Evoking Ancestors

Sculptor Denise Ward-Brown creates a new visual language that pays tribute to the past
Drawn to Summer  Bryan Pravda, from Houston, Texas, participates in an outdoor drawing session as part of the 15th annual Architecture Discovery Program. Pravda was one of 48 high school students from around the country who came to Washington University in June for a two-week introduction to architecture. The program includes faculty lectures, visits with practicing architects, tours of St. Louis architectural landmarks, and studio assignments. The Collegiate Gothic architecture of the Hilltop Campus provides a beautiful backdrop for outdoor drawing sessions.
Cover: Denise Ward-Brown, associate professor of art and winner of a Fulbright Fellowship to Ghana, bases her artwork on research, not just emotion. (Photo by David Kilper.)

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St. Louis’ own Ted Drewes (page 29).
Memory Is a Fragile Power, Renowned Psychologist Says

After telling an Assembly Series audience last spring that he “feels intellectually at home” at Washington University—having collaborated with faculty and been influenced and served by the institution’s research—Harvard psychologist Daniel Schacter shared insights about the fragile power of human memory. The seemingly contradictory terms provide a fitting metaphor for memory, Schacter explained. Memory is powerful, influencing every aspect of human life; yet it can be fragile, as demonstrated by cases of faulty recovered memories and by Alzheimer’s disease.

Penetrating memory’s mysteries is Schacter’s life work: His research centers on cognitive and neuropsychological analyses of memory, amnesia, and consciousness, with an emphasis on the distinction between implicit and explicit memory and the brain mechanisms of memory distortion. The author of Searching for Memory: The Brain, the Mind and the Past (HarperCollins [paper], 1997), a New York Times Book Review Notable Book of the Year, Schacter is also interested in applying basic research findings concerning memory to everyday life. One of his lecture points was that different people retain very different aspects of the same image or experience. “Each individual takes in information in his or her own way.” Schacter also discussed explicit memory, the conscious, intentional recall of previous experiences, and implicit memory, the “nonconscious, unintentional influence of past experience on current behavior and performance.” Another observation was that the parts of the brain involved in memory retrieval may be involved in encoding, making false memories more possible.

Danforth Retires as Board of Trustees Chair—McDonnell Named New Chair

The Washington University Board of Trustees, meeting in May, elected John F. McDonnell chairman, succeeding William H. Danforth, who has served since 1995. McDonnell, retired chairman of the board at McDonnell Douglas Corporation, assumed the post July 1.

“John’s record of service to the University is long and distinguished, and it has been my distinct pleasure to work with him during my first four years as chancellor,” Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton says. “I look forward to continuing our close partnership as we work together with the Board to accelerate the ascent of Washington University in the 21st century.”

Three vice chairmen were named by the Board—Danforth; Sam Fox, chairman and chief executive officer, Harbour Group Ltd., St. Louis; and William M. Van Cleve, partner at Bryan Cave LLP, Lawyers, St. Louis.

In recognition of Danforth’s 48 years of service to the University, the Trustees honored him with the title of chancellor emeritus. Danforth served as a medical intern and then as a faculty member in the School of Medicine, later becoming vice chancellor for medical affairs and then chancellor in 1971. When he retired as chancellor after 24 years, he was elected chairman of the board.

Danforth also was the University’s 1999 Commencement speaker, in honor of his half-century of service to the University and the completion of his term as chair of the Trustees.

McDonnell first was elected a Washington University Trustee in 1976. He also is a member of the Arts & Sciences National Council and a founding member of...
the International Advisory Council for Asia. A member of the Board’s Development Committee, McDonnell served as chair of the leadership phase of the $1 billion Campaign for Washington University.

**Arts & Sciences Faculty Approves Curriculum Changes**

Faculty in the College of Arts & Sciences met in March to vote on proposed undergraduate curriculum changes that seek to enhance students’ writing and rhetorical skills, broaden their exposure to diverse fields of study, deepen their intellectual exploration, and integrate material across disciplines.

In particular, the changes provide a small seminar experience for every freshman; a capstone experience in the senior year to bring together previous learning experiences in an in-depth exploration of a problem or topic; “clusters” of courses in four areas—natural sciences, social sciences, textual and historical studies, and language and the arts—from which students must complete required units; course requirements in diversity studies, one focusing on societies outside English-speaking North America and Britain, and one dealing with gender, ethnicity, race, and/or social class; new emphasis on quantitative analysis; and designated “writing-intensive courses,” to be required in addition to freshman composition.

The Commission on the Curriculum for Arts & Sciences, chaired by John R. Bowen, professor of anthropology, drafted the proposal after meetings with faculty, students, and recent alumni. The commission met with representatives of every department and program in Arts & Sciences and worked with the Faculty Council and the Curriculum Committee. It also researched policies in place at other universities.

“I’m very pleased with the results of our work,” Bowen says. “I’m pleased that we could construct a set of proposals that cohere so effectively, and that in the process we had a great deal of participation among our colleagues.” The Arts & Sciences curriculum was last reviewed and revised more than 20 years ago.

**Fossil Links Early Modern Humans, Neandertals**

A 24,500-year-old skeleton found in Portugal shows Neandertals and early modern humans intermixed and produced children, says Erik Trinkaus, professor of anthropology in Arts & Sciences. Trinkaus is the principal paleontologist examining a 4-year-old child’s skeleton that was excavated from the Abrigo do Lagar Velho, near Leiria, Portugal, about 90 miles north of Lisbon.

Radiocarbon dating confirmed the age of the skeleton, indicating the child lived 4,000 years after the time that Neandertals and early modern humans coexisted on the Iberian Peninsula, says Trinkaus, a renowned paleontologist who has written several books and numerous articles on Neandertals and early modern humans. He believes the child was not the isolated offspring of a Neandertal and an early modern human. The discovery challenges the commonly held theory that the Neandertals were not direct ancestors of modern humans.

**A Sun-Dial of Sorts**

This aptly named work by junior Kevin Dunphy was exhibited near the University City Post Office through May as part of the School of Art’s annual University City Sculpture Series. The program, sponsored by University City, the Regional Arts Commission, and the University City Municipal Commission on Arts and Letters, requires students to meet with local officials, choose sites, design projects, and submit proposals. Students then have the opportunity to install their works in various public spaces of WU’s neighbor to the north.

**Service Day**

Washington U. students lent a hand in cleaning up a North St. Louis riverfront trail bordering the Mississippi River as part of the University’s Campus Y Week. Volunteers comprised a 20-person contingent from Campus Y and the “Into the Streets” student group; they spent nearly three hours collecting more than 20 bags full of scattered garbage. This “Service Day” activity kicked off Campus Y Week, which extended through April 2.
Alumni and Friends Support Scholarships

When members of the Board of Trustees announced a $175 million campaign goal for endowed scholarships, they underscored the essential link between a sound financial assistance program and attracting the very best students to Washington U. Today, more than half of all undergraduates, and many graduate and professional students, receive some financial assistance. Many alumni and friends have already responded enthusiastically, committing $59.9 million for scholarships during the Campaign for Washington University.

"There is much that draws talented students to Washington University," says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton, "a renowned faculty, an enviable history, a reputation as one of this nation's premier institutions, an exciting educational experience, and the challenge of learning from and with fellow students who are among the finest in the world. But a real key to our future success is financial assistance."

Neuroscientist Describes a New Theory of the Mind

When renowned cognitive scientist Steven Pinker told an Assembly Series audience last spring about his bold new theory of the human mind, the presentation was notable for its clarity and wit on a subject that has occupied formidable minds for millennia. Director of the Center for Cognitive Neuroscience at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and author of the best-selling How the Mind Works (W.W. Norton [paper], 1999), Pinker suggests that the mind is a complex system of highly specialized organs, developed through natural selection to solve the problems our hunter-gatherer ancestors faced.

The human species spent 99 percent of its evolutionary history in that environment, until the invention of agriculture and civilizations 10,000 years ago. As Pinker built his case, he touched on areas from biology and evolution to physics and psychology. A key idea, presented with compelling related observations, is "computation," the notion that the brain's function is to process information—a profound idea that solves an age-old problem—mainly, what is intelligence and how can a hunk of matter such as a brain accomplish it?

The Omicron Delta Kappa lecture concluded for the Hewlett and the Philosophy-Neurology-Psychology programs a three-lecture series on the theme of the mind-brain connection, presented in conjunction with classes, seminars, and guest speakers.

Track and Field Team Caps Historic Season

On May 22, Washington University's track and field teams officially put the finishing touches on one of the most successful athletic years in school history. Although injuries prevented senior Emily Richard from defending her outdoor national title in the 5,000 meters, several others stepped in to cap the year in fine fashion. Senior Tim Julien earned his second All-America citation of the year (also cross country) with a third-place finish in the 5,000 meters. Senior Eileen McAllister narrowly missed All-America status with a ninth-place showing in the 1,500 meters.

Such success was evident across the board for Washington U. in 1998-99 as the Bears' 17 varsity athletic teams combined to register a 183-51-3 cumulative record—the most successful year, both in terms of victories and winning percentage (.774), during the decade of the 1990s. And five teams advanced to postseason play.

The women's program, bolstered by the women's basketball team's 30-0 run to a second straight NCAA national title, received another boost with the creation of a women's softball program to begin play in 2000.

WU Students Teach Youths Legal Concepts

Several dozen law students have taken their training into the community, teaching North St. Louis fifth-graders practical legal concepts that affect the youths' everyday lives—from the reasons for laws to the difference between a burglary and a robbery.

The Law-Related Education Initiative is part of a pilot project organized by the Public Service Center of the national Phi Alpha Delta law student
organization. Law students at universities in St. Louis, Miami, and Los Angeles were selected to participate in the pilot curriculum, funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. In the St. Louis component, Washington U. and Saint Louis U. law students are working to empower youngsters through a better understanding of the laws of society and their value. Teams of students have been teaching twice a week in three Columbia Elementary School classes in the St. Louis public school district. “The program has helped to increase awareness of the students’ legal rights,” says second-year law student Victoria Zerjav, who is the project coordinator. “They learn what they can and cannot do, and how they are protected by the law.” Sandra Williams, who teaches one of the fifth-grade classes at Columbia, says the program has increased her students’ knowledge of the law and boosted their vocabulary, reading, and critical thinking skills. “It helps them understand the law better and touches on things they may see in their neighborhoods,” she says.

Law student Christopher Schwarz teaches fifth-graders how to create a skit distinguishing burglary from robbery. From left are Wesley Everett, Joshua Polk, Corey Craig, Alexis Williams, and Wendy Watkins.

Washington People

The WU Board of Trustees has elected two new members—Eugene S. Kahn, president and CEO of the May Department Stores Company, and Michael M. Sears, president of the Military Aircraft and Missile Systems Group of the Boeing Company.

Re-elected to the Board after completing a year off were David C. Farrell, former chairman and chief executive officer of the May Department Stores Company, and Richard F. Ford, managing general partner of Gateway Associates L.P.

Also re-elected to the Board were B. A. Bridgewater, Jr., retired chairman, president, and chief executive officer of Brown Shoe Company, Inc., St. Louis; John P. Dubinsky, A.B. ’65, M.B.A. ’67, president emeritus, Firstar Bank, St. Louis; J. Stephen Fossett, M.B.A. ’68, chairman of the board, Lakota Trading Inc., Chicago; Paul L. Miller, Jr., M.B.A. ’85, president of P. L. Miller & Associates, Inc., St. Louis; Harvey Saligman, general partner, Cynwyd Investments, St. Louis; and John K. Wallace, Jr., M.B.A. ’62, chairman of the Regency Group, St. Louis. Elected an Emeritus Trustee was Charles Lipton, senior executive officer of the Regency Group, St. Louis.

Also re-elected to the Board were Barbara Feiner, the University’s chief financial officer, has been named vice chancellor for finance. She assumes all responsibility for the financial operations of the University.

In an April 15 ceremony, Larry E. Davis, professor of social work at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, was installed as the first E. Desmond Lee Professor of Social Work. The endowed chair is made possible by a $1.5 million gift from E. Desmond Lee, B.S.B.A. ‘40, philanthropist and retired businessman, who established the professorship to foster social work and cultural diversity in the St. Louis community.

Saulo Klahr, the John E. and Adaline Simon Professor of Medicine, has been elected an honorary fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, England’s oldest medical institution, in recognition for his scientific contributions to the study of kidney diseases.

David A. Peters, chairman of the Department of Mechanical Engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, was installed as the first McDonnell Douglas Professor of Engineering in February.

Robert A. Pollak, the Herrnreich Distinguished Professor of Economics in Arts & Sciences and the John M. Olin School of Business, has been awarded a fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

Ralph S. Quatrano, chairman of the Department of Biology in Arts & Sciences, was installed as the Spencer T. Olin Professor in Arts & Sciences in March.

Susan Irene Rotroff, professor in the Department of Classics in Arts & Sciences, was named the first Jarvis Thurston and Mona Van Duyn Professor in the Humanities, in honor of teacher/scholar Jarvis Thurston, professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of English in Arts & Sciences, and his wife, Mona Van Duyn, a Pulitzer Prize winner and former United States Poet Laureate. The professorship is a result of a gift from the Danforth Foundation to support professorships in the humanities.

Benjamin Sandler, vice chancellor for financial policy, has been named special assistant to the chancellor for administration. He will continue to serve the University on a half-time basis after three decades in administration.

Washington People
U.S. News Ranks Medical School No. 4

Washington University School of Medicine is one of the top four medical schools in the country and No. 1 in student selectivity, according to U.S. News & World Report's annual rankings of graduate and professional programs, released in March.

Just-released undergraduate rankings place Washington University 17th among the top 228 national universities. The undergraduate business program ranked 16th among accredited business programs.

The medical school ranked No. 4, following Harvard, Johns Hopkins, and the University of Pennsylvania. This is the second consecutive year the School has rated No. 1 in student selectivity, a quality measure that reflects the entering class' undergraduate grade-point average and scores on admissions exams.

"It is especially gratifying to see our students again ranked so highly among their peers, a well-deserved credit to them and to our medical faculty and staff," says William A. Peck, executive vice chancellor for medical affairs and dean of the medical school.

The medical school ranked fourth in microbiology, tied for fifth in neurosciences, ranked ninth in genetics, and ranked 12th in pediatrics.

The School of Engineering and Applied Science ranked No. 40, and the School of Law ranked No. 32. The Department of Education in Arts & Sciences ranked No. 39 in the School of Education category.

Jumping Gene

Joltin' Joe is immortalized in song, but only Michael Jordan has a gene named after him.

Jordan's legendary leaping ability has inspired two cell biologists at Washington University to name a transposon—a highly specialized gene—after the sports and cultural icon. A transposon is a type of gene, common in organisms ranging from algae to humans, that literally jumps from one cell site to another.

While transposons are abundant, controlling them for useful research had been nearly impossible until David Kirk, professor of biology, and Stephen Miller, research associate in biology and Miller have discovered in No. 30, and the Executive MBA program also moved Jump when it's stressed—not by a harassing New York Knicks doubleteam but by cold temperatures that the transposons are used to grow special Volvox cultures.
Women's Society Makes Student's Dream a Reality

Thanks to the Women's Society of Washington University, Sarah Wood, a student at the Meramec Campus of St. Louis Community College, will be attending school at WU on a full-tuition scholarship.

Wood's selection was announced April 21 at the society's annual meeting. "She is a shining example of what the Women's Society wants to promote — excellence, drive, and integrity," says society member Julia Rapp.

Wood, who carried a 3.9 grade-point average at Meramec, will study biology in Arts & Sciences and is interested in going on to medical school. She also plans to play soccer and tennis for the Bears.

The scholarship for community college transfer students was established by the Women's Society in 1976 and in 1995 was named the Elizabeth Gray Danforth Scholarship in honor of all Danforth had done at WU's first lady from 1973 to 1995.

Notable Research

High Stress Hormone Levels Impair Memory

In the June Archives of General Psychiatry, investigators at the School of Medicine provided the first direct evidence that several days of exposure to cortisol at levels associated with major physical or psychological stresses can have a significant negative effect on memory.

