12-10-2009

Washington University Record, December 10, 2009

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.wustl.edu/record

Recommended Citation

http://digitalcommons.wustl.edu/record/1198

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Washington University Publications at Digital Commons@Becker. It has been accepted for inclusion in Washington University Record by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Becker. For more information, please contact engeszer@wustl.edu.
Surgery not linked to memory problems in older patients

By Jim Dryden

For years, it has been widely assumed that older adults may experience memory loss and other cognitive problems following surgery. But a new study from School of Medicine researchers questions those assumptions. In fact, the researchers were not able to detect any long-term cognitive declines attributable to surgery in a group of 575 patients they studied.

"We wondered how reasonable it was to compare people having surgery to people who were perfectly healthy," Evans said. "We thought a better comparison group might be people who were equally old.

Past cognitive studies tested surgery patients just before an operation and again several months later. So if a patient was just beginning to suffer declines at the time of the first test, it might be assumed that further declines at follow-up were caused by operation when, in fact, they were already under way. To get better initial screenings, Avidan and Evans examined data from the University's Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC).

The ADRC tests cognitive function in volunteers annually. "We had a lot of cognitive data on hand made it easier to map a person's cognitive trajectory before and after surgery or illness and see whether either the new programs at Whittemore House include:• Reduction in monthly dues• Acceptance of credit cards to make it easier for members to bring guests• New special programs for members and their families

Whittemore House offers members a place to have a high quality lunch on campus in a quiet, reserved atmosphere for both individuals and groups" said Dr. Lacey, secretary to the Board of Trustees and president of the Whittemore House Board of Directors.

"We also have the privilege of working closely with Dr. Wertsch, Dr. Williams and Dr. Stone," Professor of Arts & Sciences, and will be the principal liaison between the Office of the Provost and Office of the Chancellor. James V. Wertsch, Ph.D., the Marshall S. Snow Professor in Arts & Sciences, director of the McDonnell International Scholar Academy and director of the International & Area Studies Program in Arts & Sciences, has been named associate vice chancellor for international education.

The Teaching Center will bring great benefit to Washington University. "Our faculty provide an education that is second to none," said Provost Edward S. Marics, Ph.D., 

"We have the privilege of working closely with Dr. Wertsch, Dr. Williams and Dr. Stone," Professor of Arts & Sciences, and will be the principal liaison between the Office of the Provost and Office of the Chancellor. James V. Wertsch, Ph.D., the Marshall S. Snow Professor in Arts & Sciences, director of the McDonnell International Scholar Academy and director of the International & Area Studies Program in Arts & Sciences, has been named associate vice chancellor for international education.

The Teaching Center will bring great benefit to Washington University.

"There aren't many opportunities to get together and talk about issues in the classroom," Teach 2010 will take place from 8:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Siegel Hall and is hosted by Arts & Sciences, The Teaching Center and University Libraries. Teach is free and open to all University faculty members. The Teaching Center requests that those planning to attend register by Jan. 5.

"Our faculty provide an education that is second to none," said Provost Edward S. Marics, Ph.D.,

"We have the privilege of working closely with Dr. Wertsch, Dr. Williams and Dr. Stone," Professor of Arts & Sciences, and will be the principal liaison between the Office of the Provost and Office of the Chancellor. James V. Wertsch, Ph.D., the Marshall S. Snow Professor in Arts & Sciences, director of the McDonnell International Scholar Academy and director of the International & Area Studies Program in Arts & Sciences, has been named associate vice chancellor for international education.

The Teaching Center will bring great benefit to Washington University.

"There aren't many opportunities to get together and talk about issues in the classroom," Teach 2010 will take place from 8:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Siegel Hall and is hosted by Arts & Sciences, The Teaching Center and University Libraries. Teach is free and open to all University faculty members. The Teaching Center requests that those planning to attend register by Jan. 5.

"Our faculty provide an education that is second to none," said Provost Edward S. Marics, Ph.D.,

"We have the privilege of working closely with Dr. Wertsch, Dr. Williams and Dr. Stone," Professor of Arts & Sciences, and will be the principal liaison between the Office of the Provost and Office of the Chancellor. James V. Wertsch, Ph.D., the Marshall S. Snow Professor in Arts & Sciences, director of the McDonnell International Scholar Academy and director of the International & Area Studies Program in Arts & Sciences, has been named associate vice chancellor for international education.

