & Media Archive hosted preconference workshops Nov. 3 at Olin Library. WUSTL's Nadia Ghased, film and media cataloging and preservation archivist; Tim Lepczyk, metadata librarian; and Cassandra Stokes, digital projects librarian; presented at a workshop on XML.

Sports

Football wins Funders Cup

Senior running back Jim O'Brien ran for a career-high 163 yards and three touchdowns as the football team rallied for a 44-37 victory over the University of Chicago Nov. 7. With the victory, the Bears regained possession of the Funders Cup, which commemorates the 1987 meeting between the two schools. WUSTL has won 17 of the past 23 games.

Volleyball falls in UAA championship match

The No. 3 volleyball team fell short in its bid to repeat as University Athletic Association (UAA) champions, falling 3-0 to Emory University in the championship match Nov. 19.

Women's hoops tops Division I opponent

Senior forward Zoe Uhrich scored 31 points and added a 19-5 run late in the second half as the women's basketball team posted an 84-74 victory over the University at 1:30 p.m. The win was the first for the Bears over the UAA this season.

Women's soccer clinches spot in playoffs

The Bears clinched their seventh consecutive Atlantic Super Conference title Nov. 19, 2009. The win was the first for the Bears over the UAA this season.

Men's soccer finishes second in UAA tournament

The Bears won the 2009 NCAA Division III championship last year. They return to the playoffs this year. The Bears finished second in the regular season and finished third in the playoffs.

Women's soccer to host NCAA games

Despite losing its regular-season finale to the University of Chicago Nov. 7, the No. 8 women's soccer team clinched the 2009 University Athletic Association (UAA) championship and earned the conference's automatic berth into the 2009 NCAA championship tournament.

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Notable

Gammon Earhart, Ph.D., assistant professor of physical therapy, has received a three-year, $718,483 grant from the National Institute of Health to support research titled "Occlusion Control and Gait in Parkinson Disease.

Deborah Heatley, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, Christine Kinnaman, Ph.D., research assistant professor of chemistry, and Blanken Phillips, Ph.D., assistant professor of physical therapy, have received a five-year, $1,984,307 grant from the National Institutes of Health to support research titled "NSGIC: Controlling Electron Transfer Pathways in Photosynthetic Reaction Centers."

C.R. Rao, Ph.D., professor of biostatistics, has received a two-year, $250,000 grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) to support research titled "Nmnat-Mediated Electron Transfer Pathways in Photosynthetic Reaction Centers."


D.C. Rao, Ph.D., professor of biomedical engineering, has received a $1,020,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to support research under the CAREER Program titled "Flunking Cells: Investigating Cell Death and its Health Care Consequences."

Notables policy

To submit Notables for publication in the Record, e-mail items to jesus@wustl.edu or fax to 935-6529.

Designing, Implementing and Testing Youth Services in Developing Countries...

Radiokrushna Sureshkumar, Ph.D., professor of chemical engineering, has received a four-year, $426,209 grant from the National Science Foundation for research titled "An Experimental Study of Nanotechnology Mechanisms in Bacterial Biosynthesis by Hierarchical Modeling of Protein Folding and Viral Vesiculation Interactions.

Additionally, University police responded to five accidental fires. The fires were caused by individuals who were unable to function properly.

Campus Author

Charles F. Zoromski, M.D., the Samuel B. Guze Professor and head of the Department of Psychiatry, and Eugene H. Rubin, M.D., Ph.D., professor of psychiatry.

Demystifying Psychiatry

Oxford University Press (2009)

Between them, Charles F. Zoromski, M.D., the Samuel B. Guze Professor and head of the Department of Psychiatry, and Eugene H. Rubin, M.D., Ph.D., professor of psychiatry, have more than 50 years of experience treating psychiatric patients and helping patients' families — and their own families — better understand what they do.

"The book actually comes from many conversations we've had with people in the community and individuals in our own families who have not misunderstood psychiatric illnesses but don't understand what psychiatrists are and how they fit into health-care delivery," Zoromski said about the book. "So part of the impetus behind writing this book was to emphasize those things in a way that audience would understand."

The book is unlike popular books about psychiatric illness, which tend to focus on one person's story or one particular illness without context. Rather, the book is a general look at the entire field of psychiatry, the illnesses, the treatments and trends.

"Demystifying Psychiatry" is not a textbook, however. It does not require medical or scientific background to understand. It explains how psychiatry differs from other mental health professions, such as psychology and social work. The book also includes an extensive bibliography to refer lay readers to other books that help define the field.

"I argue that psychiatry is widely misunderstood and that psychiatric knowledge is not something that an expert psychiatrist can pass on to someone else, but rather a process they lead patients to follow," Zoromski said. "Many patients get better when they are able to understand it, even if they don't completely follow it."

But with psychiatric illness, patients often don't recognize their own illness or treat it, even when they are unable to function properly. The book helps those patients and their families understand what they need to know, how to seek psychiatric care and what treatments might help.

— Jim Dryden

Campus Watch

The following incidents were reported to University Police Nov. 4-9. Readers who have information concerning these incidents are urged to call 800-656.

