1999

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Memory Fascination
Professor Roddy Roediger researches the present and future implications of past experiences.
2 Frontrunners
Short takes on WU's community of great minds and great ideas.

8 Lasting Lessons
Three alumni describe their favorite teachers.

10 Finding Safe Therapies
At the School of Medicine's Center for Reproductive Medicine and Infertility, physicians thoughtfully administer treatments to couples hoping to conceive.

14 The Hilltop's Botanical Beauty
Photos showcase some of the best and most beloved botanicals on the Hilltop Campus.

18 Exploring the Twists and Turns of Memory Lane
Henry L. Roediger, III, researches memory: a simple sounding capacity with many aspects. He also chairs the Department of Psychology in Arts & Sciences.

22 Absorbing Shock
Shirley Dyke, assistant professor of civil engineering, uses a “shake table” to research ways to insulate buildings against the potentially harmful effects of earthquakes.

25 Guiding Youth to Nature's Wonders
David Rubenstein founded EnvironMentors, a nonprofit organization that helps inner-city youth raise their sensitivities about the environment and themselves.

28 Take Me to the River
Mary Jacques and Jay Burgin have built a dream destination in Dillon, Montana, where caring for their guests is the rule of the house.

32 Missionary Medicine
Throughout his career, Ted Feierabend has touched the lives of many—from India to Wisconsin.

34 My Washington
Thomas R. Green, J.D. '58, blends luck with hard work and plenty of risk to create “good fortune.”

36 Alumni Activities
Alumni Board of Governors: new chair Tom Lowther, J.D. '62, and new members; Reunion kickoff.

38 ClassMates

48 The Washington Spirit: Edward N. Wilson
A series spotlighting key faculty and staff who help make a great University run.
Ted Kennedy, Jr. Opens 1999 Assembly Series

Ted Kennedy, Jr., disabilities rights lawyer and activist, delivered the opening Assembly Series lecture of the fall 1999 season by outlining the social, legislative, and medical challenges facing those with disabilities. In the September 8 lecture, which was the annual Benjamin E. Youngdahl Lecture in Social Policy, Kennedy encouraged the audience to be active in achieving greater civil rights for those with disabilities, placing a special emphasis on the powerful role college campuses can play in affecting American policy and law. The son of U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy, Ted Kennedy, Jr. learned the trials of living with a disability early on—at age 12, he lost his leg to bone cancer.

Kennedy expressed to the capacity crowd in Graham Chapel that the disabilities civil rights movement is unique in its ability to include so wide a range of people and groups, even when they hold opposing social, political, and religious beliefs. He also encouraged the audience to fight against the prejudices prevalent in society concerning people with disabilities.

Throughout his career, Kennedy has served as director of Facing the Challenge, a nonprofit advocacy group for disability rights, and has worked with policy-makers and the corporate community to expand job and career opportunities for people with disabilities in accordance with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.

Mark Weil Named Head of Visual Arts and Design Center

Mark S. Weil, the E. Desmond Lee Professor for Collaboration in the Arts and director of the Washington University Gallery of Art, has been appointed director of the University’s Visual Arts and Design Center (VADC).

Weil has served as a member of the VADC’s executive committee since its formation in 1996. “Professor Weil already has made distinguished contributions to the development of the Visual Arts and Design Center, both in the development of programs and the plans for facilities,” says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. “I am grateful for Mark’s commitment in taking on this important role. I am confident he will do an outstanding job.”

Weil joined the University faculty in 1968. An alumnus, he received a bachelor’s degree in art history from WU in 1961 before going on to earn a master’s degree and doctorate, also in art history, from Columbia University in 1964 and 1968, respectively.

Prefreshmen Learn About Lab Research

This summer before college had even begun, some members of the class of 2003 were already on campus, getting a taste of research in Washington University science labs by participating in the Prefreshman Summer Scholars in Biology and Biomedical Sciences program, coordinated by Elaine Alexander in the Department of Biology’s Outreach Office in Arts & Sciences.

The program offers incoming freshmen...
Course Benefits
Minority and Women Contractors

Annetta Vickers (r.), a graduate of "The Business of Construction" course, receives a certificate of completion from Sandra Marks (l.), the University's director of supplier diversity programs.

interested in science careers the chance to live on campus for seven weeks and to carry out full-time laboratory research in biology or biomedicine. Research experience is key to many students' plans for the future, including graduate and medical school. This program gives the participants a head start on that experience, as well as the opportunity to meet other students and faculty and to get to know the campus before classes begin.

This year, there were more than 300 applications for 18 spots. Ten of the 18 were women; several were from minority ethnic groups.

Laurel Griggs, a freshman from Florida, geo-referenced radar and satellite maps for finer resolution to study changes in vegetation in the Missouri River floodplain since the 1993 flood.

New Laboratory Building to Be Built

Construction has begun on the 129,500-square-foot Arts & Sciences Laboratory Science Building, which will focus on undergraduate teaching in the chemical sciences.

The four-level building will be located between the Ann W. Olin Women's Building and McMillan Hall and will be constructed of reinforced concrete with a granite and limestone exterior.

The firm of Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill Architects is finalizing plans for the building. BSI Constructors, the construction manager, is expected to complete the project in 27 months.

The Department of Chemistry in Arts & Sciences provides nearly 10,000 credit hours of instruction yearly, primarily to undergraduate students in Arts & Sciences and the School of Engineering and Applied Science. An important and substantial part of that instruction involves hands-on laboratory experience.

The new building will provide undergraduates with modern, safe teaching laboratories as well as three additional classrooms, a large lecture hall, and a resource center. All chemistry laboratory instruction and much of chemistry classroom lecture instruction will move to the new building.

Twenty-Five Years of Interdisciplinary Trailblazing

An April 15-16 symposium marked the 25th anniversary of the University's Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences, celebrated the division's groundbreaking influence on graduate education, and explored the future of graduate training in the biological and biomedical sciences. The division provides training for Ph.D. and M.D./Ph.D. students in the biological and biomedical sciences.

The division is, in the words of John H. Russell, associate dean of graduate studies, "an ongoing experiment." It has excelled in bringing different perspectives together seamlessly. Twenty-five years ago, educational visionaries at WU realized that the conventional University structures did not match the increasingly interdisciplinary way in which scientific investigations were being conducted. They called for a reorganization focused on the most important questions in biology. It was a brilliant insight that brought broad success and spawned many imitators.

Today, the division comprises 11 programs affiliated with 29 basic science and clinical departments at the School of Medicine, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and Arts & Sciences. More than 300 faculty train students to be outstanding scientists.
Van Cleves Endow New Arts & Sciences Professorship

A $1.5 million pledge from Georgia Dunbar Van Cleve and William Moore Van Cleve will establish an endowed professorship in Arts & Sciences at the University.

The new Dunbar-Van Cleve Professorship in Arts & Sciences will be awarded to a distinguished faculty member in history, English literature, anthropology, mathematics, sociology or a related field, art history, archaeology, or genetics.

The Van Cleves are longtime active members of the Washington University community. Georgia received a bachelor's degree from Arts & Sciences in 1951 and attended the School of Law. A strong supporter of Arts & Sciences, she has served in a number of capacities and is active in the Campaign for Washington University.

William Van Cleve received a J.D. from the law school in 1953. He has served on the University's Board of Trustees for 16 years, including a term as chairman from 1993 to 1995 and two terms as vice chairman, the position he currently holds. In 1995, he was elected a life trustee.

Residential Houses Bear Distinguished Names

Washington University is honoring two esteemed scholars and a cherished friend of the University in the names of three new residential houses, which opened this fall on the South 40. In addition, a new residential college, including two of the buildings, will bear the name of Robert S. Brookings, who served the University for more than 40 years, from 1891 to 1932.

The westernmost of the three new buildings is Howard Nemerov House; the late Nemerov was the Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of English and twice the U.S. Poet Laureate. To the east, Arnold J. Lien House honors a professor of political science who chaired the department for 28 years, from 1924 to 1952. North of Lien House, Kate M. Gregg House bears the name of an alumna who supported many University programs and initiatives. Lien and Gregg will make up Brookings College; Nemerov will be part of a future college.

Anheuser-Busch Foundation Pledges $4 Million to WU

The Anheuser-Busch Foundation has pledged $4 million to Washington University, with half the gift establishing the Anheuser-Busch Scholars Program for Undergraduate Minority Students and half supporting the new executive education center for the John M. Olin School of Business.

"Both the executive education center and the minority scholarship fund are essential to the future success of Washington University and to strengthening its service to this region and to the nation," says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. "We are grateful for the extraordinary support that Anheuser-Busch has given and continues to give to our institution. Our historic partnership has helped build this University as a world-class center of education and research."

The $2 million pledge for the School of Business will support the Charles F. Knight Executive Education Center, which is now under construction.
Highlighting Graham Chapel

A new exhibit on the architecture of the University's beloved Graham Chapel not only traces the building's history but also looks at two key medieval elements: stained glass and grotesques.

The physical exhibit was displayed through October 8 at Olin Library. Jay Kempen, archives assistant, is the writer and curator of the exhibit, titled "Grottesques, Glass, Graham: Marriage of Masonry." The building, dedicated in 1909, was designed to resemble a medieval English college chapel. The electronic exhibit is at library.wustl.edu/Units/Spec/exhibits/graham.

Hope for Midwest's Coal Fields

An effort to find ways to produce alternative fuels from one of our region's most abundant resources—coal—has received $548,485 in funding support from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Muthanna H. Al-Dahhan, assistant professor of chemical engineering and associate director of the University's Chemical Reaction Engineering Laboratory (CREL), won the three-year grant from DOE's Federal Energy Technology Center for a proposal titled "Advanced Diagnostic Techniques for Three-Phase Slurry Bubble Column Reactors."

Al-Dahhan will collaborate with Milorad P. Dudukovic, the Laura and William Jens Professor and chair of chemical engineering; L.-S. Fan, Distinguished Professor and chair of chemical engineering at Ohio State University; and Bernard A. Toseland of Air Products and Chemicals Inc. in Allentown, Pennsylvania, to develop and implement specialized diagnostic techniques at CREL and at Ohio State's Industrial Fluidization Laboratory.

Slurry bubble column reactors are cylindrical vessels in which gas containing one or more reactants is mixed with liquid reactants and products and a finely dispersed catalyst.

"The hydrodynamics of gas, liquids, and solids in high-pressure slurry bubble columns are very complex, and there is much to learn."

Muthanna H. Al-Dahhan inspects a slurry bubble column reactor.

Washington People

W. Patrick McGinnis, M.B.A. '72, was named a trustee of Washington University by the Board of Trustees at its October 1 meeting. McGinnis is chief executive officer and president of Balston Purina Co., as well as president and chief executive officer of Balston Purina Pet Products Group. He was the recipient of the John M. Olin School of Business Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1993. He is also a member of the University's Eliot Society.

Richard A. Chole, the Lindburg Professor and head of otolaryngology, was named president of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology (ARO). The ARO is the principal organization of ear, nose, and throat researchers, with 2,000 members.

Gerald L. Early, the Merle Kling Professor of Modern Letters and professor of English, African and Afro-American studies, and American culture studies, all in Arts & Sciences, and Marcus E. Raichle, co-director of the Division of Radiological Sciences and professor of radiology, of neurology, and of neurobiology at the School of Medicine, are the inaugural recipients of the Faculty Achievement Awards at Washington University, which recognize outstanding academic accomplishments and service.

William Joseph F. Maloney III, chief-of-service and head of joint replacement surgery at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, has been named the first Knight Distinguished Professor in Orthopaedic Surgery. Charles E. Knight and Joanne Knight have established the new professorship in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the School of Medicine. Maloney came to Washington University from Stanford University Medical School, where he was a clinical associate professor of functional restoration in orthopaedics.

The Knights have been involved in the St. Louis region and the Washington University community for more than 20 years.

Jeff Pike, associate dean of the School of Art and associate professor of illustration in the Visual Communications Program, was named the School's dean as of July 1.

Lee N. Robins, University Professor of Social Science and professor of social science in psychiatry at Washington U., has received three prestigious awards. A world leader in psychiatric epidemiology research for more than 40 years, Robins has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, honored with a special Presidential Commendation from the American Psychiatric Association, and named an honorary fellow in the Society for the Study of Addiction to Alcohol and Other Drugs.

Barbara A. Schaal, professor of biology in Arts & Sciences, was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences—one of the highest honors a scientist or engineer can achieve—on April 28. Schaal is widely known for her work using molecular genetic techniques to study plant evolution.

Jeroen Swinkels was installed as the August A. Busch, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Managerial Economics and Strategy in the John M. Olin School of Business in April. The endowed professorship recognizes the many accomplishments of August A. Busch, Jr. (1899-1989), who for 29 years was chief executive officer of Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.
WU Students Design Zoo's Lemur Cage

Lemurs at the Saint Louis Zoo may soon spend their days swinging, climbing, and enjoying the outdoors in a new cage designed by sophomore architecture students at the University.

After researching lemur lifestyles and consulting with zoo officials, Albert Lam, Courtney Martin, Sarah Nurmela, Daniel Osuna, and Nick Stoutt created the winning design for a wire-mesh and wooden structure measuring 20' by 30' and 16' high. The team proposed a variety of spaces within the cage, including two main enclosures and several nooks and crannies. A slatted roof also is designed to offer shade at different times of the day while still allowing for a seasonal home.

“We had to consider issues of climate, constructability, and feasible materials while designing something that actually could be built,” Martin says. “We also considered how the lemurs socialize, and how they climb and jump, in our designs for a nice, natural environment.”

Volunteers Offer Days of Caring

Gloria Stukkenbroeker, assistant records coordinator in MBA Admissions at the John M. Olin School of Business, plays a game with children at the Jewish Community Center in Creve Coeur, Missouri, in August as part of the United Ways Days of Caring. A total of 68 employees spent a half day volunteering at various area organizations.

Fostering New Careers in Geriatric Social Work

Recognizing the growing need for skilled geriatric social workers, the George Warren Brown School of Social Work is planning to offer students a specialized practicum training program that stresses an interdisciplinary approach in the provision of social services for older adults.

The social work school is one of 11 selected to participate in the program, which attracted applications from nearly half of the nation’s 130 schools of social work. Known as the Geriatric Social Work Practicum Development Program, the effort is funded nationally by the John A. Hartford Foundation of New York. The New York Academy of Medicine will monitor and coordinate national operations.

Therese Dent, assistant dean for field education, is coordinating the program here and serving as principal investigator in related research.

Other faculty providing guidance and support to the program are associate professors Nancy Morrow-Howell and Letha Chadiha.

The program will help students launch careers in geriatric social services by offering course work, seminars, and hands-on experience in the local geriatric care system. Goals include strengthening ties with gerontology field sites and leaders in the community and improving education in the classroom and in the field.

Williams Named to New Professorship in the Humanities

Gerhild Scholz Williams, professor of German and of comparative literature in Arts & Sciences, has been named the first Barbara Schaps Thomas and David M. Thomas Professor in the Humanities in Arts & Sciences.

“Gerhild is a splendid University citizen as well as a highly respected scholar in her field,” says Edward S. Macias, executive vice chancellor and dean of
Oriented Toward Leadership

As part of orientation events for the new WU International Leadership Program in Arts & Sciences, incoming students played "World Game," in which players represent a portion of the planet's people. They assess their needs and try to meet them through trading and purchasing and by proposing interactive solutions to the problems facing their region and the world.

Adolescence while confronting the horrors endured by her grandmother, mother, and uncle in Auschwitz.

Arts & Sciences. "I'm delighted that she'll be serving as the first Thomas professor—a fitting honor for someone who has given so much to the institution and particularly to Arts & Sciences." Born in Perleberg, Germany, Williams became a U.S. citizen in 1974. She received both bachelor's and master's degrees in comparative literature from the University of Washington in 1969 and 1971, respectively. She received a doctorate in

comparative literature specializing in medieval studies from the same institution in 1974. She joined the WU faculty in 1975 as assistant professor of Germanic languages and literatures and of comparative literature; she was named associate professor in 1981 and professor in 1986. In 1989, Williams was named associate provost, a position she held until 1995, when she became associate vice chancellor. In 1997, she was given the additional title of special assistant to the chancellor for academic affairs.

The Thomases are both enthusiastic University supporters. Barbara Thomas is a distinguished Arts & Sciences alumna who graduated in 1976. She is senior vice president and chief financial officer of Time Warner Sports/HBO Sports. In addition to her service on both the University Board of Trustees and the Arts & Sciences National Council, Barbara Thomas is chair of major gifts for Arts & Sciences in the Campaign for Washington University. Barbara and David Thomas are also long-time supporters of the Arts & Sciences Scholarship Program.

Notable Research

Biologist Receives Patent on Promising Vaccine Technology

Roy Curtiss III, the George William and Irene Koechig Freiberg Professor of Biology in Arts & Sciences, was granted a U.S. patent for his genetically engineered bacterial antigen delivery system. The technology is being used to develop recombinant vaccines to prevent or therapeutically treat pathogen-induced infections in agricultural animals.

Two vaccines using Curtiss' approaches have been approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and are being marketed for use in preventing Salmonella infections in poultry and swine.

Bellwether: Wood Frogs, Salamanders Make Comeback

Wood frogs, which had been extinct in Eastern Missouri, and spotted salamanders, which had been greatly reduced, have come back with a flourish at Tyson Research Center through a long-term conservation effort by Washington University biologists.

A team headed by Owen Sexton, professor emeritus of biology in Arts & Sciences, repopulated ponds at Tyson Research Center with egg masses of both wood frogs and spotted salamanders, and it has carefully charted their populations since 1974 for the salamanders and since 1987 for the wood frogs.

The result: "Both populations are healthy and show no signs of decline," says Sexton, who is director of the center some 25 miles west of St. Louis.

Research Reveals Staple Crop's Roots

Little is actually known about the origins of a staple subsistence crop that feeds an estimated 600 million Third World people. The plant is cassava (Manihot esculenta), a bushy plant producing tubers—the starchy underground stem of the plant—that have fed the indigenous people of the Americas for millennia and much of Africa since the 17th century.

But now biologists at Washington University have written the ultimate "roots" story for this plant in a paper published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. The research lays the groundwork for breeding improved varieties that can better feed the developing world, says Barbara A. Schaal, professor of biology in Arts & Sciences.

Schaal and graduate student Kenneth M. Olsen have pinpointed cassava's origins at the southern border of the Amazon River basin in Brazil. The Explorers Club, the National Science Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Guggenheim Foundation supported the research.

Disorders Found in Oklahoma City Bombing Survivors

In addition to the physical damage and devastation it caused, the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing had a major impact on mental health. In a study of survivors, researchers from the Washington University School of Medicine, the University of Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma State Department of Health have found that almost half suffered from psychiatric disorders in the months after the explosion. The researchers were able to identify the symptoms that indicated the need for treatment.