The Teaching Center will bring great benefit to Washington University.

"There aren't many opportunities to get together and talk about issues in the classroom," Teach 2010 will take place from 8:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Siegel Hall and is hosted by Arts & Sciences, The Teaching Center and University Libraries. Teach is free and open to all University faculty members. The Teaching Center requests that those planning to attend register by Jan. 5.

"Our faculty provide an education that is second to none," said Provost Edward S. Marics, Ph.D.,

"We have the privilege of working closely with Dr. Wertsch, Dr. Williams and Dr. Stone," Professor of Arts & Sciences, and will be the principal liaison between the Office of the Provost and Office of the Chancellor. James V. Wertsch, Ph.D., the Marshall S. Snow Professor in Arts & Sciences, director of the McDonnell International Scholar Academy and director of the International & Area Studies Program in Arts & Sciences, has been named associate vice chancellor for international education.

The Teaching Center will bring great benefit to Washington University.

"There aren't many opportunities to get together and talk about issues in the classroom," Teach 2010 will take place from 8:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Siegel Hall and is hosted by Arts & Sciences, The Teaching Center and University Libraries. Teach is free and open to all University faculty members. The Teaching Center requests that those planning to attend register by Jan. 5.

"Our faculty provide an education that is second to none," said Provost Edward S. Marics, Ph.D.,
Biodiesel powers WUSTL Dining Services truck

The same oil used on the Danforth Campus to make fresh fryers is powering a truck near you. Using vegetable oil from WUSTL Dining Services kitchens is being re-used as biodiesel in a dining services vehicle on campus. Through the program, which began in November, WUSTL Dining Services is partnering with St. Louis Oncologist Harvey Kellogg. Biofuel to prevent approximately 150 gallons of waste vegetable oil each week from ending up in a landfill. Instead, the cooking oil will be used as fuel in a dining services truck.

The facility is collected at three campus locations: the Village House, MillikinBrown Student Center and the South 40 House. After cleaning the vegetable oil and converting it into biodiesel, Kellogg said, that Gratitude for the Saligmans’ commitment is the second most common type of payment multiple myeloma research and in gratitude for treatment received for the disease. It will support multiple myeloma research to understand the root causes of the disease and develop new treatments that will improve the outcomes for myeloma patients.

Harvey and Linda Saligman have committed to establish the Harry and Linda Saligman Multiple Myeloma Research Fund in the Department of Medicine’s Division of Oncology. The gift is in recognition of the discovery of the excellence in the field and in gratitude for treatment received for the disease. It will support multiple myeloma research to understand the root causes of the disease and develop new treatments that will improve the outcomes for myeloma patients.

The gift is in recognition of the discovery of the excellence in the field and in gratitude for treatment received for the disease. It will support multiple myeloma research to understand the root causes of the disease and develop new treatments that will improve the outcomes for myeloma patients.

The gift is in recognition of the discovery of the excellence in the field and in gratitude for treatment received for the disease. It will support multiple myeloma research to understand the root causes of the disease and develop new treatments that will improve the outcomes for myeloma patients.

The gift is in recognition of the discovery of the excellence in the field and in gratitude for treatment received for the disease. It will support multiple myeloma research to understand the root causes of the disease and develop new treatments that will improve the outcomes for myeloma patients.

The gift is in recognition of the discovery of the excellence in the field and in gratitude for treatment received for the disease. It will support multiple myeloma research to understand the root causes of the disease and develop new treatments that will improve the outcomes for myeloma patients.

The gift is in recognition of the discovery of the excellence in the field and in gratitude for treatment received for the disease. It will support multiple myeloma research to understand the root causes of the disease and develop new treatments that will improve the outcomes for myeloma patients.

