Stem Cells Offer Hope for Healing

Professor Steven Teitelbaum and other University researchers strongly support somatic cell nuclear transfer research and its potential to fight disease.
Examining Women's Health  The Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum is presenting *Inside Out Loud: Visualizing Women's Health in Contemporary Art*, the first major museum-level exhibition dedicated to women's health. "Rather than standing as an object of visual fascination, the female body in these artworks becomes a generating force that spurs artistic and conceptual innovations," says guest curator Janine Mileaf, assistant professor of art history at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania. Among the artists examining the private, personal experience of disease is Sarah McEneaney. Her 1992 painting, *Self Examination*, above, documents quiet moments from everyday life. *Inside Out Loud* runs from January 21 through April 24, 2005, in Steinberg Hall.
Cover: Steven Teitelbaum, the Wilma and Roswell Messing Professor of Pathology and Immunology, is one of many University researchers urging Missouri legislators to keep somatic cell nuclear transfer research legal. (Photo by David Kilper)

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2 Frontrunners
Short takes on WU’s community of great minds and great ideas.

8 Baskets Bring Blessings
The Blessing Basket Project gets an award-winning business plan from undergraduate and graduate business students.

10 Hard-Working Model
An innovative researcher and devoted teacher, Professor Carl Bender is changing the way physicists look at quantum mechanics.

14 Untangling Genetic Roots of Disease
With equal intensity, Professor Alison Goate searches for genetic mutations responsible for several neuropsychiatric disorders, including Alzheimer’s disease, alcoholism, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

18 Art & Science: An Intriguing Blend
Professor Ron Leax’s cerebral artwork mixes science with the materials of daily life.

22 Stem Cells Hold Great Promise
In the hopes of alleviating diseases such as Alzheimer’s, diabetes, and Parkinson’s, University scientists urge Missouri legislators not to ban the research procedure “somatic cell nuclear transfer.”

26 Remembering the ‘Forgotten Half’
Alumnus Samuel Halperin’s landmark study reveals the obstacles faced by non-college-bound youth in today’s economy. His current focus is educating legislators on possible solutions.

28 Financial Career Adds Up to PBS
Alumna Barbara Levy Landes wields a “can-do” attitude, bringing inspiration and positivity to her role as CFO of PBS, as a volunteer for Girls Inc. and WomenMatter, and as a mother of two young women.

31 Looking Skyward, Writer Earns His Wings
Like a journalist with a poet’s eye, Christopher Cokinos, M.F.A. W.’91, pursues stories of the obscure and natural—from extinct birds to meteorite hunters.

34 My Washington
Ira and Judith Gall build on a family tradition of helping others, with the School of Medicine benefiting greatly from their service.

36 Alumni Activities
The Alumni Association and Class of 2004 student leaders create an after-school reference book for young alums.

38 ClassMates
48 Washington Spirit: Don Strom
A series spotlighting key faculty and staff who help make this great University run.

Professor Alison Goate's genetic studies are helping pinpoint causal pathways that will lead to molecular targets for new drugs and vaccinations for neuropsychiatric disorders (page 14).

Professor Carl Bender makes a habit of questioning accepted answers, which has led to work that’s changing the way physicists look at the field of quantum mechanics (page 10).

Award-winning author Christopher Cokinos, M.F.A.W. ’91, blends lyricism and prose in his nonfiction work (page 31).
Parents Enjoy Student Fashion Show
Taking a bow during the student fashion show for a Parents Weekend audience of about 400 is Lindsay Segal (left), Art Class of '05, a fashion design major, who is joined by students modeling her designs. Segal's designs are inspired by a combination of Parisian architecture and the sophisticated designs of Cristobal Balenciaga in the 1950s.

Biotech Firm Savors Success
Latest report cards for Stereotaxis, a fledgling biotech firm nurtured by the University, have made the University and many others proud.

The firm, which designs, manufactures, and markets an advanced cardiology instrument system—the Niobe® Magnetic Navigation System—for use in hospitals' cath labs, has had positive quarterly earnings reports since its initial public offering in August 2004.

The first biotech startup in St. Louis to go public, Stereotaxis, founded in 1990, offers a system to enhance the treatment of coronary artery disease and arrhythmias. It is designed to allow physicians to more effectively navigate catheters, guidewires, and stent-delivery devices through the blood vessels and chambers of the heart to treatment sites. This is achieved by using computer-controlled, externally applied magnetic fields that precisely and directly govern the motion of the working tip of the catheter, guidewire, or stent-delivery device.

Compared to conventional treatments, the system is more precise than manually controlled methods and reduces radiation exposure for the physician. A long-term goal for the system is increasing productivity by facilitating faster performance of procedures.

Medical Professor Shares Nobel Prize
Aaron Ciechanover, an Israeli, who is visiting professor of pediatrics at Washington University and the Research Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry in the Faculty of Medicine of the Technion–Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, Israel, has, along with two colleagues, received the 2004 Nobel Prize in chemistry. Ciechanover, 57, who has spent a portion of each year at Washington University since 1986 and is the 22nd Nobel laureate associated with the University, shares the prize with Avram Hershko, 67, also an Israeli and professor at the Technion, and Irwin Rose, 78, an American, who is professor emeritus at the University of California in Irvine.

In awarding the prize, the Royal Swedish Academy of Science cited the three for their groundbreaking discovery of a process that cells use to eliminate faulty and unneeded proteins, a finding that could help scientists find new medicines to fight diseases such as cancer. (One such drug, Velcade, is on the U.S. market, Ciechanover says, and "there are many more in the pipeline.")

The process used by cells, according to the Associated Press, "gives doomed proteins a chemical label and then chops them up." That process in turn governs such key tasks as cell division, DNA repair, gene transcription, some immune defense functions, and quality control of newly produced proteins as well as post-translationally damaged "old" proteins. Defects in the process may cause diseases like cervical cancer and are linked to many inherited diseases.