In the August 25 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association, the investigators reported that 45 percent of the survivors surveyed had psychiatric problems in the six months following the bombing. Just over 34 percent had post-traumatic stress disorder.

Carol S. North, associate professor of psychiatry at the School of Medicine, was principal investigator in the study.

WINTER 1999 WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY 7
Teachers have changed the lives of the students who have learned from them. Here, three alumni describe faculty whose lessons will last a lifetime.

Thomas H. Burford (1907–77)
Professor Emeritus of Cardiothoracic Surgery

Ralph Berg: “Burford was good at everything, and he got all the honors as an outstanding chest surgeon. He was truly ambidextrous, operating with both his right and left hands! He didn’t lend a lot of credence to speed, but you needed to be fast.

‘An excellent technician, he wouldn’t put up with any slackness. I’m not interested in excuses—I’m interested in results,’ he would say.

Burford was always pushing technology forward in the service of patients. In Africa during World War II, he and others pioneered new techniques for treating shrapnel victims that saved soldiers’ lives. When we started using open-heart surgery in March 1971 for acute myocardial infarction patients, we cut the 30-day mortality rate from 20 percent to less than 3 percent! Some people said we shouldn’t be treating people who were sick; they said a double-blind study was needed. And I remember Burford’s response: ‘Nobody needed to die. It was my good fortune to train under the best.’

Learning to perform thoracic surgery is a gradual process. It was my good fortune to train under Tom Burford. In the early years I lost patients because some technologies available now were not available then. Yet because of the many medical innovations made over the last 50 years, I couldn’t have picked a better time to be in this field. I had a wonderful career.”

* Ralph Berg, M.D. ’45, is a retired thoracic surgeon living in Spokane, Washington.

Arthur Osver
Professor Emeritus of Art

Stephen Posen: “I was in the first class Arthur taught in 1960, and our friendship has continued ever since. His guidance continued after I left the University, through Italy, and on to New York, where he helped me find a teaching job. His interest in my growth and in my family has always remained.

In New York one can be consumed by competitiveness and elbowing. But when I chose to live and work there, Arthur was always encouraging. He knew that this was what I had to do.

Arthur’s converted farmhouse/studio is a ‘home of work’ for him and his artist-wife, Ernestine. A visit always includes a tour of Ernestine’s marvelous gardens, tea, and wonderful conversation. Arthur has friends from many walks of life: puppetry, dance, sculpture, writing, and even boxing! The power of his handshake is legendary; that and the wild exuberance of his Einstein-like eyebrows make him unforgettable.

‘For him, I think coming to Washington University was a spiritual retreat from the East Coast. He was able to convey this to his students. He had a quiet presence, a way of looking over his students’ shoulders without intruding. Those who are devoid of their own sense of self at the moment of looking make the best teachers. Arthur gives respect and it comes back to him.

‘You know—1,000 people come look at your work, and you ask yourself: ‘Who are these people?’ There are eyes you trust because you know the voice within; I trusted him.”


Naomi Lebowitz
The Hortense and Tobias Lewin Distinguished Professor in the Humanities and Professor of English

David Hirsch: “I ruined his life! That’s what Naomi Lebowitz sometimes says to people when she introduces me. She says it proudly, with kind of a motherly smile. I was pre-med, taking lots of hard-core math and science courses when a friend of mine came to me raving about a class of Naomi’s he’d taken. ‘You just have to take this class before you finish school,’ he said. And I did.

‘Naomi’s love for literature is not just infectious: it’s all bottled up inside her and explodes in the classroom. She’s like a ‘wild woman’ in class—she never stands still, she yells, she whispers. And because of her electrifying spirit, I really loved literature after taking her class.

‘One day after class Naomi asked me to stay behind. Of course, I had bad memories about what that meant, but she said: ‘I don’t waste time saying this to everyone, but I feel it’s my duty to the profession to convince you to pursue a career in literature.’ I was very flattered but had no intention of changing my plans. It was a year later when I realized that I was going into medicine for the wrong reasons, and her words still resonated.

‘Naomi’s influence did not stop when I received my B.A. Some nine years later, she gave me the best advice when I was searching for a university job teaching English literature: ‘Enthusiasm makes the difference. Ooze enthusiasm. Let them know how much you love literature!’

* David A. Hirsch, B.A. ’86, is an assistant professor of English at the University of Illinois.
Recognizing the Importance of Planned Gifts • Washington University in St. Louis

☐ Washington University is already included in my estate plans—I would like to become a Robert S. Brookings “Partner.”

☐ I am age 60 or over. Please send me a personalized, confidential calculation using the following birthdate(s) to illustrate the very attractive benefits that I will receive from a Washington University Charitable Gift Annuity.

I would like a calculation based on a theoretical gift of:

$_____________. ☐ Cash ☐ Securities ($_____________)

Cost Basis

First Beneficiary Birthdate________________ Second Beneficiary Birthdate________________

☐ Please send me your booklet on Charitable Gift Annuities.

☐ Please send me your booklet on other Life Income Plans at Washington University.

☐ Please send me information on making a bequest to Washington University.

☐ Please send me information on named endowment opportunities.

☐ Please have David C. Jones, Paul Schoon, Lynnette Sodha, or Mike Touhey from the Washington University Planned Giving Office call me.

Name ________________________________

Address ________________________________

City/State/Zip ________________________________

Daytime Phone ________________________________

(Fold this form and seal edges with tape to mail.)
### Sample Rates of Return

#### Single Life

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#### Two Life

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As you review your personal financial plan, you may find that a **Washington University Charitable Gift Annuity** can be helpful to you if you are age 60 or older. Here's one way you can modify your plan and make a significant gift to the University:

**Example:**

If you are age 70 and create a **$50,000 Gift Annuity** with long-term appreciated securities that have a cost basis of $25,000, you will receive the following benefits:

- **Rate of Return**: 7.5%
- **Guaranteed annual income for life**: $3,750
  - Ordinary Income: $1,852
  - Capital Gain Income: $949
  - Tax-Free Income: $949
  (for the first 15.9 years; then the entire amount becomes taxable income)

**Federal income tax charitable deduction**: $19,857*

You may also fund this Gift Annuity with cash and receive similar benefits, including tax-free income of $1,898. (There would be no capital gain income.)

Annuities may be used to endow and name many important programs such as scholarships, research funds, and professorships.

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*Amount of charitable deduction may vary slightly.*
INFERTILITY:

Finding Safe Therapies

At the School of Medicine's Center for Reproductive Medicine and Infertility, physicians thoughtfully administer treatments to couples hoping to conceive.
BY NANCY MAYS

Once upon a time, infertility left a couple hopeless. When dreams for a baby went unrealized, the couple could not find further assistance from the medical world. Then along came the world’s first “test tube” baby, Louise Brown. In 1978, she became living proof that it was possible for a baby to be conceived in a laboratory where technicians joined sperm with egg.

Ever since, technology has been a fairy godmother for infertile couples—full of hope and promise.

“We can do more today to help a couple struggling with infertility than ever before,” says Randall Odem, director of the School of Medicine’s Center for Reproductive Medicine and Infertility and associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology.

A team of five physicians—reproductive endocrinologists—joined by researchers and technicians at the center, employ and test the very latest therapies designed to help infertile couples turn into parents: from researching ways to increase the rates of in vitro fertilization for women over 40 to testing safer, more affordable drugs for women who can’t ovulate. Every year, some 2,000 new patients from the Midwest and beyond seek their help.

While the center has access to the most promising therapies—the “in vitro fertilizations” of tomorrow—the center’s reproductive endocrinologists employ a sage approach in administering them.

After watching a steady increase in the number of multiple births induced by fertility treatments, physicians at WU prefer a tempered approach to treating infertility. It would be enticing for patients—and physicians—to get lost in some kind of technological abyss, submitting to one test after another in the name of hope. But that, say the center’s doctors, is not in anyone’s best interest.

“With multiple births, complications and costs go way up. Sure, we want to help people get pregnant—that’s why we’re here—but we can’t do it at any cost,” says Valerie Ratts, an endocrinologist at the center and an assistant professor in obstetrics and gynecology.

Some 15 percent of reproductive-age couples struggle with infertility, unable to have a baby without some kind of medical intervention. Diagnosing the problem can be an exhausting endeavor; batteries of tests poke and probe at their intimate lives.

Because there is no single overriding cause of infertility, doctors start with a process of elimination. Among the more common causes are a failure to ovulate and a low sperm count. But there are others, ranging from an underfunctioning thyroid to a blockage in the fallopian tubes that prevents the eggs from being carried into the uterus.

Today, there is another cause of infertility: advanced age.

A 25-year-old couple should expect, on average, to achieve pregnancy after four or five months of trying. For every five years of increased age, the time it will take doubles.
THE JOY OF PARENTHOOD

After six years, immeasurable heartache, and two rounds of in vitro fertilization, the Rudders finally conceived. Then nine months later, Sam arrived. "We still pinch ourselves and say, 'Is this really happening to us?'" says Mary.

Like a lot of couples who struggle with infertility, the Rudders never thought they'd have a problem. They were, says Ratts, "very in control of our lives"—professionals with soaring careers. Mark, J.D. '91, is a partner in his firm Stahlhuth & Rudder, L.C., an adjunct professor at WU, and president of the law school's alumni association. Mary was advertising manager for the Saint Louis Symphony. Rewarding work, but they also wanted a child.

Within the first six months of trying to conceive, they had a miscarriage. They tried for six more months. "Every month we tried, we waited—nothing," says Mary.

After trying for a year, the Rudders were officially deemed "infertile" and, thus, eligible for medical treatment. They sought help at the Center for Reproductive Medicine and Infertility and met director Randall Odem. "Dr. Odem has such compassion. From the moment our treatment began, he put us at ease."

Despite a battery of tests, the Rudders were diagnosed with "unknown infertility." Treatment started with oral drugs to help Mary produce eggs. When that didn't work, they went to injectable drugs. From there, they tried injectable drugs plus artificial insemination.

"It was all so exhausting," says Mary. "You have to plan your day around the injections and sonograms. You're at the mercy of the drugs, their side effects, and the calendar."

After five years of trying, the Rudders decided to try in vitro fertilization. Their first round in fall 1996, costing upwards of $15,000, didn't work. "We got the news right before Christmas—we were very disappointed."

Disappointed yes, but not without hope. But the only way Mark and Mary could go through another round of in vitro was to simultaneously research adoption. "We figured if in vitro didn't work, adoption would," says Mary.

in vitro did work. "I was so happy, but so leery. We didn't decorate the nursery until I was seven months."

Sam was born to a family that had long awaited his arrival—from the Rudders to those at the center. "You go through so much with them [those at the center] that you truly feel they're as happy as you are to have a baby."

"Women are waiting longer to start a family and, the fact is, that means an increase in infertility," says Ratts.

A common therapy used to treat older women is controlled ovarian hyperstimulation, which augments ovulation with a series of oral or injected drugs. Over the past decade, researchers at the center have tested a handful of such drugs. When physicians aren't sure of the problem—and that happens about 20 percent of the time—they try inducing ovulation to see if an increase in egg production increases the odds of pregnancy.

Such medicines are also more affordable than the invasive, higher-tech therapies—and cost is a very real issue for infertile couples. In Missouri, insurance doesn't cover most treatments, though it covers diagnosis. Illinois, on the other hand, is a mandate state where employers are required to provide coverage.

"For many patients the limit to their treatment is money," says Ratts.

Absolutely, agrees Odem. "Many people have no coverage and spend a lot of money," says Odem. "So it's always important that care is administered with cost in mind. No one, patients or insurance companies, wants to waste money."

Such a prudent attitude led WU researchers to participate in a study that eventually debunked the merits of a widely practiced therapy, immunotherapy, which costs thousands of dollars but is not covered by insurance. The treatment pivots on the idea that some women suffer recurrent miscarriages because their bodies reject the man's antigens in the placenta.
Women are waiting longer to start a family and ... that means an increase in infertility," says Valerie Ratts, endocrinologist.

Women who receive this treatment are injected with mononuclear cells from the father’s blood to elicit a protective immune response that will help maintain the pregnancy.

The study, which lasted more than five years and included some 179 women, was halted by a neutral monitoring board after the members realized that more women receiving the immunization miscarried than those who received the placebo. Results were published in The Lancet, an international journal of medical science and practice.

“We were looking to see whether immunotherapy was helpful,” Odem says. “And we found out those who were treated did worse than those who weren’t. They wasted their time and their money.”

In another cost-conscious study, Ratts has been looking at an investigational drug called metformin, which may provide an affordable alternative for women who do not respond to common ovulation-induction therapies. Many women are infertile because they don’t produce an egg monthly; many of them have a disorder called polycystic ovarian syndrome or PCOS. Usually, such women can take a tried-and-true therapy called clomiphene citrate, but a sizeable number do not respond to the drug.

In the past, their only option was to be treated with injectable hormones, which cost $2,500 a cycle and were not covered by insurance. They also increase the risk of multiple gestations.

Researchers have found that these women may not respond to traditional therapies because they are resistant to insulin. If their insulin processing could be improved, Ratts said, they may ovulate in response to the less expensive, safer therapy—clomiphene. The second drug, metformin, may improve their insulin processing, says Ratts, who is heading the St. Louis study.

One guiding principle to research conducted at the center is to find safe therapies—both for the mother and baby, which means searching for treatments that reduce the risk of multiple gestations.

“Any time you’re inducing ovulation you increase the risk for multiple gestations,” says Odem. “While that risk will never be entirely preventable, it no doubt helps to use these medications responsibly. It requires sound clinical judgment, a commodity that can only be gained through proper training and extensive experience, which is one reason a fellowship exists in this specialty.”

In vitro fertilization (IVF), one of the last great hopes for couples who have exhausted other possibilities, carries with it a very real risk for multiple gestations. Daniel B. Williams, director of the center’s in vitro fertilization program and associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, says WU’s IVF clinic strives to transfer fewer, but more viable, embryos to the woman, reducing the risk of multiple births and increasing the odds for success. In IVF, eggs are surgically removed from the ovaries, fertilized in a dish, and inserted into the womb. The procedure should mirror what nature would likely produce—a strong, single embryo.

Williams and his colleagues allow the fertilized egg to culture one to three days longer. In other words, the egg stays in the laboratory three to five days, not two, which allows researchers to see which embryos can divide beyond the four-cell stage, where embryos that aren’t going to grow usually arrest. That, in turn, allows the researchers to transfer fewer embryos into the uterus, a move that reduces extremely high-maintenance pregnancies.

“It’s the only responsible way to be doing in vitro these days,” says Williams.

In fact, says Odem, “program administrators that use a large number of embryos to make up for weaknesses in their lab or abilities should get out of the IVF business.”

In 1997, the take-home-baby rate in women under 40 for in vitro fertilization, including those undergoing intra-cytoplasmic sperm injection (a therapy used in cases of severe sperm defects), at WU was 34 percent; nationwide the rate was 28 percent.

The center’s physicians share in the joy these successful numbers reflect. However, there is a fair amount of heartache in the job.

“There can come that time when you have to tell the couple there’s nothing else we can do,” says Odem. “On the other hand, everywhere I go—the mall, the theater, the grocery store—I see people I’ve helped. And when you’ve helped someone through a very hard thing like that, they’re so grateful.”

Daniel B. Williams, director of the center’s in vitro fertilization program.

Nancy Mays is a freelance writer based in Kansas City.

For more information about the Center for Reproductive Medicine and Infertility, call 286-2400.
Washington University’s campus is the most beautiful one I have ever seen,” says Elizabeth Gray Danforth, wife of Chancellor Emeritus William Danforth. Along with its lovely pink-granite buildings, the Hilltop Campus has another claim to beauty: its many tucked-away gardens, flowering bushes, and tall shade trees.

The oldest tree on campus, says horticulturist Paul Norman, is probably a large post oak near the William Greenleaf Eliot Residential College. That oak predates most University buildings, which went up after the 1904 World’s Fair; nearly all the other trees on site were cut down to create space for buildings. As the campus took shape, a major re-landscaping effort began.

Today, Norman and his crew do most of their planting near the new residence halls on the South 40. They try to replace, one for one, any trees lost to construction or age. It is an ongoing battle, since urban trees—under stress from pollution, pedestrian traffic, and competition for water—have a shorter life span than their country cousins.

This behind-the-scenes labor is not apparent to visitors, who simply enjoy the University’s botanical glories. One is a yellow poplar, near Holmes Lounge in Ridgley Hall, that is descended from a tree planted by George Washington at Mount Vernon; Norman’s own favorite is the
The oldest American elm on campus, this majestic tree is the lone survivor of four elms planted on Brookings Quadrangle in 1923 in memory of Calvin M. Woodward (1837–1914), professor of mathematics.

Lining the path toward Olin Library is a beloved stand of ginkgo trees. Some are 85 years old; one was planted in 1999 to honor Stanley Spector (1924–99), professor of Asian languages. These trees, native to China, are most striking in October. "I love to walk under them, especially in the fall when their leaves turn yellow. When you go back some time later and the leaves have fallen and turned the ground yellow, then you know winter will soon be here," says Mrs. Danforth.

Dozens of butterflies, like this monarch, are attracted to the colorful flowers in the Elizabeth Gray Danforth Butterfly Garden, created by the University's Woman's Club in honor of Mrs. Danforth, who calls it "just wonderful. I am so touched by the effort of so many good friends."

On a peaceful fall evening, the view west toward McMillan Hall is a blend of open space and vibrantly colored trees: ash, maple, pin oak, and sweet gum. Some were donated in memory of deceased students and alumni.

giant Scotch elm that spreads, willow-like, on the lawn between Brown and Givens halls.

The late poet Howard Nemerov once wrote about the changing seasons on campus. In fall, he said, "the oaks go bronze, the ginkgoes gold, a single sweet gum can give you the whole spectrum from a livid bruise-purple all the way back to green, omitting only the blue which the autumn sky supplies." Spring comes, "crocuses first, then daffodils, then tulips. ... The three redbuds north of the library suddenly spread their indescribable color."

With this photo essay, we pay tribute—as Nemerov did—to Washington University's Hilltop Campus' spectacular botanical beauty.
A Ridgley Hall arch frames this sugar maple, a species native to Missouri. The campus has other native trees: dogwood, redbud, downy serviceberry, bald cypress, red maple, and oak. "We have a diverse campus, with people from all over the world," says Paul Norman, "so planting native trees shows them a little of our environment here."

An assortment of native plants blossom in the Erna Rice Eisendrath Memorial Garden, which occupies a quiet nook just west of the entrance to Rebstock Hall. This garden honors the late Eisendrath, a longtime faculty botanist, who died in 1985, and author of the 1978 book *Missouri Wildflowers of the St. Louis Area.*

The spires of Graham Chapel rise high above the branches of these cockspur hawthorn bushes, stripped of their leaves by winter. In spring, this grove will come alive with small white flowers that give off a strong, sweet fragrance.