The gift is in recognition of the discovery of the excellence in the field and in gratitude for treatment received for the disease. It will support multiple myeloma research to understand the root causes of the disease and develop new treatments that will improve the outcomes for myeloma patients.
Asthma treatment response

Some studies suggest that asthma patients with a specific genetic variation might not respond as well to certain treatments as those with a different variation. However, in a recent study published in a medical journal, it was found that patients with a specific gene variant responded better to combination treatment with a beta-agonist and a corticosteroid. The study, called the Long-Acting Beta Agonist Response by Genetics (LABAG), was conducted at the Asthma Clinical Research Network established by the National Institutes of Health. The study included patients with asthma who were treated with combination therapy. The results showed that patients with a specific gene variant responded better to the combination therapy than those without the variant. These findings suggest that genetic testing may be useful in predicting treatment response in asthma patients.
By ELAM OTTEN

Washington University is a big place. Both metaphorically and physically. Last week, eight women printmakers, all students or alumni from the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, sought to bridge some of that distance by installing a series of artworks in the School of Law’s Anheuser-Busch Hall.

“That is really a wonderful collaboration,” said curator Bunny Burson, a printmaking alumni and member of the Sam Fox School’s National Council, whose husband, Charles Burson, J.D., is a senior professor of practice at the law school. “It’s a great way to let one end of campus know what the other end is doing.”

Burson said that most of the works on view explore legal and/or political themes. For example, Burson’s own mixed-media work on handmade paper that reflects on the use and abuse of the worlds symbols. Lisa Bulawsky, associate professor of art, contributes the satire, “The Lords of In-Between.”

Burson herself contributes a triptych of darkly elegant monotypes, titled “Stairway” and “47.” The work on handmade paper, three to six scenes, appear to be simple black-and-white abstractions. Yet, as one draws closer, delicate face patterns emerge by the graceful white assets worn by former Supreme Court justice Sandra Day O’Connor are detected. Also featured are prints by alumni Vette Drury Dubinsky (MFA ’90), Kelda Martensen (MFA 1902) and Gina T. Alvarez (MFA 192). The latter’s contribution, a large woodcut-and-collage titled “Minor Nods” was printed by Amanda Yebeck, herself a 2001 printmaker and now master printer at St. Louis’ Pete Prints.

“I wanted to select women representing a range of careers,” Bunny Burson said. “I have taught at Washington University for three decades and it is internationally known. Lisa, Maryanne and Vette are well-established printmakers, while Kelda, Gina and Amanda all are recent graduates.

“All of them are making terrific work,” Burson said. “It’s a pleasure and an honor to highlight what they’re doing.”

The installation, which is located in the W. Hedy Griffin Student Common, was made possible with the support and encouragement of Kent Svernad, J.D., dean of the School of Law and the Ethan A. H. Shelpey University Professor; Ruth Chi-Fen Chen, Ph.D., professor of practice in the School of Engineering & Applied Science; and Carmon Cotugno, dean of the Sam Fox School and the E. Desmond Lee Professor for Collaboration in the Arts.

All works will remain on view through the end of the spring semester. For more information, call 935-7567.

---

On Stage

Saturday, Jan. 16

Saturday, Jan. 23

10 a.m. CIRCUS OFKINSMEN Series. “Scurvy.” Cost: $20 for students & children. Edison Theatre. 935-6543.

Saturday, Jan. 24
7:30 p.m. Men’s Basketball vs. St. John’s College.
8 p.m. Men’s Basketball vs. Webster U. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Music

Friday, Dec. 11
8 p.m. Queer Scenes. (Based on 8 p.m. Dec. 12) Wren Hall Lounge. 935-2066.

Sports

Saturday, Dec. 12
7:30 p.m Men’s Basketball vs. Augustana College. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Friday, Dec. 18
7 p.m. Women’s Basketball vs. North Park College. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Saturday, Dec. 19
7 p.m. Women’s Basketball vs. Augsburg College. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Tuesday, Jan. 19
7 p.m. Women’s Basketball vs. Ripon College. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Monday, Jan. 4
6 p.m. Women’s Basketball vs. Webster U. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

And More

Sunday, Dec. 13
Winter wonderland Despite the un-winter-like temperatures in early December, Mudd Field turned into a winter playground Dec. 5. Against McKendree University’s game, the game-winning penalty kick as the Bears shot 40 percent from the field, and WUSTL went into the half with the 36-29 advantage. A 16-6 Bears’ run to start the second half resulted in a 27-point lead, and WUSTL would lead by as many as 27 points late in the second half.