All three will share the $1.3 million cash prize for their aforementioned work, done in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Ciechanover earned a medical degree from Hadassah Medical School of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and was a graduate student in biochemistry with Hersko at the Technion. After four years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, he returned to the Technion as a faculty member. Ciechanover's association with Washington University began with a sabbatical in the summer of 1986.

Celebrating Our Books, Recognizing Our Authors

Literary theorist Stanley Fish (right), distinguished professor of English, criminal justice, and political science and dean emeritus of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois in Chicago, signed copies of some of his 10 books, including The Trouble with Principle (Harvard University Press, 1999), after his address during the third annual faculty book colloquium. The event honored Washington University scholars from Arts & Sciences disciplines.
Scientists Unlock Secrets of Natural Nuclear Reactors

Today, nuclear reactors are associated with nuclear power plants like Three Mile Island. But some 2 billion years ago, natural nuclear reactors formed in uranium-rich rocks in the Oklo region of Gabon, West Africa, the only known natural nuclear-chain-reaction site in the world. And, for 150,000 years, the reactors produced pulses of power every three hours—they would be active for 30 minutes, then go into a 2.5-hour cool-down.

Studying the site have been Alexander Meshik, senior research scientist in the Department of Physics in Arts & Sciences, and colleagues, who have precisely determined the details of how these reactors created the equivalent of a 100-kilowatt nuclear plant. These details provide evidence that it was the presence of water that not only provided self-regulation of the reactor, but also allowed it to avoid an explosive, self-destructive, runaway chain reaction.

Analyzing a fragment of Gabon-site rock that's less than one-eighth of an inch, Meshik has calculated that the precise isotopic structure of xenon, a gas, in the sample reveals that the reactors operated on a cyclical basis. The findings also suggest that the cycle was related to the presence of water in the rocks and its ability to be a neutron moderator, according to Meshik and his collaborators—Charles M. Hohenberg, professor of physics, and Olga Pravdivtseva, senior research scientist in physics. Evidently, as the temperature of the reactor went up, water was converted to steam, reducing the neutron thermalisation and shutting down the chain reaction.

The chain reaction restarted only when the reactor cooled down and the water, which had boiled away, was replenished by groundwater flowing in the uranium veins.

The scientists arrived at their findings, published in Physical Review Letters, by using a selective laser combined with sensitive, ion-counting mass spectrometry to analyze the xenon in the rock sample. From their analysis, they inferred not only how the reactors worked but also how they safely stored nuclear wastes. (The system's waste absorber was aluminophosphate, a uranium-free mineral assembly of lanthanum, cerium, strontium, and calcium.) Meshik explains that the findings, such as the importance of aluminophosphate and the fact that water reached the boiling point at the reactor site, may give researchers ideas on how to operate contemporary nuclear reactors more safely and efficiently.

"This is very impressive, to think that this natural fissionable material not only had enough mass to sustain a reaction but it also safely stored the waste," Meshik says. "Nature is much smarter than we are. Nature is the first genius."

Alexander Meshik (center), senior research scientist, holds the rock fragment that he and colleagues Olga Pravdivtseva, senior research scientist, and Charles Hohenberg, professor of physics—all in Arts & Sciences—studied.
**Siteman Center Earns Highest NCI Status**

The Siteman Cancer Center has earned the National Cancer Institute's highest designation—that of Comprehensive Cancer Center. This distinction recognizes the broad-based research, outreach, and educational activities that Siteman offers—and adds $21 million to the research funding it receives.

"This honor and funding, adding to the $130 million in cancer research grants already held by researchers and clinicians affiliated with Siteman, will lead to improved strategies for cancer prevention, detection, and treatment," says Timothy J. Eberlein, director of the Siteman Cancer Center and also the Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Distinguished Professor, and the Bixby Professor of Surgery and head of the Department of Surgery, "and that will help reduce the burden of cancer locally and nationally."

The Center is the only NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center within a 240-mile radius. In the past year alone, more than 300 WUSTL physicians affiliated with Siteman cared for nearly 6,000 new and 30,000 follow-up cancer patients, and they conducted more than 350 clinical trials.

**IDAs—A Worldwide Tool Against Poverty**

The concept of IDAs (Individual Development Accounts) is one of those good ideas worth spreading around the world. That's why the University's Michael Sherraden, who conceived IDAs as a tool to enable low-income and low-wealth persons to save, build assets, and enter the financial mainstream, is happy that the idea is spreading nationally and internationally.

IDAs encourage savings efforts among the poor by offering matching contributions, at the rate of 1:1, 2:1, or greater, from federal and state governments and/or private-sector organizations and individuals. IDA programs, implemented by community-based organizations in partnership with a financial institution that holds the deposits, reward the monthly savings of working-poor families trying to buy their first home, pay for post-secondary education, or start a small business. These matched savings accounts are similar to 401(k) plans but can serve a broad range of purposes.

Sherraden, the Benjamin E. Youngdahl Professor of Social Development and founding director of the Center for Social Development (CSD) in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, has seen his idea spread to the point that more than 35 states in the nation now have some type of IDA policy, and the idea has influenced policy development in Australia, Canada, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom.

Most recently, there are two pilot programs in Uganda, through which guardians of orphans can have their savings for the children's education matched 2:1 by sponsors in the United States. It's a way to help thousands of primary school children orphaned by the scourge of HIV/AIDS have money for their secondary education and entrepreneurship. (Most of them are in the hands of elderly guardians, mainly widows who have no income to sustain them.)