"The good news is it appears that it would take several days of stresses like major surgery or severe psychological trauma in order for cortisol to produce memory impairment," explains lead author John W. Newcomer, assistant professor of psychiatry and psychology. "And after a one-week washout period, memory performance returned to the untreated levels."

Depression May Shrink Key Brain Structure

School of Medicine researchers have found that a key brain region is significantly smaller in people who have suffered from clinical depression. Reporting in the June 15 issue of The Journal of Neuroscience, they say people who have been depressed have smaller volumes in a seahorse-shaped brain structure called the hippocampus that is important in learning and memory.

Drug Treatment Possible for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms

A pilot study suggests that doxycycline, an inexpensive and safe antibiotic, might help patients with abdominal aortic aneurysms, which kill at least 15,000 Americans each year. These aneurysms are weak areas in the wall of the body's main artery. At present, only surgery can prevent them from growing to the size where they rupture and cause sudden death.

"If we had a drug therapy that could inhibit the enlargement of abdominal aortic aneurysms, we could shift the management of this condition to screening and aggressive treatment early on," says Robert W. Thompson, associate professor of surgery, radiology, and cell biology and physiology at the School of Medicine.

Thompson and post-doctoral fellow John A. Curti presented their findings in June at the annual meeting of the Society for Vascular Surgery, in Washington, D.C.

Editor's Note:

In the summer 1999 issue of Washington University Magazine and Alumni News, Délèce Williams' name was misspelled. We regret the error. Also, in the same issue, a Frontrunner item on "Gertrude Stein @ the Millennium" did not mention that Steven Meyer, associate professor of English and director of The Writing Program, originated and arranged the event. We regret the omission.
Washington University's superb teachers have changed the lives of the students who have learned from them. Here, three alumni describe faculty whose lessons will last a lifetime.

Judi McLean Parks
Professor of Organization Behavior

Donald Mac Leod:

"Imagine a client from the United States coming off a plane in Paris to negotiate a merger or acquisition. You need someone on the ground who knows what to do and say! Fortunately, I'd had the chance to study international negotiation in Judi's class and worked with her on a paper comparing the very different negotiation styles of the French, Americans, and the Japanese."

"In many business schools, the focus is on finance and marketing. Organization behavior—Judi's area—has a 'touchy-feely' reputation, as though the thinking were not quite serious. But for any American manager these classes are truly beneficial."

"Take the multiculturalism class. The demographics of the American workplace have changed remarkably since the '60s, and smart companies realize that a diverse work force can provide a plethora of approaches and solutions to a problem."

"In class Judi made us think about issues in a way that involved significant participation from the students. With every subject, each student explored an area and then reported back to the class. This enabled us all to benefit from examples that were both extremely specific and varied."

"Managing people from diverse backgrounds requires sensitivity to differences, but you can begin to learn this in a class. It makes you a better manager."

*Donald A. Mac Leod, M.B.A. '97, is a director in the transaction services department of Coopers & Lybrand Corporate Finance (PriceWaterhouseCoopers). He is based in Paris, France.

Michael King:

"I've heard often from students around the law school, "He was an overwhelming figure: strong and terrifying. His class was total theater. 'When you walked in, common sense walked out,' or 'You left your brains outside the door' were some of the abrasive things he'd say. While speaking in class, some students' voices trembled. His aggressive approach was part of the ethos of instilling 'grace under pressure' that permeated the times. After his classes, I have never been afraid to hold my own in a court of law."

"You have to understand that there was a great sense of humor about the man, as well. Everything was said with a twinkle in his eye, if you could see it beyond the intimidating, cigar-wielding, larger-than-life figure.

"Frank was always and absolutely accessible to students. Some faculty were more involved in their own academic pursuits, but he was totally dedicated to teaching."

"He scared the hell out of a lot of people, but he created generations of lawyers who understood excellence."

* Michael H. King, B.S. '67, J.D. '70, is a partner in the law firm of Ross and Hardies and chairman of the executive committee.

Robert H. Salisbury
The Sidney W. Souers Professor Emeritus of Government

Gordon Black:

"Bob Salisbury introduced me to the idea of 'late-bloomer syndrome.' In fact, he used the term in reference to me! After two years spent heading the student government and playing two sports, I decided to go the academic route."

"Bob and I started a project while I was taking statistics, computing, and political parties. Reducing my workload, I did the same paper for all three courses. In the process, I got very involved in the paper, gathering statistics and programming the whole thing. After we wrote the paper, I left on a scholarship to Europe. Lo and behold, on my return, the then-chancellor of the University, Tom Eliot, told me that the paper had been published in American Political Science Review!"

"Bob also helped me apply to various graduate schools. He made phone calls on my behalf—he literally intervened for me [because] I had an odd record. I'd lived in a schizophrenic world at the University: two years not studying, two years doing nothing but studying. I went on to Stanford."

"I created a prize in Bob's name, which is awarded every year to a political science student who has demonstrated all-around leadership. I think there are plenty of people like me, and Bob had an appreciation for my change of focus; he made a difference in the direction I took."

* Gordon S. Black, A.B. (political science) '64, is chairman and CEO of Harris Interactive, in Rochester, New York. [Black told a story about Prof. Salisbury's influence while presenting marketing research to the University; Lasting Lessons came about as a result.]

Editor's note: "... Dr. Trotter taught us ... to pay close attention to what you are looking at, to what's in front of you," said Richard W. Hudgens, M.D. '56, in his tribute to Mildred Trotter (1889–1991), professor emerita of anatomy, in the last issue of this magazine. While taking a closer look at the issue, we noticed an error—the photo we ran was not Prof. Trotter. We offer our sincere apologies and are picturing her at left.
Recognizing the Importance of Planned Gifts = Washington University in St. Louis

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SPRING FOR
The Unheard

From discarded doors, table legs, bottles, and cloth, sculptor Denise Ward-Brown creates powerfully metaphorical works that illuminate her heritage and honor vanished lives.

BY LIAM OTTEN

Sculpture crowds Denise Ward-Brown's downtown St. Louis studio like her own standing army, a raucous mustering of old doors, table legs, bottles, buttons, fabrics, and other salvaged bric-a-brac. The jagged, mostly triangular works range from waist-high to as high as a tall man's shoulder and seem poised between the bright, friendly aggression of folk art and the watchful patience of headstones.

Light floods a bank of windows overlooking Washington Avenue's historic loft district, seven floors below. The elevator is out today, and by the last stair blood is pumping, adrenaline racing, and the mind, in no hurry to face that climb again, is ready to work. The studio's décor is simple and functional—a couch, a chair, a small refrigerator, a smattering of tools, and a lot of, well, junk.

"I collect things," Ward-Brown explains with a grin, gesturing toward a stack of antique doors jutting from the wall. "I think back to when that wood was a tree. I think about the exquisite craftsmanship, the layers of paint touched by people and families. I think these objects develop a real presence with the passage of time. And then they're discarded as if they were silent," she adds, pursing her lips. "But they speak to me."

Speaking for the unheard has long been a theme for Ward-Brown, an internationally exhibited sculptor and associate professor in the School of Art. Her mute army, for example, is actually a portion of Heading East and East (1993-95), her memorial to lives lost during the Middle Passage, when slave ships brought captive Africans to the New World.

"There are certain things you have to do in order to heal," Ward-Brown has said of the series, which was exhibited at the Saint Louis Art Museum in 1995. "It's painful to look at how our ancestors were packed into ships like cargo with an expectation that half would die. I think we avoid talking about these things. But if you don't acknowledge your mother, your grandmother, you're not acknowledging who you are."
In her Washington Avenue studio, Denise Ward-Brown is surrounded by her creations and found objects waiting to be used.
"Producing art wasn't her primary concern. She now summarizes this time as "doing all that life stuff." "I got married, had a baby, got divorced, had several jobs," she recounts. "And I realized that I was missing something."

In 1982, Ward-Brown moved "with one cat, five kittens, and a 6-year-old" to Washington, D.C., and enrolled in Howard University's graduate program. Over the next two years she would explore the city's world-renowned museums under the tutelage of her adviser, Colombian painter Simon Gouverneur. "I followed that man like a puppy," she jokes. "He had a gift for explaining someone's work without seeming to express his own opinion—I try to do this now in my own teaching."

But perhaps more instructive than the masterpieces were the almost-masterpieces, the early works in which great artists mapped out—clumsily, tentatively, with unpracticed hands—a new visual language. "You could see the struggle, the mistakes," she explains. "[The work] wasn't slick yet. And that helped give me the courage to make things I'd never seen before."

Ward-Brown received her Master of Fine Arts degree in 1984 and quickly began cutting a path through the capital's art scene. Initially supporting herself by teaching at local colleges and working as a guard at the Phillips Collection, the artist over the next seven years racked up a half-dozen solo exhibitions and a score of group shows at such prestigious institutions as the Washington Project for the Arts, the Corcoran Gallery, the Smithsonian's Anacostia Museum, and the Washington Women's Art Center. In 1986, she received the Mayor's Art Award for Outstanding Emerging Artist and went on to earn four separate grants from the D.C. Commission on the Arts & Humanities as well as several visiting-artist appointments, including stays at the Smithsonian's African Art Museum and its Resident Artist Program.
“One day in the fall of 1990, I was flipping through an exhibition catalog and came across a full-page reproduction of a piece of sculpture by Denise,” recalls Joe Deal, former dean of the School of Art, who hired Ward-Brown in 1991. “I remember thinking, 'I wish she'd apply for a position here.' Later, when her name came up as a finalist, I felt we were very fortunate to have her and have felt the same ever since.”

SAILS THAT BORE SLAVE SHIPS

Back in her St. Louis studio, Ward-Brown discusses Libations for Sugar Man, a recent concoction of antique clothespins and fiberglass roofing tiles surrounded by a mass of paper rose petals. The work is similar to her earlier pieces in its use of found materials and human-sized scale but seems more sprawling and open-ended, a mini-environment rather than a self-contained object.

“I never make huge jumps, though they may look like huge jumps from the outside,” Ward-Brown confides. “I used to be interested in architectural building and not so much in what goes on around it. That’s switched.”

Ward-Brown adds that Libations for Sugar Man is based on an episode in Song of Solomon, by Toni Morrison, an author she often turns to for inspiration. The sympathy is apt, given that both artists display a powerful sense of metaphor. The triangular shapes of Ward-Brown’s Heading East and East, for example, spark an avalanche of interrelated visual associations—grave markers, the shape of an upside-down African continent, the sails that bore slave ships away.

FOUR-DIMENSIONAL PATTERNS

Africa has sounded a leitmotif throughout Ward-Brown’s career, but in 1997 it became a dominant theme when she received a Fulbright Fellowship to Ghana to study the use of patterning and surface decoration in traditional architecture. Upon her arrival, the artist was immediately struck by the way pattern permeated everything around her, from architecture to everyday objects to the flora and land itself. She was most impressed, however, with the rituals and traditions—the “four-dimensional patterns”—that inform people’s everyday lives.

Ward-Brown was particularly fascinated by the Ghanaian funeral, a “very elaborate social event” filled with music, dancing, and displays of finery. Most significant to the artist were the symbolic gestures through which mourners expressed their grief and paid their respects. She recalls a series of remarkable images: a fisherman’s body brought to the water for a last goodbye; a footballer whose casket made a last circuit of the soccer field; pallbearers who suddenly began shouting and jostling along the path to the graveyard—“demonstrating that they didn’t want to let him go.”

“I recalled my own work on the Middle Passage,” Ward-Brown adds. “And I realized that I was trying to accomplish the same thing: to figure out how to honor someone’s life after they’re gone.”

In a kind of homage to the continent that has fascinated her for so long, Ward-Brown began documenting on video a series of Ghanaian funerals from all strata of society. Last spring, she returned to Ghana for an additional month of shooting and over the summer began editing the raw footage with St. Louis filmmaker Lori Dowd.

“I know I’m not an anthropologist,” Ward-Brown confesses. “I’m not sure how this experience will come out—but that’s the fun part of being an artist. You have your materials and your concepts, and the art happens somewhere along the way, in the doing.

“Making art is a process of melding stuff with ideas,” Ward-Brown concludes. “You have to learn to trust that power and to trust that your skills and instincts will be correct.”

Liam Otten is a news writer in the Office of University Communications.

Web site address for Professor Ward-Brown: artscl.wustl.edu/~artweb/ WashUSOA/faculty/Wardbrow.html

Denise Ward-Brown, Facing the Rising Sun, 1995. Assemblage, 8’ x 5” x 4.” Collection of the artist.
Even well into this century, even after it was clear that life works through myriads of chemical reactions and that the information needed to organize this chemistry is encoded in DNA molecules, there were scientists who continued to believe that there was "something else" about living systems, an elan vital, a vital force. Although scientists no longer invoke such a force—we are convinced that life emerges from biochemistry—the sense that there is "something else" about life is so widespread, so deeply rooted, that it almost seems instinctive.

The persistence of vitalism doubtless has many explanations, but I have come to believe that it persists as a bulwark to fend off reductionism. We are told that life is so many manifestations of chemistry and we shudder, a long existential shudder. And then we defend. We dig in our heels and say No! That can't be all it is! That does to life what astrophysics does to the night sky. Life reduced to its component molecules is life demeaned. Stop saying things like that!

For me, a helpful way to think about reductionism is to invoke what can be called the Mozart metaphor. A Mozart piano sonata is a wondrous thing, beautiful beyond belief, sonorous, resonant, transporting. But it is also about notes and piano keys. Mozart's magnificent brain composed the work, to be sure, and then he translated it into black specks on white paper to be translated into strings hit by tiny hammers. We can thrill to a piano sonata without giving a thought to its notes. But we can also open up a score and follow the notes, or play them ourselves, without having the music diminished or demeaned. It is another way of experiencing the whole and, indeed, the only way to have a full understanding of what the sonata entails and what Mozart had in his mind.

So let us go then, to life abstracted, life reduced to its most spare rendering, to the strings and hammers (the working parts) and the notes (the instructions). I can assure you that it is very beautiful where we are going, and not at all hard to understand. And after that we will return to the matter of alienation, and the response of religious naturalism.

PROTEINS

Living creatures are composed of cells. Most of the organisms on the planet are single cells, but some, like us, are made up of many different kinds of cells that cooperate...
Earth, beginning with the Big Bang, in a way that makes the scientific story comprehensible to non-scientists.

Most of the chapters begin with the science, followed by her response to it—a format she likens to a “Daily Devotional.” She writes, “If religious naturalism is to flourish, it will be because others find themselves called to reflect on the dynamics of Nature from their own cognitive, experiential, and religious perspectives—in which case this book will become one of an emergent series of Daily Devotionals.”

The following excerpt is from Chapter 3.

GOODENOUGH

WORKS

to form a single organism. Each cell has a membrane around it, a thin film of lipid keeping the outside out and the inside in, and each cell contains the DNA instructions for its various activities.

If we could move inside a cell and start to watch the biochemistry (the working parts), it would become clear that it’s all about shapes, particularly the shapes of proteins. Proteins are like jigsaw-puzzle pieces in three dimensions: They bristle with protuberances and pockets and long straight parts and tightly coiled parts, each part called a domain. The domains carry out the functions of the proteins, so it is important to understand how domains are put together.

When a protein is made, it starts out as a long chain of amino acids, one after the next, the same idea as the paper-doll chains of ribonucleotides in an RNA molecule except that the dolls are now amino acids. There are twenty different kinds of amino acids—twenty different shapes of paper dolls—each with its own properties: glycine is small and greasy; phenylalanine is bulky and greasy; aspartic acid is long and slender and carries a negative electrical charge. The instructions in a given gene dictate the sequence of amino acids in a given protein chain, so one kind of protein might start out with a glycine linked to a phenylalanine linked to an aspartic acid linked to another phenylalanine for a total length of 152 amino acids; a second kind of protein might start out with tryptophan linked to glycine linked to leucine for a total length of 433 amino acids.