Each spring, this little-leaf linden near Busch Hall produces bracts of delicately scented yellowish-green flowers.
More than 600 cultivars of crabapple trees exist, and a number of them—like this flowering crab near Olin Library—are scattered about the campus. Older varieties had larger fruit; today's versions are all but fruitless. Some have "persistent fruits" that hang on throughout the winter, adding a lush texture to the frosty scene.

An 80-year-old black walnut, one of only a few on campus, presides over the yard outside Busch Hall. In the fall, the tree's nuts—encased in a tough, green husk—drop on unwary students studying beneath.
Exploring the Twists and Turns of Memory Lane

BY CANDACE O'CONNOR

Henry L. Roediger, III, the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and chair of the Department of Psychology
To the eager group of volunteers, this test sounds like a simple one. All they need to do is listen to 15 words, then jot down every one that they can clearly remember, being sure to be accurate. Henry (Roddy) L. Roediger, III, who is conducting the study, reads the list: "Bed, rest, awake, tired, dream, wake, snooze, blanket, doze, slumber, snore, nap, peace, yawn, drowsy," he intones slowly.

When he is finished, the volunteers begin scribbling. They are quick to recall the first and last items; they remember the middle words less often, only 45 percent of the time. But more than half the time they are certain—absolutely certain—they have heard the word "sleep." They even insist they can pinpoint when it occurred on the list. There's just one catch: Every word on the list hints at sleep—but sleep itself is not there.

Memory is fickle, sometimes false, but always fascinating. And Roddy Roediger, the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and chair of the Department of Psychology in Arts & Sciences, knows all about this. He has spent years studying the many facets of memory: how we routinely express past experience in our behavior without even being aware of it, why we often remember things differently from the way they really occurred—and why we sometimes remember events that never happened at all.

"Professor Roediger is one of the world's leading memory researchers, who has made fundamental contributions to our understanding of how memory works and why it sometimes plays tricks on us," says Daniel Schacter, chairman of the psychology department at Harvard University.

Roediger's work has earned him many honors: He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, and has been elected president of the Midwestern Psychological Association, among others. In 1995, a study by the Institute of Scientific Information found that Roediger was the researcher whose publications had had the greatest impact on the field of psychology from 1990 to 1994. Students across the country use his textbooks.

In 1996, Washington University recruited Roediger from Rice, where he had been the Lynette S. Autrey Professor of Psychology since 1988. His mandate was to build the University's Department of Psychology, newly housed in a spectacular $28 million building, into a world-class force in the field. To date, he has hired 10 people—for a total of 26 faculty members—and has two more searches under way. And he still teaches one class a semester and engages actively in research.

"I feel like the guy on the old variety shows who got all the plates spinning on top of poles. Then he had to run up and down the row to the plate that was about to fall off," says Roediger. "So it is tricky at times, but I am enjoying it."

Many Aspects of Memory

Roediger's interest in memory grew out of an early family tragedy: the death of his mother when he was only 5 years old. "All I had were memories," he says.

"O MEMORY! THOU FOND DECEIVER."

—OLIVER GOLDSMITH, 1764
So I started wondering about how they worked; then I began talking to family members and got interested in how they were remembering.

He was also lucky in finding mentors, first as an undergraduate at Washington & Lee University and then at Yale University, where he received a Ph.D. in 1973. One was Endel Tulving, a renowned memory expert, who now spends two months a year in St. Louis as the Clark Way Harrison Distinguished Visiting Professor of Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience.

"Roddy is a superb scientist and a wonderful human being," says Tulving, who also holds the Tanenbaum Chair in Neuroscience at the Rotman Research Institute of Baycrest Centre in Toronto. "He is one of the world leaders in cognitive psychology, especially memory, and has made many momentous contributions to our understanding of it."

All these forces nudged Roediger toward the study of memory. To most of us, memory seems to be a single capacity, yet it has many aspects: episodic memory for specific incidents; procedural memory for skilled behaviors; semantic memory for facts or knowledge about the world; short-term memory for recent events; and long-term memory for the more distant past.

"Memory involves the effects of past experiences on the nervous system," says Roediger. "For example, after every conversation I have with someone, we are both slightly different people, because we have learned new things that slightly change our nervous systems by creating memory 'traces' in the brain. To convert that stored information into a memory, later, I have to use it or retrieve it."

But memory is not always reliable, because our minds are not like tape recorders making literal transcriptions of everything we see and hear. Rather, memory is shaded by all of our associations and past experiences, and it is sometimes hard to distinguish the unvarnished fact from those surrounding thoughts and inferences.

"Once I had an argument about what a WU Assembly Series speaker said, because I had made one inference and my colleague had made a different one—and probably the speaker had not said either of the things we were attributing to him. But we remember the inferences we make as part of the original event, and it is very hard to separate them," he says.

### Tricks of Memory

Several years ago, Roediger and Kathleen McDermott, WU research assistant professor, developed a clever experiment to see how often test subjects "remembered" a target word—like sleep—after hearing a list of related terms that did not include that word. The results were striking: The illusory memories generated were among the strongest ever reported. Explaining the phenomenon to subjects, and warning them to avoid it, reduced the effect somewhat, but it did not entirely go away.

Roediger is now trying to figure out why this effect exists. Perhaps, he says, this memory illusion is a little like the powerful perceptual illusion he uses to astound his students. He shows them the outline of two boxes, one apparently longer and narrower than the other, then shows that they are, in fact, precisely the same size.
"No matter how many times you have seen this illusion, it still fools you, and the memory illusion seems to work the same way," he says. "You can ameliorate it a little, but it is built into our cognitive system. Every complex event that happens sparks thoughts from our past, so we become confused as to what was actually said and what we may have privately thought. These inferences about events help make us intelligent beings, but they can cause confusion in recounting literal facts of the past."

**Implicit Memories**

Along with false memories, Roediger has also studied implicit memory, the idea that many of the things we do without thinking depend on unconscious expressions of memory. Often when we do something, we are not trying to remember the past, but the effect of past experiences is expressed in our behavior automatically. Implicit memory tests capture this experience in the laboratory.

In one task students are given a list of long, low-frequency words such as *assassin* or *caboose.* Later, one group is told to recall the words when given fragmented cues such as *a_s_s_i_* (an explicit memory test), and a different group is supposed to guess what word might complete the fragment (an implicit memory test). People perform better with words that they have recently seen than for control words, but the manipulation of many experimental factors shows the tests are tapping different processes. That is, varying certain factors can greatly affect performance on the explicit test and leave performance on the implicit test unaffected, whereas other variables produce the opposite outcome.

... Memory is shaded by all of our associations and past experiences, and it is sometimes hard to distinguish the unvarnished fact from those surrounding thoughts and inferences.

**Other Projects**

In some of their studies, Roediger and his colleagues in psychology have teamed with researchers from the University's School of Medicine, which has its own strong researchers in cognitive neuroscience. They have also relied on sophisticated medical tools—particularly the technique of functional magnetic resonance imaging—to study areas of the brain where memories are stored and expressed. They are currently working on an exciting new question: Is it possible to convert neuroimaging techniques into a lie-detection test that is more reliable than the standard polygraph? It will be years before they have a definitive answer, but already an area of the brain called the anterior cingulate seems to be especially sensitive to "response conflict"—when test subjects say "no" but mean "yes."

"Roddy is a rare triple threat," adds James Pomerantz, professor of psychology at Rice University, who first met Roediger as a graduate student. "He is a prolific scholar, a natural leader and teacher, and a thoroughly likable person."

But even a memory expert can be stumped by the routine questions of home life, says Roediger, whose family includes wife Mary and children Kurt, 14, and Rebecca, 13.

"Who said they were going to pick up the kids? Did she tell me we were going out on Saturday night? Every family has those discussions," he says, "People who study memory are no exception."

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Candace O'Connor is a free-lance writer based in St. Louis.
To say that Shirley J. Dyke is a mover and shaker in her field is an understatement—in more ways than one. That’s because Dyke, an assistant professor of civil engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, studies the effect of earthquakes and other events on structures. She is also director of the University’s 3-year-old Structural Control and Earthquake Engineering Laboratory—a laboratory she created.

Earlier this year, Dyke’s research earned her the distinction of being one of 60 young scientists and engineers nationwide to receive the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE). She traveled to Washington, D.C., to accept the award from President Bill Clinton at the White House.

The presidential honor is the highest bestowed by the U.S. government on outstanding young scientists and engineers who are in the early stages of their independent research careers. Dyke and the other awardees will receive up to $500,000 over a five-year period to further their research.

“The award essentially increases my funding by two and a half times,” Dyke says. “It will allow me to branch out in other directions that I may not originally have been able to do, as well as hire a few more research assistants and work on additional projects.”

Dyke will also use the PECASE funding to incorporate her laboratory’s facilities into studies and curriculum to understand the dynamic nature of structures through illustrative experiments, state-of-the-art research projects, and “hands-on” investigation. The goal of Dyke’s research and laboratory is the development of new techniques for controlling buildings to reduce their responses during earthquakes. The image of buildings that were collapsed or pancaked after the August 17, 1999, earthquake in Turkey underscores how important such research is.

“Shirley is a tremendous asset to the Department of Civil Engineering. Her research is highly respected worldwide and has only been enhanced through the construction and implementation of her earthquake engineering laboratory,” says Kevin Truman, chair of the civil engineering department. “Her work is on the cutting edge of research and could soon be implemented for the active control of buildings during seismic events.”

Controlled Response

Yet, for the uninitiated, how does someone in a laboratory go about studying earthquakes’ effects on structures? It all begins, according to Dyke, with a device called a “shake table,” which is an earthquake simulator that measures 5 feet square. The laboratory also has three smaller shake tables. A hydraulic actuator drives the table back and forth and simulates the motion of the ground during an earthquake. Controls allow Dyke and her research assistants to simulate various types of earthquakes.

“Earthquakes have different types of characteristics,” she says. “They can be high frequency, like an impulsive motion, or they can be low frequency, meaning it is like a rolling motion. We’re looking basically at developing some guidelines for building designers to match their buildings with the most effective protective system. We’re also looking at the structural control of bridges.”

Of course, the purpose of the shake table is actually to shake something. Dyke builds scaled-down models of structures to be tested. At the time of this interview, she was testing a 6-story, 6-foot structure. The structure is first shaken without control devices, and data are collected about its response. Then the control devices are installed and made operational, and the structure undergoes another earthquake. By comparing the responses, Dyke is able to assess the control devices’ effectiveness.

The next step would be to build larger-scale structures and test them on larger shake tables.
University's laboratory is not equipped for large-scale testing, but Dyke estimates that there are five large-scale simulators in the United States that can test up to quarter-scale structures. After that level of testing, the control devices could be installed on buildings.

Control devices come in many types. The ones that Dyke is most interested in are damping devices that use magnetorheological (MR) fluids, which have the ability to change from a liquid to a semi-solid state when a magnetic field is applied. These fluids are oil-based and contain very small iron particles. When a magnetic field is applied, interparticle bonds form, and they behave like a solid.

“When I do a demonstration for kids, they typically call it a magic fluid,” Dyke says. “What I am doing is applying different strengths of magnetic fields to the fluid based on the motion of the building and creating a smart shock absorber for a building. Once fully developed, the damping control system should allow us to control that strength and optimally reduce the responses of a building in real time, during an earthquake or high winds, which affect many buildings.”

The notion of using MR dampers is truly innovative. Until recently, buildings were constructed to be stiffer and stronger in order to withstand earthquakes and high winds, whereas Dyke is proposing that they be equipped with smart shock absorbers.

“Getting people, such as building inspectors who are still thinking in terms of the way buildings have been built for the last several centuries, to think in terms of control can be a roadblock in some ways,” she says.

“And MR dampers are innovative materials. They have been used for the last 10 years or so in automobiles and exercise equipment, but in terms of using them on a full-scale building, that makes this research innovative.”

**Structural Dynamics**

As she was growing up, Dyke did not sit around dreaming about studying earthquakes.

“I came to this by accident,” she says.

As an undergraduate at the University of Illinois, she studied aerospace engineering. She became interested in structural dynamics after taking a course in the subject and decided to pursue the field in graduate school. She met a researcher at the University of Notre Dame who was developing a laboratory to study earthquakes and who needed a graduate student to work on a project.

“It seemed really interesting and I said, ‘okay,’” Dyke says. “I fell into it, and I’ve enjoyed it ever since.”

In the United States, only 60 to 70 people are involved in this type of research, with another 60 to 70 in Japan and a few others in Europe, Australia, and South America.

This past summer, Dyke was able to secure a Research Experience for Undergraduates program in civil engineering from the National Science Foundation. Nine undergraduates worked in the civil engineering department performing research full time for 10 weeks.

Mirroring Dyke’s Notre Dame experience, Euridice Oware, a senior in civil engineering, discovered the interesting challenge presented by earthquakes by working as a research assistant to Dyke.

“I had never done anything with earthquakes before,” Oware says. “Now my friends keep telling me I won’t shut up about them. I know now I definitely want to go ahead and get my master’s degree in civil engineering, and I probably will study earthquakes. That’s definitely a change because that was something I never wanted to touch before.”

Another student in the program, Scott Johnson, a junior in civil engineering, also says the study of earthquakes has been helpful. “Studying with Professor Dyke really broadened my perspective on what civil engineers can do. I’ve always been interested in how you could control structures, but working with her has really helped me to understand that area of research.”

**Aftershocks**

Dyke’s research career is certainly on a roll, and she has many more projects planned for the future.

“Eventually, it would be nice to try to implement an MR damper on a full-scale structure. That’s a dream project.”

She’s also interested in investigating “structural health monitoring.” This would involve installing instruments on a building or bridge that monitor in real time what is happening in the structure, identify if any damage occurs, and decide how to respond.

Another project could yield the best aftershocks of all. The three national earthquake centers asked her to lead an effort to form a “University Consortium on Instructional Shake Tables.” The project’s objective is to get benchtop shake tables into engineering classrooms across the country. So far, 28 universities have joined the consortium to purchase the tables, including one from Japan and one from Italy.

“These will be used in classes from the freshman year through graduate school to teach students the fundamentals of structural dynamics and earthquake engineering,” Dyke says. “Eventually, we see this becoming a standard experiment that all universities will use.”

C.B. Adams is a free-lance writer based in St. Louis.

For more information, visit the Structural Control and Earthquake Engineering Laboratory: http://www.seas.wustl.edu/research/quake/
Magical Mentor
David Rubenstein
Guiding Youth to Nature's Wonders
AN ACCOMPLISHED MAGICIAN,
David Rubenstein loves to see youthful eyes light up while he’s performing tricks at children’s birthday parties. Suspending disbelief himself, this former corporate project manager founded an organization that is working wonders in the lives of inner-city teenagers.

A 1979 Washington University graduate, Rubenstein was earning a comfortable income, in both salary and stock options, with MCI in the 1980s. He had launched Vnet, a large corporate network service and MCI’s flagship product at that time. But as his 30th birthday approached 12 years ago, Rubenstein was eager to spend his time helping others.

Today, Rubenstein is executive director of The EnvironMentors Project, a Washington, D.C.-based program that matches mentors—who come from organizations such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), environmental groups, and law firms—with inner-city teens to help them prepare themselves for college and careers, and learn about the environment. The program, which Rubenstein founded seven years ago with his retirement savings, has helped hundreds of kids improve their academic performance while gaining an appreciation for the environment. EnvironMentors counts Vice President Al Gore as its honorary chair and former NFL quarterback Joe Montana as its national spokesperson.

Rubenstein says it took him a few years of soul-searching to decide to start EnvironMentors. He says his experiences at Washington University helped forge his interest in public service. While at WU, Rubenstein participated in Student Union Assembly, Congress of the South 40, and KWUR—where he did a rather unusual show: card tricks on the radio.

One transformative experience after college was serving as a Big Brother to a teenager from an inner-city housing project; he calls his Big Brother plaque his most prized possession.

“The lessons I learned as a Big Brother were a motivating force behind the development of EnvironMentors,” Rubenstein says. “I learned that young people in reduced circumstances, especially those with supportive families, are eager to learn from adults from very different backgrounds, but only after mutual trust has been developed. I also learned that those who give their time, attention, and energy to others almost always get more back than they have given.”

Then, a life-altering event took place in 1990. On a date with Gueta Mezzetti, who since became his wife, Rubenstein attended a symposium on climate change, hosted by the Environmental Energy and Study Institute. After hearing then-Sen. Gore and the late Sen. John Heinz of Pennsylvania speak, Rubenstein was inspired. He left MCI that year to work for the environmental group Green Seal, taking a 41 percent pay cut. His job was to raise money from major donors, but Rubenstein left in 1991, because, as he put it, he wasn’t very good at it.

After a month of unemployment, Rubenstein founded EnvironMentors. He says the early years were extremely difficult: “My wife and I decided I could work for six months on our savings. However, it was two years before I drew a salary. Even after that, I loaned money to the organization.” (In fact, EnvironMentors still owes him a substantial amount of money.)

In the meantime, the stock market was booming, and MCI stock tripled in value. “Without a doubt, I would now have abundant assets had I stayed at MCI,” says Rubenstein, who got his undergraduate degree in economics. “But I have never looked back, wondering if I did the wrong thing by changing my focus.”

Over the years, he and his wife have had some “exciting conversations” about whether he should continue the effort. “In the beginning, she wasn’t as convinced as I was that it was a good idea. She was less comfortable with the amount of energy and finances we were putting into the program. Yet it was her financial and emotional support that made the program’s successes possible.”

In the early days, the organization struggled to meet payroll. But as the program grew, it started receiving more attention, which eventually translated into Rubenstein’s securing more money for operating costs. The Washington
Post profiled EnvironMentors in 1996. Dorothy McSweeney, a board member and friend of Gore’s, told the vice president about it, and he offered to lend his name to the effort. Former FBI director William S. Sessions and former EPA administrator William Reilly also serve on the board.

Family connections helped as well. Rubenstein’s brother-in-law, Rob Mezzetti, is Joe Montana’s lawyer, and the famed NFL quarterback learned of the program during a visit to Washington four years ago.

“He [Joe Montana] and his wife volunteered independently of one another to help,” Rubenstein recalls. “I asked him to be our national spokesperson.”

Montana compares the program’s mentoring philosophy to the kind of personal attention he received from San Francisco 49ers coach Bill Walsh. “One-on-one coaching is a highly effective way to give teenagers the tools they need for a lifetime of success,” Montana says.

Gore says EnvironMentors reinforces many of the Clinton Administration’s goals, such as environmental protection, environmental justice, minority economic opportunity, and volunteerism.

“I would like to see this program available to every high school student in America,” Gore says.