Fred Ssewamala, M.S.W. '99, Ph.D. '03, one of Sherraden's doctoral students, who now is assistant professor in the School of Social Work at Columbia University in New York City, is spearheading the project in Kalisizo, Uganda. He, as a...
Three faculty members have been named to endowed professorships: **Nada Abumrad**, professor of medicine, as the first Dr. Robert C. Atkins Professor of Medicine and Obesity Research; **Daniel P. Kelly**, H.S. ’88, professor of medicine, of molecular biology and pharmacology, and of pediatrics, as well as director of the Center for Cardiovascular Research and co-director of the Cardiovascular Division—all for the School of Medicine—and a cardiologist at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, as the Alumni Endowed Professor of Cardiovascular Diseases; and **Yoram Rudy**, professor of biomedical engineering in the School of Engineering & Applied Science, as the first Fred Saigh Distinguished Professor of Engineering.

**Floyd E. Bloom**, M.D. ’60, University trustee and former editor of *Science Magazine*, has been awarded the Walsh McDermott Medal, given annually to a member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) who has provided distinguished service to the National Academies, comprising IOM, National Academy of Engineering, National Academy of Sciences, and National Research Council.

**The Center for Mental Health Services Research** in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work has received funding from the National Institute of Mental Health to become the nation’s first Advanced Center for Interventions and Services Research at a school of social work.

**Joel D. Cooper**, the Evarts A. Graham Professor and chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, has been awarded an honorary fellowship at the Royal College of Surgeons, internationally recognized as one of the world’s leading authorities in surgery.

**David W. Detjen**, A.B. ’70, J.D. ’73, a partner in the New York office of Alston & Bird, LLP, and co-chair of the law firm’s New York international group, has been named a member of the University’s Board of Trustees.

**Timothy J. Eberlein**, the Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Distinguished Professor; the Bixby Distinguished Professor of Surgery; chair, Department of Surgery; and director, Siteman Cancer Center, is editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*.

Professors in the School of Medicine-and those who were named as new fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world’s largest general scientific society, are **Elliot L. Elson**, Alumni Endowed Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics; **Timothy M. Lohman**, the Marvin A. Brennecke Professor of Biological Chemistry and professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics; **Jane E. Phillips-Conroy**, professor of anatomy and neurobiology and also professor of anthropology in Arts & Sciences; and **Herbert W. Virgin**, professor of pathology and immunology and of molecular microbiology. Elected from Arts & Sciences were **Gayle J. Fritz**, professor of anthropology, and **Eric J. Richards**, associate professor of biology.

**Michael J. Mueller**, B.S.P.T. ’79, M.H.S. ’84, Ph.D. ’92, associate director of the Program in Physical Therapy, was elected to the Catharine Worthington Fellowships by the American Physical Therapy Association.

**Michael J. Welch**, professor of radiology, of molecular biology and pharmacology, and of chemistry, and head of the Radiochemistry Institute at the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, has been named the George M. Olin Distinguished Professor and Ann W. Olin Chair in Radiobiology at the American College of Radiology.

**Risa Zwerling Wrighton**, M.B.A. ’89, wife of Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton, was inducted into the YWCA’s Academy of Leaders at the group’s annual Leadership Lunch.
What's Jupiter Really Made of?

For years, it has been widely accepted in the scientific community that the planet Jupiter, the largest and most massive planet in the solar system, was formed 4.5 billion years ago with an overall composition similar to that of the Sun, with enrichments of oxygen and other elements heavier than helium. Jupiter's core was believed to be a massive snowball that formed in the cold reaches of the outer solar nebula. However, Katharina Lodders, research associate professor in Earth and Planetary Sciences in Arts & Sciences, after studying data from the Galileo probe of Jupiter and earlier Earth-based infrared spectroscopic measurements, says the core of the planet was mainly tar instead of ice.

Showing Modern Architecture in St. Louis

The first in-depth survey of modern architecture as it evolved in St. Louis was recently published in the form of a book titled Modern Architecture in St. Louis: Washington University & Postwar American Architecture, 1948-1973. Eric Mumford, associate professor and director of the Urban Design Program in the School of Architecture, edited the book, which, among other topics, covers the history of Eero Saarinen's Gateway Arch; modernist sacred architecture in the city and surrounding suburbs; and the prominent role played by the School of Architecture, its faculty, and alumni.

The book, which includes more than 100 archival photographs and drawings, was designed by Ken Botnick, associate professor of art, and Ben Kiel, B.F.A. '01, of the emdash company in St. Louis. The School of Architecture published the book, which retails for $40 and is available at the Campus Store. Distributor of the book is University of Chicago Press. For information, visit: www.arch.wustl.edu.

Physicist Is Co-Recipient of Prestigious Prize

In the mid-1950s, when physics Professor Richard E. Norberg and Irving J. Lowe, Ph.D. '56, then a doctoral student, were doing early work on nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), they likely didn't know that their findings would change the field in basic ways and help lead the way to NMR's becoming a practical analysis tool. Nor did they know that they would be co-recipients of the 2004 ISMAR Prize, the highest honor of the International Society of Magnetic Resonance.

"Dick Norberg has been a pioneer in the development and application of nuclear magnetic resonance as an incisive tool for the study of condensed-matter systems," says John W. Clark, the Wayman Crow Professor of Physics and chair of the physics department in Arts & Sciences. In addition, Norberg, who joined the University physics faculty in 1955 and was department chair from 1962-91, has advised close to 50 doctoral students during his career. One of those students was Lowe, whose studies were directed by Norberg and the late George E. Pake—former University provost, trustee, physics professor, and department chair. Lowe, now professor of physics at the University of Pittsburgh, also is a noted authority in the field of magnetic resonance.