Once one of these chains is synthesized, it folds up into its jigsaw-puzzle shape: Amino acids that prefer to be next to one another, like a group of greasy ones, might associate to form one domain; amino acids with negative charges might line up next to amino acids with positive charges to form a second domain; a bulky amino acid might cause a protuberant domain to stick out farther. This all happens spontaneously—the process is called self-assembly—and the result is a protein with a distinctive overall shape and size that displays a collection of very specific domains. A second chain with a different sequence of amino acids will self-assemble into a protein with a different overall size and shape and a different set of domains.

So you’re doing a jigsaw puzzle, and you pick up a piece of sky that looks discouragingly like all the other pieces of sky, but you know to focus in on what’s really important—the shape and size and placement of the protuberances that you know are going to have to fit exactly into the pockets of adjacent pieces. Proteins fit together in just this way to produce multiprotein complexes that perform many important functions in the cell, as we will see.

Pockets are also crucial to the function of proteins called enzymes, since it is in these pockets that biochemistry occurs.

ENZYMES

When an enzyme folds into a jigsaw-puzzle shape, some of the pockets that self-assemble on its surface are not designed to form complexes with other proteins. Instead, they are shaped to interact with small molecules that the cell must manipulate chemically. Imagine an enzyme whose job is to take a molecule of the sugar glucose and a molecule of the sugar galactose and bring about the formation of a chemical bond between them to create glucose-galactose. This enzyme will have a pocket that is just exactly the right shape for a glucose molecule to fit into, and a second nearby pocket that’s just the right shape for galactose, as diagrammed in Figure 1.

The next thing that happens is a bit hard to explain, but it’s the critical step. Once both sugars are snuggled into their pockets, the enzyme is no longer the same. Instead of empty pockets it has full pockets, meaning that its amino
acids no longer have the same neighbors that they used to have. In response, the enzyme changes its shape—it flips into a new configuration—and, in the process, the glucose and galactose come close enough together to react with one another and form a chemical bond, as in Figure 1. The new glucose–galactose molecule then pops out, the enzyme resumes its original shape, and the process starts over again.

If you put many glucose and galactose molecules into a jar of water and wait a long time, two of them might spontaneously form a glucose–galactose bond. But if you add our enzyme, the jar will quickly fill up with glucose–galactose pairs. By offering its pockets so that the two sugars line up just so, and by then changing its shape so that the reactive parts of the sugars come together just so, the enzyme greatly enhances the probability that the chemical bond will form. The enzyme is said to catalyze the chemical reaction.

And that’s basically all there is to biochemistry. Every cell is packed with thousands of different kinds of enzymes, each enzyme displaying a distinctive surface topology and each thereby able to catalyze one or several specific chemical reactions. Some enzymes catalyze the formation of chemical bonds, like our glucose–galactose example. Others catalyze the disruption of chemical bonds so that smaller molecules are generated from bigger ones. Yet another enzyme might take galactose–glucose and add a third sugar on to it, and then a fourth, until a long chain, a polysaccharide, is generated. This same kind of operation generates long chains of amino acids (proteins), long chains of nucleotides (DNA and RNA), and long chains of glycerides (lipids), all of which are key cellular components.

**Biophysics**

Biochemistry is supplemented by biophysics. Particularly important to biophysics are protein assemblies called channels and pumps that span the cell membrane and determine which electrically charged ion (e.g., calcium, potassium, chloride) can cross the membrane and at what rate. Since some of these ions carry a positive charge and some a negative charge, their net distribution generates ion gradients: the inside of the cell is rendered more negative than the outside, for example, and contains more potassium and less sodium and calcium than the outside. These so-called electrochemical gradients are essential for a cell to function properly, and a cell quickly dies if they are disrupted.

**Cascades**

Knowing this much, we can now step back and watch what’s going on inside a cell as if we were watching a movie. As we watch, we realize that life proceeds as a series of shape changes. We might observe three proteins fitting together to produce a complex that has the correct shape to associate with some lipids in the cell membrane, forming a sodium channel. When the channel opens by changing its shape, the resultant influx of sodium causes an internal enzyme to change its shape such that certain pockets, previously buried in its interior, become exposed. These pockets are now available to catalyze some biochemistry, the products of which go on to induce another protein to change its shape, and so on. Such a sequence is called a cascade—literally a series of small waterfalls tumbling down a hill, top to bottom, start to finish.

Cascades also describe how a cell perceives things. Every cell membrane carries proteins called receptors. One domain of a receptor faces outside, into the environment; a second domain bridges the membrane; a third faces the cell interior. The outer face carries a pocket that is correctly shaped to fit some molecule in the external world—for example, the membranes of the cells in your nose are studded with receptors shaped to fit particular odorants. Figure 2 depicts such an olfactory receptor, whose rectangular outer pocket is shown associating with a rectangular odorant molecule. Just as we saw with enzymes, this pocket-occupancy causes the receptor to change its shape, a shape-change that propagates through the membrane-spanning domain and creates a round-shaped pocket in the interior domain. A round intracellular molecule can snuggle into this new site and the receptor, now acting as an enzyme, catalyzes a change in the shape of the intracellular molecule (it acquires “ears”) such that it can interact with yet another molecule and bring about a change in its shape. And so on, down the line, one shape change catalyzing the next until the organism experiences the odor. The signal—the presence of the odor—is said to set off a signal-transduction cascade: the receptor transduces the external signal into appropriate biochemistry/biophysics.

Even those of us experienced in thinking about biological cascades are astonished at their speed. All the events diagrammed in Figure 2, plus a great deal of brain-centered biophysics necessary to process and evaluate the odor, take place well within a second. We know this by experience, of course—we know how long it takes to smell something—but our
As a cell biologist immersed in this understanding, I experience the same kind of awe and reverence when I contemplate the structure of an enzyme or the flowing of a signal-transduction cascade as when I watch the moon rise or stand in front of a Mayan temple.

intuition gives us no hint as to what is going on during this second.

If we back off and watch the action even more globally, we realize that the inside of the cell is set up to optimize the flowing of cascades. Proteins destined to interact with one another are endowed with domains, called addresses, that target the proteins to the same cellular location. Each destination proves to be optimal for particular biochemical reactions—some locales are fatty and stolid, some are aqueous and dynamic, some are acidic, some are loaded with calcium—and each is delimited by its own boundary, often an intracellular membrane. Some of these compartments stand alone like fortresses, but many undergo elaborate branching and anastomosis, mixing their products and then separating again. Thus, a cell is like a community, its inner workings segregated into interacting compartments, its outer membrane defining its interactions with the rest of the world.

Every organism is endowed with a complete set of instructions for how to make all its proteins, and these instructions are copied so that more organisms can be produced. The instructions, the memory, are stored in DNA, which uses a code to specify the sequences of amino acids—the strings of paper dolls—that then self-assemble as three-dimensional enzymes or receptors or channels. Each sector of DNA that encodes a protein is called a gene, and the collection of all the genes necessary to specify an organism is called its genome (the human genome, for example, contains about 100,000 genes). For a lineage to continue, the entire genome must be replicated and then transmitted to the next generation, much as we now have numerous copies of the complete works of Mozart. ...

The notes are hammered by the piano keys and out flows the sonata. Our attention moves from the DNA sequence to the rose blossom and back down again to the intracellular membrane compartments swollen with red pigment to give the petals their flush. We reduce, and then we synthesize, and then we find another occasion to reduce. How did Mozart generate that modulation into B-flat? Ah, with that chord. How lovely.

Reflections

Reductionism presents a hierarchy of truths. The hierarchy is not about parts versus wholes; it's about sub-wholes: when you look down, it feels like you're looking at the whole thing, but when you look up, you realize you've only been looking at a part. To be sure, the wholes display properties and behaviors—emergent functions—that the parts cannot, but this does not mean that the parts are somehow irrelevant, or somehow untrue.

We can recite these words, and the Mozart metaphor, and we can develop a deep understanding of, and admiration for, the notes and the strings and the keys of life. As a cell biologist immersed in this understanding, I experience the same kind of awe and reverence when I contemplate the structure of an enzyme or the flowing of a signal-transduction cascade as when I watch the moon rise or stand in front of a Mayan temple. Same rush, same rapture.

But all of us, and scientists are no exception, are vulnerable to the existential shudder that leaves us wishing that the foundations of life were something other than just so much biochemistry and biophysics. The shudder, for me at least, is different from the encounters with nihilism that have beset my contemplation of the universe. There I can steep myself in cosmic Mystery. But the workings of life are not mysterious at all. They are obvious, explainable, and thermodynamically inevitable. And relentlessly mechanical. And bluntly deterministic. My body is some 10 trillion cells. Period. My thoughts are a lot of electricity flowing along a lot of membrane. My emotions are the result of neurotransmitters squirting on my brain cells. I look in the mirror and see the mortality and I find myself fearful, yearning for less knowledge, yearning to believe that I have a soul that will go to heaven and soar with the angels.

William James: "At bottom, the whole concern of religion is with the manner of our acceptance of the universe."

The manner of our acceptance. It can be disappointed and resentful; it can be passive and acquiescent; or it can be the active response we call assent. When my awe at how life works gives way to self-pity because it doesn't work the way I would like, I call on assent—the age-old religious response to self-pity, as in "Why, Lord? Why This? Why ME?" and then, "Thy Will Be Done."

As a religious naturalist I say "What Is, Is" with the same bowing of the head, the same bending of the knee. Which then allows me to say "Blessed Be to What Is" with thanks-giving. To give assent is to understand, incorporate, and then let go. With the letting go comes that deep sigh we call relief, and relief allows the joy-of-being-alive-at-all to come tumbling forth again.

Assent is a dignified word. Once it is freely given, one can move fluidly within it. 🎼
Eddie Brown and the School of Social Work’s Buder Center are helping to re-shape the future of American Indians.

BY NANCY MAYS

The history of federal Indian policy is conflicted,” says Eddie Brown to his American Indian Policy class. “Throughout history, federal Indian policy has changed dramatically, alternately forcing tribal assimilation and encouraging tribal governments to flourish.”

And no one should know more about Indian policy than Brown himself. A former assistant secretary of the Bureau of Indian Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior, Brown had to remind Congressional representatives of the history of federal Indian policy, as well as challenge Congress to enact legislation that would further expand opportunities for American Indian tribes to exercise their sovereignty. In this capacity, Brown oversaw programs and services to 558 federally recognized Indian tribes. Besides interacting with government officials, he regularly met with tribal leaders and Indian communities. He saw firsthand the need for culturally sensitive, reliable research relevant to tribal circumstances. And he was most impressed that it was tribal leaders and members of tribal communities that could best advocate for themselves by telling the stories of their own reservations and home communities.

Brown, who now leads the Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work (GWB), is passionate about meeting the changing needs of tribal communities. He’s devoted to improving the quality of life for tribes. By giving tribal leaders the information they need to make informed decisions about the future of their governments, programs, and services, he is helping them re-shape future federal Indian policy. And the former assistant secretary over the Bureau of Indian Affairs says that the Buder Center is now “an ideal place for me to do that.”

The center, founded in 1990, recruits outstanding American Indian students from across the country, provides them full scholarships, and then nurtures an informal network as they graduate and address issues
Eddie Brown, director of the Buder Center for American Indian Studies, sees conducting research and shaping legislation as key components of the Buder Center's future. Brown is pictured in Arizona on land owned by the San Carlos Apache Tribe.

critical to American Indians, whether by developing policy in the nation's capital or working hands-on with tribes. GWB faculty also conduct research in affiliation with the center, helping to fill what Brown says is a severe lack of meaningful research on Indian issues.

The center was established with a generous grant from Kathryn M. Buder, a St. Louis philanthropist who has a profound respect and admiration for American Indians. Her vision—that education is key to restoring American Indians to their rightful positions of leadership and self-governance—mirrors Brown's philosophical approach to working with tribal communities.

"The 1975 Indian Self-Determination Act was meant to help tribes break free from paternalistic control of the U.S. government," says Brown. "But after 100 years of destruction, 100 years of confusion—and faced with dire poverty and no viable options for economic development—how could tribes do that? Now we must ask the following questions: How can we assist tribes in taking their rightful place in the family of governments that make up America? How can we further facilitate the exercise of tribal self-determination? And how can we provide tribal governments with the information that they need to make decisions on behalf of their tribal members?"

Organized Efforts

Primarily, the center helps by educating American Indian students who are committed to working with tribes. Brown was recruited to the faculty in 1996 to expand the center's range and to position the center as a leading voice in the public policy debate on American Indian social welfare issues, as well as to make it a leading resource for research on tribal issues aimed at developing a stronger future for tribes.

To that end, Shanta Pandey, GWB associate professor of social work, and Brown have secured a five-year Administration for Children and Families grant for...
the Buder Center to examine the impact of welfare reform legislation on reservations—the only such federally funded study. The five-year study will track 400 reservation families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). The families are members of the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, and the Navajo Nation.

Meanwhile, Buder graduate Sarah Hicks, MSW ’97, is working as the welfare-reform program director for the National Congress of American Indians, an advocacy organization in Washington, D.C., that represents more than 260 Indian tribal governments. Hicks, an Aleut from Alaska, now administers a $1 million grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation to increase the involvement of tribal governments in public policy development.

“Particularly in this era of devolution, as federal government programs and funding are handed down to state and local governments, we need to ensure that tribes, as sovereign governments, have a place at the table, too,” she says. Her focus is on the broad recognition of tribes as capable program administrators and on tribal governments receiving equitable treatment to that of states.

It’s that kind of network that epitomizes the spirit of Kathryn Buder’s gift: Hicks spearheading efforts in D.C., while Brown and Pandey conduct the research and collect the data that drive the initiatives.

**Spiriting Self-Determination**

Another issue the center is working on is diabetes, a health problem plaguing American Indians. For example, within Arizona’s Tohono O’odham Nation, members are six times more likely than the general population to have non-insulin dependent diabetes—the adult-onset variety of diabetes often triggered by diet and lack of exercise. What’s more, the tribe has the highest mortality rate from the disease of any area served by the Indian Health Service, with 40 percent of members over age 35 suffering from diabetes.

Diabetes is emblematic of the social ills that can arise when tribes abandon native practices. While genetic markers contribute to the widespread problem, most researchers agree that diabetes became epidemic when tribes were forced to change their traditional diet for American fast food and to abandon their physically active lifestyle, says Wendy Auslander, GWB associate professor of social work.

In the Buder Center’s spirit of self-determination, GWB researchers have helped tribe members develop and implement a diabetes prevention program. Led by Auslander, the project focuses on ways to reduce fat, while maintaining traditional foods in their diet. The project uses a “train-the-trainer” model whereby Washington University staff train community leaders and volunteers. Those community volunteers then present ongoing educational seminars for their fellow tribe members, which is a daunting feat considering the 10,000-member tribe is spread over four reservation areas on nearly three million acres of desert and mountains.

“The Buder Center was a tremendous resource for the study,” says Auslander. “We were able to reach a population of people who could truly benefit from diabetes prevention activities.”
As a child, poems of Indian strengths and struggles inspired Kathryn Buder. As an adult, the turbulent history of America's Indian tribes outraged her. Buder, a deeply spiritual woman, parlayed her passion and profound respect for American Indians into a center of study and research established in their honor. GWB's Center for American Indian Studies, founded in 1990, fulfills Buder's dream of helping American Indians regain a sense of value that she felt had been stolen through years of white control over their existence. Her vision? To provide an education respectful of American Indian culture and traditions to talented American Indians interested in working on behalf of their people.

"The center fulfills Buder's vision every day," says Dean Shanti Khinduka, "by educating this country's brightest American Indian students and by conducting meaningful research on their behalf."

Buder was married to the late Gustavus A. Buder, Jr., J.D. '22. In addition to helping students at the Buder Center, she also established a law school scholarship for American Indian students in her husband's honor. Buder divides her time between family activities—she is the mother of four as well as a grandmother and great-grandmother—and community causes.

She candidly expressed her distaste for the attitude most Americans, especially the federal government, had toward native tribes, saying she was saddened by the way Indian tribal governments had been mistreated for so many years.