Nov. 4 12:45 a.m. — Graffiti was found in a men's restroom in the Danforth University Center.

Nov. 5 10:30 p.m. — A bicycle was stolen from outside Smith Hall.

Nov. 6 10:56 p.m. — A person reported a bicycle stolen from outside Whitaker Hall.

Nov. 7 2:42 p.m. — A person reported a bicycle was stolen from outside Drexel House.

Nov. 8 8:45 a.m. — Graffiti was found on campus walkways.

11:38 a.m. — A person reported a facepainting mask was stolen from a broken window in McKelvey Hall.

12:31 p.m. — Facilities reported that two Tamur tables and gags were taken, one of which was already missing in residential buildings.

Additionally, University police responded to five accidental injuries, three automobile accidents and one report of a damaged property.

Nov. 9 8:45 a.m. — Graffiti was found on campus walkways.

11:38 a.m. — A person reported a facepainting mask was stolen from a broken window in McKelvey Hall.

12:31 p.m. — Facilities reported that two Tamur tables and gags were taken, one of which was already missing in residential buildings.

The book is unlike popular books about psychiatric illness, which tend to focus on one person's story or one particular illness without context. Rather, the book is a general look at the entire field of psychiatry, the illnesses, the treatments and trends.

"Demystifying Psychiatry" is not a textbook, however. It does not require medical or scientific background to understand. It explains how psychiatry differs from other mental health professions, such as psychology and social work. The book also includes an extensive bibliography to refer lay readers to other books that help define the field.

"I argue that psychiatry is widely misunderstood and that psychiatric knowledge is not something that an expert psychiatrist can pass on to someone else, but rather a process they lead patients to follow," Zoromski said. "Many patients get better when they are able to understand it, even if they don't completely follow it."

But with psychiatric illness, patients often don't recognize their own illness or treat it, even when they are unable to function properly. The book helps those patients and their families understand what they need to know, how to seek psychiatric care and what treatments might help.

— Jim Dryden

Campus Author

Charles F. Zoromski, M.D., the Samuel B. Guze Professor and head of the Department of Psychiatry, and Eugene H. Rubin, M.D., Ph.D., professor of psychiatry.

Demystifying Psychiatry

Oxford University Press (2009)
Karen Tokarz and J.D. (center), and her Civil Rights & Community Justice Clinic students Reagan Larkin (left) and Sadena Thevarajah work with the Health and Welfare Unit at Legal Services of Eastern Missouri to provide services to low-income individuals on access to health care and public benefits cases. The law school's clinical programs have affiliated with Legal Services in various ways since the law school first launched legal clinics in 1973 and have provided free legal services to thousands of clients in the St Louis area through the years. "Our students are brilliant, well-qualified, ethical practitioners who become talented, committed, determined to fight injustice and change the world," she says. "There's a lovely energy in today's law students to work for the greater good. Most of our law students come to school with the goal to improve the quality of life for people on this planet. They are changing the legal profession, very much for the better."

"As an international leader in clinical legal education and dispute resolution, Tokarz has helped emerging democracies transform legal education in their countries. "In those countries going through a political transition, legal education becomes more open, more diverse," she says. "In Central and Eastern Europe, Africa and Southeast Asia as well as other parts of the world, one of the first stages of progressive legal education is to move toward clinical legal education and dispute resolution training. Law schools want and need to prepare a new population of lawyers to practice alternative forms of law, and to address past discrimination and oppression."

Tokarz began working with law schools in South Africa on clinical curriculum development in 2001. She since has led a team of talented, committed, determined law school and the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor, emphasizes that Tokarz has achieved three remarkable things at Washington University: "She has assured the delivery of quality legal services to thousands of people who would otherwise lack access to justice; she has taught generations of students how to provide access to justice and to go on to careers in public service; and she has been a leading force in improving legal education at this school and across the nation."

In her current role as director of the law school's Dispute Resolution Program, Tokarz helps prepare graduates to be better arbitrators, mediators and conflict-resolvers through coursework in "Negotiation Theory & Practice." She is collaborating with Syverson, who teaches "Negotiation," and other faculty in the field to develop a "first-class dispute resolution program for the law school that is both interdisciplinary and international," she says.

"I see myself and our law school as part of a larger movement that is fostering a new professional culture for lawyers - lawyers who are aware and passionate about social justice issues and are more creatively, efficiently and fairly in ways that preserve relationships as much as possible," Tokarz says, a widely respected civil rights mediator.

Tokarz and her colleagues have extended the reach of the school’s dispute resolution learning opportunities beyond U.S. borders. Students interested in dispute resolution and human rights have the opportunity to participate in internships in countries such as South Africa, Rwanda, Kenya, Ghana, Thailand, Cambodia, India and China.

For Tokarz, the best part of her job is working with her students. "Our students are brilliant, talented, committed, determined to fight injustice and change the world," she says. "There's a lovely energy in today's law students to work for the greater good. Most of our law students come to school with the goal to improve the quality of life for people on this planet. They are changing the legal profession, very much for the better."

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