ISMAR, which represents one of the most active subfields of physics, chemistry, and medical imaging, cited Norberg and Lowe for their discovery and demonstration of the Fourier transform method for obtaining NMR spectra in solids and for their contributions to the invention and demonstration of magic-angle spinning.

As winners of the ISMAR prize, given every three years, the two join a distinguished group of previous ISMAR Prize recipients, including 1992 co-winners Paul C. Lauterbur and Peter Mansfield, who received the 2003 Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine for their discoveries concerning magnetic resonance imaging.

New Process Neutralizes Water Pollutant MTBE

Most people aren't thinking about methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) when pumping gasoline into their vehicle. But, when underground gasoline storage tanks leak, as they frequently do, this gas additive—a toxin implicated as a cancer-causing agent—quickly contaminates groundwater sources. MTBE has been detected at low levels in municipal water sources around the nation and, in several cases, has made its way into tap water. (The chemical's presence produces an offensive taste and a slight odor.) That's why it's a good thing that scientists such as Pratim Biswas, the Stifel and Quinette Jens Professor of Environmental Engineering Science and director of the Environmental Engineering Science Program at the University, not only think about such problems, but also find ways to remedy them. (Ironically, MTBE, which has been used in American fuels...
Researchers Are First to Grow Norovirus in Lab

Most people stay as far away as possible from norovirus, the umbrella term for about 200 strains of stomach flu or viral gastroenteritis, whose hallmark symptoms are sudden and explosive vomiting and diarrhea. (The Norwalk virus strain caused a series of repeated outbreaks on cruise ships, in military personnel in Afghanistan, and caused an outbreak at Yellowstone National Park in summer 2004.) Fortunately, however, there are scientists willing to study them up close, in hopes of aiding development of a vaccine against one or more strains. That’s why scientists have been trying for years to grow a norovirus in the lab.

University scientists led by Herbert W. “Skip” Virgin, H.S. ’91, professor of pathology and immunology and of molecular microbiology, recently became first to accomplish the feat, showing that the mouse norovirus MNV-1 could be grown inside cells from mice with defective immune systems.

Findings of the team, including Stephanie Karst and Christiane Wobus, both post-doctoral research scholars in pathology and immunology, appeared in the December 2004 issue of the online journal PLoS Biology, published by the Public Library of Science. “By looking at the mouse virus we’d grown in the lab, we were able to identify a part of the capsid, the virus’ protein shell, that is essential to its ability to cause disease,” Virgin says. “If this part of the capsid has an equivalent in human noroviruses, altering or disabling it may give us a way to produce forms of the viruses that are weak enough to serve as vaccines.”

Noroviruses are involved in about half of all food poisoning cases and annually cause about 23 million cases of acute gastroenteritis in the United States. (The symptoms tend to last 24 to 48 hours.) Of these cases, about 50,000 persons are hospitalized, and an estimated 400 die, epidemiologists believe. The death rate is much higher in developing nations.

The viruses are spread through consuming contaminated food or water, touching contaminated surfaces, or having direct contact with infected persons. The Norwalk virus, first identified after a 1968 outbreak of gastroenteritis at a school in Norwalk, Ohio, likes to enter the body by inhalation rather than by the fecal or oral route. The virus, though once called the winter vomiting virus, occurs year-round.

All norovirus infections spread rapidly and are difficult to prevent from spreading. They are so virulent that as few as 10 to 100 microscopic particles are needed to cause an infection. Public-health experts say that chlorine-based products, such as bleach, are the most effective sanitizers against noroviruses. Common household chemical sanitizers are not effective at killing viral particles, nor are ammonium-based compounds.

Scientists hope that further study may help prevent and control human disease caused by noroviruses.

To neutralize MTBE in water, Pratim Biswas (left), the Stifel and Quinette Jennings Professor of Environmental Engineering Science, developed this unit, which postdoctoral fellow M.H. Lee uses to perform experiments.

Resolving Disputes Without Going to Court

In many disputes, be they domestic or professional, in the corporate world or between neighbors, someone blurts, “I’ll see you in court.” But resolving conflicts via alternative processes such as negotiation, mediation, and arbitration has advantages. Compared to litigation, these alternatives are more flexible, more transformative, less costly, less emotionally damaging, and less taxing on overburdened U.S. courts.

Responding to practicing lawyers’ and law students’ interest in the rapidly developing field of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), the School of Law created an ADR Program and, in January 2004, named Karen Tokarz, professor of law and director of clinical education, as director of the new program.

In Tokarz’s Civil Rights & Community Justice Clinic, law students receive mediation training and participate in actual mediations. The ADR curriculum also includes ADR Theory & Practice and, new in spring 2005, Negotiation Theory & Practice, taught by Judi McLean Parks, the Reuben C. and Anne Carpenter Taylor Professor of Organizational Behavior in the Olin School of Business.

since 1979, has been used as an alternative to octane-enhancing lead additives because it helps fuel to be completely combusted, decreasing the environmentally harmful byproducts of incomplete burning.) Biswas has discovered a process that can help clean up water contaminated by MTBE. It involves use of a nanostructured form of a compound called titanium dioxide, on whose surface MTBE is oxidized, thereby yielding the harmless gas carbon dioxide. Biswas has designed nanostructured configurations of this catalyst to optimally degrade the pollutant.

He has also designed a compact unit for MTBE removal, and companies now are collaborating with him to increase its capacity.
Baskets Bring Blessings

The Blessing Basket Project gets an award-winning business plan from undergraduate and graduate business students.

In developing countries, some men and many women are weaving baskets as a way to end the cycle of poverty, thanks to Theresa Wilson and her nonprofit startup The Blessing Basket Project™.