"You'd think we'd be enlightened enough to make amends for the past—for all the broken treaties and abuse," she says. "We acquired all this land from [the Indians], and I don't think it's fair to push them aside the way the government has done."

In fact, the study results will be a resource for the entire American Indian population. For the most part, says Brown, there is a dearth of research on American Indians. Meanwhile, public policy on tribal matters shifts with each change of Congress.

"I want our work to contribute in a meaningful way to issues affecting tribes," says Brown. "To fill the void."

Affecting Change

Brown sees conducting research and shaping legislation as key components of the center's future. To affect real change for American Indians, Brown and others will, in part, have to work with state and federal governments, with research backing their efforts. Brown is well-positioned to lead the effort.

"Dr. Brown has long been considered one of the most thoughtful individuals on national Indian policy issues and on the current challenges tribes face as they implement self-determination and self-governance legislation," says Ron Allen, president of the National Congress of American Indians, the oldest and largest national Indian organization.

As the center approaches its 10th anniversary, Shanti Khinduka, GWB dean, says it has made tremendous strides toward fulfilling Buder's vision. The center's first director, Dana Klar, MSW '89, JD '89, established the center and recruited its first classes "beautifully," says Khinduka. And when the center recruited Brown in 1996, the goal was to strengthen the center's connection to Washington, D.C.—where graduates can affect public policy formulation—and to academic journals, through which research to support policy decisions are disseminated.

"The center is positioned to become the leading voice on American Indian issues in academe," says Khinduka, "which is what Kathryn Buder wanted."

Nancy Mays is a free-lance writer based in Kansas City.

For further information about the Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, gwbweb.wustl.edu/Users/Buder/bcais.html
A NEW LANGUAGE OF ARCHITECTURE

Whether in award-winning building designs or innovative student assignments, architect Paul Donnelly imbues the latest technology with poetic and cultural value.
In 1996, the American Institute for Architectural Research held a prestigious competition, with a technological twist. They invented a hypothetical building—a Visitor's Pavilion for American Sports in the heart of Washington, D.C.—and then invited architects from around the country to design a structure that combined visual appeal with extraordinary energy efficiency.

Among 80 entries, the first-place award went to architects Paul J. Donnelly, AIA, PE, and Andrew Scott, RIBA, for their design—"a simple form, stunning in its execution," said one judge. The project's focus was its elegant roof structure that contained an array of Teflon-coated fiberglass photovoltaic (PV) panels, suspended over a fabric membrane. This advanced energy-collection system, together with the clever use of natural ventilation and cooling, created a solar-powered, zero-energy building—so efficient, in fact, that it even generated extra electricity for the local utility grid.

This dramatic fusion—of cutting-edge technology and creative expression—is the hallmark of Paul Donnelly's work. In his competition entries, the buildings he designs in his own practice, and the innovative projects he assigns to his students in the Washington University School of Architecture, Donnelly strives to imbue the latest technology with poetic and cultural value.

"Architecture is inevitably informed by new technologies and systems," says Donnelly, professor of architecture. "We don't construct buildings with technologies from 100 or 200 years ago; we build them with new assemblies and systems. As we work with these systems, a new form of expression emerges—really a whole new language."

Donnelly is uniquely qualified to speak this new language of technology and design. He had already received a master's degree in engineering mechanics from Columbia University when he realized that he wanted to become an architect. By day, he served his apprenticeship as a structural engineer; by night he worked on his architecture degree. Today he is a registered professional in both fields.

He is also a diehard Bostonian, with teaching experience at MIT and Roger Williams University (one hour south of Boston). On the advice of an alumnus, Dean Cynthia Weese sought out Donnelly to teach a summer course in structures; a preliminary lecture was so exciting and his credentials so compelling that she offered him a full-time position. At first, he refused; he couldn't bear to leave Boston. But he surprised himself by liking St. Louis, and in 1996 he joined the Washington University faculty.

"We're very fortunate to have him here," says Weese. "He is brilliantly creative in two fields, combining the synthetic and creative quality of architecture with the discipline of structures. He is also an extraordinary teacher and a marvelous person on the faculty, who contributes in every way. I can't think of anyone better."

Reading technology as architecture

Those synthetic, creative designs that Donnelly submits to competitions look avant-garde, and sometimes even include materials that are not yet on the market. For a 1994 Membrane Design Competition held in Tokyo, Japan, in which his design was the only American entry to win an award, Donnelly developed an airy model for a hypothetical research center. But the membranes he used in the building—transparent, opaque, and semi-opaque—are not currently available in such a wide range.
"My philosophy is that as long as you are pursuing with integrity your own creative view and your own way of articulating it, that's fine."

"In my technology-transfer seminar we look at different industries. We went to Lockheed-Martin in Denver and met with materials scientists and design engineers who perceive the design process from a very different perspective."

"When my students and I explored the use of robots in the aerospace industry, we speculated about applications. The students suggested automated building construction by robots suspended underneath a spaceframe platform. The robots could build one floor—from partitions to wiring—and then move on a grid to the next level, like a climbing crane. The students are very clever."

"Generally, with some rare exceptions, American architects aren't as innovative in technology integration as they used to be. Many of our colleagues in Europe and Japan are much more foresighted now. That's one reason I decided to specialize in this issue."

Donnelly wants to nudge his profession not only toward the use of these technologies but also toward a more authentic kind of design that respects their inherent nature. He shudders at the thought of taking PV panels and simply "sticking them on the face" of a building. Using new technologies also means finding a new—and sometimes radical—form of architectural expression.

"People go to a computer store or auto showroom and find cultural artifacts that are more curvilinear—but they think that buildings don't or shouldn't look like that," he says. "Given new processes and technologies, there is no reason why this shouldn't be happening with architecture."

He subscribes, he says, to the architectural philosophy of Louis Kahn, who when working with brick would ask it what it wanted to be. Donnelly poses this same kind of question to a PV panel. "What orientation and placement does it want to have? How might it read as architecture, not as technology?"

Donnelly also applies this philosophy to his own Boston-based architectural practice. He is currently working on a $6 million renovation and addition to a century-old structure, which will be occupied by Family Service of Greater Boston. Given the materials he had to work with for the addition—steel, masonry veneer, glass—he chose to create a contemporary work that blends with the style of the original building but does not duplicate it.

"We are entering a new millennium. The original building was designed in a way that was consistent with the technology of the time. We must now build in a way that is consistent with our new technology."

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Technology transfer—to students

In the courses he teaches—design studios, Building Systems I and II, and a technology-transfer seminar—Donnelly helps students understand up-to-the-minute technologies and incorporate them in their designs. Examples of his success are the sophisticated student work displayed on the Web site (www.arch.wustl.edu/donnelly/) he developed, and the walls of Givens Hall, which are lined with three-dimensional designs produced in his classes.

In his studios, he gives students real problems, which become vehicles for the exploration of new technologies and the architectural integration of these technologies. Recent projects include a Forest Park pavilion celebrating the World's Fair centennial. The designs are highly creative. For example, one student placed his pavilion on stilts in a lake; another created a spaceship-like glass tube with exhibits inside.

"The design work his students do is outstanding and has no equal in other schools," says Edward Allen, architect, visiting professor at MIT, and author of well-known books on architecture and structures. "I don't think anyone else in the country is as good at giving students the ability to integrate the creation of structural form with the making of the form and space of a building. Paul is someone very special."

"He pushes you; he gets the best out of you," says Bee Cha, who received his Master of Architecture degree in May 1999. "If you ask him a question, he thinks about the problem and keeps working until he helps you find a solution."

Donnelly's goal is to instill solid values in his students. "I love my discipline and try to prepare students to become the very best architects and to have the right set of values when they enter the profession."

Candace O'Connor is a free-lance writer based in St. Louis.

Web site address for Professor Donnelly: www.arch.wustl.edu/donnelly/
What comes around goes around!

WU's 138th Commencement was headline news!

Chancellor Emeritus William H. Danforth was Commencement speaker and received an honorary doctorate of philosophy degree.

Alvin Goldfarb, B.S.B.A.'37, receives an honorary doctorate in humanities as Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton looks on.

Philip Needleman, president of G.D. Searle, receives an honorary doctorate in science.

Architecture Dean Cynthia Weese and her father, Gilbert Rogers.
Reunion friendships run deep and last a lifetime!

The late Leona Rau Doherty, A.B. '27, M.S.W. '36; I.E. Millstone, B.S. '27; and Belle Grosby Levin, A.B. '29.

Frances Hoffman Franklin, B.S.B.A. '44; Elsie Lantz St. Cyr, A.B. '44; Jerry Brasch, B.S. '44, M.S. '47; Bernice Ziegler Roemer, A.B. '44, M.A. '48; and Juanita Margious Yawitz, B.S.B.A. '44.
Class of '99 leaders enjoy life as day-old alums. From left: Jeff Waugh, Jamar Ray, Pon Arunakul (front), Donger Hwang, and Sapna Ravi.


Venerable Brookings Hall is backdrop for Reunion 1999's grand gathering of classmates, family, and friends.

Fiftieth Reunion co-chairs John R. Barsanti, B.S. '49, J.D. '52, and Marie Prange Oetting, A.B. '49, with Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

Reunion revelers on parade!
On a warm Friday afternoon in May, business is brisk at Ted Drewes’ frozen custard stand in South St. Louis. A steady stream of customers walks up to the unpretentious white building that made its debut on Chippewa Avenue in 1941. They’re ditching end-of-semester classes, playing hooky from business meetings, cheating big-time on diets, and showing off a not-to-be-missed St. Louis landmark to out-of-towners.

They study the hand-lettered menu taped in the window, deciding among an impossible array of temptations: TerraMizzou sundae (warm chocolate with freshly ground pistachios); Chocolate Chip concrete (so thick you can turn it upside down without losing a drop); All Shook Up (an homage to Elvis’ favorite peanut butter and banana sandwiches); the Dutchman (an approximation of Drewes’ mother’s German chocolate cake recipe); or perhaps one of many other cleverly named delights.

With taste buds a-tingle in anticipation, frozen custard lovers plunk down their money. Then the licking, dripping, and slurping begin. It’s a scene repeated over and over, ever since Drewes’ father opened his first frozen custard stand in 1929. On a good day, Drewes’ two stores churn out as many as 10,000 treats.

To the casual observer, it all looks like fun—a dream business with a feel-good product that sells itself. Well, not exactly. Becoming a success and a local legend has meant hard work for Drewes and his family.

Drewes took over the operation in 1968. “It turned out that I enjoyed business. I realized that we had a good product and that I loved selling it,” says Drewes, whose first job, at age 8, entailed cleaning up cigarette butts and trash from the parking lot. By the time he became scooper-in-chief, Drewes had developed some business ideas of his own. Breaking away from his father’s old-fashioned ways, he produced radio ads, installed ice-making machines (Drewes senior had insisted on hand-chipping), air-conditioned the buildings, paved the parking lots, and inaugurated the off-season Christmas-tree business that kept cash flowing in the cold months. One thing he didn’t change was the frozen custard recipe. It’s a closely held family secret. Drewes will say only that it’s heavy on cream and eggs.

He also created the signature “concrete” and its many luscious variations. “I was always a good soda jerk,” says Drewes, whose affable manner belies the no-nonsense business attitude that drove him to put in 75- to 80-hour weeks in earlier times. Legend has it that Drewes made the first concrete in 1959 for a neighborhood chum who pestered him for thicker and thicker chocolate milkshakes. “He kept saying, ‘Ted, can’t you make it thicker than that?’” recalls Drewes. “One day, I decided not to put anything in it but frozen custard and chocolate milkshakes. ‘He kept saying, ‘Ted, can’t you make it thicker than that?’’”

One no-so-secret ingredient in the Drewes success story is stick-to-itiveness. “There were years when we were just barely getting by, but I just couldn’t let it go until I saw it through,” he says. His family has pitched in all the way, he adds. His daughters worked in the store, and he credits his wife, Dottie, with being his constant sounding board. (They met when she worked as a carhop for Drewes’ father. She is immortalized in the “Dottie,” a concoction of frozen custard, marshmallows,
mint, chocolate, and macadamia nuts. She admits that it's a bit too sweet even for her taste.)

A large dollop of business acumen also has figured in the Drewes mix. Drewes, A.B. '50, majored in economics at Washington U., but says he learned his biggest lessons on the job. "If you spend money for a quality product, you'll make money," he says, contradicting conventional wisdom about corner-cutting. Drewes clearly lives by that axiom. The fresh, whole macadamia nuts, pecans, and pistachios that he insists on using cost twice as much as some of lesser quality. "In the end, it doesn't pay to use cheaper ingredients. The public may not know that we spend that much on quality. But they do know that they like the product. They can taste the difference, and they keep coming back."

An aging sign tacked to the wall above the custard machines testifies to another Drewes principle: "Our business is service," it says. And Drewes isn't kidding. Decked out in yellow T-shirts and caps, workers take orders at the window and call them out to the beehive of dishers and flavorers behind them. Nothing is written down—it would slow delivery, says Drewes. Ensuring fast, friendly, and accurate service in an often-hectic atmosphere is a priority, so Drewes spends a little more to attract and keep quality employees.

It's working. Many employees come back year after year. Although he's the first to say that in his younger years he might have been a little tough on workers, he clearly cares about them a great deal. Drewes remembers many fondly—especially those who have gone on to serve the community as engineers, firefighters, teachers, doctors, and ministers. Once, when someone offered to buy him out, Drewes refused. "I didn't want to put the kids out of a job," he says.

Drewes fielded other buyout proposals, too. He turned down one very serious offer because the buyer told him that he wouldn't change a thing. "I figured he was either lying or not too smart," says Drewes. "That's not how you run a business."

Over the years, in an effort to gain a competitive edge on national chains like Dairy Queen and Tastee Freeze, Drewes tried a few experiments. For a while, he offered sandwiches. But when they didn't live up to his high standards of "good food for the masses," he axed them from the menu. Also, not all of his concoctions have gotten rave reviews. His "Lili Kapa Lui," which combined passion fruit and Cape Cod cranberries, was a notable flop, as was a blackberry sundae. "People didn't like the way the seeds stuck in their teeth," he says.

Today, Drewes is semi-retired from the business. Responsibility for day-to-day operations now falls to his son-in-law, Travis Dillon, but Drewes can be called upon almost anytime to troubleshoot, or even to shop for bananas when supplies run short. Recently, a fourth generation entered the picture: Drewes' 16-year-old grandson does broom and mop duty after school and on weekends. Now he's good enough, he gets to "work the window," says his grandfather.

Outside the Chippewa store, Drewes is still right at home. The building, remodeled over time and expanded to about four times its original size, retains its 1940s look. Drewes aficionados revere the white-painted wooden icicles that hang from the peaked roof. In the 1980s, when he was having the roof repaired, the icicles came down temporarily, causing fits of anxiety among purists. "Inside, we're probably more modern than most. But outside, nostalgia counts for a lot. It just goes to show you," says Drewes, with a twinkle in his eye. "If you are far enough behind the times, you become an institution." (\[image\]}

Gloria Shur Bilchik, A.B. '67, M.A.T. '68, is a freelance writer based in St. Louis.
Creative venture capitalist Leonard A. Batterson says "a '60s idealism" inspires him to seek companies whose "outrageous returns" include giving something back to society.

by Janni Lee Simner

As a venture capitalist, you're constantly creating something new," says Leonard A. Batterson, the founder of Venture Capital Online (vcapital.com), the world's largest one-stop shop for venture capital. "It's a bit like being an artist, except you're painting with ideas, people, and economic resources."

The internationally known creative capitalist has made a career of starting companies and launching new products. His interest in start-ups dates to his undergraduate days at Washington University, when he majored in American history, established a political organization to support Robert F. Kennedy's bid for president, and co-created a thriving coffee shop in the Women's Building.

The Ladue native—who went on to study law at WU—also served existing student organizations. He was business manager for Thurtene, an honorary society for juniors; columnist for the campus newspaper, Student Life; and active in campus political and religious organizations.

After graduating from law school, Batterson spent two years in the Army, including a tour in Vietnam with the 1st Infantry Division. Then he joined the prestigious St. Louis law firm of Hullverson, Richardson, and Hullverson, until he went to Harvard, where he earned an M.B.A. in 1973.

