Michael Strait Outlines Options, New Policies For Room Selection

Writers, philosophers and other pundits have long extolled the virtues of a home, a symbol of safety, continuity and refuge. Unlike most people, for whom a home found is a home kept, residents of the South-40 must rebuild their nest every year. An understanding of available housing options and several new policies can ease the pain.

Michael Strait, director of Residential Life and a member of the half-student, half-staff South-40 Housing Bilateral Committee, recently explained housing procedures.

“For many South-40 residents, room selection is a new experience, and for others, a process they have gone through only once,” Strait said. “The committee is concerned that students begin thinking of their options now.”

The options are three: choosing either to homestead or submit block petitions or go through room selection evenings.

In the two-year-old homesteading program, current roommates and at least four current suitemates may apply together for their same rooms in the fall. Homesteaders are afforded first choice of rooms. The deadline to apply for homesteading is March 20, and application forms will be available at the Housing and Residential Life Office by the end of February.

For those content with their current living situation, homesteading is highly desirable. It is also desirable in the eyes of the Bilateral Committee.

“The purpose of homesteading is to promote community and encourage an investment by inhabitants in a particular building,” Strait said. “Homesteading also provides continuity in student leadership in both house councils and the Congress of the South-40.”

Two new policies are meant to counteract past abuses of homesteading privileges. This year, homesteaders must have been roommates or suitemates as of Jan. 31, 1978. Any appeals to this rule must be made to the committee.

In addition, if a member of a homesteading double or suite does not return

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Old Letter Embellishes Portrait of W. G. Eliot; Reveals WU Financial Concerns Much the Same

A 95-year-old letter written by William Greenleaf Eliot has been uncovered, throwing further light on the character and brilliance of one of Washington University’s founders and early chancellors.

The letter is an “informal report” to the University’s board of directors spelling out the details of one of the most unusual bequests ever bestowed upon the University. It reports the details of a $178,976 gift bequeathed outright and without condition to Eliot by one of the University’s first directors, James Smith, a successful St. Louis businessman.

Smith was one of two St. Louisans who met Eliot at the steamboat landing in 1834 on the latter’s arrival in St. Louis to establish a Unitarian church. A philanthropist in the true sense of the word, Smith was one of the original incorporators of Eliot Seminary in 1853, which later became Washington University. The University received more than $250,000 because of his generosity.

The $178,976 gift was unusual in that he willed it personally to Eliot “not only for his own purposes alone but for the good of others…” In his letter, Eliot reviewed the stipulation of the Smith will and went on to document how the entire amount was expended enabling Washington University to purchase property and build new facilities. Eliot did not profit at all from his friend’s gift and may have lost $10,000 by personally assuming responsibility for an unsettled claim.

Eliot concluded his report to the directors with the following statement, which rings true today: “But a still stronger reason may be urged for the present report, namely, that the directors and through them other friends of the University may plainly see the urgent necessity of an early and large increase of our University endowments, not only for enlarged usefulness but also to maintain its present standing. The resources from which about $8000 annually for the last

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420 Million Beats to a Better Testing Machine
For Research on Artificial Heart Valve Fabric

The heart valve tester has to be slanted to keep the bellows, the shiny cylinders close to Professor Swanson, full of fluid while the rest of the system is drained to change valves to be tested.

Some people claim that, because engineers work with mathematical equations and machines, they are not concerned with things of the heart. But W. Milton Swanson, WU professor of mechanical engineering, does research intimately connected with the heart. A year ago, he developed a new machine that quickly and accurately tests artificial heart valves.

Researches have determined an artificial heart valve must be tested for 10 years before being placed in a test animal, let alone a man. In 10 years, a heart beats about 420 million times. According to Swanson, few machines exist that would last the full 10 years.

Ideally, the test could be accelerated, and the 10 years would be compressed into three months. This means the test situation would have to simulate the fluid pressure and fluid flow the artificial valve would experience in the human heart, not at the normal 70 beats a minute, but rather at 2400 beats a minute.

At such accelerated rates, Swanson says, the pressure on the valve and the flow through it are completely different from those in the human body. Because the test system cannot be built in the same way the body is designed, this situation simply has to be tolerated.

When Swanson first started testing artificial heart valves eight years ago, the test system was bulky, using about 20 to 50 gallons of fluid, complex valving, large pumps and other devices that contaminated the fluid and made accurate measurement of pressure and flow at the artificial valve almost impossible. Also, although able, to attain rates of 2000 beats a minute, existing machines were quite unreliable.

To solve these problems, Swanson developed a dynamic tuned fluid oscillator. While this sounds complicated, a simple physical law is involved—resonance. Every physical system has one or more natural vibration frequencies (resonant frequencies) characteristic of the system itself. Little energy is required to keep a system vibrating at one of these resonant frequencies.