A little more than a year ago, Theresa and her husband, Bryan, who were married in 2003, began the fast-growing social entrepreneurship venture, based in Granite City, Illinois. Its premise evolved simply, beginning in 1999, when Theresa, then a divorced mother of two, faced a personal crisis. Among gifts that friends sent her were many notes and letters of support, which she put into a trunk-shaped, wicker basket. “They were blessings,” she says, “and they were such an inspiration to me to hang on and keep going.”

Hearing Theresa’s story, many encouraged her to create blessing baskets for others. She decided to do that, but in a way that also would bless the basket weavers. Via the Internet, she sought weavers in high-poverty areas in the United States, but she had much better response from people in other nations.

Within a week after posting an online note via Mountain Forum, she received responses from persons in 12 countries, and, by the following week, the number was 25. Theresa and Bryan, an operating engineer apprentice, began choosing good, reliable weavers in Bangladesh, Cameroon, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and Uganda. They put in $8,000 of their own money to begin the project, which pays the weavers per-basket at a “prosperity” wage (multiples higher than the local average). The project then imports the baskets, which are high-quality, diverse, and attractive, to America and sells them via the company’s Web site (www.blessingbasket.org), direct sales, and fast-growing retail relationships. (For example, the baskets are marketed at the Whole Foods Market location in Brentwood Square in the St. Louis area.)

In August 2004 at a women’s networking event, Theresa met Shelby Gadberry, who, by day, is marketing director for Midwest BankCentre, a St. Louis-area bank and, by night, is an M.B.A. student in the Class of ’05. Gadberry told Wilson about entrepreneurship programs at the Olin School and soon thereafter introduced her to Kenneth A. Harrington, senior lecturer in entrepreneurship and director of the University’s Skandalaris Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, which sponsors the Olin Cup Competition for start-up companies each fall.

The rest, as they say, is history. The business plan for The Blessing Basket Project, developed with a team of five business students organized by Gadberry, was second-place winner in December 2004. As such, the project received $20,000 in seed money. (Recently, the nonprofit also received $200,000 from Robert J. Skandalaris, chairman of Noble International, and the namesake of the Skandalaris Center.)

“Our team worked countless hours on the business plan,” says Gadberry’s classmate and teammate Anna Helmering, who, by day, is manager of an information technology call center for the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. “Knowing that people’s lives and livelihoods are depending on what you’re doing is very motivating.”

Agreeing, Bryan Wilson says, “Everyone has a passion for this project. That’s what keeps us going.” Theresa now works full-time as executive director of the project, which also employs a sales manager.

From August 1 through December 31, 2004, the project sold 1,700 baskets for a total of $53,000. The baskets, created by about 1,000 weavers using indigenous materials—such as banana fibre, raffia, cane, reeds, elephant grass, and goat leather (for handles)—range in price from $25 to $45. Revenues above expenses are reinvested into additional product and economic/community development projects.

The project’s future looks bright. It has many delighted customers, 15 countries on the waiting list to provide weavers, donors in the wings, the prospect of an appearance on The Oprah Winfrey Show, ongoing talks with several retail outlets, plans for additional indigenous products; and a goal to sell 30,000 baskets in 2005.

“The business plan the students helped us create is invaluable,” Theresa Wilson says, “because its clear milestones are helping and will continue to help us avoid expanding too quickly. We don’t want to be a ‘flash in the pan’; we want to create sustainable jobs for our weavers.”

For more information, go online to www.blessingbasket.org.

—Nancy Belt
Recognizing the Importance of Planned Gifts = Washington University in St. Louis

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- Ways to stabilize your income.
- An enduring gift to Washington University.

Consider a Washington University Charitable Gift Annuity.

If you are age 72 and create a $10,000 gift annuity with appreciated securities, which have doubled in value, you will receive the following benefits:

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<tr>
<th>Rate of return</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fixed annual income for life</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taxed as ordinary income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tax-free portion</td>
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<td>Taxed at capital gain rates</td>
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(The entire amount becomes taxable income after the first 14.5 years.)

Immediate federal income tax deduction $4,001

(Your charitable deduction will vary.)

You may also fund a gift annuity with cash.

Sample Rates of Return

| Single life | | Double life | |
|:-----------|:|:-----------|---|
| age | rate | age | rate |
| 60 | 5.7% | 60 & 60 | 5.4% |
| 65 | 6.0% | 65 & 65 | 5.6% |
| 70 | 6.5% | 70 & 70 | 5.9% |
| 75 | 7.1% | 75 & 75 | 6.3% |
| 80 | 8.0% | 80 & 80 | 6.9% |
| 90 | 11.3% | 85 & 85 | 7.9% |

For further information or to request a personalized example if you are 60 or older, please call 1-314-935-5848 or 1-800-835-3503, complete the attached reply card, or e-mail us at plannedgiving@wustl.edu.

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Design by Jeffrey St. Pierre, B.F.A. '01/Create Studio at Washington University
SOME YEARS AGO, Carl Bender's father was putting Bender's son, Michael, to bed by recounting the story of a well-known physics problem: that of the brachistochrone, a quickest path that a bead on a wire can take to get from one point to another. The curved shape of the brachistochrone was well-known; it had been worked out 300 years before. But as Bender listened, he suddenly realized that his father, a high-school physics teacher, was wrong.

"My father said, 'What do you mean, I'm wrong?,'" recalls Bender, who is professor of physics at Washington University. "He said, 'This is a classical physics problem; it's solved.' But I said, 'That's no longer the right answer, and I'm going to find the right answer.'" Working with an undergraduate eager for a challenge, Bender updated the brachistochrone to take into account Einstein's theory of relativity.

Bender makes a habit of questioning accepted answers, and, more recently, that habit has led to work that's changing the way physicists look at the field of quantum mechanics.