When he had his business degree, Batterson returned to St. Louis. His father had passed away, and he wanted to look after his seven younger brothers and sisters. When his siblings were older, he moved to Perrysburg, Ohio. He worked as a turnaround specialist, helping struggling companies get re-established.

A sense of the future

Working with companies in financial trouble meant working with venture capitalists, who invest in new enterprises with significant growth-potential. They regularly take high risks in hope of high rewards.

The venture capital business appealed to Batterson from the start. Ultimately he moved to Chicago to join his brother in starting a venture of their own, a potential biotechnology company. The project foundered, however, when University of Chicago faculty members—whose research would have been the basis of the company
—backed out, uncomfortable mixing academia and business at a time when the combination was still uncommon. But soon after, Batterson was hired by the venture-capital division of Allstate Insurance Company and became director of this major venture capital program.

At Allstate he had remarkable early success. In the 1980s, he invested in a fledgling online service called Control Video. The company failed, but Batterson, Jim Kimsey, George Middlemas, Robert Cross, B.S.B.A. ’62, J.D. ’64, (a WU fraternity brother), Steve Case, and others from the ashes of Control Video created America Online. “The million dollars that I invested for Allstate, if held all the way, would be worth about $3 billion today,” he says.

As with all venture-capital investments, backing AOL meant taking some chances. “The personal computer was just arriving on the corporate desktop. We were betting that the computer would continue to move to the center of the desktop; we also were betting there would be ways for modems to provide information people would want to download.” Batterson also had to bet that modem speeds would increase; at the time, 9600 baud modems were state-of-the-art. Typical desktop modems are more than five times faster now. “A lot of things had to come out right. We were very lucky.”

Batterson is accustomed to such risks. “A good venture capitalist has to have a sense of what’s likely to come in the future, of what customer behavior is likely to be.”

He has gone on to become a founding investor or investor in many successful endeavors, including Health magazine, beyond.com, CyberSource Corp.—and many are in the Chicago area. Today, he is considered one of the nation’s top technology investors. In talking about the companies he’s backed, he cites “a ‘60s idealism” that has stayed with him through the years. “I’ve tried to find companies that not only will have an outrageous rate of return—you need that to stay in the venture business—but that also will give something back to society.” Northfield Laboratories, for instance, is developing a hemoglobin-based blood substitute. Illinois Superconductor Corporation uses tiny crystals to produce industrial materials—everything from electronics and ceramics to cosmetics that block the sun’s ultraviolet rays.

“Venture capitalists help the entrepreneur build a business,” Batterson says. “We often serve as company director as well as investor. Sometimes we’re chair of the board; sometimes we’re CEO.”

**Entrepreneurs on line**

Batterson has firsthand experience with entrepreneurship; he turned entrepreneur himself when he started his own venture-capital firms: Batterson, Johnson & Wang, L.P. and Batterson Venture Partners, L.L.C.

He also serves as chair of ventures—such as Linkscorp, a golf management company. He has also recently founded vcapital.com, a Web-based clearinghouse that brings venture capitalists and entrepreneurs together. “It can be frustrating and time consuming for an entrepreneur to raise capital,” he says. “And venture capitalists have to go through hundreds of business plans to find one that meets their investment criteria.”

Vcapital.com started as a small test project three years ago; an expanded version launched at www.vcapital.com in December. “We now have about 110 firms, representing about $20 billion in capital, committed to joining the site,” Batterson says. About 200 entrepreneurs have signed up to post their business plans, and venture capitalists have already expressed interest in several projects. While there hasn’t yet been enough time for these deals to close, Batterson says, “I expect that shortly we’re going to have success.”

Like most venture capitalists, Batterson accepts that not every new venture will succeed; that’s the nature of his business. “The general rule is that about one of 10 companies are home runs.”

To Batterson, as entrepreneur and investor both, the chance is worth taking. “Our job is to look into the future and sense the wonder that’s to be,” he says, paraphrasing the poet Tennyson. “And then, we work to turn wonder into reality.”

**On Batterson—**

He is active in many aspects of the Chicago community.

Is director, executive committee member, and co-chair of the technology and entrepreneurship committee of the Illinois Coalition, a high-technology group.

Brought his business expertise into local schools as a volunteer in Chicago’s “Principal for a Day” program.

Remains an avid reader, particularly of American history.

Is an avid golfer (an expertise he put to work for Linkscorp).

Is an advisor to the Chicago chapter of ARCS (Achievement Rewards for College Scientists).

Is an admirer of the work of Frank Lloyd Wright.

Janni Lee Simner, A.B. ’89, is a free-lance writer based in Tucson.
In 1945, kids in the United States tuned in to The Tom Mix Ralston Straight Shooters on the Air; at Washington University, khaki uniforms outranked letter sweaters; and in the South Pacific, Coast Guard officer Melvin C. Bahle (pronounced BAHlee) was experiencing, firsthand, World War II.

Though his bride, Sue, had moved from Nebraska to St. Louis in 1942, Ralston Purina and Washington U. weren't on Mel Bahle's radar. Not then, anyway.

He was aboard LST 796—a Landing Ship (Tank), World War II's workhorse amphibious vessel—with a crew of seven officers and 114 men, delivering troops and material through the big double doors in its bow to the Pacific Theater's excruciating island-by-island battles.

"We would land [the troops] on the beach," he says, "and then we would go back and get some more and land them on the beach."

Because the LSTs, which measured roughly 310 feet long by 50 feet wide, were not exactly speedboats—their crews nicknamed them "Large Slow Targets"—they were the enemy's special favorites. Bahle and his shipmates lived the classic definition of war: eons of boredom punctuated by moments of sheer terror.

"When you were on the beach, you were there," he says. "There was nothing you could do."

But he is philosophical about those days.

"We just enjoyed what we could."

Once we went swimming in the deepest part of the ocean [seven miles], the Mariana Trench—just stopped the ship and jumped overboard. We really had nothing to complain about.

"Oh," he adds in his mild way, "except for worrying about submarines."

As they say these days and used to in those days, Mel Bahle is so-o-o cool. At 80, he is trim, with a spring in his step, though he says with regret that his skiing days are over. He is soft-spoken, but one senses that he knows a lot. All are characteristics that undoubtedly served him well in a long career at Ralston Purina that required him to know the company inside out. He acted both as assistant to everyone of Ralston's board chairs (until his retirement in 1985) and as the Ralston VP who was the financial spokesman for the company.

"I went around to potential investors, financial analysts, those sorts of people, to let them know what Ralston Purina was doing and what it hoped to do," Bahle says. "I really enjoyed my work."

Aboard that LST, however, he hadn't given much thought to career plans—or any plans for that matter, except to get back to Sue in St. Louis. In Nebraska, he'd enlisted in the Coast Guard one Saturday in 1941 to avoid being drafted into the Army the following Monday. He'd intended to join the Navy, but the recruiting office was closed. A sign on the door read "The Coast Guard is open today."

"I'd never even heard of the Coast Guard," Bahle says, but it turned out to be a good choice.

He rose from enlisted man to cadet in the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1943, went from the Academy into the Amphibious Corps, and rose to the rank of lieutenant commander before his discharge in 1946.

After the war ended in August 1945, he saw a lot of the Far East, his LST assigned to occupation duty—mainly ferrying home Koreans interned in Japan as forced laborers. In between, he and his fellow officers often traveled in China.

In early 1946, Bahle saw Beijing and vowed that one day he would bring Sue to see the Forbidden City. It was 30 years before Sino-American relations allowed him to make good his promise, but in the meantime he and Sue became champion travelers, the following Monday. He'd intended to join the Navy, but the recruiting office was closed. A sign on the door read "The Coast Guard is open today."

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averaging (still) two annual trips abroad and many domestic excursions.

On the home front in St. Louis, Sue became one of Boatmen’s Bank’s first women tellers. When Mel returned, he commuted from their South City home to Saint Louis University, earning a bachelor’s degree in commerce and finance in 1948. He had several good job offers and—step one in his journey to the Hilltop—chose Ralston Purina. Then, with Sue bankrolling him, he went to night school at Saint Louis U. and, in 1952, earned a law degree.

(In 1950, just to break up all that work and school, the Bahles vacationed by driving from St. Louis to Acapulco, Mexico, a journey of 1,600+ pre-interstate-highway-system miles. Understated Mel says: “It was an adventure.”)

In 1955, the Danforth Foundation tapped him to volunteer as its treasurer. He also volunteered with the American Youth Foundation, another Danforth enterprise, and, among other heavy-duty services to his church, managed portfolios for the Lutheran Family and Youth Service.

Bahle gradually realized that many of the people he most admired—lots of whom had become “such good friends”—had something in common. They were dedicated to helping strengthen Washington University.

“If they were interested in making the place better,” he says, “I thought there must be something to it. Then when Bill Danforth took over and made the effort to have this become one of the top schools in the country, I became really interested.”

Gerry and Bob Virgil, M.B.A. ’60, D.B.A. ’67, were longtime friends of the Bahles. When Bob took over as dean of the John M. Olin School of Business, Mel had a front-row seat for the building of a modern business school. He and Sue were among the first Olin School scholarship donors, because, Mel says, “World War II enabled me to finish my college degree. There are many people who can’t do it from a financial point of view, so if we can help, we will help.”

When Stuart Greenbaum succeeded Virgil at Olin, Mel was impressed, not just by Greenbaum’s credentials but by the fact that the new dean and his wife, Elaine, threw themselves as wholeheartedly into the job of building Olin as had both the Virgils. “[They worked] in just the way,” Mel says, “that Ibb (Elizabeth) and Bill Danforth have worked—as a team.”

Other “such good friends” who are part of the WU team include skiing partners Mary Jane and Jack Bodine, B.S. ’49, M.B.A. ’55; Georgia and Bill Van Cleve, A.B. ’51 and J.D. ’53, respectively; Chris Byrnes, engineering dean, and his wife, Cathy; University Trustees E. Roy Vagelos and George Pake, and honorary WU alumnus Charles Guggenheim.

The Bahles are good friends, too. Their generosity to Washington University has made them Life Patrons of the William Greenleaf Eliot Society.

For Mel Bahle, the boy from Nebraska who grew to be a financial expert and seasoned world traveler, Washington University is very much one of St. Louis’ greatest assets, and it’s only getting better. He says, “I’m delighted that Mark Wrighton has followed Bill Danforth, and I’m convinced that Mark will move Washington University several more notches up the ladder of excellence.” Then he adds modestly:

“That’s why Sue and I just try to do our little part.”

—M.M. Costantin
Spring Celebrations Honor Alumni, Friends

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
The School of Architecture held its sixth annual Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner on May 7 in Holmes Lounge. Recipients of the 1999 Distinguished Alumni Awards were:
- Carol Rusche Bentel, AIA, FAAR, A.B. '79, partner in the firm Bentel & Bentel Architects (New York), for her contributions to the history, study, and practice of architecture.
- Bernard Bortnick, FAIA, B.Arch. '60, design principal and senior vice president, HDR Architecture, Inc. (Dallas), for design work resulting in spaces that blend function with beauty.
- Theodore C. Christner, AIA, B.Arch. '57, chair, Christner Inc. (St. Louis), for his efforts in support of the AIA, the community, and Washington University.
- King Graf, AIA, B.Arch. '60, retired vice chair, Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum (St. Louis), for his exemplary service to his profession and to the School of Architecture.
- Andrew Metter, FAIA, M.Arch. '76, vice president, architectural design, A. Epstein and Sons International, Inc. (Chicago), for his award-winning design work.
- The 1999 Young Alumni Award, which honors a graduate from the past 15 years, was awarded to:
  - Bernard Deffet, A.B. '85, founder, DEFFET Architects et Partenaires (Dison, Belgium), for his outstanding contributions to architecture in the short time since graduation, and the promise of what will follow.
- Awarded the 1999 Dean's Medal for Service was:
  - Jerome J. Sincuff, AIA, B.Arch. '56, president and CEO, Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum (St. Louis), for his leadership of the world's largest architecturally based design firm.

ARTS & SCIENCES
Arts & Sciences held its annual celebration of the achievements of alumni and special friends on May 14 in Holmes Lounge. Honored were:
- Distinguished Alumnus Gordon S. Black, A.B. '64 (political science), founder, CEO, and board chair of Harris Black International (now Harris Interactive), which includes the well-known Harris Poll.
- Distinguished Alumna Charles A. Ingene, A.B. '69 (economics), professor of marketing at both the University of Washington, Seattle, and the Chinese University of Hong Kong.
- Distinguished Alumna Carolyn Losos, A.B. '54 (education), key in the development of St. Louis area regional leadership through FOCUS St. Louis and the Leadership Center of Greater St. Louis.
- Distinguished Alumna Jacqueline Bickel Schapp, A.B. '47 (education), B.S. '54 (physical education), WU Sports Hall of Fame member and holder of numerous awards as athlete, coach, and teacher.

Dean's Medalist: John F. McDonnell, BU '66, retired chair, McDonnell Douglas Corporation; chair, leadership phase, Campaign for Washington University; and donor, $1 million McDonnell Challenge in support of increased alumni participation in the WU Annual Fund.

JOHN M. OLIN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
The business school held its 18th annual Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner on May 4 at the Ritz-Carlton St. Louis. 1999 Distinguished Alumni Award winners were:
- Edward C. Gomes, Jr., B.S.B.A. '55, M.B.A. '68, president and CEO, Lionmark Construction Companies.

Around-the-World Alumni
A return to the Lion Gate In July, 40+ alumni and friends spent a 10-day "Alumni Campus Abroad" in Greece. Here they visit the Lion Gate—Europe's oldest monumental structure—located in the ancient city of Mycenae, where famed WU art historian and archaeologist George Mylonas worked for many years.

An adventure where few have gone before Sail the seldom-traveled tributaries of the upper Peruvian Amazon aboard the deluxe charter riverboat LA AMATISTA from October 14–21. Expert naturalists will be along for shore excursions and, if you like, sign up for a post-tour trip to the ruins of Machu Pichu, that jewel of the Incan Empire.

"Passport to Knowledge" TRAVEL PROGRAM 1-800-247-8517 or 314-935-5279 alumni.wustl.edu Click on "Other Services"
Coach Teri Clemens Wins Eliot Award

Former head volleyball coach Teri Clemens, who led the Bears to seven NCAA Division III national titles, received the 1999 William Greenleaf Eliot Society "Search" Award on April 13 at the Society's annual dinner, held at the Ritz-Carlton St. Louis.

Alumni Achievement Award recipients were: C. Garrison Fathman, M.D. ’69, professor of medicine and director of the Center for Clinical Immunology at Stanford University School of Medicine.

Robert E. Hermann, M.D. ’54, emeritus consultant to the department of general surgery at Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

Carolyn B. Robinowitz, M.D. ’64, academic dean and professor of psychiatry at Georgetown University School of Medicine.

Presented with the Alumni/Faculty Award were:

Gordon R. Bloomberg, HS ’63, professor of clinical pediatrics at the School of Medicine and president of the St. Louis Children's Hospital medical staff.

Thomas B. Ferguson, HS ’57, emeritus professor of surgery, division of cardiothoracic surgery, at the School of Medicine.

Morris D. (Ted) Marcus, M.D. ’34, emeritus professor of clinical medicine at the School of Medicine.

Honored with the Distinguished Service Award was:

Morton E. Smith, M.D. ’44, professor of ophthalmology (CHS) at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine, professor emeritus of ophthalmology and pathology, and associate dean emeritus at the School of Medicine.
Next Classmates in WU Honor Roll

Dear Readers:

Please look for the next edition of ClassMates not in Washington University Magazine and Alumni News but in your copy of the 1998-1999 Honor Roll of Donors. Having received an unprecedented number of ClassMates submissions in recent months, we will publish a special edition of ClassMates in the Honor Roll so that your news will reach readers sooner. We greatly appreciate your enthusiastic response to the request for class notes. Don't hesitate to continue sending us your important news!