Mozart’s, Rossini’s versions of Figaro performed by WUSTL Opera

BY LLAM OTYEN

Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais was one of the great self-made men of 18th-century Europe. Trained as a watchmaker, he rose through the ranks of French nobility to become a successful inventor, businessman, publisher and diplomat, even supplying weapons to American revolutionaries. Beaumarchais probably is best remembered for his semi-autobiographical Figaro plays, two of which — “The Marriage of Figaro” and “The Barber of Seville” — form the basis of the world’s most famous operas: Mozart’s “The Marriage of Figaro” and Rossini’s “The Barber of Seville.”

Both operas were written, said Jolly Stewart, director of the Brookings Institution’s Olin Business School and the Washington University Opera, “in the year before. It finds Figaro aiding Beaumarchais’ early plays were performed privately at the salon of his friend Charles Lenormand d’Etoiles (whose wife, Madame de Pompadour, was a mistress to the king).

The characters of Figaro and Almaviva were mostly likely conceived in 1764-65, during Beaumarchais’ travels to Spain. The Barber of Seville, that Beaumarchais initially intended as a comic opera, was written in 1775 and received its public premiere two years later. The Marriage of Figaro was written in 1778 but relegated to private readings until 1783, when the king finally granted a reprieve for a stage production.

For more information, call 935-5666 or e-mail kschultz@wustl.edu.

Second-place finish for women’s soccer

A storybook women’s soccer season ended with a 1-0 loss to top-ranked Messiah College in the NCAA Division III championship Dec. 5.

The Bears ran into a juggernaut in Messiah College. The Falcons, who were making their sixth straight trip to the Final Four. WUSTL 16-6 and had a 2-0 advantage in corner kicks. Messiah allowed just seven goals in its entire 2009 season and holds a 56-match unbeaten streak.

“The Bears reached the final because of a thrilling win over No. 21 Lynchburg College Dec. 4. This game, senior Carter Schwarzberg drilled home the game-winning penalty kick as the Bears advanced with a 4-3 shoot-out victory over the WSTL (5-0) return to action at 7 p.m. Dec. 18, when it hosts North Park University at the WU Field House.

The No. 1 men’s basketball team won the 20th Annual Lopata Classic tournament Dec. 4 and 5 at the WU Field House.

The Bears defeated NAIA No. 5 McKendree University, 86-72, in the tournament semifinal Dec. 4 and topped Pomona-Pitzer Colleges in the championship final Dec. 5.

Second-place finish for women’s soccer season ended with a 1-0 loss to top-ranked Messiah College in the NCAA Division III championship Dec. 5.

The Bears ran into a juggernaut in Messiah College. The Falcons, who were making their sixth straight trip to the Final Four. WUSTL 16-6 and had a 2-0 advantage in corner kicks. Messiah allowed just seven goals in its entire 2009 season and holds a 56-match unbeaten streak.

“The Bears reached the final because of a thrilling win over No. 21 Lynchburg College Dec. 4. This game, senior Carter Schwarzberg drilled home the game-winning penalty kick as the Bears advanced with a 4-3 shoot-out victory over the Falcons.

“ar for my team, and I wanted to help them advance to the next round,” Schwarzberg said after the game. “It was just another point for my team, so I just had to calm myself down to put it where I wanted.

Senior Libby Held and sophomore Emma Brown and Leo Ann Feldner were named to the NCAA championship all-tournament team.

Head coach Jim Conlin was pleased with his team’s effort.

“The seniors set the tone for the entire season and came in very focused,” Conlin said. “We put together a plan for this season, and the whole team followed through with it.

The Bears ended with a 17-4-3 overall record and had the highest finish in school history. The team

The women’s soccer team celebrates with the runner-up trophy.

Grants available to support Brookings, WUSTL collaborations

The Brookings Institution and Washington University’s Olin Business School, Millstone Pool.

The Olin Business School and Washington University are looking for a dual-figure to lead a balanced offensive attack on the No. 5 women’s basketball team defeated Emuhurst College, 77-60, Dec. 5 in Hempstead, Ill.

Senior Jordan Evans scored seven points to spark a 9-2 run that gave the Bears early command of the game, and WUSTL went into the half with a 36-29 advantage. A 16-6 Bears’ run to start the second half resulted in a 27-point lead, and WUSTL would lead by as many as 27 points late in the second half.