For the 1999-2000 program, 225 students and 225 mentors are spending two hours a week together on projects. Past projects have included studies of drinking water in Washington, D.C., wetlands loss and its effects on migratory bird populations, and water pollution. At the end of each school year, a science fair is held, and winners receive scholarships of a few hundred dollars each.

“This program, urban teenagers improve things for themselves by improving the environment,” Rubenstein says. “By heightening teenagers’ sensitivities to their surroundings, the program helps prepare them to do better in school and, I hope, helps open career possibilities in environmental protection.”

Rubenstein, 42, is not a pie-in-the-sky idealist, however. He’s frank in describing the program’s shortcomings.

“Some relationships don’t work out. Many mentors feel they’re doing the kids a big favor. Some have a ‘savior mentality,’” he says. “However, most do a wonderful job.”

“Yet about 20 percent of the students drop out of the program in the last three weeks each year. Students fall behind in their work, the weather gets nice … Sadly, that goes with the territory,” he says.

Rubenstein’s commitment to improving the lives of teenagers is not daunted by these statistics, and because of his persistence, he was chosen a 1999 Washingtonian of the Year. As executive director, he is continually raising funds to support the program. Among the grants EnvironMentors has received in recent years are $45,000 from the Heinz Family Foundation; $40,000 from AT&T; and the biggest prize, $500,000 from the EPA for the 1998-99 and 1999-2000 years. The EPA grant was originally secured with the help of Sens. Christopher S. Bond (R-Mo.) and Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.). In the fall of 1999, the EPA awarded EnvironMentors another $500,000 grant for future operating expenses.

EnvironMentors now operates in five cities—Washington, D.C.; Baltimore; Princeton and Trenton, New Jersey; and St. Louis. These programs will ultimately be self-sufficient, rather than part of a national organization, Rubenstein says.

“Our goal is to help each city community take responsibility for its own program,” he says.

William H. Danforth, Washington University’s chancellor emeritus, former chairman of the Board of Trustees, and now vice chairman of the Board, is on the steering committee for the St. Louis program.

“I like the idea of the program, but I’m also very impressed with David,” Danforth says. “He has done a wonderful job of developing and leading EnvironMentors.”

Danforth remembers Rubenstein from his time on the campus in the 1970s and has kept in touch with him ever since. Rubenstein remembers Danforth encouraging him in the late ‘80s to pursue nonprofit work.

“David has a lot of enthusiasm; he has done something quite selfless to help children,” Danforth says.

Danforth, who has remained in contact with many alumni, continues, “I can’t think of anyone else who has used his business savings to start a new nonprofit venture. David is helping make the world a better place.”

David Rubenstein (left) discusses tree growth patterns and other park wildlife with students from Calvin Coolidge Senior High School at Rock Creek Park in Washington, D.C.

Frederic J. Frommer is a fre­lan­ce writer based in Washington, D.C.
"We enjoy helping people relax and explore the outdoors."
Mary Jacques and Jay Burgin have built a dream destination at Five Rivers Lodge, where caring for their guests is the rule of the house.

BY TERESA A. NAPPIER

IN MONTANA, between the first territorial capital of Bannack and the second territorial capital of Virginia City, along the Lewis and Clark Trail as well as the Vigilante Trail, lies a place where outdoor dreams come true.

Here rivers dance: They cascade down mountainsides, flow through valleys, and help create lakes and ponds as they pass on their way to the ocean. Just above sand and rock bottoms rich with aquatic insects, the rivers teem with other life—brookies, browns, cutthroats, graylings, and rainbows. Outside of Dillon, Montana, rainbows and other treasures are more precious than gold.

Tucked on 21 acres under a canopy of never-ending sky, a place exists for those who need rejuvenation, inspiration, or motivation. Hospitality is paramount. In the heart of this high mountain desert of the Beaverhead Valley, surrounded by mountains, is Five Rivers Lodge. The mission of owners Mary Jacques and Jay Burgin is to provide a destination like no other.

"We enjoy helping people relax and explore the outdoors," says Jacques. "We offer guests a time for rejuvenation, reflection—a time to look at themselves, where they've been, and where they're going." And great fishing ...

Built by Jacques and Burgin in 1987, Five Rivers Lodge is a 32,000-square-foot home-away-from-home. "We started with a 2,700-square-foot abandoned house and designed the lodge to be like a place we would want to go to if we were on a holiday," she says.

The lodge is nestled among the Beaverhead, the Big Hole, the Jefferson, the Red Rock, and the Ruby rivers. Two acres of privately stocked water are also on the property. The trout fishing is excellent: daily catches of 8 to 10 browns more than 20" long are common.

While guests come for the fishing, they also come for day trips on horseback, scenic river floats, photography or reading tours of the area, golf, and digging for crystals, garnets, gold, and sapphires. Wildlife is abundant: bluebirds, eagles, great horned owls, sandhill cranes, beavers, foxes, antelope, deer, elk, and moose. Visitors also come for the gourmet food—made to order by trained chefs—open gathering areas, king-bed suites, the 10,000-volume library, photography darkroom, and front decks with the best sunsets in the West.

"We host corporate meetings, families on vacation, friends, and individuals—many have become very dear to us. Most of our business is return guests and referrals," Jacques says. "We have medical/dental seminars, board meetings, photography seminars, and writing seminars. Throughout the year, we also host special weeks—learn-to-fly-fish weeks and winetasting weeks, for example. Whatever our guests need or want, we try to provide."
Mary Jacques, M.S.W. '67, Ph.D. '71, and husband Jay Burgin have built a 32,000-square-foot lodge in Dillon, Montana, where they offer guests unparalleled scenery, gourmet food, camaraderie, and great fishing.

Mary Jacques is used to meeting the needs of others—she has built her life around service. After graduating from the University of Missouri at Columbia with a bachelor's degree in secondary education, she held several positions at the St. Louis State Hospital. She served as secretary to the clinical director of the Youth Center, as an educational therapist, and as head of the Youth Center's educational therapy department. She continued to work there as a psychiatric social worker while completing her graduate work at Washington University, obtaining a Master of Social Work in 1967 and a Ph.D. in 1971.

Leaving St. Louis in 1970, Jacques went to the State University of New York at Albany to head the research component of the graduate social work program. Later at the University of Cincinnati from 1973 to 1978, she headed the research component in social work, served as an interim dean for the College of Community Services, and served as acting associate graduate dean for interdisciplinary studies. Beckoned west, she moved to San Francisco in 1978 and founded an organizational and management development consulting business, helping corporations reduce stress in the workplace.

In 1980, Jacques began her studies to become an Episcopal priest. She served as lay vicar at The Good Shepherd Episcopal Mission Parish in Fort Hall, Idaho, and earned a Master of Divinity from Church Divinity School of the Pacific, in Berkeley, California, in 1984. She then moved to southwestern Montana to serve several congregations as the Episcopal priest and rector.

"In California, Idaho, and Montana, I sought to help people define their own ministries and carry out these ministries within the community. In Montana, I worked with people within an area of 15,000 square miles. In a large rural area, everyone has to relate to everybody else's needs. I wanted to nurture what people were already doing and to offer them professional support in taking care of themselves and in relating to each other.

"I have done many things and had responsibilities in many positions," she says. "What I'm doing now at Five Rivers Lodge—as well as in my writing and in my photography—is an integration of everything that has come before, rather than a radical departure.

"Jay and I built the lodge to support our ministry in the community. We also created the lodge to say: 'This is part of who we are as a couple,'" she says. "The lodge offers us a way to express our spirituality and to build kinship with people."

Five Rivers Lodge is far from a religious retreat, however. "We certainly don't want people to think they have to be church people to come here," she says. "We don't want them to feel inhibited in any way—we want them to feel comfortable and to have fun.

"We enjoy a rich microculture among our guests: People learn from each other and experience many different aspects of life they possibly can't, or don't, experience in their everyday world," she says. "This helps them re-create, re-think, re-image who they are, where they've been, and where they want to go. At the same time, they are refreshed and rejuvenated."

And landing a 24-inch rainbow is refreshing indeed—a dream and a possibility. Jacques and Burgin contract with an outfitter and 18 talented, patient guides who teach guests about nature, fly fishing, and catching "the big one." Jacques and Burgin also help protect the blue-ribbon rivers and spring creeks from over-fishing with a catch-and-release policy, which helps stabilize the fish population.

Much like the rivers she loves, shares, and helps protect, Jacques has seen her life bend and twist, yet integrate all she has picked up along the way.
"We offer guests a time for rejuvenation, reflection."
Ted Feierabend grew up in India with his missionary parents. His mother was a nurse, so they brought medication as well as ministry to India's villages. "As I watched the terrible needs of the people there and saw that this was the only medical service they had, I realized what I wanted to do," Feierabend says. "I wanted to go back to rural India or a Third World country and serve as a doctor."

In 1943, with this goal in mind, Feierabend returned to the United States. After continuing undergraduate work at Elmhurst College (where he met his future wife, who was the campus nurse and a fellow student) and serving two years in the Philippines and Japan at the end of World War II, he earned his medical degree from Washington University in 1951.

Feierabend fondly remembers Dean Robert Moore and his Washington U. professors. "Their teaching philosophy was an inspiration to me. Several of us were struggling, and the School did everything it could, providing special tutorials and the like, to help us through."

Feierabend adds, "Dean Moore thought we [members of the class] were all crazy. We wanted to start practicing medicine right after our internships. He said we should pursue some specialty, but this was right after World War II, and we wanted to get out and get to work."

After a one-year internship at St. Louis' Deaconess Hospital, Feierabend and his wife returned to central India, where the United Church of Christ stationed them at a mission hospital with a nursing school in Tilda.

"The first night I was on call," Feierabend remembers, "a pregnant woman was delivering a baby with a prolapsed arm. I'd learned about such deliveries, but I'd never seen them done. I managed, though, thanks to my Washington University training."

That case and others like it prompted Feierabend to show interest in obstetrics. "Ninety percent of the pregnancies we saw were abnormal cases. I decided we needed to change that." Among other things, Feierabend stressed more prenatal and postnatal care. Women started visiting the mission hospital earlier in their pregnancies, and the number of difficult deliveries declined.

After four years in his post, Feierabend decided Dean Moore was right after all. He returned to the United States to take a three-year residency in general surgery at St. Louis County Hospital.

In 1959, he returned to central India for another term of missionary service and in 1963 joined the faculty of Christian Medical College in Ludhiana in northern India. The college needed a specialist in reconstructive plastic
surgery, so Feierabend undertook a second residency—this one at the University of Wisconsin.

Upon returning to Ludhiana, he used his new skills to establish a burn unit at Christian Medical College, the first such unit in the state of Punjab. It has gone on to become the best burn unit in India.

Not everyone had access to the unit, though, so Feierabend also helped develop burn treatment techniques for distant villages. “We designed a [chemical] formula that corrected the early shock and acidosis caused by burns,” he explains. The doctors took this formula with them into the villages, where they could use it to treat burns even without access to monitors and other sophisticated laboratory equipment.

Working with burn victims wasn’t always easy, even when equipment was available. Feierabend’s first reconstruction patient was a woman who had fallen face-first into a charcoal brazier while having an epileptic seizure. The burn wasn’t life threatening, but it was severely disfiguring and had gone untreated for a year. The woman’s nose, eyelids, and lips had all been burned away, and she had unhealed open wounds. “I almost turned around and went home after seeing her,” Feierabend admits. Instead, he and his resident trainees spent six months reconstructing her face, so that she once more had a nose and could close her eyes and mouth.

Since Feierabend was a missionary, religious ministry was always a component of his medical work. “In the course of treating patients, we also talked about Christ and shared the Gospel,” he explains. “We believed in a holistic approach. We reached out to people not only spiritually but also [tended] to their physical and social needs.”

Feierabend spent 19 years at Christian Medical College. He not only established the burn unit, but he also created a department of reconstructive plastic surgery and trained seven surgeons in the specialty. “Teaching was the way we could reach the most people. Our motto at the Christian Medical College was ‘training hundreds to treat millions.’” One of his trainees is now head of the department and principal of the Medical College.

In 1986, Feierabend left India to continue his missionary work farther north, in Kabul, Afghanistan. There, he worked for the International Assistance Mission, an interdenominational Christian group.

In Afghanistan, he faced new challenges. “They had very little in Afghanistan, just the remains of a good medical system that was built by the Shah in the ’60s.” When Feierabend arrived, the Shah had long since been overthrown, and the country was under communist rule.

“The equipment was wearing out, and there was no maintenance available. The doctors were well-trained, but they were really struggling.”

In Kabul, as in Ludhiana, Feierabend put much of his energy into teaching. He told representatives from the Department of Health, “You can give me an operating room, and I can take care of a few patients; then when I say goodbye, you won’t know the difference. But if you give me one of your doctors to train, there will be some lasting benefit.”

Feierabend trained two Afghan plastic surgeons, both of whom worked in the country for some time before they were forced to flee as refugees, as the political system changed from one ideology to another.

In 1989 Feierabend retired, returned to the United States, and settled in Madison, Wisconsin. He now pursues volunteer work at one of Madison’s public housing projects, where he helps provide both social and worship services. He says it’s impossible to compare working in the United States to working in India or Afghanistan. “Our poverty levels would be upper middle class over there,” he says, then adds, “but people are hurting here, too, at all levels. We’ve lost so much of the meaningfulness of life in our quest for wealth and comfort and enjoyment.”

Feierabend advises medical students and others considering service-oriented careers to “go for it.” He says, “The opportunity to see real needs and meet them is very life-enriching.

“You have a chance to change people’s lives for the better. That’s what makes it all worthwhile.”

Janni Simner, A.B. ’89, is a freelance writer based in Tucson, Arizona.

“Feierabend’s parents set a lifelong example of compassionate care. Above: Marie Feierabend examines patients during a tour of India.”
Tom Green grew up wanting to be a lawyer, although no member of his family had ever even gone to college. When he set off for the University of Illinois in the fall of 1952, he had a notion that he would become a lawyer in six years. "I was going to devote three years to undergraduate school and then three years to law school," he says.

And he did exactly that. With one false start before settling on an accounting major, he earned his B.S. degree with honors in 1955. Then he returned to his hometown of St. Louis to study law at Washington University, getting his degree in 1958.

Compressing his undergraduate schedule meant going to summer school and taking extra courses. It also meant, he now recalls, an almost nonexistent social life. By contrast, the usual rigors of law school still allowed him time to become part of the law school community. "I remember many of my law professors—like Frank Miller who taught criminal law and Wendell Carnahan who taught property—very clearly, while I remember almost none of my undergraduate professors," he says.

"You remember things in your life according to how they affected you, and I think the sense of camaraderie among the students and the professors gave me a really strong feeling for Washington University."

"I really felt that law school was a defining moment in my life," he says.

"Many of the friends I made there are still my friends ..."
an innate shrewdness and a sense of the possibilities that have allowed him to make the best of any situation. While making a name in real estate development, his “good fortune,” he says, led him into some other investments. “I started a bank with some others. I also started an insurance company during that time,” he says. “Today, it’s a fair-sized company.”

Green is president and majority stockholder of the “fair-sized” National States Insurance Company, which offers life and health coverage, and he is founder, director, and majority stockholder of Royal Bancshares Holding Company, which has six locations in the St. Louis area. He continues to practice law and to manage his property holdings in St. Louis and around the country.

The success he has enjoyed, in his eyes, carries with it a responsibility to give back to the community and the institutions that have helped him. “I’ve been very active in Jewish charities for the last 30 years,” he says. “I’ve served in almost every capacity locally, nationally, and internationally.” His leadership has benefited the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, the Council of Jewish Federations, the United Jewish Appeal, the United Israel Appeal, and the Jerusalem Foundation. He chaired the committee to build the Holocaust Museum in St. Louis and was its first chairman. He received the David N. Grossberg Leadership Award in 1977, the National Conference Brotherhood Award in 1988, and the Israel Peace Medal in 1989. He has also been active in many other civic and community organizations.

A former assistant attorney general of Missouri, he is active in state and national politics. He was co-chair of the Honorary Inaugural Committee for the 1997 Missouri Inauguration of Gov. Mel Carnahan and the other statewide office holders. He is a member of the Academy of Missouri Squires and serves on the board of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

His charitable and volunteer efforts carry over equally to Washington University. “I have a strong feeling that I should give back to the school for all it’s done for me,” he says. A member of the Order of the Coif, he serves on the National Council for the School of Law, and he received the Distinguished Law Alumni Award in 1995. As a member of the Executive Committee of the School’s Building for a New Century campaign, Green chaired the successful effort to raise the matching funds needed to meet the Kresge Challenge, and he regards with pride the campaign’s main accomplishment: the law school’s new home, Anheuser-Busch Hall.

Green’s commitment to the School and its students has a practical side. “I paid my own way, but tuition was only about $300 a semester then. By the time my daughter enrolled, tuition was about $11,000. [Green is married to Karole, and they have three children, Thomas R. Green, Jr., Linda Renner, and Katherine Weber, and five grandchildren.] And today ... well, there’s no way students can pay their own way through undergraduate school and professional school without ending up under a tremendous debt.

“That debt load keeps today’s graduates from going into independent practice and any kind of public service law. It changes the whole profession. They just can’t pay off that debt and start careers and families without the large salaries that major firms offer. I think that’s why those of us who were lucky, who enjoyed the great opportunities, have an obligation to help offset that debt.”

With more alumni like Tom Green in their corner, today’s law students might well find that good luck is catching. —John W. Hansford
Setting “Sites” on Online Connections with Alums

At first glance, you might think this year’s Alumni Board of Governors (ABG) line-up has a rookie at the helm.

After all, Tom Lowther just got his M.L.A. in May, a mere two weeks before he was elected ABG chair.

He’s certainly the most promising kind of rookie, though: alert, keenly intelligent, persistent, energetic, hard-working—he’s even been described in print as a Renaissance man for his diverse interests and activities.

But wait a minute! The “rookie” is no rookie at all.

Lowther—a veteran member of the Executive Committee of The Stolar Partnership, a St. Louis law firm—is also a 1962 graduate of the School of Law, with a record a mile-make that two miles—long as a WU volunteer and supporter.

Furthermore, he’s served several terms on the ABG Executive Committee.

To refresh your memory, the Alumni Board of Governors governs all those programs and events WU volunteers carry out around the world. It’s also charged with providing WU’s administration “with input about activities and programs for all alumni.”

With a university and an alumni association that has gone global in a big way, that’s an ever-expanding job.

Surveying Alumni Use of Technology

Not only is Lowther no rookie, he’s also hit the ground running as ABG chair when it comes to the “with input” part of the charge. He thinks of his year as ABG chair as an effort to further strengthen ties between alumni and the University by finding out what services WU alumni would like from WU and—here’s his mission—how to utilize modern technology to provide them.

You see, while still ABG vice chair for alumni activities, Lowther (also known as tel@stolariaw.com) had asked Laura Ponte, assistant vice chancellor and director for alumni relations (also known, Lowther says, as the “strong right arm of the alumni,” as well as laura.ponte@notes.wustl.edu), to help him form a group of WU alums to brainstorm technology, WKU, and themselves.