Hendrika Parker Gans, LA 28, reports that she celebrated her 91st birthday in December 1998. "I've had an adventurous life—I spent seven years living in northeast Montana learning to hunt and fish, and one year on the island of Antigua, where we built an SW 35, writes that she "enjoyed a grandfather" in November 1998.

Emily Field Johnson Meade, also celebrated "being made a great-grandmother" in December 1998. "I've been married 20 years and still practice law. I go to the office every day. I am winding down, but I still have clients of many years' standing."

Charlotte Anschuetz Bleistein, LA 36, LW 39, reports that she is "83 years old and still practicing law. I go to the office every day. I am winding down, but I still have clients of many years' standing."

Kenneth L. Fox, LA 38, was awarded a Distinguished Alumnus Award from WU's College of Arts & Sciences in May 1998.

David F. Winter, EN 42, reports that he is "helping dairy farmers cope with stray voltage impacting herd health and production." He also celebrated "being made a great-grandfather" in November 1998. He lives in Kirkwood, Mo.

Norman H. Lefler, LA 50, MD 54, retired after 32 years in private practice in Jacksonville, Fla. He now lives with wife Jean F. Lefler in a house "overlooking Avondale Lake." He is a member of the American Urological Association and is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Shirley Hendricks Perry, LA 50, GS 56, was inducted into her law firm, Sterling, McCall, Wray, and Quick have four children. He is also a member of the William Jewell College Board of Trustees and served as the college's team physician for 30 years.

William D. Dannenmaier, GR 53, reports that he signed a contract for an illustrated children's book, became a grandfather for the first time on Nov. 6, 1997, and celebrated his 70th birthday on Nov. 8, 1998.

Richard Askey, LA 55, is co-author of Special Functions, a book published this year by Cambridge University Press; co-authors are George Andrews and Ranjan Roy.

Ed Bartz, AR 55, retired in January 1998 from HOK Architects, in Tampa, Fla. In November 1998, Ed received the Medal of Honor from the Tampa chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) for distinguished service to the chapter, community, and profession.

Olga S. Smith, OT 55, reports that she is "still working as a housekeeper," they add.

Simon Krasner, BU 49, and wife Helen Krasner, LA 50, were elected chairman of the board of Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Arizona in June 1998.

Sarah Bush, LA 49, GR 54, reports that she "printed a volume of Christmas Through the Years, 1965-1996, and she updated it in 1998. She has a work in progress that contains selected poems from a "lifetime collection"—she hopes to complete the work by 2000.

Jacob Hoffman, EN 49, and wife Gloria (Jacobson) Hoffman, LA 52, report that they have eight grandchildren in Delaware, Maryland, and Israel. Jacob has been retired for 10 years, and both are enjoying travel and leisure. Gloria is "still working as a housewife," they add.

Maurice Gordon, BU 48, and wife Bernice Weldon Gordon, BU 48, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1998, which also "coincided with 50 years since graduation from WU."

Nestor R. Roos, BU 48, was elected chairman of the board of Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Arizona in June 1998.

Emily Johnson Beade, also celebrated "being made a great-grandmother" in December 1998. "I've been married 20 years and still practice law. I go to the office every day. I am winding down, but I still have clients of many years' standing."
Mel Solomon, AR 59, reports that his son, Marc Solomon, is vice president of St. Louis 2004, an endeavor to make St. Louis an exemplary urban environment in the next century.

Bernard Bortnick, AR 60, was named a fellow in the American Institute of Architects for contributions to the profession in the area of architectural design. "I was reminded at the time of what a privilege it was to have studied at Washington U., especially with Joe Passonneau, who raised the vision of what architecture could be," he says. "His leadership was an inspiration!"

Norbert Karpfinger, GR 60, reports that "after many years in secondary education, I'm now in the floor of working in the poor in East St. Louis, Ill. Specifically, I work at the Catholic Day Care Center, with various duties, includingwndrasiaing students with learning disabilities."

John Reardon, GB 65, reports that he has opened his own consulting practice in computer information systems. He lives in the St. Louis area.

Anne Goldman Baker, BU 66, and husband Wayne have a son, Matthew Leonard, born Aug. 17, 1998. Anne is a licensing director at NBA Properties, Inc., and Wayne is vice president of sales at Mark of Fitness. Email: annybanany@ aol.com.

JILL Kroeger Becker, FA 66, earned the Anna Hyatt Huntington Award at the 102nd Annual Exhibition of the Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club, in New York City. Jill's work—"Life's a Ball!"—is her first to be juried into the annual exhibition of The National Sculpture Society, in New York City.

Neil Handelman, LA 67, HS 72, is associate clinical professor of medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. His son, Marc, graduated with honors from Rhode Island School of Design in June 1998.

Joel Snow, GR 67, is executive associate director of the International Institute of Theoretical and Applied Physics, sponsored jointly by ISU and UNESCO; he works primarily with scientists from developing nations on projects that are of direct benefit to the sponsoring country and contribute to strengthening its scientific infrastructure.

Ken Stout, FA 67, had a solo exhibit, "Journey: A Series of Paintings," at the Goldstrom Gallery in New York City in February 1998. He had a painting selected for the Butler National Exhibition at the Butler Institute of American Art in summer 1998. He was in a three-person show at the Quincy Art Center in Illinois and also exhibited works at "The Figure: An Invitational Exhibition" at the Valley House Gallery, in Dallas. He had two solo shows at Kansas State University and the University of Louisville, and he was awarded the 1998 Arkansas Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship in Painting.

Pat Bell, LA 68, is dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and vice provost for instruction at the University of Oklahoma, where he also serves as professor in the Department of Zoology. In June 1997, he received an honorary doctor of philosophy degree from Linkoping University in Sweden for promoting international exchange activities.

Kathleen Heeter, LA 68, was named human resources director for the Department of Health and Human Services, in Richland, N.C.

Mary Curtis Horowitz, LA 68, was appointed president of Transaction Publishers in 1997; she was named to the management board of MIT Press in spring 1998.

Tom Kallenberg, EN 68, retired this year from Atlantic Richfield Company.

Ruth Lagow O'Keefe, UC 68, is chair of the liberal arts and sciences department at Kendall College of Art & Design, in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Barbara Ann Braveman-Paster, LA 69, role-plays a 1919 Russian-Jewish immigrant at Strawbery Banke Museum, a living history museum in Portsmouth, N.H.

Richard Rabicoff, IA 69, teaches music in Breese, Ill. He began teaching there in 1951. He retired from the Breese public school system after 38 years and now continues teaching in the parochial school system, giving him a total of 47 years teaching in Breese schools.

Richard Raciboff, LA 69, is an editor at American Digital Media, a print and online publisher of local business news.

Ken Waldman, LA 69, GR 71, is director of the Counseling Center at the University of Houston; he is a licensed psychologist.

Irving D. Moyal, LA 70, AR 72, is corporate director of facilities management and engineering at Mascoma, based in Wallingford, Conn.

Carlos Alexander, GB 71, was appointed vice president, governmental affairs, for United Water Services, Inc.
Hank Kilbanoff, LA 71, is business editor of The Philadelphia Inquirer; he is writing a book on news coverage of the civil rights movement in the South. He is married and is the father of three daughters.

Peter C. Kostant, GR 71, traveled in July 1998 to present a paper, "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow: Albert O. Hirschman's Exit Voice and Loyalty, the Course of Corporate Governance and Counsel's Changing Roles," at the annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, in Vienna, Austria. He is a heist generator at Roger Williams University's Ralph R. Papitto School of Law.

Ben C. Liu, LA 71, received his second Fulbright Scholarship to teach at National Dong-Hwa University, in Taiwan. He is a professor at Chicago State University.

Ernest Brody, GR 72, is a principal scientist at Land O' Lakes, Inc.

Ed Conroy, GR 72, graduated with a Ph.D. in educational administration from Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, in August 1998. He successfully defended his dissertation, "First Year Teachers: Strangers in Strange Lands."

Donald Jacobs, TI 72, LA 77, went on a two-week tour in Europe in March and does playing concerts in London, Vienna, Munich, and Amsterdam with The Maxwell Street Klezmer Band of Chicago.

Amy Eison Krupsky, LA 72, is an associate director of The National Archives and Records Administration. She and husband Kenneth are parents of Rachel, 18, and Lindsay, 11.

Jame Ericsson Lewin, OT 72, is primary author of Creative Problem Solving in Occupational Therapy, published in April 1998 by Lipps, Williams, in Philadelphia. The book marks the first time that a problem-solving—a thinking tool for managing change—has been adapted to healthcare.

Valerie Komar Murrah, LA 72, GR 77, is professor and chair of the Department of Diagnostic Sciences and General Dentistry at the University of North Carolina School of Dentistry. In October 1998, she was named a fellow of the American Administration. She and husband are parents of Lindsay, 7, and William, 9. Donald's law firm, Morin & Barbery, is now in its fourth generation.

Kay A. Stegeman Williams, LA 74, was named Kentucky Agriculture and Environment Teacher of the Year for 1998.

Martin Sussman, GR 74, reports that he is "using my applied behavioral science skills working at Pacific Bell and working for my wife at Cinnamom Design."

Peter Scott Tipograph, GR 74, is partner with the New York City law firm of Sher, Herman, Bellcar and Tipograph since 1982. He married Joan Stockham; they have two sons, Tre and Austin. "I am an avid sports fan who still jogs and plays tennis and basketball," he says.

Richard Burke, EN 75, is vice president at CH2M Hill's new Los Angeles office; email: rburke@ch2m.com.

William S. Daniel, LW 75, was appointed to serve on the Webster Groves Economic Development Commission for a three-year term. He also is a major supporter of his hometown Webster Groves' Chamber of Commerce.

Linda Kaplan, LA 75, is director of housing for the Council for Jewish Elderly, an affiliate of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.

Mark Kaufman, LA 75, SW 77, LW 79, is assistant professor in the Department of Social Work at Washburn University in Topeka, Kan. He lives in Topeka with wife Debra and two stepdaughters.

Michael Millenson, LA 75, is author of Demanding Medical Excellence: Doctors and Accountability in the Information Age, published by University of Chicago Press.

Dean S. Sommer, LA 75, is a partner in an environmental law firm in Albany, N.Y. Dean "lives on a farm with horses, cows, chickens, goats, dogs, spouse, and four children."

Barbara L. Voorhees, LA 75, married Paul C. DeGler in 1981; they have a son, Eric. Voorhees DeGler, born in 1989. They live in Bethesda, Md., where Barbara works for Starbucks and her husband works for the State Department.

Roger W. Warner, GR 75, is professor of music education at the University of North Texas College of Music, where he has taught for 23 years.

Ellen Schiff Cooper, LW 76, is chief of the antitrust division of the Maryland Attorney General's Office. In October 1998, she traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia, to give a seminar on state antitrust enforcement in the United States as part of the U.S. Agency for International Development's Rule of Law Project.

Michael Dains, LA 76, GB 80, and wife Barbery Byfield have a new daughter, Hannah, who joins brother Noah, 2. Michael is a producer in Los Angeles; Barbery is a screenwriter.

Randall Elliott Dalton, MD 76, has Web addresses at www.my doctor.com/redalton and at doctor.pol.net/redalton. He lives in Richmond, Va.

John Goulder, LA 76, LW 84, was admitted to The Massachusetts Bar in December 1997.

Jeffrey Lazar, LA 76, is chair of the science department at Walnut Hills High School, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Childress Haslow Lazar, LA 76, is director of the hospice program at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. They have three children: Adam, 18; Sarah, 16; and Jacob, 4.

Robin Stone McNutt, LA 76, GR 78, lives in Georgetown, Texas, with husband Dennis and twin daughters, Lauren and Melissa, who joined brother Noah, 1. Aimee, 8, and Julie, 6.

Ruth Rosethal, GR 78, was certified in psychoanalysis in 1996.
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Recognizing the Importance of Planned Gifts
Washington University in St. Louis
Social Work Dean Pursues Life-Saving Research

WASHINGTON PROFILE
Dianne Montgomery Ph.D. '76

At the Florida State University School of Social Work in Tallahassee, Dianne H. Montgomery is proud of her administration's achievements. Since becoming dean in 1994, she has helped the school add new degree programs and receive its first million dollar gift, an endowment that has significantly enlarge the faculty.

Her goals for the school are straightforward. "As any dean might suggest, we want to maintain and increase the level of excellence of our programs," she says.

It seems ironic that a woman who holds such a leadership position in social work education entered the field only at the suggestion of her American studies adviser at the University of Alabama, who advised Montgomery to apply to the University of Alabama's Graduate School of Social Work. What hooked the reluctant social work graduate student were the opportunities the field offered to conduct research to benefit society.

"It was exciting to have questions and to gather data to answer those questions, particularly through research in the community," she says.

Today, Montgomery serves as the co-primary investigator on a project, "HIV Prevention with Ethnically Diverse Couples At-Risk," funded by the National Institutes of Health. This HIV study is just one of a multitude of research projects that Montgomery has pursued since earning her doctorate from Washington University's George Warren Brown School of Social Work (GWB) in 1976.

In addition to AIDS research, Montgomery's clinical and research experience has covered more than 20 topics, ranging from families dealing with schizophrenia, to human sexuality, marital counseling, negotiation and conflict resolution, and social competence and assertiveness training. Her work has been published in nearly 40 journals and magazines, and she is co-author of the book, *Cultural Diversity and Social Work Practice*. She was recognized for her outstanding work with a GWB Distinguished Alumni Award in 1996.

For all of her endeavors, though, Montgomery finds the AIDS research the most rewarding.

"There are very few things that we do that can actually save people's lives," she says. "Sure, we might help people to be less depressed or to find food and shelter. But this HIV project can help prevent people from getting a life-threatening illness."

The HIV prevention project focuses on changing the risk behaviors of approximately 600 culturally diverse couples, including African-American, Caucasian, and Hispanic subjects living in the Miami/Fort Lauderdale region. (Such risk behaviors include intravenous drug use, a history of sexually transmitted disease, multiple sex partners, and unprotected sex.) At least one of the partners in each couple has exhibited behavior associated with an increased risk for contracting HIV.

"This is an educationally based and a cognitively based intervention program that is culturally sensitive," says Montgomery. "For example, we've organized Spanish-speaking groups with ethnically matched leaders. These couples will be followed for one year, with the intended outcome that the degree of risk behavior will decrease."

Although the majority of her time is spent as an academic administrator—a role she relishes—Montgomery has no intention of giving up her research. This variety of professional experiences is what she enjoys most about the field.

"Throughout my career as a faculty member, researcher, and academic administrator, I've used the tremendous training in research and social work education that I received at Washington University," she says. "As dean, my goal is to make sure that the School of Social Work at Florida State has a strong national presence; we aspire to that of the George Warren Brown School."

—Brenda Murphy-Niederkorn
John M. Rovison, Jr., LA 82, EN 82, "survived restructuring at FMC Corp. and assumed responsibility for process development as well as plant process engineering." He was elected to FMC's Environmental Honor Roll and was the principal author for the company's comprehensive standard on storage and handling of anhydrous ammonia. He and wife Janet purchased a new sprawling ranch home north of Buffalo, N.Y.

Anne Horn Stewart, FA 82, is the designer and manager of the All-U-Can-Handle Co., in Pittsburgh. "We make hand-painted serving pieces and silverware. They are available in fine giftware stores all over the United States."

Wayne H. Giles, LA 83, MD 87, is associate director for science in the Division of Adult and Community Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Theresa B. Heiker, EN 83, has a son, Jack, born in 1996. Theresa is chief of stormwater engineering for the Leon County Department of Public Works, in Florida. Email: thereshah@mail.com.

Leon R. Drury, Jr.


Glen Morgan, GR 85, joined the Board of Control Research Branch in the National Cancer Institute's Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, in Rockville, Md. Previously, Glen taught family medicine for 14 years in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Email: gmorgan@nih.gov.

Susan F. Smith, LA 83, was named vice president and chief financial officer of Metropolitan National Bank, in Little Rock, Ark.