Senior Certen Bergin led WUSTL offensively with 15 points, and junior Kelsey Robb tied her career high with 14 points. Junior Alex Hoover, senior Zoe Zaremba, and senior Amanda Loesch finished with 11 points, and the Bears shot 40 percent from the field in the win, sinking eight 3-point baskets.

WUSTL (5-1) returns to action at 7 p.m. Dec. 18, when it hosts North Park University at the WU Field House.

Swimming competes at Wheaton

The men’s swimming team placed third out of seven schools and the women’s swimming team was fifth out of six at the Wheaton Invitational Dec. 4 and 5.

Senior Alex Beyer had the best performance of the meet for the WUSTL men, tallying three more points in the 100-yard freestyle automatic qualifying times in addition to a pair of personal records.

His automatic times came in the 50-yard freestyle (21.37.97), the 200-yard freestyle (1:47.28), and the 400-yard individual medley (3:58.43), while his NCAA “B” cut swims came in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:05.68) and the 100-yard freestyle (46.34). Beyer added 10 points to the Olin Business School automatic qualifying times in addition to a pair of personal records.

The team

Second-place finish for women’s soccer season ended with a 1-0 loss to top-ranked Messiah College in the NCAA Division III championship Dec. 5.

The Bears ran into a juggernaut in Messiah College. The Falcons, who were making their sixth straight trip to the Final Four. WUSTL 16-6 and had a 2-0 advantage in corner kicks. Messiah allowed just seven goals in its entire 2009 season and holds a 56-match unbeaten streak.

“The Bears reached the final because of a thrilling win over No. 21 Lynchburg College Dec. 4. This game, senior Carter Schwarzberg drilled home the game-winning penalty kick as the Bears advanced with a 4-3 shoot-out victory over the Falcons.

“ar for my team, and I wanted to help them advance to the next round,” Schwarzberg said after the game. “It was just another point for my team, so I just had to calm myself down to put it where I wanted.

Senior Libby Held and sophomore Emma Brown and Leo Ann Feldner were named to the NCAA championship all-tournament team.

Head coach Jim Conlin was pleased with his team’s effort.

“The seniors set the tone for the entire season and came in very focused,” Conlin said. “We put together a plan for this season, and the whole team followed through with it.

The Bears ended with a 17-4-3 overall record and had the highest finish in school history. The team

The women’s soccer team celebrates with the runner-up trophy.

Grants available to support Brookings, WUSTL collaborations

The Brookings Institution and Washington University’s Olin Business School, Millstone Pool.

The Olin Business School and Washington University are looking for a dual-figure to lead a balanced offensive attack on the No. 5 women’s basketball team defeated Emuhurst College, 77-60, Dec. 5 in Hempstead, Ill.

Senior Jordan Evans scored seven points to spark a 9-2 run that gave the Bears early command of the game, and WUSTL went into the half with a 36-29 advantage. A 16-6 Bears’ run to start the second half resulted in a 27-point lead, and WUSTL would lead by as many as 27 points late in the second half.

Senior Certen Bergin led WUSTL offensively with 15 points, and junior Kelsey Robb tied her career high with 14 points. Junior Alex Hoover, senior Zoe Zaremba, and senior Amanda Loesch finished with 11 points, and the Bears shot 40 percent from the field in the win, sinking eight 3-point baskets.

WUSTL (5-1) returns to action at 7 p.m. Dec. 18, when it hosts North Park University at the WU Field House.

Swimming competes at Wheaton

The men’s swimming team placed third out of seven schools and the women’s swimming team was fifth out of six at the Wheaton Invitational Dec. 4 and 5.

Senior Alex Beyer had the best performance of the meet for the WUSTL men, tallying three more points in the 100-yard freestyle automatic qualifying times in addition to a pair of personal records.

His automatic times came in the 50-yard freestyle (21.37.97), the 200-yard freestyle (1:47.28), and the 400-yard individual medley (3:58.43), while his NCAA “B” cut swims came in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:05.68) and the 100-yard freestyle (46.34). Beyer added 10 points to the Olin Business School automatic qualifying times in addition to a pair of personal records.