He wasn’t interested in assembling a group of wonks, he says, but rather in recruiting alums who were Internet users and who could express alumni viewpoints—not as the producers of the internet, but as its users.

“We wanted representatives from each of the schools and from various constituencies, such as the Young Alumni. Laura solicited ideas from these groups and fielded their suggestions—then we e-mailed them and said: Are you willing to work with us? If you are, e-mail us back.”

“Before you knew it,” he says, “they ultimately a group of 14-15 scattered all over the United States, including St. Louis] were all enthusiastically involved in the Technology Committee. “We set up a meeting here late one afternoon for people who could attend. For those who couldn’t—who were in other parts of the country—we arranged a teleconference.

“We then sent a report of it out, so those who attended, in person or by teleconference, could add anything important that they thought we had missed, and so that those who couldn’t attend could ask questions.”

The group has generated many online ideas, ranging from shopping for WU merchandise [now possible for WU alumni and friends through the Alumni Relations web page] to making or renewing an Annual Fund gift [in the works for WU alums and friends].

To make sure that future contents reflect alumni preferences, the Alumni Association gave alums a chance to express their preferences by filling out a “Survey on Alumni Use of Technology”—online, of course.

The Alumni Association plans to use survey results as a basis for recommendations they make to the ABG which, in turn, will formally communicate the cyberneeds of alums to the WU administration.

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The Alumni Board of Governors chair and executive vice chair also serve as alumni representatives to the Board of Trustees.
By the way, the Technology Committee is ongoing, and Lowther welcomes input from anyone anywhere in the world. Just e-mail him or Laura Ponte.

The Renaissance man knows personally how valuable a tool the Internet can be. He uses e-mail constantly in his work and other activities (as do many alums), and he keeps track of how universities use their Web sites—while even while he was camping on Crete this past summer.

His Master of Liberal Arts degree incorporated his strong interest in archaeology, particularly that of the eastern Mediterranean, and he has several times worked in the region as a volunteer on an archaeological site.

Last July, on a project led by a professor from the University of Hawaii with, Lowther says, "teachers from all over the place," one of the resources "was a Web site that Dartmouth maintains on the Minoan culture that's almost like a full class. It's a great tool!" (See for yourself—http://devlab.dartmouth.edu/history/bronze_age.)

"It made me think of Washington University's resources and how they might be shared over the Internet." He also quizzed the participating teachers on how their schools were using the Internet to keep in contact with alumni and students.

"There are so many possibilities!" he says.

TIES THAT BIND TO THE SCHOOL OF LAW

Lowther's sortie into cyberspace is just the latest of his efforts on behalf of Washington University.

A longtime member and past president of the WU Law Alumni Association Executive Committee, he serves on the School of Law National Council and was also a key player in the School's Building for a New Century campaign, which resulted in the construction of state-of-the-art Anheuser-Busch Hall.

In fact, the law school values him so highly that it presented him with a Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1997, which he cherishes, he says, as a "great, great honor."

He and his wife, Lois, have sponsored a Scholar in Law each year for many years. That's something that's very important to him and a tie that binds him close to WU.

He says: "In my case, the opportunity for my legal education—in fact, for all my college education—was provided by others through scholarships."

SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE BACK

Lowther goes on to emphasize a favorite theme: "Opportunity does knock twice. For people who get scholarship aid, as I did, we receive an opportunity that we would not otherwise have had. Now as we advance in our careers, we have a second opportunity, and that's the opportunity to pay back.

"Lots of us have had aid in one form or another. Even absent aid, we must recognize that the cost of a Washington University education is not covered by the tuition that's paid, that there's always some cost that's absorbed by the University out of endowment and other funds. So giving back is important."

During the law school campaign, he and Lois doubled the size of the scholarship they sponsor when then-Dean Dan Ellis suggested that $5,000 a year for three years might be a crucial recruiting tool for a desirable law school candidate.

Who knows? The Lowther Scholarship might just recruit another one of those resourceful Renaissance rookies.

—M.M. Costantin
A.E. Hotchner, LA 40, LW 40, School of Public Health of the SW 42, report that they "have Mary Eimer Ettinger, LA 34, season; performances ran from Company for its 30th anniversary anniversary with family and Dependency in Health Care and 38 WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WINTER 1999 is composer of the book and MD 43, was awarded the 1999 American Urological Association honored in April 1999 by the University of North Carolina at professorship was titled "Code- March through May. GB Grad. Business EN Engineering GR Grad. Arts & Sciences SW Social Work they want to hear about promotions, honors, appointments, travels, marriages (please report marriages after the fact), and births so we can keep your classmates informed about important changes in your lives.

ALUMNI CODES


Mary Eimer Ettinger, LA 34, writes that she is "still composing and writing memoirs and providing musical programs in nursing homes and other civic facilities." Milton Goldstein, LA 35, GR 36, and Merle Goldstein, LA 40, SW 42, report that they "have recently celebrated our 50th anniversary with family and friends. We feel very blessed!"

A.E. Hotchner, LA 40, LW 40, is composer of the book and co-lyricist for the musical comedy Exactly Like You (with music and additional lyrics by Cy Coleman), produced by the York Theatre Company for its 30th anniversary season; performances ran from March through May.

Vergil N. Slei, MD 41, was honored in April 1999 by the School of Public Health of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with the establishment of the Vergil N. Slei Distinguished Professorship of Healthcare Quality Management. His address at the celebration establishing the professorship was titled "Code-Dependency in Health Care and a Cure."

Harry F. Lichtwardt, MD 43, was awarded the 1999 American Urological Association Certificate of Achievement in recognition of his service to the association as historian. Mark Adolphus, BU 46, is semi-retired from real estate developing and investing in St. Louis; Illinois; Ft. Myers, Fla.; Des Moines, Iowa; and Bozeman, Mont.

Wilbur H. Eckstein, BU 47, retired six years ago from the box and paper company he owned. (He sold the company in 1994.) He spends winters "in Longboat Key, Fla., playing as much golf as is physically possible."

Art Greiner, LA 48, and wife Suzanne celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in November 1998. They also welcomed their 18th grandchild and first great-grandchild in 1999.

Andrew Bennett, BU 49, was one of 13 U.S. artists selected by the White House Historical Association and WRE/AMI of Greensboro, N.C., to have work included in the White House Year 2001 fine art calendar. Their commissioned artwork will be featured in the commemorative calendar and will become part of a permanent exhibit. Bennett was selected to represent Illinois among states admitted to the union between 1791 and 1836, which make up the states participating in this second in the series of four calendars honoring the White House.

Oliver A. Vordtiede, EN 49, and wife Barbara (Clegg), LA 49, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 10, 1999. They live in St. Louis.

James R. Pettus, LA 50, was elected national president-elect of the 2,000-member Board of Veterans Division Veterans Association. His term runs from July 2000 to July 2001.

Joseph D. Patterson, DE 52, was honored by Ouachita Baptist University, where he did his undergraduate work, with an honorary doctor of science degree in May 1999. He has taken several students from both OBU and WU as his guests when he does volunteer dentistry in Africa or South America.

Ray Grimm, FA 53, and Jere Grimm, FA 53, spent two months in France, drawing and working in Potter's Studio. Jere is vice president of the board of the Contemporary Crafts Gallery, a 60-year-old educational nonprofit gallery with a new craft museum in Portland, Ore.

James Findlay, GR 54, retired as professor of history at the University of Rhode Island, in Kingston, R.I., in May 1999. His wife, Doris Wylder Findlay, LA 53, also retired from her career as a community mental health clinician and administrator. From 1997 to 1999, James was the Orpheus Laslo Distinguished Chair of American Studies at Kossuth Lajos University, in Debrecen, Hungary. Marshall Ocker, LA 54, has had several musical compositions performed at the Kennedy Center in New York City and in the Czech Republic. His orchestral and chamber works have been recorded on the Vienna Modern Masters label.

Richard Askey, LA 55, was elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences; he is the Gabor Szegio Professor of Mathematics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Edie (Gould) Brown, BU 56, reports that she "joined the WU trip to Norway and the White Sea of Russia for a most interesting experience and two weeks of light."

Ronald Goldenberg, LA 56, GR 56, retired from Eastern Michigan University as dean of graduate studies and research. He is active in the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, serving as public education officer and boat coxswain for safety and search-and-rescue operations. He serves on the boards of directors of the Palmetto Hall Plantation Security Committee and Congregation Beth Yam. W. Royce Adams, LA 57, is an emeritus professor of English at Santa Barbara City College; he published 21 college textbooks during his teaching career and is now writing juvenile fiction. Rairarubia, the first book in his Rairarubia Tales, was just published, he reports.

Wally Bentrup, EN 57, retired from Boeing (i.e., McDonnell Douglas), "he says in December 1997. He says he is "enjoying five golf, tennis, and volun-teering at church and with Habitat for Humanity and as an AARP tax aide."

Quentin Goodrich, SW 58, is semi-retired but still self-employed as a tax preparer. He is president of the board of directors of the Jefferson County (Mo.) Mental Health Center and assistant district governor for the Rotary District 5020.

John S. Spratt, HS 59, is professor of surgery and health systems at Brown Cancer Center at the University of Louisville, Ky. He gave an invited lecture, "The Breast Surgeon's Perspective of Treatment and Diagnosis," at the annual meeting of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America in July in San Francisco.

R. Charles Stevens, EN 60, is author of Letters from Vietnam, a personal account of his time in Vietnam from 1962 to 1964. He lives in Des Peres, Mo.

David Morris, EN 61, SI 61, retired in April 1999, from his work in research and development engineering with Monsanto (now Solvita). He is a chapter leader for The Compassionate Friends (Personnel [Fa]), a support group for people who have lost a child. Dave and wife Marcia have a daughter, Wendy, who lives in Tennessee. Their daughter Susan was murdered in 1993.

Dick Reeves, EN 62, SI 63, writes, "One of the best pictures I ever had taken was of my wife, Nancy, and myself with a cake at Boeing Aircraft. Words on the cake read 'Congratulations on your retirement, Dick.' I was a metallurgical engineer in failure analysis at Boeing; I examined failed aircraft parts to determine the mode of failure. I also taught at the University of Wisconsin. 'The strain in the grain lies mainly on the plane,' and may all our mattresses, as in steel, be tempered." He lives in Kirkwood, Mo.

Sybil Boyer Winkelman, UC 62, reports that her granddaughter, Stacie Jill Alvin, is a secretary/receptionist in the chemistry department at Washington U., and that Stacie "hopes to attend classes at the University in the future."

Michael C. Manion, EN 63, is president of Partners in Management, a Nevada based project management firm. He is married and has six children, including twins. He is still flying airplanes, riding motorcycles, and playing Dixieland trombone and bass.

Nathan F. Williams, Jr., EN 63, retired in April 1999, from TDS Telecom as assistant vice president, after 28 years with the company.

Blair Bolles, LA 64, has an MS in natural resources and works for Findlay: How a Poet, a Professor, and a Politician Discovered the Ice Age (Counterpoint Press, December

Shirley Cleary, FA 64, and Marshall Bloom, LA 67, MD 71, have both received awards for their efforts toward trout conservation in Montana and on a national level. Shirley received the 1999 National Trout Conservation Award in communications from Trout Unlimited at its annual convention in Colorado. Marshall received the Outstanding Citizen Wildlife Contributor Award for 1999 from the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Donald R. Duncan, LW 64, was elected chair of the William Jewell College Board of Trustees. He is an attorney in Springfield, Mo. In 1998, Dr. Duncan, HA 64, was awarded honorary membership in the Mississippi Hospital Association during the 68th Annual Leadership Conference, held in June at Beloit, Miss. He retired in May 1998 as CEO of Singing River Hospital System, in Pascagoula.

Richard V.E. Lovelace, LA 64, is professor of applied physics and astronomy at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.; he was appointed the Orson Anderson Distinguished Scholar for fall 1999 by the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics of the Earth and Environmental Division at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Ruth Reko, SW 64, received a PhD in organization development in June 1999 from the Union Institute, in Cincinnati, Ohio. She is director of leadership development for Lutheran Services in America, in Chicago.

Terence E. Block, GB 73, is president of Trivers Associates. He was selected as president-elect of the National Repertory Orchestra, which comprises 85 pre-professional musicians from schools such as Juilliard, the New England Conservatory of Music, and the Eastman School of Music. He lives in Denver, Colo., and operates his own consulting business. He also is a doctoral candidate at the University of Denver, and she is involved with fundraising for the Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado.

Edward J. Hoffman, GR 71, is professor of pharmacology and radiology and director of the UCLA Biomedical Physics Interdepartmental Graduate Program. He also has been elected a fellow of the IEEE.

Bonnie M. Orkow, SW 70, was selected as president-elect of the National Repertory Orchestra, which comprises 85 pre-professional musicians from schools such as Juilliard, the New England Conservatory of Music, and the Eastman School of Music. She lives in Richmond, Calif., with wife Fieomea and their daughter and son. He also has three adult children.

Gary Ashby, SW 71, was appointed director for the Restorative Justice Ministry of the Diocese of Lansing, Mich.

Bob Enge, LA 71, was promoted to director, environment, safety, and health, at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). He is director of Battelle Memorial Institute for the Department of Energy.

Edward J. Hoffman, GR 71, is professor of pharmacology and radiology and director of the UCLA Biomedical Physics Interdepartmental Graduate Program. He also has been elected a fellow of the IEEE.

Fortune 500! James Shearer (c), M.Arch. ‘98, became part of baseball history when St. Louis Cardinal first baseman and home-run king Mark McGwire slammed his 500th career home run out of the park and into Shearers' waiting hands at the Cardinals’ August 5 game at Busch Stadium. Shearer, a project designer at Trivers Associates architecture firm, is pictured with School of Architecture Dean Cynthia Weese (l), B.S.A.S. ‘62, B.Arch. ‘63, and alumnus Andrew Miers, M.A.U.D. ‘73, president of Trivers Associates.
Chesia Thompson Cager, LA 73, GR 75, received an Individual Artist Award in Poetry for 1999 from the Maryland State Arts Council, in Baltimore. She also was curator of "Through the Fire to the Limit: African-American Artists in Maryland," part of the Celebration of the Arts in Maryland initiative.

Daniel Kolb, LA 73, is a faculty member of St. John's College, in Annapolis, MD.

Edward Kovnar, EN 73, MD 77, is associate professor of neurology and pediatrics and division chief of pediatric neurology at the Medical College of Wisconsin, in Milwaukee. He is listed in the Best Doctors in America for 1994 and 1998. He remarried in January 1999, and had a son to marry in May 1999. His daughter, Sarah, hopes to enter WU in 2000.

W.H. Leutzinger, UC 73, was promoted in January 1999 to district sales manager for Attachment Corporation, in Cincinnati.

Madge Stewart Willner, FA 73, had some of her art work on display at Kathryn Markel Fine Arts, in New York City. She is married and has two sons, David, 15, and Jacob, 7.

Thomas C. Bailey, GR 74, was named associate vice president for academic affairs by the Western Michigan University board of trustees in June.

Donald R. Green, LA 74, SI 78, SI 81, presents wireless technologies at DENSO International, in Carlshbad, Calif. He has lived there for seven years with wife Betty, son Adam, 14, and daughter Amanda, 11.

Terry McGeehe, GF 74, is a tenured professor of art at Agnes Scott College, in Atlanta.

Debra Nazar, LA 74, was appointed to the Adult Assoziation Board of Regents of Long Island College Hospital in fall 1998. She assisted with the formation of "Court School" for child witnesses in the New York State Supreme Court. She also was appointed to the Committee on Judicial Standards and Concerns for the American Judges Association. Debra and husband James C. Nazar live in Brooklyn Heights, N.Y.

Nellie Watkins, UC 74, was awarded the St. Louis-area Parkway School District’s Pillar of Parkway Award in June 1999. She is a librarian at Bellverne Elementary School.

Virginia Waguenell Hitchcock, SW 75, is program director for Family Works, a program sponsored by Keystone Service Systems, Inc., that provides innovative therapeutic foster care/respite care for children with emotional and behavioral disorders.

Michael B. Kinney, LA 75, MD 79, was named president-elect of the American Society for Gas-trointestinal Endoscopy at the organization’s meeting in Orlando, Fla. He is a professor of medicine and assistant chief for clinical affairs for the Division of Gastroenterology at the University of Washington.

Nancy Lowenstein, LA 75, was appointed assistant clinical professor in the occupational therapy department at Boston University’s Sargent College of Rehabilitation and Health Sciences. She is married and has two sons, 10 and 8.

Jeff D. Ginsberg, LA 76, is a pediatric dentist, practicing in Yorktown Heights, N.Y. His wife, Elena Giszang-Ginsberg, is a biology professor. They have two daughters and live in Somers, N.Y. E-mail: jeffgodie@aol.com.

Martha Munneke, GR 76, retired from the Parkway School District and now has an antique shop, Martha’s Marie Antiques, in St. Charles County, near Augusta, Mo.

Barbara Shipper, LA 76, co-owns—with husband Fred Shipper—an accessory company for men, the Nova Collection, based in Dallas. They design and import from Italy men’s belts, socks, suspenders, shirts, formal wear, vests, and neckwear. They have two children: Bradley, 3, and Emily, 2. "The company is only 4-1/2 years old, so we have been very busy," she says.

Gordy Kanofsky, LA 77, is senior vice president of legal affairs for Ameristar Casinos, Inc. He and his family live in Los Angeles.

Tanja Krygiel, SI 77, SI 80, retired in July as special assistant for strategic and scientific studies at the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, headquartered in Bethesda, Md. She was a woman to serve as director of a Department of Defense Combat Support Agency. NIMA awarded her the Distinguished Civilian Service Medal upon her retirement.

Joan Marentette, PT 77, writes that she and Colette Decker Dungan, PT 77, and Leslie Bryant Levine, PT 77, "enjoyed dinner together this spring when Colette was in St. Louis for a veterinarian meeting with her husband, Art."

Deb Rich, LA 77, completed her doctorate in counseling psychology at the University of Minnesota. She maintains a specialty private practice in mental health aspects of reproductive health, and she is teaching in the University of Minnesota graduate school. Her daughter, Yael, was bat mitzvahed in October. Deb celebrated her first wedding anniversary earlier this year with her husband Gregg Eichenfeld in June.

Christian Anderson, LA 78, is director of public relations at National-Louis University, in Chicago.

Carol Seligman, LA 78, GR 81, is a private tutor and speech/language coordinator of Lewis and Clark Institute, in St. Louis. "I have a beautiful home and also travel a lot for pleasure," she adds.