Quantum mechanics—the study of the behavior of very small particles—is much newer than the brachistochrone problem, but still, its basic principles were worked out early in the 20th century. "Most of those principles are very physical," Bender explains. "But one postulate is different from all the others because it's a mathematical axiom. It's not something you can measure." That axiom states that certain aspects of quantum mechanics must be "Hermitian," meaning, among other things, that they must remain in the realm of real numbers—that is, numbers that can, whether positive or negative, rational or irrational, be found on a number line.

"But insisting quantum mechanics must be Hermitian," Bender says, "is like saying all numbers must be even. You can't give an experimental reason for it. You can tell me that aesthetically even numbers are nicer than odd ones, but you can't say, 'Odd numbers are rejected by this experiment.'" In 1998, Bender proposed an alternative, non-Hermitian theory, one that allows for complex numbers—that is, numbers that exist outside the number line, in what might more accurately be termed a number plane.

To those familiar with quantum mechanics, saying Hermiticity isn't required is a little like saying the sky doesn't need to be blue. "When I give talks on this, I hear comments from people in the audience that it has..."
to be wrong," Bender says. "But then they think of an example, and they try it out—and to their amazement, it seems to work."

Saying a theory seems to work is different from saying that it's been proven; right now, non-Hermitian quantum mechanics isn't a statement of how the universe does work, but rather it is a model of how it might work. Yet in the sciences, such working models are far from trivial. "Carl has opened up a whole new area of physics," explains Washington University colleague Claude Bernard, professor of physics. "We don't know yet whether this type of theory describes the real world, but if it does, it represents a fundamental revolution in basic physics. And even if it doesn't, it forces us to re-evaluate what we thought we knew about how nature must operate."

Around the world, researchers are taking part in that re-evaluation, investigating and challenging and applying Bender's work. Along the way, they're finding possible explanations for some unanswered questions: questions such as why the universe seems to be expanding at an accelerating rate, for example, or why so much more matter has been observed than antimatter. In 2003, an entire international conference focused on non-Hermitian quantum mechanics; in 2004, there were two such conferences; and in 2005, three more conferences in Italy, Turkey, and South Africa are planned. New papers appear almost daily.

"This has inspired a tremendous amount of rigorous study," Bender says. "I can't tell you how exciting that is." Bender and his graduate students have published more than 30 papers of their own since 1998, three of them in Physical Review Letters, the field's most distinguished journal. Bender recently received a Guggenheim Award for his work, as well as a grant from the United Kingdom's Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, both of which helped fund a year of research at London's Imperial College.

Pursuing groundbreaking work isn't new for Bender. "I could point to a long string of similarly exciting innovations and breakthroughs, all the way back to Carl's Ph.D. work," says John Clark, chair of the Department of Physics and Wayman Crow Professor of Physics.

Bender admits he finds his current work particularly compelling, though. "I'm having more fun now than I've ever had in my life," he says.

Bender believes physics should be fun, and he is committed to fostering that enthusiasm in his students. He works with three graduate students, whom he views as colleagues. They meet daily, investigating ideas and testing conclusions. "I really like collaborating," Bender says. "Discovering things together, that's a very intense relationship."

He collaborates with gifted undergraduates, too, and proudly displays the resulting publications on his Web site (including a paper, "Relativistic Brachistochrone," published in the Journal of Mathematical Physics in 1986). He says the potential for undergraduate collaboration is one of the things that makes Washington University a great school. "Undergraduates here have the chance, if they're interested and bright, of doing meaningful research—not just bottle washing, but actual research and thinking."

Bender's classes are consistently popular; students recall fondly both his enthusiastic teaching and his awful physics puns. "Carl is unquestionably one of Washington University's best teachers and mentors," Clark says. "He has an uncanny ability to frame difficult ideas in language that is perfectly tuned to what the student already knows."

Bender works with students in other ways, as well: by helping to interview applicants for the College of Arts & Sciences' prestigious Compton Fellowship; by asking students to help review his current textbook-in-progress, Partial Differential Equations for Scientists and Engineers; and by being one of the coaches for the undergraduate Putnam Mathematical Competition, in which the University often ranks in the top 10.

"The Putnam problems are very tricky, but there's always an insightful solution," Bender says. "I try to teach students to think in new ways while coming up with the answers." He adds that solving clever problems with known answers is only the first step to becoming a scientist, and he encourages those students who can to take the next step as well. "With research, you don't know that there's an answer," he explains. "You have to be willing to invest a lot of energy into something that might not work. You have to be an optimist. You also have to have a nose for choosing problems that you can solve. A good research problem is the most precious thing there is."
Washington U. alumnus Jade Vinson was both a student and collaborator of Bender’s. “Professor Bender presented problems as if approaching them for the first time,” remembers Vinson, A.B./M.A. ’97, who also holds a Ph.D. from Princeton and is now a computational biologist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. “He explained what a sensible person should try first and why, showing the same excitement you’d expect the first time the problem was solved.” In 1997, the paper Vinson co-authored with Bender won the Morgan Prize for the best undergraduate research in the country.

“Carl treats students as equals,” Bernard says. “He takes their contributions very seriously. His enthusiasm and caring approach encourages them, and his quick mind tweaks good first steps into brilliant final products.”

Back when he was a student himself, Bender initially avoided studying physics because he didn’t want to compete with his father. “As far as I could tell, my father knew everything about physics,” Bender says. But Bender was eventually drawn to the field by the promise of tackling difficult problems there. “I was very idealistic. I wanted to do something that was hard.”

He received encouragement from an undergraduate teacher at Cornell University and went on to do graduate work at Harvard University. He spent time at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Imperial College in London, the Technion–Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, and the Los Alamos National Laboratory before joining Washington University in 1977.