The team

Second-place finish for women’s soccer season ended with a 1-0 loss to top-ranked Messiah College in the NCAA Division III championship Dec. 5.

The Bears ran into a juggernaut in Messiah College. The Falcons, who were making their sixth straight trip to the Final Four. WUSTL 16-6 and had a 2-0 advantage in corner kicks. Messiah allowed just seven goals in its entire 2009 season and holds a 56-match unbeaten streak.

“The Bears reached the final because of a thrilling win over No. 21 Lynchburg College Dec. 4. This game, senior Carter Schwarzberg drilled home the game-winning penalty kick as the Bears advanced with a 4-3 shoot-out victory over the Falcons.

“ar for my team, and I wanted to help them advance to the next round,” Schwarzberg said after the game. “It was just another point for my team, so I just had to calm myself down to put it where I wanted.

Senior Libby Held and sophomore Emma Brown and Leo Ann Feldner were named to the NCAA championship all-tournament team.

Head coach Jim Conlin was pleased with his team’s effort.

“The seniors set the tone for the entire season and came in very focused,” Conlin said. “We put together a plan for this season, and the whole team followed through with it.

The Bears ended with a 17-4-3 overall record and had the highest finish in school history. The team

The women’s soccer team celebrates with the runner-up trophy.

Grants available to support Brookings, WUSTL collaborations

The Brookings Institution and Washington University’s Olin Business School, Millstone Pool.
The plenary session also will feature a panel discussion on the topic of social responsibility in the oil and gas industry and ways to improve corporate social responsibility practices. The panelists include executive vice president of the American Petroleum Institute, the president of the National Association of Corporate Directors, and the CEO of Shell.

In addition to the plenary sessions, the conference will feature a poster session, workshops on a variety of topics, and networking opportunities. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency, 4850 Warrington Drive, Houston, Texas.

To register for the conference, please visit <www.energycongress.org> and click on the registration link. The registration deadline is May 15, 2010. The registration fee is $500 for early bird registration and $600 for regular registration. There is a 10% discount for students and faculty members.

For more information, please contact the conference organizers at <energycongress@tamu.edu>.
**Wrighton to receive Right Arm of St. Louis Award from RCRA**

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton will receive the Right Arm of St. Louis Award from the Alumni Association of the Regional Chambers of Commerce (RCGA) Jan. 21, 2010, at the 173rd RCGA annual meeting and dinner at the Great St. Louis Hotel.

“The Right Arm of St. Louis Award was first awarded in 1975 and is presented annually to a person who has made outstanding contributions to the St. Louis region in the RCGA’s most prestigious honor.

During Wrighton’s tenure as chancellor, Washington Univer- sity has had more than a twofold increase in undergraduate applications. The University also continues to be ranked among the top 20 public universities in the world and is considered one of the best public universities in the country.

Notables

---

**Levey named director of Hillel**

J acqueline "Jackie" Ulman Levey, J.D., has been named senior director of the St. Louis Hillel Foundation, a role that was previously held by Rabbi Andrew S. H. Schneidman. Levey graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with a bachelor of arts in political science in 1997 and earned her J.D. from Washington University School of Law in 2001.

Levey, who joined Hillel in 2007, previously served as the director of the Yale Hillel Center, the New York University Hillel Center and, most recently, the Hillel Center at the University of Chicago. She is a member of the St. Louis Hillel board of directors and co-chairs its 60th anniversary gala in 2007.

"It is a real privilege for me to assume the leadership of the St. Louis Hillel Foundation," said Levey. "My top priority right now is to hire a dynamic rabbi who will be a top educator, relatable to students and faculty and able to facilitate and enhance a pluralistic Jewish environment on campus."

"In addition, as St. Louis Hillel grows, we will continue to expand and diversify our offering of meaningful Jewish experiences and opportunities to increase the number of students engaged in Jewish life," she said.

Levey will receive the 2009 Young Investigator Award from the National Institute of Mental Health for her work on the development of the Medical School of the University of St. Louis.