Peter Abraham, LA 84, was named vice president and chief financial officer of Friend & Abraham in April 1997. He married Ana Taylor in November 1997. He says he is "still involved with basketball as the official scorer for the Miami Heat and Miami Hurricanes."

Scott Kamen, GR 85, and Joanne Tall, LA 83, are "happily married and living in a historic house on the Hudson with their two daughters, Hannah and Abigail." Scott has an architecture practice with eight architects, and Joanne is the principal of her own architecture firm.

John Orme, SW 84, is co-author (with Martin Bloom and Joel Fisher) of the book Evaluating Practice, published by Allyn & Bacon and now in its third edition.

Bishr J. Zureikat, GA 84, would like to hear from classmates at ombarch@firstnet.com.jo.

Louisa Foster, LA 85, and husband William Hay, have a son, Liam Mack Kendrick, born Nov. 18, 1998; he joins sister Aidan Louise, who is "very excited about her new baby brother." Louisa is completing her dissertation research for her doctorate in clinical psychology.

John Magee, GB 85, teaches mathematics and statistics at St. Louis Priory School. He reports that "my fellow classmate's son (John Morrisey) has entered the seventh grade there."

Branko J. Marcus, LW 85, and wife Gina M. Marusic have a daughter, Sophia Marie, born Oct. 31, 1998.

Mary Sager McFadden, GA 85, is a licensed landscape architect in Santa Monica, Calif. She married Dennis McFadden in 1995; they have a daughter, Alyce Rose, born Nov. 21, 1996.

Cary J. Moggern, LW 85, was included in the eighth edition of Naifeh and Smith's The Best Lawyers in America, for family law.

Alan Delhaan, GA 85, named lawyer.

John R. Sachs, LA 85, is a partner at Ohrstein & Brown, where he specializes in intellectual property litigation. He works on the 85th floor of the World Trade Center, and he says, "I can just about see Brookings Hall from my window!" Email: jachs@baird.com and jsachs@oblaway.com.


Joyce Birnhas, LA 85, is a research associate of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at Washington U. She was lead author on published back-to-back articles in the journal Nature Medicine, in which the research group describes a new technology for introducing large proteins into cells. The technology allowed researchers to target and kill HIV-infected cells by tricking the cell to self-destruct while leaving normal cells intact. The study made headlines globally.

Warren Agin, BU 86, has joined with fellow attorney William F. Swiggart to form Swiggart & Agin, LLC, in Boston.

Linda Auksis, LA 86, named director of the Office of Federal Programs, in the Division of Biological and Behavioral Research, in the National Institute of Mental Health.

Diego E. P. Esteves, LA 86, is a research associate in the Department of Psychiatry, in the University of Pittsburgh. Email: david_friedlander@gsc.nasa.gov.

Little Rock, AR 84, was named Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation's Virginia State Counsel in December. He also is commercial transaction counsel at the company's Norfolk, Va., office.

Genevieve Quinet, LA 83, was named Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation's Virginia State Counsel in December. He also is commercial transaction counsel at the company's Norfolk, Va., office.

WFXW79A@prodigy.com.

Liam MacKendrick, born June 3, 1998. He is their third son.

Steven C. Beer, LA 86, and wife Sheryl have a son, Noah Hirsch, born Dec. 4, 1998. David is a principal systems administrator for the Laboratory for High Energy Astrophysics at the NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center, in Greenbelt, Md. Email: david_friedlander@gsc.nasa.gov.

-American Journal of Law and Politics-

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-American Journal of Law and Politics-
Allyson Tucker Cowin, LW 87, is associate general counsel at the Edison Project, a New York-based company that runs and manages public and charter schools. She and husband Andrew Cowin have a daughter, Catherine Reagan, 1, and they live in Manhattan.

Amy Klein, LA 87, moved from Washington, D.C., to St. Louis in September 1998; she is a student in Washington University's occupational therapy program. "St. Louis is great, but I'd forgotten how exhausting grad school can be," she says. "I'd love to hear from long-lost WU friends!" Email: kleina@eudora-mail.com.

Barbara Mazie, LA 87, lives in Ann Arbor, Mich. She received an M.S.W. at the University of Michigan in 1992. She is a psychotherapist at McLaren Behavioral Health Center. She developed and directs an intensive group therapy program and provides clinical training to graduate students in social work. She serves on the community advisory board of the University of Michigan School of Social Work.

Keith A. Savage, LA 87, received a master of divinity degree, cum laude, in May 1998 from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, Virginia Union University. He plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Christian education.

Dan Schwer, EN 87, lives in Northern Virginia with wife Barbara and son Evan, 6. He is an engineering manager with Raytheon, leading a team developing prototype equipment using digital signal processing technology. In his free time, he studies Spanish and plays sports and educational games with his son, and he serves as president of a 24-home neighborhood association. He "looks forward this year to Barbara's M.B.A. graduation and a family vacation overseas."

Lorinda (Nina) Cathcart Shaw, LA 87, and husband Jim have a daughter, Rachel Caroline, born in September 1998; she joins brother Jesse, born in October 1995.

Claudia Taylor, GB 87, says, "It's amazing that it has been almost 12 years since Washington U.—since then, my husband Robert and I have put two children through college and are now awaiting our second grandchild! So scary!"

Laura (Orrada) Valero, LA 87, and husband Juan have a daughter, Isabel Rose, born Nov. 4, 1998; she joins sister Marisa, 5. Laura works in civil aviation security at the Federal Aviation Administration, "keeping the skies safe." Email: ljvalero@yahoo.com.

Mary Louise Auchus, MD 88, and husband Richard J. Auchus, GM 88, have a daughter, Gabriella Cosette, born April 28, 1998; she joins sister Nadia, born Oct. 9, 1996. "We are now trying to decide the best situation to combine career and family priorities (as many of you are, too)," they say.

Stacy Ferber, BU 88, and husband Seth Appel have a son, Samuel, born June 10, 1998.


Priscilla Hill-Ardoin, GB 88, received the 1998 YWCA of Metro-

WASHINGTON PROFILE
William Terry Fuldner  B.S. (industrial engineering) ’49

Hard Work Turns Hard Luck into Happy Ending

At first, Terry Fuldner's life after WU was like a movie where nothing goes right for the hero. But as in a true Hollywood story line, Fuldner’s hard work has paid off, and he’s living happily.

Toting a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial engineering, the ’49 graduate faced a labor market flooded with World War II veterans hungry for work. So when Fuldner was offered the chance to sell steel window frames for Truscon Steel Company, in St. Louis, he took it. He enjoyed dealing with his customers, mainly architects and builders, and he excelled in the position.

Then, blaming federal policy during the Korean War and concerns about inflation, Truscon announced a freeze on employees' wages. But Fuldner found out that new hires were getting higher pay, and that the federal requirements had been misrepresented. So when the president of parent-company Republic Steel Corporation asked him at a trade meeting what he thought of the training program, Fuldner told him what he thought of the firm's salary policy instead. He was fired.

Fuldner quickly hooked up with Phi Delta Theta brother George Eberle, B.S. (industrial engineering) ’50, in 1953, and the two began selling Florida-made aluminum window frames from the basement of a laundry near today's St. Louis Galleria. "The only problem was when the washing machines upstairs overflowed and we were flooded with suds," Fuldner says.

After identifying several easily corrected product flaws ("The windows had no screens"), the pair jettisoned their role of manufacturer's reps, named their company after their last initials, and began to make and sell their relatively new product themselves. Aluminum windows were increasingly used commercially, and the company soon outgrew its basement quarters.

"We liked Route 66 and the Missouri Ozarks," says Fuldner. "So we wrote to chambers of commerce in Springfield, Joplin, and places in between, saying we were considering relocating our company. Two weeks later, six guys were on my doorstep at 7 a.m."

The delegation was from Monett, Missouri. With city and Small Business Administration loans, EFCO built an 18,000-square-foot plant and in 1958 moved the bulk of the operation there.

The rest, as they say, is history. In 1964, Fuldner bought out his partner. In the ’70s, the energy crisis created a tremendous demand for EFCO’s new line of energy-efficient products. "We had been already working with thermal windows and insulated glass," says Fuldner. "Then everybody woke up to energy conservation, and business boomed."

Such foresight led to Fuldner’s selection in May 1984 as National Small Businessman of the Year; then-president Ronald Reagan presented the award at the White House.

EFCO now has more than 2,200 employees at six locations nationwide. Its revenues in 1998 totaled $200 million, and it leads the industry in manufacturing fixtures for commercial buildings, including automatic doors, store fronts, and custom aluminum window frames.

Fuldner is mostly retired these days—sons Chris and John run the business—and he spends more time with his wife, Evelyn, on their Monett, Missouri, farm, tending to his herd of 250 purebred Limousin cattle. But he still chairs EFCO’s board—and he still sees his old business partner. When Fuldner returned to St. Louis in May for his 50-year class reunion, he stayed with George Eberle. "He’s still my best friend in the world," Fuldner says.

—David W. Fiedler
Jagan Natb Singh Khalsa, EN
Jaim e, born July
Singh is a software de
ver, and enjoying th
City. Email: jhaleyy+@gmail.com

Dawn Brenner Rinzler, LA
88, and husband Keith Rinzler have a daughter, Emma Rebecca, born Nov. 9, 1998. Dawn "now no longer teaches fifth grade because the challenges and joys of motherhood are much more rewarding."


Carri Joy (Decter) Becker, LA 89, married Richard Becker, LA 86, on Oct. 17, 1998, in New York City. They live in Palo Alto, Calif. Richard is the head of marketing communications at Intuit, and Carri is a practicing attorney.

Avtar Khosikowitz, LA 89, lives in Charlotte, N.C., with wife Lori and daughters Devin, 5, and Taylor, 2. Michael E. Schill, GA 89, was named a principal of the design and planning firm Larsen Shein Ginsburg + Magness Architects LLP.

Jagan Nath Khalsa, born May 5, 1996. Jagan Nath provided a service to the School of Management at Rutgers University from 1997–99, and prior to that was professor of organizational behavior at Rutgers. Email: jhaleyy+@gmail.com

Susan A. Benfield, MD 91, is married to Robert Sain; they have two children, Allison, 5, and Zachary, 2 months. Susan practices family medicine at West Side Community Health Center, in St. Paul, Minn., serving "an urban underserved population, and I love the challenges."

Todd Allen Brandt, AR 91, GA 95, and Jill Lee (D’Amico) Brandt, AR 93, have a daughter, Abigail Elise, born Aug. 14, 1998. They live in Ann Arbor, Mich. Todd is a registered architect and an associate at Hobs & Black Associates, Inc. Jill is a project assistant at Hobs & Black Associates.

Saltzman Gross, LA 91, reports that "all is well in Michigan. ... I had the pleasure of attending Adrienne Schwartz's wedding to Erik Becker in New York in October. 1998, celebrating with other alums!"

Amy Kreisler Harberg, BU 91, and husband Joe Harberg have a son, Maxwell Kreisler Harberg, born June 16, 1997. They live in Dallas, and he is working on her master's degree in counseling.


Bob Hranek, EN 91, and wife Cathy are "living and loving in Pennsylvania with the help of Karen, S, and Michael, 2." Bob received a promotion in 1998 toward his Ph.D. in marketing.

Henry Lewis, GB 91, is senior cost analyst for Global Payment Systems, a subsidiary of National Data Corp. He lives in Atlanta; email: hiburns@at.com


Jorge Orvananos, BU 91, is a technical strategist at Kinng. Capital Management, in New York City. Kingk is one of New York's largest hedge funds, with $3 billion under management.

Mark Schill, GR 91, is working toward his Ph.D. in urban studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He and wife Kathy have a son, John (Jack) Schill, born Dec. 1, 1998.

Michael Spiegelman, LA 91, completed a clerkship for the Honorable Renato Beghe at the U.S. Tax Court in Washington, D.C. He is now an associate in the tax department of the law firm of Thompson Coburn.

Laurie Straus, LA 91, married Daniel Aronoff on Oct. 17, 1998, in Nashville, Tenn. They live in Evanston, Ill., where Laurie is an account executive at a market research firm and Dan is a human resources manager for a clinical research organization. Email: lstraus@salon.com.

Benjamin Abella, LA 92, graduated from Johns Hopkins Medical School in May 1998; he was elected to the medical honor society Alpha Omega Alpha. He is a resident in internal medicine at the University of Chicago Hospitals.

Erika Bruce, LA 92, works as a research assistant at the University of Chicago. She travels to run marathons, including running last year in the San Diego Rock-n-Roll Marathon and the Vancouver International Marathon.

Laura Gensler Bub, LA 92, and husband Michael have a son, Michael, Jr., born in March 1998. Laura is practicing law part-time, with a focus on municipal law, at the firm of Mobben & Wasinger, L.C., in St. Louis.

James Cantarella, LA 92, GR 95, is pursuing a graduate fellowship at the University of Chicago's Department of German Studies.

Scott Hoover, GB 92, is an attorney at the law firm of Sheffer, Hutchinson, and Kinney, of Paducah, Ky. He and wife, Danielle, have two children, Alyssa Ashley, 4, and Jonathan Riley, 2.

Tim Jackson, EN 92, SI 98, moved to Huntington Beach, Calif., and is pursuing a master's degree in marine biology.

Lauren Rose Kaufman, LA 93, married Scott Kaufman on Dec. 6, 1997. Scott is a graduate of Indiana University and owns two dry-cleaners stores, the Upper East Side of Manhattan. Lauren is a brand media manager at Grey Advertising, in New York City. They live in White Plains, N.Y.

David Lengyel, UC 93, has been assigned to Moscow as deputy director for Human Spaceflight Activities—Russia for NASA.

Weendi Shokom, LA 93, is an associate with the Philadelphia firm of Hoyle, Morris & Kerr LLP.


Allison Barningh, LA 94, has moved to Glendale, Ariz., to pursue a master's degree in international management at Thunderbird, The U.S. Program on International Management. Email: abarringh@hotmail.com

Jane Angus Dulle, GB 94, works for Bank of America as a national ATM product manager in the marketing organization.

Jerrin Jo (Fricke) Luers, PT 94, married Allan P. Luers on Nov. 22, 1997. She was promoted to president of Great River Therapeutics.

Chris O’Leary, GB 94, has a son, Bryan Kenneth, born May 23, 1995, and a daughter, Cameryn, born Dec. 27, 1996. Chris helped teach an MBA entrepreneurship class at the Olin School of Business

Michelle M. Buescher, LA 95, graduated magna cum laude from the American University, Washington College of Law, in Washington, D.C. She is an attorney for the New York City Law Department, Office of General Litigation Division. Email: mbuescher@lawi.nyc.us.

Michael Preis, LA 95, lives and works in Manhattan for Goldman Properties, the company that owns the SoHo Kitchen and Bar and the Wall Street Kitchen and Bar restaurants. He was admitted to the Columbia Business School in fall 1999, and he will pursue a joint M.B.A. and M.A. in international affairs.

Stacy Rappoport, LA 95, is a graduate student in the nurse-practitioner program at Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions. She lives in Boston; email: stacyrapp@gateway.net.

Paul Salniker, GB 95, is assistant vice president at Conning Asset Management, in St. Louis.

Craig Scott, LA 95, married Janis Warford, on May 30, 1998. Craig was in a general practice in Los Angeles when pursuing a master’s degree in accounting while married. He has been a manager of its St. Louis industrial division.

Larry Wood, BU 97, is a manager, operations and planning, for the new business unit, Expedit Group Package Services, of the U.S. Postal Service in Roswell, Ga.

Parag Bhosale, LA 98, is employed at Lotham Harrison Creative as assistant art director.

Drew A. Dubray, GB 98, and wife Julie have a son, Christian Deslue Dubray, born Jan. 9, 1999. In April the family moved to Kirkland, Germany, south of Heidelberg. Drew is European distributor for Wattlow Electric Manufacturing.

Kristin Celia Ekbladh, FA 98, has been teaching assistant in the Methodists School.

In Memoriam

Karen Lynn Chow, GB 96, is senior financial analyst of the valuation services group of Moss Adams Advisory Services, a division of Moss Adams LLP. She has been working in the practice’s new office in Costa Mesa, Calif., since January.