In addition to his work with students, Bender has served on numerous University committees and journal editorial boards over the years. He is now the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Physics A.* “I can always count on Carl as an advocate of the highest quality and integrity,” Clark says, “both in the way our department operates as a whole and in our individual approaches to teaching and research.”

Right now, Bender continues to enjoy exploring the new area of quantum mechanics he’s developed, and to watch others doing the same. “It’s not dull,” he says. “It’s not more of the same. We’re actually trying to think of new principles, and that’s exciting.”

"Carl has opened up a whole new area of physics," explains Claude Bernard, professor of physics. "We don't know yet whether this type of theory describes the real world, but if it does, it represents a fundamental revolution in basic physics. …"

Professor Bender (standing) works closely with both undergraduate and graduate students, whom he views as colleagues. At right, he collaborates with doctoral students Qinghai Wang (left) and Sebastian Brandt. Bender also coaches undergraduates for the Putnam Mathematical Competition, in which the University often ranks in the top 10.
Untangling Genetic Roots of Disease

With equal intensity, Professor Alison Goate searches for genetic mutations responsible for several neuropsychiatric disorders, including Alzheimer's disease, alcoholism, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

BY JUDY H. WATTS

To call internationally known molecular geneticist Alison Goate exceptional is not to simply state the obvious. Much like the elusive disease risk factors she finds at the most fundamental level, evidence comes in many forms and is sometimes unexpected. Take the comment by Goate's longtime collaborator and compatriot John Hardy, now chief of the Laboratory of Neurogenetics at the National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Aging. He recruited Goate in 1987 to join his Alzheimer's research lab at London's Imperial College, when she was a young postdoc and both were still in their homeland. Hardy's phrasing is exuberant and his meaning plain: "Alison is fab—as a scientist and as a person! You know, a lot of scientists have got personality disorders of one sort or another, and Alison just hasn't. Everybody trusts her."

A member of the Departments of Psychiatry and Genetics at Washington University School of Medicine since 1992, Goate is the Samuel and Mae S. Ludwig Professor of Genetics in Psychiatry and professor of genetics and of neurology. Her 16-person lab is devoted to genetic research on Alzheimer's disease (AD), tauopathies, and alcoholism—and since January 2005, the molecular underpinnings of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), often referred to as Lou Gehrig's disease. Her genetic studies help pinpoint causal pathways that will lead to molecular targets for new drugs (such as enzyme inhibitors or even vaccinations).

"The breadth of Alison's research, much of it groundbreaking, is unusual in science," notes alcoholism research colleague Tatiana Foroud, director, Division of Hereditary Diseases and Family Studies in the Department of Medical and Molecular Genetics at Indiana University School of Medicine.

Thanks to Goate's tireless efforts to identify genetic risk factors from an almost unimaginably convoluted labyrinth of genetic and environmental variables—the proverbial needle in a haystack—she has already made huge contributions to understanding diseases that ravage adults of all ages. "She is an absolutely outstanding scientist," says David M. Holtzman, the Andrew B. and Gretchen P. Jones Professor of Neurology and head of the Department of Neurology. He is also the Charlotte and Paul Hagemann Professor of Neurology and Molecular Biology and Pharmacology.
Professor Alison Goate's genetic studies help pinpoint causal pathways that will lead to molecular targets for new drugs (such as enzyme inhibitors or even vaccinations).
Age Is a Risk Factor for Alzheimer’s

The Growth

Alzheimer’s prevalence in the U.S., by age, 1997

Projected Alzheimer’s patients in the U.S., in millions

A first—on behalf of early-onset Alzheimer’s disease

Goate’s name was heard around the world in 1991, when as part of the Hardy lab she became the first person to discover a genetic mutation linked to an inherited form of AD. Just before that breakthrough, researchers including Goate had reported a linkage between familial AD and chromosome 21, as well as the location of the amyloid precursor protein gene (APP) on that chromosome. The protein, amyloid beta 42 (Ab42), is found in plaque deposits in Alzheimer patients’ brains. Because scientists back then assumed a single gene caused all early-onset cases of AD, when one group sequenced the APP gene in AD cases from two AD families that had no mutations, most researchers began to look elsewhere on chromosome 21.

Goate, however, was co-investigator on a large study of many families; the data suggested that familial AD was genetically heterogenous—genes on 21 and other chromosomes might be risk factors in different families. In an important conceptual advance, Goate realized that linkage data from multiple families should not be combined unless each individual family provided evidence for linkage to the same chromosome; instead, families had to be examined one by one. She did that—and found APP gene mutations in several families showing linkage to chromosome 21.

“It was tremendously exciting!” she says.

At Washington University the following year, Goate continued to investigate early-onset cases that occur without an APP mutation, gathering family material with the help of the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center. In summer 1995, a Toronto lab announced a novel mutation-carrying gene, now called presenilin-1; that fall, Goate and Hardy published a paper that fleshed out the new gene’s character.

Other major contributions were Goate’s co-authorship of a paper describing a linkage to chromosome 17 in frontotemporal dementia (FTD)—which has its own set of symptoms, can be familial, and can appear before the age of 60. In a 1998 study, Goate and two other groups identified mutations in the tau gene, which codes for the protein that accumulates in tangles inside brain cells in several neurodegenerative diseases including FTD and AD. The finding helped settle a prolonged debate in the field about which of the two characteristic brain abnormalities represented the driving force in Alzheimer’s—neurofibrillary tangles or amyloid plaque deposits. The study showed that tau gene mutations produce dementia and tangles but not B-amyloid deposition—and therefore, not AD.

“As the mutations in APP and presenilin were already saying,” explains Goate, “abnormal accumulation of B-amyloid drives Alzheimer’s disease pathology. Tangle formation is a secondary event; when it is primary, frontotemporal dementia occurs.” Goate’s lab continues to work on the genetics of other tangle-associated disorders such as progressive supranuclear palsy.