The idea was to design a test machine with a natural frequency of about 2400 beats a minute. Swanson says this would be the maximum test frequency because above it not enough fluid can be expected to pass through the valve to open and close it.

The machine Swanson designed has reached 1200 to 1400 beats a minute for more than 300 million cycles in testing two different sets of artificial valves. It uses only about two quarts of fluid, has no floating seals, no valves or other devices that would contaminate the fluid.

While the heart uses about a watt of electrical energy at 70 beats a minute, Swanson's machine uses only a quarter of a watt at 1200 beats a minute. In addition, normal body temperature can be maintained easily because of the machine's small size and the small volume of fluid it uses.

An artificial heart valve must be cycled 420 million times before it may be placed in a human heart. This equals 10 years of normal use.

Even more important, Swanson says, "we can measure flow rates through the valve and pressure across the valve even at these high rates and accurately interpret them. This is the only machine that can do this."

Since the first version of this artificial heart valve-testing machine started operating, Swanson has constantly refined it. He will continue to do so until a rate of 2400 beats a minute is reached.

Room (continued from page 1)
Edison Box Office Manager, Jolene Rosequist, Holds Ticket to Fast-Paced But Rewarding Job

Officially, Jolene Rosequist is both box office manager and house manager for WU’s Edison Theatre, and either job would be enough for one person.

Jo’s duties for the Box Office include supervising ticket sales for Edison Theatre’s season of some 22 events, balancing the books, managing the house staff, and supervising the ticket sellers in the work study program.

As house manager, she is the liaison between the Box Office and the scene shop, which means that she is responsible for such diverse duties as knowing how much time it takes to hang lights and change sets, for seeing that latecomers are seated, and for making certain that the audience returns to the theatre after intermission. In short, Jo has a lot to do with the curtain going up without a hitch throughout Edison’s busy season.

Unofficially, Jo is a self-described “theatre buff” who just can’t stop with her designated duties. No stranger to the WU campus, she is a 1972 WU graduate with a degree in French. While a student, she volunteered to assist her roommate with costume design for a student production.

“There’s that moment on, I’ve been hooked on theatre,” she says. During the five years she has been involved with working for the theatre, Jo has, among other things, designed hair styles and worked as a make-up artist for PAA, Thrysus and summer stock productions.

In a pinch, she even has helped sew on buttons for Edison costume Niki Juncker. Then, there are sudden crises such as the time a curtain caught fire last year, or printed tickets didn’t arrive on time, or an extra 300 people appeared when the show was a sellout.

MARcia Tucker, founder and curator of the New Museum in New York City, the first new museum established in Manhattan in 40 years, will serve as Visiting Artist, WU School of Fine Arts, next week. Located at 65 Fifth Avenue, the New Museum will show works of living American artists and work which “cannot really be seen outside the studio.” Tucker, formerly curator of the Whitney Museum and coauthor of 200 Years of American Sculpture, will lecture on “The New Museum” on Wednesday, March 1, at 8 p.m. in Steinberg Auditorium.

Many duties, including selling tickets now and then, keeps Edison Theatre Box Office Manager, Jolene Rosequist, hopping.

This all requires countless hours of time for Jo, who can count on one hand the number of weekends she has been able to call her own. But the French major, who once planned on becoming an interpreter, wouldn’t have it any other way.

“I have a tremendous admiration for creative artists. My contributions to the functioning of the theatre and to the student productions are my creative outlet. There have been so many changes at Edison, and so much growth. It’s rewarding to see things being realized.”

For Jolene Rosequist, the blood, sweat and tears that go into every production, whether on main stage or studio, are well worth the effort.

(Peter H. Zimmerman)

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five or six years have come to meet incidental and general expenses, have now been nearly or quite exhausted, and unless our income is otherwise increased, we must soon begin to contract our sphere of action or encumber ourselves with debt, which is the surest road to ruin.

“But frankly speaking I have no fear of such a result. The knowledge of its possibility will awaken new energy for its prevention.” (Dated, May 28, 1883 and signed, “W. G. Eliot.”)

James Smith retired from business in 1863 and died Oct. 15, 1877, at Hampton, N.H. Surprisingly, there are no portraits, plaques or buildings to remind us of his generosity. He joins a parade of hundreds of selfless, foresighted but forgotten Americans who recognized that the strength of our nation was in our intellectual capacity.

The Eliot letter has been donated to the University by James S. Flagg, a descendant of James Smith. He is a retired copy editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and lives in Collinsville, Ill.

A LIST OF STUDENT VOLUNTEERS willing to help handicapped students during inclement weather and other unpredictable circumstances is currently being compiled by Mortar Board, the senior academic honorary. Volunteers should write to Wendy Zimet, Box 1089, campus mail, care of Mortar Board.