**Robins memorial service Jan. 16 at Graham Chapel**

An memorial service for Lee Robins, Ph.D., professor of political science in the School of Arts & Sciences, will be held Jan. 16 at Graham Chapel. The service will begin at 1:30 p.m. and will be followed by the memorial service for Lee Robins, who passed away Sept. 25, 2009, following a long battle with cancer.

"My top priority right now is to hire a dynamic rabbi who will be a top educator, relatable to students and faculty and able to facilitate and enhance a pluralistic Jewish environment on campus."

"In addition, as St. Louis Hillel grows, we will continue to expand and diversify our offering of meaningful Jewish experiences and opportunities to increase the number of students engaged in Jewish life," she said.

Levey will receive the 2009 Young Investigator Award from the National Institute of Mental Health for her work on the development of the Medical School of the University of St. Louis.
Starting a new chapter

Robert L. Grubb Jr., M.D., professor emeritus of neurosurgery, kept a difficult and important resolution last year. Grubb had decided to lay down his scalpel when he turned 68, and that's exactly what he did in July 2008.

"I was still doing fine in the operating room, but I had kind of pulled 68 out of the air years ago and decided to quit when I was still ahead," he says and then chuckles. "I'll only know what the stock market crash of 2008 was going to do to my retirement accounts three months later; I never would've stopped!"

Grubb laughs at his own expense often, and the target of his humor is frequently his age or his four- and a-half decades of service. A moment after pointing out his poise in the Department of Neurosurgery's conference room, he says, "The surgery everyone can call a portrait up here is dead. What does that say about me?"

The real punch line to these jokes, though, is that they seem to be the product of an extraordinary degree of comfort with his change of status. Far from being "one foot in the grave," as he jokes at an
tother point, or otherwise on his
way out, Grubb continues to be an active member of the University community. He has taken three clinics three days a week, serving as a principal neurosurgeon collaborating with an investigator on a major multi-center clinical trial discovered while working on a history of the Department of Neurosurgery in honor of its upcoming centennial in 2011.

Making up his mind
Grubb came to Washington University in 1965 from his home state of North Carolina, where he went to medical school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"The neurosurgery chair at Chapel Hill was a fellow named Nathan Womack," says Grubb, who retired decades-ago histories of colleagues, men and women, and institutions. "That operation was one of the first general surgery operations done at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Womack suggested Grubb consider coming to Washington University School of Medicine as a place to study neurosurgery before choosing a surgical specialty. After interviewing, Grubb moved to St. Louis, along with his wife and high-school sweetheart, Helen. A year into his residency in general surgery, though, he was drafted and sent to Vietnam in 1967.

"I was weighing my options for several spots and wasn't quite sure which one I wanted to pick," he says. "Suddenly, I was told I was going to end up in Vietnam, and I decided I'd better make up my mind real quick."

Grubb found an opening for a residency in neurosurgery beginning in 1969. After spending a year in South Vietnam at a civilian hospital in the town of Nha Trang, he spent his second year in the service at the National Institute of Health and returned to the University, completing his neurosurgery residency in 1973.

As a resident, he worked in the laboratory of Michel Ter-Pogossian, Ph.D., a early developer of computerized tomography (PET) scans. His colleagues in the lab included another new arrival, Marcus Raichle, M.D., now professor of radiology and of neurosurgery. Forty years later, the two still are close friends.

"The chief of neurosurgery at that time was a man named Henry Schwartz, a legendary figure in the field, and nobody can tell stories about him quite like Bob Grubb can," Raichle says. "His ability to share his interest in the results of a major history of his field is quite impressive."

During their time in Ter-Pogossian's lab, both scientists worked to develop PET to monitor brain blood flow in humans. Grubb says he recalls the operation kind of died out after that.

"The brain has a lot of arterial connections, and that means that some people can still have good brain blood flow even when one of their carotid arteries become partially or fully blocked," he says. "The 1985 trial didn't screen for this — they just applied it in anyone who had a stroke with partial or complete blockage of the carotid."

In a study conducted by Grubb and Powers in the 1990s, poor blood flow in the portion of the brain normally supplied by the blocked carotid artery was associated with an increased risk of stroke. In the new trial, researchers are screening patients with PET scans to measure brain blood flow and only entering subjects with reduced blood flow into the study to maximize patients' chances of benefiting from the procedure.

"This is a seminal study in translational research," Raichle says.