Lori Garfield Becker, FA 79, and husband John D. Becker, LA 78, AR 81, live in Cincinnati with their three children. Lori teaches art to K-6th grade in the Cincinnati Public School District. John’s firm, Becker Architecture, specializes in residential design. His work has been published in national and regional magazines.

Jay Kirschbaum, BU 79, was selected to participate in the 1999-2000 class of leadershiP St. Louis.

Sherie Pollack, FA 79, is directing a new prime-time animated TV show for NBC/Carney Werner called God, the Devil, and Bob. She turned to animation after working in January 2000. "A big thanks to Gene Hoefle, who was my graphics teacher at WU—he said I had a gift for visual story-telling." Annette J. Krygiel, 51 77, 51 77, also is a panelist with the American Federation’s Young Leadership St. Louis.

Brenda Reuben Williams, GR 79, GR 84, was promoted to vice president for academic affairs at Mitchell College, in New London, Conn.

David B. Brakeman, EN 80, was promoted to vice president of engineering for Alpine Engineered Products, Inc., in Pompano Beach, Fla.

Katherine (Warner) Ott, SW 80, AR 81, is director of the Herron School of Art at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis.

Thomas R. Galganski, LW 82, has a law firm, Galganski, P.C., in Webster Groves, Mo. The practice focuses on business formation, mergers and acquisitions, estate planning, taxation, fringe benefits, and contractual matters.

Wayne O. Winney, HA 82, is admitted to the COO of Medical Consultants, in Muncie, Ind.

Mary Leyhe Burke, GR 83, was selected by the YWCA of Metropolitan St. Louis to be inducted into the YWCA Academy of Leaders, in recognition of her achievements during her 16 years as head of Whitfield School, in St. Louis.

Janie Cox, MD 83, and Richard Cohen, LA 65, have twin sons, Tommy and Bernie, born July 17, 1999. They live in Lake Worth, Fla.

Linda Muchisky, BU 83, HA 85, and husband Bruce have spent 1999 in Thailand, where Bruce has worked with Exxon. They will return in 2000 to their home in Houston. Linda is a consultant providing benchmarking services and knowledge management to companies. She is working with a client in Kuwait through February 2000. E-mail: lmuchisky@agpc.org.

Michael Smart, SW 83, is a licensed clinical social worker and therapist in the Quincy, Ill., office of Park Place Center. He recently studied Iyengar yoga with B.K.S. Iyengar, in Pune, India.


Suki Yamashita, LA 83, was promoted to media planning for the marketing division of Paramount Pictures’ Motion Picture Group.

Mollie Bernstein, LA 84, was named director of the COO of the Federal’s Young Leadership Division. She lives in Plantation, Fla.
For Charitable Gift Annuity rates

See page 9.

Robert S. Brookings
For Charitable Gift Annuity rates, see page 9.
Julie T. Rosenbaum, GF '84, married Bobby H. Schiff and has moved to Dallas, where Bobby works with a real estate developer. Julie says she is becoming "acclimated to suburban life and looking for employment."

John C. Spencer, EN '84, is manager, systems development, at The Orvis Company, in Manchester, N.H. The company specializes in fly fishing and outdoor gear, clothing, and gifts. He and wife Jeannie McHale and sons Ryan, 3, and Andrew, 1, live in Shaftsbury, Vt.

Ellen Sullivan, LA '84, writes, "I came out, got divorced, and moved in with my girlfriend, Erin. We have four cats: Emus, Rosco, Evie, and Tucker. We're in training for the martial arts competition of the Gay Games 2002, in Australia." E-mail: esullivan@art.org.

Claire Mazow Gelfman, LA '85, and Gary Michael Gelfman, LA '84, have a daughter, Tamara Mazow Gelfman, born April 26, 1999.

Margo Buehler Guetti, LA '85, joined the family business, Woodland Container Corporation, as a process specialist and is "busy learning the packaging industry." She lives in the Brainerd Lakes area of Minnesota. E-mail: mguetti@woodland-container.com.

Gennell Jefferson, EN '85, is principal at Banc of America Securities' debt underwriting group, in Chicago. E-mail: gennell@aol.com.

Thomas Rainey, LA '85, manages the Florida/NASA Business Incubation Centers and is based at the Kennedy Space Center. He manages a network of eight incubators in Florida that help launch new high-tech companies. He has a master's degree in science and technology policy from the Research Policy Institute at Lund University, in Sweden, and a graduate degree in international affairs from Stockholm University.

Donald Siegel, LA '85, received a Ph.D. in chemistry in October 1997. He and wife Karen live in central New Jersey.

Daniel Waksman, LA '85, and wife Jane have a daughter, Kaitlyn Rebecca, born May 4, 1999. Dan is an emergency medicine physician and vice president of Midwest Emergency Physicians Services, Inc., practicing in Coldwater, Ohio.

Robin (Distenfield) Boisvert, LA '86, is an assistant director/preschool teacher at KinderCare Learning Center. She lives in Arlington Heights, Ill. "This summer I am enjoying my time playing with my two young daughters, Danielle and Dominique, and my husband, Jim. My free time is spent working on my new hobbies—photography and scrapbooking."

Anne Lockett Donnelly, LA '86, is a family physician in Portsmouth, Va., where she serves as the residency director of Portsmouth Family Medicine Residency Program. She also is an associate professor of family and community medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, Va. "The best latest development was marriage to John Donnelly on April 24, 1999," she says. E-mail: DonnellAL@evmsmail.evm.edu.

Sister Madonna Buder celebrates life. Athlete, author, poet, photographer, counselor, advocate, nun—in all her roles she strives to lead by example, exhorting others to make the most of their lives and to appreciate the wonders of the world we all share.

"People tell me what an inspiration I am. That's what keeps me going," she says. "I guess I was made for challenges."

And few people meet such challenges as she sets for herself. You see, Sister Madonna is a world-champion triathlete...and she's 69 years old.

The triathlon is a grueling sport. The most difficult triathlons, the Ironman competitions, consist of a 2.4-mile swim, followed by a 112-mile bike ride, and then a marathon. Having forsaken sports when she entered the convent in 1953, Sister Madonna didn't take up running until she was nearly 50, on the advice of a priest who said it was healthy for both body and soul. Five weeks later, she decided to try competing in local races in Spokane, Washington.

"My first triathlon was in '82, and, of course, you don't just jump into an Ironman once you've done a triathlon. It takes years to work up to that point," she says. Last year she completed her 12th Hawaiian Ironman. She's participated in two New Zealand and eight Canadian Ironman events and holds two age group records (women's 60-64 and 65-69; best time: 13:16:37) in both the Hawaiian and the Canadian Ironman. "I'm going to try to hold out for another year, so I can maybe make a third Hawaiian Ironman record in the 70+, and then maybe I'll retire, I would be the first person to hold three age group records."

Sister Madonna competes in 11 to 15 events per year and has done both the Canadian and Hawaiian Ironman competitions with as little as five weeks between. She did both again this year, winning her age group. "I thought before I hit 70, I might as well find out if I'm still up to it."

Through it all, she never forgets her calling. She's been known to pause in the midst of a race to minister to the injured. In 1987, grieving for a friend who was killed while training on his bicycle, Sister Madonna wrote a book, I Have Finished the Race. She has also published articles and haiku and is an award-winning nature photographer. She developed her own "media ministry," presenting inspirational slide programs upon request.

Such projects comprise an unusual ministry for a Catholic nun. In fact, Sister Madonna changed religious orders in 1986, seeking greater independence outside the convent. She now has a prison ministry and serves as a guardian ad litem, representing juveniles as a court advocate. A former elementary teacher, she holds master's degrees in counseling and educational psychology.

"We've lost that awe of a child," she says. "What keeps us close to God is being in total awe of what He gives us. I went to visit one of my charges, this little 5-year-old, where he was staying in foster placement. When I found him, he was out collecting grasshoppers with the neighbor kids. I thought, how delightful. What have children got to do with their lives except explore nature? We should never forget those moments. When we forget them it's almost self-destructive. We may not always be able to tap the same emotions or be in the same moment, but we can remember them and then rejoice in them."

It's as simple as that.

—Terri McClain

* Editor's note: This title is a quote from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy. The book was dedicated to her friend, amputee athlete Paul Giskus, and the proceeds went to a scholarship fund for his little girl.

Living Life to the Fullest: Mind, Body, and Soul

Sister Madonna Buder A.B. '52

WASHINGTON PROFILE
Nancy Taus Stanislawski, LW 86, is a partner at Arthur Andersen, L.L.P., in Los Angeles.

Drew Van Horne, EN 86, SI 87, has been married to wife Cindy for seven years. They have a 1-month-old daughter, Jamie, and live in Palo Alto, Calif., where Drew works “in the heart of Silicon Valley as a software engineering manager at Concentric Network.”

Baird Wissmann, LA 86, and Mary Claire Bishop Wissman, LA 86, have a daughter, Grace Elizabeth, born Sept. 10, 1999; she joins siblings Jack and Kathryn. They live in Minneapolis “and are looking forward to raising three hockey players!” E-mail: mcbear@earthlink.net.

Daniel Blain, BU 87, SW 89, lives in Cleveland, Ohio, with wife Miriam Rosenberg and children Max, 3, and Ruby, born in July, 1997. In addition to being an attorney, he also serves as the campaign director for the Jewish Welfare Fund Appeal of Cleveland. E-mail: rosenblain@aol.com.

Kenneth Kessler, LA 87, and husband Quintian Tom have a son, Zachary Kessler Tom, born May 17, 1999. He is a first year student at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and is pursuing a career in sports medicine and biochemistry at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. 

Christian R. Maffezoli and their two children, Sofia Marie and Logan, live in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., with wife Daniela and children Tim, 10, and Gillian, 8 months. He is director of global equity trading for Templeton Global Investments. He and his family are moving to Nassau, Bahamas, for three years as part of his job. He is a director of the company’s office there. “I have yet to get my golf handicap to single digits,” he says.

Joyce Levowitz, LW 88, lives in Manhattan with husband Jim Mafezzoli and their two children, Daniel Henry, 4, and Gabrielle Rose, 18 months. Joyce specializes in employment discrimination law and works in the labor and employment group in Ross & Hardies law firm’s New York office.

Lisa (Brockmeyer) Osgood, EN 88, GB 88, has a daughter, Morlan Emily, born July 10, 1998. “Big brother Allen was thrilled!” They live in Cincinnati. E-mail: lbosgood@comcast.net.

Lisa K. Ross, LA 88, earned a master’s degree in elementary education at New York University in 1992. She taught in Fairfax County, Va., for four years and earned National Board Certification. She is now a faculty member at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and she supervises student teachers. She also is recently married. E-mail: lkross@email.uncc.edu.

Ignacio Santa Cruz, EN 88, and wife Lisa have a son, Diego Carlos, born in February 1999; he joins brothers Ignacio Luis, 3, and Luis, 9. They live in Virginia, where Ignacio is a marketing manager for General Electric Industrial Systems. E-mail: santacruz@silcom.com or ignatio.santa-cruz@kco.com.

Melissa Wood, LW 88, was named chair-elect of the American Bar Association’s Council of Appellate Staff Attorneys. She previously served as secretary, board member, and education chair of the council. She also serves on the boards of the Second Presbyterian Church Child Care Center and the University of Michigan Club of Birmingham.

Carrie Joy (Decter) Becker, LA 89, and Richard Gary Becker, LA 86, have moved to New York City, where Richard is a director of marketing and promotions for OnMoney.com; a division of Ameritrade, Inc., and Carrie is a practicing attorney.

Alan E. Shalowitz, BU 89, SI 91, SI 93, and wife Sandy have a daughter, Louisa Rose, born June 27, 1999. Alan is associate professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Detroit Mercy.

Salem A. Shareef, LA 89, received a J.D. from Hofstra University School of Law in May 1999. Salem is pursuing an L.L.M. at Boston University School of Law, which he anticipates receiving in May 2000.

Charles M. Sheppard, SI 89, moved to Tulsa, Okla., with wife Diane and children Tim, 10, Nathan, 7, and Rachel, 4. “The move to the ‘big’ city is refreshing,” he says. He teaches chemical engineering at the University of Oklahoma. “As a kid in New Jersey watching the movie Oklahoma!, I never imagined I would one day be an Okie,” he says.

Douglas Swill, LW 89, and wife Tammy (Cohen), OT 89, have twins, Matthew Tyler and Hannah Nicole, born Aug. 16, 1999. They joined sister Jessica, 3. Doug is a partner in the health law group of Gardner, Carton & Douglas, based in Chicago; he represents health systems, hospitals, physicians groups, and other health-care providers.


Laurie (Goldman) Clayton, BU 90, and husband Rick have a daughter, Natalie Renee, born Feb. 3, 1999; she joins sister Rachel Elaine, 3. Laurie works for May Merchandising, where she is a market representative in Bridge Jewelry. They live in St. Charles, Mo.

Leslie Michelson Cohen, BU 90, and husband Steven Cohen have a daughter, Sydney Gillian, born Jan. 13, 1999. They live in Rockville, Md. Leslie tests computer software for the National Association of Securities Dealers. E-mail: cohenlisa@msn.com or stevecoh@crews.com.

Lisa (Dolginow) Durst, LA 90, and Steven Durst, EN 90, have a son, Matthew Amos, born May 24, 1999. He joined his father Robert, 3, Lisa and Steve both work at Paper Warehouse Corporate Office, where Lisa is marketing manager and Steve is vice president of merchandising. “In the heart of Silicon Valley as a software engineer manager with Oracle Corporation, and Lisa and Steve are both working together.”

Adam Goodie, LA 90, married Chanim [Leath] Goodie in 1996; he earned a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of California at San Diego in 1997. He became an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Georgia in 1998. He and his wife have a daughter, Sara Sakura Leath Gooide, born July 7, 1999. E-mail: goodies@gaon. psy.uga.edu.

Mark A. Greenberg, BU 90, has been married for five years to wife Pamela; they have a son, Jared, 2. They live outside Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., where Mark works as an insurance defense trial attorney and Pamela is a critical care nurse at a nearby hospital.

Jill Sacks Hammerschmidt, BU 81, and James Robert Hammerschmidt, BU 81, have a daughter, Sophia Rose, born July 21, 1999. They live in Potomac, Md. Jill is a business practices manager with Oracle Corporation, and Jim is an associate with Paley, Rothman, Goldstein, Rosenberg, and Cooper. E-mail: jh@pmres.com or jr@paleyrothman.com.

Ellen Hoelscher, LW 90, married Kevin Wade McLain on Sept. 19, 1998. He is an engineer with the Missouri Department of Transportation. She is a development officer in the Center for Gift Planning at the University of Missouri at Columbia.

Susan Kevorkian, LA 90, is in her seventh year of business school at Thunderbird, the American Graduate School of International Management, in Phoenix. She will settle in San Francisco after graduation on April 2000. E-mail: susan.._kevorkian@global.t-bird.com.

Mike Salerno, GB 90, passed the Missouri CPA examination on his first try. His wife, Mary, and their two children, Connor and Evie, have moved to St. Louis. He is now practicing law in the law firm of Luongo & Corradini.

Leslie Michelson Cohen, BU 90, and husband Steven Cohen have a daughter, Sydney Gillian, born Jan. 13, 1999. They live in Rockville, Md. Leslie tests computer software for the National Association of Securities Dealers. E-mail: cohenlisa@msn.com or stevecoh@crews.com.

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Mark A. Greenberg, BU 90, has been married for five years to wife Pamela; they have a son, Jared, 2. They live outside Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., where Mark works as an insurance defense trial attorney and Pamela is a critical care nurse at a nearby hospital.

Jill Sacks Hammerschmidt, BU 81, and James Robert Hammerschmidt, BU 81, have a daughter, Sophia Rose, born July 21, 1999. They live in Potomac, Md. Jill is a business practices manager with Oracle Corporation, and Jim is an associate with Paley, Rothman, Goldstein, Rosenberg, and Cooper. E-mail: jh@pmres.com or jr@paleyrothman.com.

Ellen Hoelscher, LW 90, married Kevin Wade McLain on Sept. 19, 1998. He is an engineer with the Missouri Department of Transportation. She is a development officer in the Center for Gift Planning at the University of Missouri at Columbia.

Susan Kevorkian, LA 90, is in her seventh year of business school at Thunderbird, the American Graduate School of International Management, in Phoenix. She will settle in San Francisco after graduation on April 2000. E-mail: susan.._kevorkian@global.t-bird.com.
Libby, "are very proud and happy for Daddy!"

Elizabeth (Gillespie) Slater, married John Slater on Sept. 27, 1997. They have a daughter, Rachel Elizabeth, born May 5, 1999. Mitchell Balish, LA 91, and wife Rebecca have a daughter, Annika Michelle, born Feb. 23, 1999. They live in Athens, Ga., where they are both postdoctoral research associates. E-mail: balish@arches.uga.edu.

Murray Dweck, LA 91, has finished ob/gyn residency at the University of South Florida in Tampa and is now in private practice in Stuart, Fla. He is engaged to Stacey Dornomy. E-mail: murobg@aol.com.


Eliot D. Goldberg, LA 91, is completing an internship/residency in dermatology at Medical College of Wisconsin.

Jared Gordon, LA 91, and wife Jodi have a son, Simon Harris, born Feb. 11, 1999, in Washington, D.C.; he joins brother David Benjamin. Jared is a manager with PriceWaterhouseCoopers' national tax practice. E-mail: Jared.gordon@us.pwcglobal.com. Leslie Graham, LA 91, is a management consultant for Webb Management Services, Inc., in New York City. Leslie completed an M.B.A. at Boston University in 1998 and specializes in business planning for cultural organizations.

Jenny Wheelock Hammond, LA 91, married Todd Hammond in April 1994; they have a son, Justin, born Sept. 26, 1998.

Mary Clausen Hooker, LA 91, has lived in University City, Mo., for more than three years. She married Daniel Hooker on Aug. 2, 1997. She taught junior high school and high school Spanish and coached volleyball for seven years at Whitfield School. She and her husband have a daughter, Madeleine Judith, born March 9, 1999. E-mail: hooker@stinet.com.

Laura Kehoe, LA 91, married Eric Maillis of Chicago on July 17, 1999. Laura is a second-year resident in internal medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. They live in Cambridge, Mass. E-mail: lkehoe@partners.org or fredd270@gateway.net.


Julie Neidhardt, LA 91, married Scott Howie on Oct. 3, 1998. They honeymooned on the Tahitian Islands of Bora Bora and Moorea. They live in Chicago, where Julie is a litigation attorney with the firm of Stamas and Trucco. E-mail: JNHowie@aol.com.

Amy Grossblatt Pessah, LA 91, and Aryeh J. Pessah, LA 90, have moved to Boca Raton, Fla. They have a son, Josef Lavi, 1. Aryeh is an emergency room physician, and Amy is a stay-at-home mom who also does consulting work in the area of Jewish education. E-mail: pessah@earthlink.net.