ATTORNEYS, bankers and accountants will be on hand for the Third Annual Estate Planning Seminar for WU alumni, Sat., Feb. 25, beginning at 9:15 a.m. Registration forms are available by calling Ext. 6716.
4 Calendar

February 24-March 2

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
1 p.m. Gallery Conversation, between Gyorgy Kepes, Distinguished Visiting Louis D. Beaumont Professor of Art, and Gerald D. Bolas, director, WU Gallery of Art. WU Gallery of Art, Steinberg Hall, upper gallery.

2:45 p.m. Department of Technology and Human Affairs Seminar, "Recommitting Management Decisions, Technology and Human Relations," Powell Niland, WU prof. of management. 307 Urbauer.

8:30 p.m. School of Architecture Lecture, "Some Ideas on Architecture and Urbanism," Bob Krier, architect, Vienna Austria, Steinberg Auditorium.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26
12:30 p.m. Alumni Afternoon at Edison Theatre, including luncheon and Performing Arts Area production of Death of a Salesman, by Arthur Miller. The package also includes lectures on the production by Marvin Morris, WU asst. prof., Performing Arts Area; Herbert Metz, WU assoc. prof. of drama; and Sidney Friedman, WU assoc. prof. of drama

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1
11 a.m. Compton Lecture, with Cyril Smith, Institute Professor Emeritus in Metallurgy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. Graham Chapel.

8 p.m. School of Fine Arts Lecture, "The New Museum," Marcia Tucker, WU visiting artist and curator, New Museum, New York City. Steinberg Hall Auditorium.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2
4 p.m. Department of Chemistry Seminar, "Stereochemical Studies of Nitrogen Heterocycles," Peter Y. Johnson, prof. and chairman, Department of Chemistry, Ill. Institute of Technology, Chicago. 311 McMillen Lab.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
7:30 and 9:45 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, "Silver Streak." Brown Hall Theatre. Admission $1.50. (Also Sat., Feb. 25, same times, Brown; and Sun., Feb. 26, 8 p.m. Wohl Center.)

8 p.m. WU Film Art Series, "Under Milkwood." Restock Auditorium. Admission $1.75; $1 for WU students with ID. (Also Sun., Feb. 26, 2 p.m., Restock.)


TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
8 p.m. Department of Music Graduate Baroque Flute Recital, Nancy Hadden, soloist. McMillen Cafeteria.

EXHIBITIONS

"Four Voices From the Modern Literature Collection," an exhibit of books and manuscripts by Gary Snyder, John Berryman, Sylvia Plath and Robert Creeley. All items displayed are from WU's Modern Literature Collection. Olin Library, level three. 8 a.m.-12 midnight, daily. Through March 3.

"Recent Works," an exhibit of works by Gyorgy Kepes, Distinguished Visiting Louis D. Beaumont Professor of Art. Sponsored by the WU School of Fine Arts. Washington University Gallery of Art, Steinberg Hall, upper gallery. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., weekdays, 1-5 p.m., Sat. and Sun. Through March 5.

"Leonard Baskin: Images of Man," a dual exhibit of this contemporary artist and illustrator to be displayed both in the Washington University Gallery of Art in Steinberg Hall and in the Rare Book Department of Olin Library. In the Gallery will be engravings, etchings and woodcuts and bronze and wood sculpture, many of which reflect Baskin's use of the human figure as a vehicle to express man's condition. Baskin's work as an illustrator will be the focus of the exhibit in the Rare Book Department on the fifth floor of Olin Library. Collections of Baskin's illustrations, volumes published by Gehenna Press (a private press of which Baskin was a founder), and a copper plate and artist's proof of a Baskin illustration for "A Tradition of Consciences," by Joseph Pulitzer, Jr., will be displayed. The exhibit is displayed with assistance from the Missouri State Council on the Arts and the Camelot Fund of the Arts and Education Fund of Greater St. Louis. Hours for the exhibit are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri., and 1-5 p.m., Sat. and Sun. in the Gallery; 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. in the Rare Book Department. Feb. 19-April 2 at both locations.

MUSIC

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26
2 p.m. Galant Ensemble Chamber Music Concert, directed by Peter Chow. The program will include "Divertimento No. I," by Mozart; "Rumanian Dances," by Bartok; "Dances for Harp and Strings," by Debussy, with Sue Taylor, soloist; and "Cavatina for Flute and Orchestra," by Robert Howard, prof. of music, Meramec Community Col., Janet Scott, soloist. Graham Chapel.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25
8 p.m. Office of Student Affairs Double Feature, "Mutiny on the Bounty" and "Only Angels Have Wings." Admission $1. Re stocking Auditorium.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
8 p.m. Department of Music Student Recital, with performance by various students. Graham Chapel.