Andrea Crawford, LA 96, was awarded teaching assistantship at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Lauren Dale, BU 96, was engaged to Robert Hotz in October 1998. Lauren is a third-year staff member at McGladrey & Pullen LLP. Robert is a camera operator for KPBS Television. The wedding is planned for October 1999, and they plan to live in San Diego.

Brian Davis, LA 96, is marketing manager for the Portland Oregon Sports Authority, a nonprofit, privately funded group that works with area businesses and organizations to bring sports teams and events to Portland. He lives in Gresham; email: EDavis2108@aol.com.

Delphine Kooreman, LA 23; 7/95.

Ruth (Bender) Maschmidt, BU 36; 5/99.

Charles A. Shewman, LA 36, GR 41; 2/99.


Nellie Grant (Peters) Merrell, LA 36; 5/99.

Harry Dembo, BU 23, GR 24; 4/95.

Larry Wood, BU 97, is management, planning and operations for Jorgensen Engineering, in Jackson Hole, Wyo.

Jennifer Bruce, FA 98, has joined Duke Realty Investments, Inc., as vice president and general manager of its St. Louis industrial division.

Tommy M. Hall, BU 97, is a budget analyst for Holnam, Inc. He was admitted to the Illinois Attorney General's Civil Appeals Division.

Craig was in a general practice in Costa Mesa, Calif., since January.

Sandra Seibert, EN 27; 3/99.

Margaret Hanlon, LA 26; 2/96.

Vera (Spratt) Sleade, NU 26; 1/99.


Irving Levy, EN 27; 7/98.

Thomas W. Seibert, EN 27; 11/98.


Gretchen (Tanner) Suggs, NU 27; 3/99.

Harry Campbell, Jr., LA 28; 3/96.

Cyril C. Clemens, LA 28, GR 49; 5/99.

Julian B. Davidson, AR 28; 11/97.

Dorothy R. Brewer, LA 29; 1/99.

Larry J. Eisenstein, AR 29; 4/99.

Mary C. Grant, LA 29, GR 30; 4/99.

Marion (Child) Moss, GR 29; 5/99.


Carolyce H. Forsythe, LA 30; 5/99.

John W. Angsthus, Jr., EN 31; 2/99.

Benjamin I. Allen, MD 32; 12/98.

Carl W. Hellwig, BU 32; 2/98.

Maury A. (Saylor) Herbert, SW 32; 11/98.

Lester (Berger) Rost, LA 33; 2/99.

Wesley O. Brandt, EN 33; 11/98.

Walter M. Bruner, EN 33, GR 35; 4/99.

Earl Rusk Cockrell, HS 33; 8/97.

Marie L. (Rulikover) Dearing, GR 33; 12/98.


W. William Edgerton, LA 34, LR 37; 11/98.

Pauline Ecks, LA 34; 6/96.

Paul M. Hoefler, BU 34; 1/99.

Samuel Jaffe, DE 34; 5/97.

Friedelinn Kessler, FA 34; 9/95.

Grove A. Rawlins, MD 34; 6/99.

Ruth Louise (Schmidt) Connell, LA 35; 5/99.


Charlotte Spitzer, LA 35, GR 40; 5/99.

Tracy W. Barnes, EN 36; 2/99.


Ruth (Bender) Maschmidt, BU 36; 5/99.

Charles A. Shewman, LA 36, GR 41; 2/99.


Ruth Oppenheimer, SW 37; 8/98.

Ruth Storm, LA 37; 2/98.

Julia P. Deckert, LA 38; 4/97.


John F. Muckerman, LW 38; 1/99.

Frederick J. Mueller, LA 38; 3/99.

Jacqueline Parks (Wood) Schaefer, SW 38, SW 41; 5/99.

Edwin W. Still, LA 38; 7/94.

Donald C. Dodds, MD 39; 2/99.


Virginia Ray (Frank) Rashbaum, LA 39; 6/99.
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Leslie Craig Fosterling, UC 93, GR 97; 5/98.

Robert A. Moses
Robert A. Moses, professor emeritus of ophthalmology and visual sciences at the School of Medicine, died after a long illness May 7, 1999, at Barnes-Jewish Extended Care Facility in Clayton. He was 82.

Moses came to Washington University in 1956 as an instructor in the Department of Ophthalmology and retired in 1987.

For many years, Moses was the editor of Adler's Physiology of the Eye, an ophthalmology textbook that helped train thousands of eye doctors and scientists.

Moses was born in Baltimore and earned a bachelor's degree from Johns Hopkins University. He attended medical school at the University of Maryland, did a rotating internship at Sinai Hospital in Baltimore and completed his surgical internship at a U.S. naval hospital in Norfolk, Va.

Moses received advanced training under the auspices of the U.S. Public Health Service in Bern, Switzerland.

He also served in the U.S. Navy's 7th Beach Battalion during World War II.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Maria Moses; five sons, Bruce Greenfield, of Rockford, Ill.; Frederick Moses of Brookline, Mass.; Joel Moses of Richmond, Va.; Jonas Moses of St. Louis; and Thomas Moses of Baltimore; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The Robert A. Moses Research and Education Fund has been established in acknowledgment of his commitment to the education of ophthalmologists in areas that have been underserved.

Contributions to the fund may be made to the Alumni of the St. Louis College of Medicine, 600 Eton Road, Clayton, Mo. 63105.

Margaret Jean "Mickey" Stewart
Margaret Jean "Mickey" Stewart, A.B. 47, died April 1, 1999, in Albuquerque, N.M.

Stewart was a New Mexico resident for 50 years; she was the only child of William and Lillian Stead. William Stead was economic advisor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt and a dean of the Washington University School of Mines.

Stewart worked for the United States Bureau of Mines for more than 14 years and was a longtime volunteer in a number of charitable organizations. She also worked in the New Mexico Health and Environment departments.

In 1987, she began working for La Fonda Hotel, in Santa Fe, retiring in 1992 as general manager.

Stewart was nominated to the New Mexico Women's Hall of Fame and received the Governor's Award for Outstanding New Mexico Women. She is survived by a daughter, Barbara Stewart Chavez of Tijeras, N.M.; and four sons, James "Jeb" Stewart of Santa Fe; Donald B. Stewart, Jr., of Phoenix; William H. Stewart of Albuquerque; and Michael A. Stewart of Missoula, Mont.

Lillian Weger
Lillian Balick Weger, a part-time lecturer and instructor in psychiatric social work since 1976 and a clinical social worker in private practice in St. Louis for nearly two decades, died May 20, 1999, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. She was 65.

Weger joined the University in July 1976 as an instructor in psychiatric social work at the School of Medicine, an appointment she held until 1982. She served as chief of social work for the Child Guidance Clinic in the medical school's Division of Psychiatry from 1976 to 1986.

She began teaching as a part-time lecturer at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work in 1982 and had regularly taught one or two courses at the School every year since, including the spring 1999 semester.

Weger also taught clinical social work at several other St. Louis institutions. In 1986, she opened a private counseling practice in Clayton. She also was employed for more than 16 years as a clinical social worker and teacher with Care and Counseling Inc., a past­

oral counseling agency in Creve Coeur, Mo.

Eric Weger, her late husband, was chairman of the University's chemical engineering department.

Arthur G. Wirth
Arthur G. Wirth, professor emeritus of education in Arts & Sciences, died of cancer June 8, 1999, at a retirement community in Santa Rosa, Calif. He was 79.

Wirth came to the University in 1961 as associate professor of education. He was named a full professor in 1964 and granted emeritus status upon his retirement in 1985. After retiring, he remained active in the department for several years before moving to California in 1997.

Wirth and his wife, Marian, were founders of the St. Louis chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), a support group for parents whose children are gay. He often wrote editorial comments to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on that subject as well as other topics. He and his wife were co-authors of Beyond Acceptance, a book that features in­
depth interviews with St. Louis parents of lesbians and gays.

Wirth was born Aug. 3, 1919, in Columbus, Ohio, and earned bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees from Ohio State University in 1940, 1941, and 1949, respect­

ively. He also was decorated in World War II.

Among the survivors, in addi­
tion to his wife, are two daughters, Vicki, a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, and Patricia Wirth of West St. Louis County; a son, Scott Wirth of San Francisco; a sister, Ellen Brusenas of Clayton; and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to PFLAG, 99 West Sherwood Dr., St. Louis, MO 63114; or to Eliot Unitarian Chapel, 216 East Argonne Ave., St. Louis, MO 63122.

Ernst Wynder
Ernst Ludwig Wynder, B.S.M. '50, M.D. '50, died of thyroid cancer July 14, 1999, in Manhattan. He was 77.

Wynder was the founding president of the American Health Foundation; he is credited with being one of the scientists who provided early proof that tobacco smoke contained a cancer-causing substance. The foundation is one of the country's premier private research centers dedicated to preventive medicine and maintaining health.

Wynder was born in Herford, Germany, in 1922 and came to the United States in 1938. He received U.S. citizenship in 1943 and graduated from New York University the same year. He also served as a U.S. Army intelligence officer in World War II.

While still a student at Wash­
ington U., he began research on cancer with his mentor and professor, Evarts A. Graham.

During his career he wrote or contributed to more than 700 papers and was principal author of Environmental Aspects of Cancer: The Role of Macro and Minor Components in Food (1988, Food and Nutrition Press).

He is survived by his wife, Sandra Miller Wynder, and a sister, Lore Levinson, of Springfield, N.J.

Correction
The Summer 1999 Washington University Magazine and Alumni News "In Memoriam" section erroneously reported that William J. Posey, LA S2, was deceased. We are happy to report that Mr. Posey is actually alive and well and living in Montgomery City, Mo.
Asking Jean Gaines, director of Commencement, to recall her favorite graduation day is like asking a mother to name her favorite child. There are no favorites in Gaines' book; she loves them all.

"All are special, all are memorable," says Gaines, who recently received a service award for 53 years with Washington University, nearly 40 of them spent planning for the spring mornings when academic and honorary degrees are conferred. (From 1946 until spring semester 1998, when she joined the Public Affairs staff as director of Commencement, Gaines worked in the Office of the Registrar, now called Student Records, where she was promoted from secretary to administrative assistant to associate registrar.)

Although Commencement happens only once a year, it's one of the most important days in the lives of students and their families. The event, which has grown in size and scope over the years, requires a year of planning and effort to implement. When Gaines came to WU after World War II, it was a streetcar college; its send-off for graduates was relatively simple. Since the 1970s, however, the event has been enhanced. In May 1999, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton conferred 2,165 undergraduate and graduate degrees—in addition to 700 awarded in December 1998. The Quadrangle is set up at Commencement for 10,000 guests, and an additional stage next to the Beaumont Pavilion accommodates 50th reunion alums—about 200 in 1999—who take part in the ceremony.

During the weeks before Commencement, excitement runs high, but the weather is always a worry. In Missouri, mid-May is still tornado season. An alternative plan is in place in case of extreme weather conditions, but remarkably, the ceremonies have been held outdoors since the early 1970s. "We've been lucky for a long time," says James Burmeister, executive director of University relations in the Office of Public Affairs and University registrar and Commencement chair from the late 1960s through the mid-70s. "The Brookings Quadrangle has the absolutely perfect feel for our annual Commencement ceremony."

STUDENTS ALWAYS COME FIRST

When Commencement Day arrives, Gaines' going-away present to the graduates is a celebration that is flawless and full of the excitement that students and their families deserve. "I love people, especially young people," she explains, "and it's wonderful to see them graduate with a ceremony they can remember forever."

"Anyone who meets Jean quickly realizes that in her eyes students always come first," says Stuart D. Yoak,
director of Foundation Relations and University registrar from 1988-98. Gaines' responsibilities on students' behalf include making sure papers are in order for all who are scheduled to graduate, preparing the list of names correctly, gathering information about graduates for the program copy, ordering diplomas and slipping them into covers, ensuring that all the honorary-degree recipients have their diplomas, printing the programs, and keeping track of the billing and payment for such items.

Another important duty is record-keeping. Gaines has the most complete lists anywhere of information about graduating students, honorary doctoral-degree recipients, and speakers who have graced the stage in Beaumont Pavilion. She recalls personal favorites among the scores whom she saw receive honorary degrees: Cab Calloway, Stan Musial, Duke Ellington, and Ella Fitzgerald. Their names and every detail about Commencement are preserved in what Stuart Yoak calls Commencement bibles—huge binders that dominate Gaines' office.

Gaines also backs up Burmeister on other facets of Commencement Day activities—some of which are arranging for the physical setup of the Quadrangle and Field House and the food and music, as well as orienting scores of staff volunteers who serve as ushers and seaters. For her, no other day in the year holds such magic and meaning. That's why she doesn't mind staying up till 3 a.m. a few days before Commencement to proof the program copy, which then gets shipped off for printing.

One of the most harrowing moments in her career came the year the programs didn't arrive on campus at the scheduled time. Gaines found herself hanging around the airport at 5 a.m. one Commencement Day, waiting—and praying—for the programs to arrive from the out-of-state printer. "The program is the memento of the day and will be cherished for a long time by each graduate and his or her family," Gaines explains. "It must be letter-perfect and must be on time!"

"Jean is a perfectionist, and she gives every job 100 percent," says Burmeister, who worked closely with her when he was registrar. When she moved to the Public Affairs staff in 1998 as Commencement director, the two former colleagues came "full circle as a team," Gaines says, smiling broadly.

In addition to her direct Commencement responsibilities over the years, Gaines has handled a host of other duties, including assigning faculty classrooms, which Yoak calls "one of the most difficult tasks in any university. Using the gentleness and political savvy of an expert negotiator, Jean always found the perfect classroom for the most demanding faculty member," he says.

"I DON'T THINK OF MY WORK AS WORK"

For her successes Gaines gives a lot of credit to her colleagues, who have always supported her. "No one does anything alone," she says. "I've always been blessed with a tremendous staff who back me up."

Burmeister thinks Gaines' collegiality and loyalty have played a big role in her successful career. "I don't think there is a job too big or too small that Jean wouldn't take on for Washington University. For Jean, her work is much more than a job," he adds. "She cares so much that she inspires even the most dedicated employees."

Christine Deutschmann, supervisor of student services in the Office of Student Records, has worked on Commencement with Jean for seven years. "When I started in the registrar's office in 1992, I was just out of college and had those 'first real job' anxieties. I couldn't have asked for a better supervisor. Jean is a lifelong friend."

Like Deutschmann, friend and colleague Myrl Funk values Gaines' capabilities highly. Registrar for the School of Architecture and a 40-year veteran of the University, Funk recalls the inevitable "last-minute problems, such as someone without a hood or a cap and gown, which Jean always took care of for me."

Even in an institution at which loyalty and long tenure are the norm, Gaines' achievement is amazing. As William H. Danforth, chancellor emeritus and recently retired chairman of the Board of Trustees, says, "Jean has been here even longer than I! And every year our institution has benefited from her love and devotion."

To appreciate how long Jean Gaines has been with Washington University, consider this: She has served under six chancellors—the first, Nobel Laureate Arthur Holly Compton, followed by Ethan Shepley, Carl Tolman, Thomas Elliot, William Danforth, and Mark Wrighton. In fact, Gaines probably holds the record at Washington University for longest continuous service.

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton says, "Although her service to Washington University for 53 years is an accomplishment in its own right, Jean's real achievement is the dedication she brings to her job, her relentless pursuit of excellence, and the many lives she has touched."

What's the secret to such longevity? "I like being active, busy, involved," Gaines replies. "I don't think of my work as work, it's so enjoyable." After a pause, she adds, "The truth is, I've stayed because I've been happy here."

Barbara Rea is director of Major Events and Special Projects.

"The Washington Spirit" spotlights key faculty members and administrators who advance and support our great University's teaching and learning, research, scholarship, and service for the present and future generations.
Shields in Bloom  Welcoming students, faculty, staff, and visitors to Brookings Hall is the University shield. Composed of begonias, dusty miller, and liriope, the shields are situated on both the north and south entrances to Brookings. Pictured above is the shield at the north entrance.