Myriam Roy, GR 91, and Brian Beitz, GR 97, were married on June 11, 1999.

WASHINGTON PROFILE

Dennis Kessler B.S. '60, M.S. '64

Champion for a Caring Corporate Culture

Denny Kessler can recall riding his bike through the Hilltop Campus as a young boy and picturing himself hurrying to classes among the older college students. "I knew it sounds old-fashioned, but in those days, we chose our careers early," says Kessler. "From the age of 10, I knew I wanted to study industrial engineering at Washington University."

Kessler's childhood determination paid off. He earned a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering and a master's degree in engineering administration from the University in 1960 and '64, respectively. And this fall, Kessler, the president and founder of Kessler Management Consulting, was recognized with the School of Engineering and Applied Science's Alumni Achievement Award.

Since graduating, Kessler's adult determination has paid off, too: He is a savvy business leader, a leading advocate for work-life balance, and a noted philanthropist.

For 34 years, Kessler served in various managerial positions at Fel-Pro, a family-owned auto parts and chemical manufacturer in various managerial positions at Fel-Pro, a family-owned auto parts and chemical manufacturer based in Skokie, Illinois, which was sold for more than $700 million to Michigan-based Federal-Mogul, Inc. in 1998.

In 1990, he was elected co-president (the fourth generation in his family to serve in that capacity), and under his leadership—while automakers were pressuring parts makers to slash prices—Fel-Pro cut costs while building a roster of employee benefits and worker-friendly programs. These programs included flexible starting times, a profit-sharing plan, tutoring program for employees' children, a subsidized company day-care center, recreation center, and summer camp.

Kessler harrumphs at criticism of the company's "caring corporate culture." He believes that Fel-Pro's efforts to enhance employees' quality of life helped the firm maintain lower-than-average turnover rates, high employee morale, and impressive productivity.

"We knew that a company is only as good as its employees," he says. "Fel-Pro was run by one family—a company family—and all 3,000 of us had to pull together to succeed."

In 1997, Fortune magazine ranked Fel-Pro fourth on its list of "100 Best Companies To Work For." For 12 consecutive years, Working Mother magazine recognized the company as one of the top 100 "best places to work" for women, and Business Enterprise Trust honored the company for its policies. Kessler's achievements were also recognized. A 1996 Time magazine article profiled the executive in a feature on family-friendly business leaders.

Kessler's concern for others permeates all that he does. He has served in leadership positions for such Chicago-based social service organizations as the North Suburban Housing Center, the North Shore Interfaith Housing Council, and Care for the Aged Committee of the Jewish Federation of Chicago. And as chair of the Lake County Workforce Development Committee, he helped introduce "Business Linkage," a cooperative venture among teachers, local businesses, and students to help young people gain business knowledge.

Kessler's son, Arthur, was diagnosed with dystonia, a rare neurological disorder, when he was 8. Kessler took action and became a founding member and vice president of the Chicago Chapter of Dystonia Medical Research and later served for nine years as president of the International Dystonia Medical Research Foundation. He is also one of the founding members creating the Chicago Center for Jewish Genetic Disorders to disseminate information about 10 genetic disorders common in Jewish families.

Impressive accomplishments, but Kessler sums it up simply: "I have always felt there is a room to try and understand, to learn from each other, and to ultimately help one another."

—Megan Mary Gallagher
Jackson Bradley, born March 2, 1992, in St. Louis. They plan a medical practice in Denver, Colo.

Donna I. Ford-Werntz, GR 92, and her husband spent two weeks in Chile " revisiting some of my plant collecting sites in northern Chile. She also attended the August International Botanical Congress in St. Louis. They plan a medical mission trip to Guatemala and travel in Germany for 2000. She is assistant professor of biology and herbarium curator at Washington University.

Sadie Greenbrook Hittner, LA 92, and husband Scott have a son, Jackson Bradley, born March 2, 1999. They live in Denver, Colo.

Candee Meadows Knueger, PT '92, and husband Todd have a daughter, Mollie Alyse, born Jan. 8, 1999.

Linda Kreider Riak, LA 92, and Eric Riak, BU 92, have a son, Anthony, born March 8, 1999. Eric is a financial analyst at Pelli Rudman Trust Company in Boston, and Linda is an occupational therapist at Franciscan Children's Hospital. They live in Newton, Mass. E-mail: lea.riak@mcreditworld.com.

Jake Ring, GR 92, and wife Annette C. Ring have twin sons, Patrick and Brian Ring, born Nov. 13, 1998. In June, Jake was promoted to vice president of marketing for Magnequench International, Inc., in Andover, Ind. They live in Indianapolis. E-mail: jring@mqi.com.

Steven E. Shane, LA 92, is an associate in the estates and trusts department with the Baltimore law firm of Ober Kaler.

Kristin (Gentine) Strehlow, LA 92, and husband Greg have a son, Zachary Earl, born Jan. 15, 1999. They live in Plymouth, Wis. Kristin left work at SAP America to be a stay-at-home mom, and Greg works at Sargento Foods, Inc. E-mail: strehlow@danet.net.

Stephanie Thomas, SW 92, and husband Steve live in Manhattan, Kan., and they have two daughters: Pilar, born in April 1996, and Isabel, born in May 1999. Stephanie has also earned her L.C.S.C.W. and is a school social worker. E-mail: stephanieet@manhattan.k12 ks.us.

Aravinda Ayyagari, LA 93, married Anil Reddy on Oct. 22, 1999, in Memphis, Tenn. She graduated from the University of Tennessee, Memphis, College of Medicine in 1998 and is a second-year pediatrics resident at Jefferson College of Medicine and duPont Hospital for Children, in Wilmington, Del.

Lisa (Newman) Bernstein, LA 93, and Jeffrey Bernard, LA 91, have a son, Zachary Meir Bernstein, born April 20, 1999. They live in Ann Arbor, Mich., where Lisa is education director of Keshet Ann Arbor, a program for Jewish high school students, and Jeff is an assistant professor of political science at Eastern Michigan University.

Leahen Cohen, LA 93, married Scott E. Stricoff on July 10, 1999, in Greenwich, Conn. Lauren is a sales development executive at Home Depot Office, and Scott owns Events Unlimited, a full-service event company. They live in Stamford, Conn.

Randall S. Edge, GB 93, was promoted into president of Citizens Bank N.A.'s Johnson County locations, in Kansas.

Julia Hartzog-Beatty, LA 93, and husband Tom moved to Glo­ward, Alaska, in April 1996. julia is earning a master's degree in social work from the University of Alaska at Anchorage. Tom is a fly-fishing guide for Ozel Expeditions, coordi­nating the fish and early summer in Russia. E-mail: yeti2@alaska.net. 

Daniel Ho, LA 93, reports that "after trying out the real world and not liking what I saw, I've returned to school and am 3 credits away from a master's degree in theatre." 

Michael Kollins, BU 93, was named honorary chair of the Massachusetts Hub board of directors, a position, in recognition of his volunteer efforts to promote the traditional cranberry industry. His homemade cranberry jams are becoming increasingly popular and will be marketed nationally in spring 2000.

Todd J. Purdy, BU 93, GB 97, is an officer in accounting with The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. G. W. Westley Ray, Jr., UC 93, is an associate at the law firm of Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Davie Ritchin, LA 93, completed a clerkship for the Honorable Juan F. Vasquez of the U.S. Tax Court this fall and works for the U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division, Southern Criminal Enforcement Section. He also has since co-authored a chapter for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, where he was trained in how to conduct criminal trials and also will prosecute misde­meanor domestic violence and sex offenses.

Heidi Withers, EN 93, GB 93, lives and works in Houston in the risk management group of Enron Corporation, the largest energy marketer in the world.

Nancy Simmons Zimbalist, FA 93, and husband David have moved to Boston, Mass. "I look forward to hearing from anyone else who has landed in Beantown," she says.

Sheroo Mukhtar, SW 94, is coordinator of residential services at Father Flanagan's Boys Town on North Florida.

Danielle Forget Shield, EN 94, received a master's degree in business administration (finance) and her professional engineer's license in Texas. She works as a consultant in Houston.

Steven Scott Wels, BU 94, married Marit Michelle Brand­berg, LA 95, on May 30, 1999, at Oheka Castle in Cold Spring Hills, N.Y. They live in New York City, where Steven is vice president for sales of Airway, a chemi­cal manufacturer, in Brooklyn, and Shari is a media planner for Ammi­rati Puris Lintas, an advertising agency in Manhattan.

Christina Wolbrecht, GR 94, GR 97, received the 1999 Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics for the project "Women's Voting Behavior in the 1992 presidential election" and co-authored with Kevin Corder. She is an assistant professor of government and international studies at the University of Notre Dame.

Lisa Alpert, BU 95, left her career as an investment banker to pursue an M.B.A. at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. She was graduated in May 2000. E-mail: Lisa Alpert, wgo0@wharton.upenn.edu.

Jennifer Cays, LA 95, GR 97, has become one of the first Webster Societies at Wharton School of Business, Law, where she is a third-year law student. The scholarship is in honor of alumni and former FBI and CIA director William H. Webster, LW 49.

Miguel A. Cotignola, EN 95, is a systems engineer for WBN Technologies, Inc., a systems integrator company in St. Louis. E-mail: migcotignola@wanetc.com or cotignola@usa.net.

Natasha N. Edwards, BU 95, began the M.B.A. program at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania in August. E-mail: natashae@wharton.upenn.edu.

Adam Elegant, LA 95, has written a study entitled, "Trade and the Evolution of On-line invest­ing," to be published by Harvard University as its first Harvard Case Study on the subject of on-line trading. Adam is an associate at Goldman Sachs, in New York, focusing on the global expansion of on-line investing. E-mail: adam.elegant@gs.com.

Eric Goldlust, EN 95, is in his fourth year in an NIH-funded M.D.-Ph.D. program at the University of California at San Diego School of Medicine, and he is two years into Ph.D. work in public health and epidemiology through UCSD and San Diego State University. He is the founding coordinator of a free dental clinic for the homeless, which opened in January 1999. He has been course coordinator and lecturer for the second-year UCSD epidemi­ology class.

Wendi Greenberg, LA 95, graduated May 1998 from the University of Denver College of Law and is now practicing family and juvenile law at David Littman, P.C., in Denver. She is engaged to marry Jeff Sager in May 2000. In Washington, D.C. E-mail: wendig@aol.com.

Jennifer S. Kay, LA 95, married Daniel M. Ford, LA 96, on Aug. 9, 1999. They are employed in Twinsburg, Ohio, where Jennifer is completing a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Kent State University, and Daniel is completing a J.D. at Case Western Reserve University.

Email: dmfl00@ol.com and jenskay@aol.com.

Visweswara Rao Kaza, GB 95, is an officer in customer relations for the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Mary A. Lanning, LA 95, married Alex Thomson on May 22, 1999, in Portland, Ore. They live in Madison, Wis., where Mary is completing residency training in internal medicine. She graduated from Oregon Health Sciences Uni­versity in 1999, and they live in Twinsburg, Ohio. E-mail: mcotignola@wantec.com.

Jefrey Starkopf Leary, LA 95, works for Ameritech Cellular Ser­vices as director of network strategies and controls. He is finishing a master's degree in Spanish linguistics and translations at Northern Illinois University, and he lives in Schaumburg, Ill.

Rosalynn Miller, GR 95, married Dominic LeNoir in June 1998. They have a son, Nicholas, born May 7, 1999. They live in St. Louis. E-mail: chirsera@hotmail.com.

Rachelle Moskowitz, LA 95, and Ross Shapiro, BU 95, plan to marry in New Rochelle, N.Y., in June 2000. Rachelle is an employee benefits/executive compensation attorney at Morgan, Lewis & Bock­lus, in New York City, and Ross is completing his second year at the Wharton School of Business, in Philadelphia. E-mail: rachelle@milb.com and rossshapiro@­wharton.upenn.edu.

Raj Padmanabhan, LA 95, has joined the management consulting practice of PriceWaterhouseCoopers, L.L.P., in Falls Church, Va. He lives in Bethesda, Md., but "has joined the ranks of road warriors, spending most of the time on various projects.
across the country for clients in financial services and telecommunications.” E-mail: rajpa@ hotmail.com.

Jillian L. Sheedy, LA 95, graduated in May 1999 with a master's degree in architecture from the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation at Columbia University in New York City. She received a William Kinne Traveling Fellowship for a proposal to study the work of Hiroshi Naito, a contemporary Japanese architect. She works for Mitchell/Giurgola Architects, in New York City.

Shelley Weiss, LA 95, and Simma (White) Weiss, EN 95, both received doctor of medicine degrees from Rush Medical College in June 1999. Shelley is a resident in pediatrics, and Simma is a resident in family medicine at the University of Texas Southwest ern Medical Center in Dallas.

Daniel M. Karp, LA 96, completed law school in Texas and is an attorney at the firm of Thornton & Summers, in San Antonio, Texas. E-mail: sat5356@aol.com.

Amy Stein, LA 96, received a master of physical therapy degree in 1999 from Nova Southeastern University, in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Robert Dunakin, EN 97, had a Fulbright scholarship in 1998 at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm. He received his master's degree in materials science in May 1999. He will remain in Stockholm as he pursues a licen ci ate degree. E-mail: rob@met.kth.se

Chad Lewis, LA 97, married Jodee Collins, EN 99, in St. Louis on June 5, 1999. They live in Chicago, where Jodee works for Monsanto Nutrasweet and Chad attends Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

Martin J. Lyons, Jr., GB 97, was admitted to the partnership in the audit and business advisory services group of PriceWaterhouse-Coopers, he and wife Leslie live in University City, Mo.

Harrison Marshall, FA 97, graduated from Yale School of Art in 1999 with a master's degree in fine arts. Harrison now works at Christie's Auction House.

Mark Sasek, GB 97, was appointed to the board of directors for the Dubuque Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the East Dubuque Chamber of Commerce. He is director of environmental, health, safety, and quality assurance for Royster-Clark Nitrogen Company. He lives in Dubuque with wife Charlotte and son Adam.

Minna (Dietz) Zeich, LA 97, received an Ed.M. from Harvard Graduate School of Education. She moved to Connecticut with husband Chris and is coordinating professional development and instructional services for Edison Schools, Inc., in New York City.

Scott Casey, GB 98, is a market research specialist with the Consumer Research Department of Brown-Forman Beverages Worldwide, Wine Group, in Louisville, Ky.

Alexander B. Galifianakis, LA 98, is a Navy ensign attending the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, in Bethesda, Md., in preparation for worldwide duty as a career physician in the military.

Jason R. Hill, GB 98, married wife Trish in September 1998. They have a daughter, Alexandra Pamela, born April 1, 1999.

Amanda Paetz Hiner, GR 98, and husband Rick Hiner have a son,

WASHINGTON PROFILE

Andrew W. Bernheimer M.Arch. '94 Jared Della Valle M.Arch. '96, M.S. '96

Never Surrendering Creativity

• In New York City, where Baby Boomers’ search for square footage produced the warehouse solution to upscale urban shelter, a penthouse loft apartment in a former reposito ry has been transformed. Openness and light replace a dim war ren of ‘70s rooms; at the center stands a bright red cabi net. The color and size stop the eye, fine crafting makes it linger, and the concept engages the mind. Explains co-creator Jared Della Valle, partner in the New York architecture firm Della Valle + Bernheimer Design, Inc.: “The red cabinet, which unfolds, provides all the functional storage. Its sections condense the apartment’s functions into a unit that defines how space is used around it.”

• In Boston, where an artist with a cavernous apartment revels in technology’s aesthetic as well as functional merits, two 70-foot-long steel walls wind throughout. Made of 9-foot-high laser-cut pivoting steel plates, they contain doors to studios and living spaces. Nestled between the curving walls is an island kitchen.

• In San Francisco, where several recent plans for public projects have outraged people they were supposed to enchant, an ingenious plaza opened in November to positive client feedback. In front of downtown’s Philip Burton Federal Building, the entire 44,000-square-foot concrete plaza tilts, rising gently (meeting ADA requirements) to 10 feet off the ground at the entrance and on its western side. Planted with a row of conifers, that edge impedes chill winds sweeping in from the ocean. Large folds in the concrete are used as benches and for flowers and concealed lighting—and to help prevent a vehicle from carrying a bomb to the door.

“I think we can safely say that no projects like these exist anywhere else,” says Andrew Bernheimer, 30, who met Della Valle, now 27, at WU. Because the two have not surrendered their creativity to the realities of the building industry, they are “more experimental and open” than some of their colleagues, Della Valle says. “We’ve convinced clients that our concepts may not be normal, but they’re definitely worthwhile.”

So convinced were the General Services Administration and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, sponsors of the plaza redesign competition, that the 1996 San Francisco Prize went to Della Valle + Bernheimer—although the infant firm did not have a built project to its name. “We approach projects without preconceptions,” says Della Valle, “whereas we heard that other competitors really defended their ideas [to the jury]. That’s not what we’re about. We ask clients to tell us how their space should work, not precisely how they wish it to look. Since we reflect what the client wants, no project resembles another.”

To so completely attune their work to individuals, transcending what clients can envision, the designers often- times work separately. After several weeks, they discuss the results. “We fight about things, which is good,” says Della Valle. “But usually, one design is clearly better, and we present that to the client. Initially, we fought a little more,” he adds. “Now if Andy feels strongly about a design and I don’t, we use his idea—and vice versa.”

The tactic is as honest and effective—and as fundamen tally idealistic—as Della Valle + Bernheimer’s approach to design.

—Judy H. Watts
Benjamin Luke, born April 26, 1999. E-mail: alhinner@juno.com.

Rick Lellinger, SW 98, has moved to the San Francisco Bay area to "embark on a creative career in the new media industry," he says.

Jessica Volk, BU 98, reports that she is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Maria Mangua Wellman, SW 98, graduated in June 1999 from the Post-Master's Clinical Social Work Education Program at the Karl Menninger School of Psychiatry and Mental Health Sciences, in Topeka, Kan.

Jason Zenger, EN 98, works in the family business, Zenger's Inc., in Metairie Park, Ill. E-mail: jzenger@zengers.com.

Jessica Yolk, BU 98, reports that she is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Maria Munguia Weilman, SW 98, graduated in June 1999 from the Post-Master's Clinical Social Work Education Program at the Karl Menninger School of Psychiatry and Mental Health Sciences, in Topeka, Kan.

Jessica E. Hock, AR 99, reports that she is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

John R. Rodahoffer, BU 99, reports that he is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

George E. Zukovich, MD 99, reports that he is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Wallace A. Morse, BU 99, reports that he is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Robert K. Mueller, EN 99, reports that he is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Carol C. Roper, EN 99, reports that she is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Lewis H. Daniel, DE 99, reports that he is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Conrad R. Byland, DE 99, reports that he is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Cecile (Picquet) Guise, SW 99, reports that she is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Ferd Gas, LA 99, reports that he is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Mary Jane K. Wintermann, SW 99, reports that she is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Oral J. (Lamke) Ahlberg, LA 99, reports that she is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

Eugene G. Monnig, Jr., EN 99, reports that he is working for Standard and Poor's, in New York.

In Memoriam

1920s

Loren F. Jones, EN 26; 1/99.
Leona Anne (Rau) Doherty, LA 27, SW 36; 7/99.
Frances R. Ferris, LA 27, GR 32; 11/97.
John E. Hobbs, MD 27; 8/99.
Edith (Caplan Horwitz) Sloan, LA 28, GR 36; 7/99.
Clara Martha (Kienzle) Freking, LA 29; 9/99.
Guerdan Hardy, MD 29; 9/99.
Ernst C. Kottmeier, BU 29; 8/99.
Albert B. Mojonnier, EN 29; 11/97.

1930s

Noel F. Delporte, LW 31; 8/99.
Catheryn (Mahne) Purnell, LA 31, GR 32; 8/99.
Isadore W. Rubin, BU 31; 10/99.
Walter C. Fritschle, BU 32; 4/99.
Herbert L. Kelley, Jr., BU 32; 9/99.
Oswald A. Schiegel, LA 32, SW 49; 9/99.
Herbert C. Hewitt, LA 33; 9/99.
Erwin C. Hock, AR 33; 9/99.
John R. Rodahoffer, BU 33; 1/99.
George E. Zukovich, MD 33; 7/99.
Martha Jean Matheson Fries, LA 34, GR 35; 9/99.
Wallace A. Morse, BU 34; 8/99.
Carol C. Roper, EN 34; 11/97.
Cecile (Picquet) Guise, SW 36; 5/98.
Willard V. Lampie, LA 36; 5/99.
Walter J. Pattee, Jr., LA 36; 7/99.
Hugh N. Johnson, LA 37, GR 39; 7/99.
Robert D. Miller, GR 37; 2/99.
Joseph J. Yawitz, Jr., LA 37; 7/99.
W. Thomas Fletcher, DE 38; 8/98.
Mildred R. Lehew, UC 38, GR 48; 7/99.
Helen M. Longmire, LA 38, 10/99.
Thomas H. Roberts, MD 38; 7/99.
Philip L. Taylor, BU 38; 7/99.
Mary Jane K. Wintermann, SW 38; 7/99.
Miles Cunningham, BU 39; 6/99.
Harlan I. Finkmeier, LA 39, MD 43; 7/99.

1940s

Henry A. Jebel, EN 40; 7/99.
Margaret (Marlow) Sweetman, NU 40; 5/99.
Brunnilda Thelma (Bock) Swift, UC 40, UC 70; 10/99.
Frances May (Chappell) Wilson, LA 40, MD 43; 7/99.
Edward H. Binkenmeier, LA 41; 7/99.
Walter R. Evans, EN 41; 4/99.
John P. Lee, MD 41; 12/97.
Erich W. Marchand, GR 41; 8/99.
Earl C. Meserve, EN 41; 2/99.
Pierce H. Moonshine, UC 41; 9/99.
Rosemary (Fuqua) Wehmer, LA 41; 9/99.
John F. White, LA 41, LW 47; 8/99.
Oscar J. Gewinner, Jr., EN 42, SI 47; 9/99.
Margaret B. Thompson, NU 42, 6/99.
James E. Wykoff, DE 42; 7/97.

Glenn A. Delf, EN 43; 8/99.
James N. Haddock, MD 43; 7/99.
Heilen (Bellows) Klein, SW 43, SW 61; 7/99.
Elis J. Marting, BU 43; 8/99.
Hans J. Teumenn, EN 43; 4/99.
Robert L. Johannings, EN 44; 7/99.
John A. Yungbluth, EN 44; 7/99.
Elizabeth (Thompson) Huber, LA 45; 12/98.
Charles G. Smith, MD 45; 6/98.
Thomas D. Brower, MD 47; 11/98.
John W. Courtier, Jr., EN 47; 8/99.
Heilen H. Glaser, LA 47, MD 47; 10/99.
Bunnet W. Peden, MD 47; 8/99.
Miriam Estelle (Grate) Schokmiller, BU 47; 9/99.
Francis M. Barnes Ill, LW 48; 8/99.
Abraham E. Bell, BU 48; 8/99.
Miriam Donna (Frost) Cornwell, BU 48; 7/99.
Ruth Heineman, SW 48; 3/98.
Gerhard L. Hollander, SI 48; 2/99.
Waldo M. Johnson, BU 48; 8/99.
Leon R. Kassab, BU 48; 1/98.
Kenneth J. Miller, LA 48; 7/99.
Charles B. Sevier, LW 48; 3/97.
Jeanne Marie (Zeller) Vierheller, NU 48; 10/99.
Eugene Gold, EN 49; 9/93.
Edward L. Guller, LA 49; 10/98.
John W. Hessing, MD 49; 8/99.
Thomas R. Hollinshead, Jr., LA 49; 7/99.
Dorothy Marie Krussmann, FA 49; 5/99.
Raymond L. Liss, GR 49; 9/99.
Rosalie M. (Bernstein) Rubin, BU 49; 10/99.
Florence (Ferguson) Tucker, GR 49; 3/99.
Pauline Clara (Hapke) Winchester, UC 49; 9/99.

1950s

James C. Allison, FA 50; 7/99.
William H. Blackburn, BU 50; 10/99.
Peter L. Hurst, MD 50; 6/99.
John A. Jaeger, Jr., EN 50; 8/99.
Jean Moranville, LA 50; 5/97.
W. Spencer Payne, MD 50; 2/99.
Robert L. Peregoft, FA 50; 1/97.
Martin E. Swinford, EN 50; 8/99.
James J. Waitke, BU 50, UC 77; 8/99.
Clarence E. Whisler, DE 50; 8/98.
George Roush, Jr., MD 51; 7/99.
Earl G. Schrader, LA 51; 8/99.
Jerome Q.H. Sit, EN 51; 1/99.
Elwood B. Taylor, GR 51, GR 66; 8/99.
Clarence R. Woleben, BU 51; 10/98.
Emma L. Behrens, LA 52; 7/99.
Henry C. Hartmann, BU 52; 7/99.
George E. Barber, UC 53; 1/99.
Robert L. Hill, UC 53; 9/98.
Robert B. Mix, FA 53; 1/99.
Norton H. Nickerson, GR 53; 6/99.
Earle M. Parenteau, EN 53; 9/99.
Abraham J. Simon, GR 53; 8/99.
Mildred J. Sullivan, UC 55; 1/97.
Barbara Y. Yakos, GR 55; 7/99.
Harry E. Boaz, LA 56; 10/99.
Melanie M. Knight, GR 56; 2/97.
Margaret Richards, UC 56; 7/97.
John D. Coffman, Jr., EN 57; 7/99.
Robert L. Griebel, EN 58; 8/99.
Donald G. Rhodes, GR 58; 5/98.
Dwight W. McGrew, LW 59; 7/98.
Mark Nixon, FA 59; 3/98.

1960s
Edith (Rapagnani) Kopiecki, NU 60; 7/99.
Lynda (Haines) Vogel Taylor, OT 60; 3/99.
James M. Brislane, UC 61, GR 78; 9/99.
George E. Heneghan, Jr., AR 62; 8/99.
Charles R. Ward, UC 62; 10/98.
Samuel H. Perlmutter, GB 63; 6/98.
Stephen W. Fischer, UC 64, UC 66; 7/99.
Thomas C. Killeen, GR 64, UC 66; 10/99.
David E. Greystak, GR 65, GR 68; 3/99.
Herbert L. Klinger, UC 65; 10/99.
Lewis H. Koplik, MD 65; 5/99.
Frank V. Reichwein, UC 65; 9/99.
Martin E. Wax, LA 65; 8/99.
Michael J. Hudson, LA 67; 7/99.
Salvatore N. Valenti, SW 68; 7/99.
Bonnie (McDougall) Martin, GR 69; 8/99.

1970s
Harry Kalibach, UC 71; 8/99.
James A. Hepler, EN 72; 2/99.
Kathleen (O'Connell) Hamilton, GR 74; 10/99.
Grace Sun Bush, GR 75; 7/99.
William C. Schoenhard, Jr., FA 75; 7/99.
Doris G. Purl, UC 96; 8/99.
Mark Henr y Koopman, LA 81; 3/93.
Michael B. Uelk, GB 86; 10/99.
Teresa Ann Rittenhouse, GR 89, GR 92; 7/99.

1980s
Mark H. Koopman, LA 81; 3/93.
Earle M. Parenteau, EN 82; 9/99.
Alice M. Schwartz, BU 82, UC 83; 6/99.
Donald Flannery, both of Webster Groves; 2/99.

In Remembrance
William J. Flannery

William J. Flannery, adjunct instructor in the Communications and Journalism Program of University College in Arts & Sciences, died Friday, October 8, 1999, at Barnes-Jewish Extended Care Facility in Clayton after a brief illness. He was 49 and lived in Webster Groves, Mo.

Flannery taught at the University for 12 years, primarily courses on the history of American journalism, editorial writing, and the history of propaganda. "Bill was a mainstay of our program," says Fran Hooker, communications coordinator for the Communications and Journalism Program. "He was an old-style newsman—gruff, tough, and very fair. He expected a lot from his students."

Flannery also was a business reporter for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. He joined the paper in 1981 as an editorial writer after working in Washington, D.C., and moved to the business department as a reporter in 1990. He was renowned for his knowledge of military history.

Born and reared on an Iowa farm, Flannery earned a bachelor's degree in history and political science and a master's degree in political science, both from the University of Iowa at Iowa City.

Among the survivors are his former wife and mother of his children, Susan Manning of Webster Groves; two daughters, Kathryn Flannery and Elizabeth Flanneny, both of Webster Groves; his brother, Pauline Flannery of Iowa City, Iowa; and two brothers, Ken Flannery of Duluth, Minnesota, and Donald Flannery of Des Moines, Iowa.

Samuel Vernon Holroyd

Samuel Vernon Holroyd, a one-time chair of the Department of Periodontics at the former School of Dental Medicine, died Monday, October 25, 1999, in Media, Pennsylvania, after a prolonged illness. He was 68.

Holroyd joined the University faculty in 1979 as professor of periodontics after retiring from a distinguished career of more than 25 years with the U.S. Navy. He received tenure in 1985 and was named professor emeritus when the dental school closed in 1991.

The author of several clinical texts related to periodontal disease in dental practice, he then entered private practice in St. Louis, retiring in 1998 due to failing health. In 1999, he moved to Pennsylvania to be near his daughter and grandchildren.

A native of West Virginia, Holroyd enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1952 and saw action in the Korean War. After combat duty, he returned to his home state and enrolled in the University of West Virginia's Dental School. Upon obtaining degrees in dental surgery and medical pharmacology, he returned full time to the Navy and later received a master's degree in periodontics from Georgetown University.

Holroyd, who reached the rank of captain, was assigned to the U.S. Navy Dental Corps, where he saw a variety of assignments, including that as chairman of the Department of Educational Resources at the Bethesda Naval Dental School in Maryland. He turned down a chance to become an admiral, opting instead to come to Washington University.

He is survived by his three children, Melissa Holroyd Farmer of Wallingford, Pa.; Eveann Holroyd Fagan of Aberdeen, Scotland, and Samuel D. Holroyd of Webster Groves, Mo.; and three grandchildren.

Matthew L. Thomas

Matthew L. Thomas, associate professor of pathology and of molecular microbiology and associate investigator of The Howard Hughes Medical Institute, died Sunday, September 19, 1999, in Paris, while traveling to a scientific conference. Thomas was internationally known for his important contributions to understanding the immune system. He was 46.

Raised in Salt Lake City, Thomas obtained both bachelor's and doctoral degrees from the University of Utah. He received postdoctoral training with Alan Williams at Oxford University, where he cloned the gene for an abundant white blood cell surface protein, CD45.

Thomas then focused his research on defining the function of this molecule, first with Ian Trotbridge at the Salk Institute and then in the laboratory that he established at Washington University in 1987. Thomas discovered the mechanism by which CD45 regulates immune function, a finding that has stimulated research in many laboratories around the world.

Thomas was viewed as an outstanding educator and mentor to young scientists. He received many awards during his career, including fellowships from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and the leukemia Society of America, an Established Investigator Award from the American Heart Association, and the James W. Prah Memorial Award from the University of Utah.

Devoted to his family, Thomas leaves his wife, Terry; two sons, Joseph, 7, and Nathan, S; his mother, Elizabeth; a sister, Kathleen; and a brother, Eric.

Mary K. Yaris

Mary K. Yaris, lecturer in chemistry in Arts & Sciences, died in her sleep June 25, 1999, of a heart attack. She was 60. She had battled long-term diabetes and kidney failure.

Yaris was born in northern Illinois, completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Illinois, and received a Ph.D. in theoretical chemistry from the University of Minnesota in 1987. There she met and married Robert Yaris, who has been professor of chemistry at Washington University since 1971.

Beginning in 1976, Yaris taught undergraduates at the University, particularly in recitation sessions in both physical and freshman chemistry. Students and colleagues admired her for her dedication, warm personality, and indomitable spirit.

"Mary's tenacity under adversity inspired all who knew her," says colleague Alfred M. Holzer, professor of chemistry. "She bravely faced diabetes, failing eyesight, kidney failure, and transplantation and cardiac surgery, rebounding each time with undiminished zeal to family life, to teaching, and to her particular passion—advocacy for the cause of special education.

Yaris is survived by Robert Yaris; sons Michael and Aaron Yaris, both of St. Louis; and a brother, Donald Campbell of Galena, Ill.
IN THE
Grand
Tradition

BY C.B. ADAMS

Each spring, Washington University puts on a pageant in the grand tradition that celebrates academic achievement and, indeed, education itself. This pageant is called Commencement, and its stage is the Quadrangle. The audience of 12,000 is composed of family, friends, and well-wishers, who eagerly await the pomp and circumstance of the opening procession of graduating students in robes and mortarboards, professors in academic dress, alumni celebrating their 50th anniversary, members of the Board of Trustees, and others.

For the past three years, Edward N. Wilson, Ph.D.'71, has donned his own academic dress and a special medallion and led the procession into the Quadrangle as the University's grand marshal. As the ceremony plays out, Wilson carefully follows the procedure guide, makes the public introductions, and generally emcees the event.

"Each Commencement I have a bit of the kind of nervousness that goes with any kind of public appearance," Wilson says. "I get a little self-conscious and worry about whether I'm going to have a frog in my throat at exactly the wrong time and 12,000 people are going to notice, or that I will lose my way in the procedure guide and be embarrassed. However, such apprehension is a good thing. I do believe quite strongly that the day when you are totally confident that everything will go well and have no nervousness is the day when things may indeed go disastrously bad."

The chances of things going wrong are quite small, however, thanks to the planning and coordination of the Commencement Committee, comprising approximately 20 people from across the University. Wilson chairs the committee as part of his duties as grand marshal. Wilson assumed these responsibilities three years ago at the request of Chancellor Mark Wrighton, when Burton Wheeler, professor emeritus of English in Arts & Sciences, retired. Wilson, a professor of mathematics in Arts & Sciences, previously served as dean of the Graduate School of Arts &
Sciences, dean of University College, and chair of the Department of Mathematics in Arts & Sciences.

"I've been at the University quite a while," Wilson says. "I very much like this institution. I am proud of what it has been able to achieve; therefore, I don't mind at all being involved with other things that need to be done."

The Commencement Committee begins meeting in October. As the big day draws nearer, the number of meetings and amount of time devoted to the proceedings increase dramatically.

"Planning is terribly important for a successful event. We know that if we haven't done our job in thinking things through, we are courting trouble," he says.

Planning falls into two main categories: logistical and experiential. On the logistical side, the Commencement Committee strives to find the best way to get approximately 12,000 people into and out of the Quadrangle, how to avoid a crowd under the Brookings arch, where to position the photographers, and how to organize hundreds of ushers and other volunteers.

"We are always making incremental changes and fine-tuning a format that has worked well for the University for the past 25-30 years," he says. "We fuss a little bit with the details, hoping that most of the changes are not noticed. If the result is that the ceremony goes smoothly, then it really doesn't matter whether people are aware of the little tweakings that made it go more smoothly."

The committee members also pray for good weather.

"Last year, we had the extra variable of overnight drizzle, so we had dozens of people out on the Quadrangle before 6 a.m. wiping off the chairs; this was in addition to the usual setting up of the stage, setting up and testing of the sound system, putting banners in place, and other duties that are started by 6 a.m.," Wilson says.

On the experiential side, the committee frets about the length, pacing, and general tone of the event. The goal is an enjoyable occasion for those receiving degrees and their families.

And the committee members pray for good weather.

"We cannot know how hot it is going to be. This may have a huge bearing on the degree of enjoyment for everyone," Wilson says.

The committee members also seek to find a balance between the celebratory aspect of Commencement and the more solemn, academic aspect.

"We want Commencement to be enjoyable, but we don't want it to be a circus," he says. "It's a serious academic event that culminates many years of hard work. The faculty are there, in part, because it is a symbol of what we are all about; therefore, we want it to be carried off with dignity—not terribly stiff and formal to where people feel uncomfortable, but with reasonable dignity."

And occasional champagne corks, beach balls, and witty phrases scrawled on tops of mortarboards are tolerated.

As grand marshal, Wilson's may be the most visible role at Commencement, but he credits its success to the team of people who contribute their time and efforts.

"I must strongly emphasize that Commencement just would not be possible without the very heavy involvement of hundreds of people at the University, most of whom never receive any recognition for it. It is a team effort with lots of people doing lots of different things to make it successful," Wilson states.

"Ed is a wonderful WU person who has a grand feel for the University and understands it. His every action serves to mold it and further its mission."

—Jim Burmeister, executive director of University relations and Commencement

"I have known Professor Wilson since he was dean of the graduate school and chairman of the math department. He is just a wonderful, compassionate person, yet he is thorough and wants things to be right. He makes everybody who works with him want it that way, too."

—Jean Gaines, director of Commencement

"Edward Wilson has been an exceptional leader of the Commencement efforts because, among other things, you always know that he is looking for a positive solution. Some might imagine that his balanced, logical approach to things comes as a result of his distinguished mathematics career, but my sense is that these qualities are just inherent in Ed."

—Laura Ponte, assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations

"Professor Edward Wilson is a most distinguished member of our faculty, and in his role as grand marshal of Commencement, he has sustained a tradition of excellence in the University's most important academic event. He has led this effort with the proper balance of pageantry and celebration."

—Mark Wrighton, chancellor

"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.
Fall Reflections  Outside of Busch Laboratory, leaves trade their green for gold. Saying goodbye to summer, students immerse themselves in the academic pursuits of the fall semester—another signal of the changing seasons on the Hilltop Campus.