The quest to untangle late-onset disease

Since 1997, Goate has been working on the recalcitrant genetics of late-onset AD, the more common form, which affects about 4 million Americans over 65. The only known genetic risk factor for that is the e4 allele of the apolipoprotein E (ApoEe4) gene on chromosome 19, which increases risk by three to eight times. But since only half of patients carry ApoEe4 alleles, other factors must be involved. In 2000, Goate led an international team of researchers that identified linkage to chromosome 10 suggesting that a gene in the region is a risk factor for AD. “Frustratingly, we’re still working on trying to find that and other genes involved in late-onset Alzheimer’s disease,” says Goate.

She is emphatically optimistic, however. “Because of the Human Genome Project’s advances, we have powerful tools to attack these problems. We will resolve this.”
In regard to research on late-onset Alzheimer’s, Professor Goate is emphatically optimistic. She says: “Because of the Human Genome Project’s advances, we have powerful tools to attack these problems. We will resolve this.”

A dedicated mentor, Professor Goate (left) works with Emily Walker, a graduate student in biochemistry, who is researching the cell biology of Alzheimer’s disease.

New Hope for Sufferers of ALS

In January 2005, Alison Goate entered a third research frontier: the genetics of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a progressive neurodegenerative disease that gradually destroys motor neurons reaching from brain to spinal cord to muscles. Although it typically occurs after the age of 40, young adults can be affected as well. Goate will work on ALS with colleagues across disciplines at the new Hope Center for Neurological Disorders at Washington University, which is dedicated to highly collaborative basic science research that will advance the understanding and treatment of a range of conditions. Initially Goate will study one family in which evidence suggests that it may be an X-linked disorder—one carried by females but which typically appears in males. The center is a partnership between Washington University and ALS Hope – The Chris Hobler/James Maritz Foundation.

Another first—for alcoholism and depression

Goate focuses with equal intensity on two other insidious diseases affecting millions of Americans—alcoholism and depression. She is lead investigator on a national team including School of Medicine psychiatric geneticists that recently became the first to identify a specific “susceptibility” gene that appears to increase the risk for both disorders.

Goate’s team analyzed DNA from 2,310 people from 262 families in which at least three members were alcoholics. Genetic linkage analysis in these families identified a region on chromosome 7 that was linked to risk for both alcoholism and depression. Because other researchers from the Collaborative Study on the Genetics of Alcoholism (COGA) had found that abnormal electrical activity in the brain might signal a risk for alcoholism and linked those patterns to a gene on chromosome 7 called CHRM2, Goate’s team started there. They believe that normal variations in CHRM2 either protect or put a person at risk, and will next identify the DNA sequence variants and figure out how they change the involved proteins’ functions.

Goate’s ongoing work, which will establish the molecular basis for the anecdotal connection between alcoholism and depression, is part of the six-university, NIH-funded COGA. “Our work is going very well!” Goate says. “The multidisciplinary COGA team has already identified several genetic risk factors for alcoholism.” COGA colleague Foroud says simply: “Alison’s contributions in this endeavor will be as far-reaching as what she has already done for understanding Alzheimer’s disease.”

A true collaborator and mentor

Goate has distinguished herself in important areas unrelated to her research. “She has mentored a cadre of young scientists,” Foroud says. “Many scientists don’t do that.” She was president of the Academic Women’s Network in 2003-04 and works hard to support women faculty and junior faculty in particular. She has “done incredibly well” and still remains “a normal person,” says her mentor, John Hardy, with whom Goate shared the prestigious Potamkin and MetLife research awards. “If I ever have a difficult scientific problem or a situation in my lab, she gives me fair advice. She’s a great mum [who takes her children to school every morning, picks them up many afternoons, and saves her own homework until after they’re in bed]; she has two lovely daughters [Juliet, 13, and Sasha, 9]; and she has a great husband [physician Frank Ashall],” Hardy says. “She’s just a great person!”

And from David Holtzman, one final distinction: “This is important, because it’s very uncommon: Alison is universally admired. Everybody says exactly the same things!”

Judy H. Watts is a freelance writer based in Santa Barbara, California, and a former editor of this magazine.

SPRING 2005 WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS 17
Ron Leax sits relaxed in his downtown St. Louis loft studio, wearing a flannel shirt to keep out the chill, shirt sleeves pushed up to reveal his strong sculptor's wrists. He looks nothing like the eccentric movie scientist one would expect to see here amid the tubes and vials of what could almost be a working laboratory. "When I was young, the expectation, I think, was that I would become a scientist," he says. "And as an artist, my work has always been grounded in the sciences."

To those familiar with his work, this confession is not particularly surprising. Much of it seems to be as much science experiment as art. For example, in the early 1980s, Leax, the Habey C. Ives Professor of Art, began building a serious body of work that mimicked ecological systems. "It was very much about trying to reinvigorate the activity of making art with some of the vitalism of biological sciences," he says. "The pieces included living animals and plants and were designed to keep them alive. I tried always to have the work teaching me. Eventually I ran out of money for those projects. To mimic natural systems with any kind of responsibility and any kind of accuracy is an expensive undertaking."

In 2000, he was commissioned by the Detroit zoo to create a temporary exhibit that allowed visitors a glimpse of both the animal habitat on display and the work (and keepers) behind the scenes. "The keepers were there every day so that you could actually watch them and the animals and see things that the public doesn't usually see," Leax says. "They were unbelievably nervous about this project at the start. I guess it's like when visitors come to your house and you don't want them to look in your closets. I found it utterly fascinating, the way coils are just tagged up and stuff is taped down to make the equipment more functional."

Perhaps his best-known body of work is the Ontological Library, which numbers more than 800 objects, including a year's collection of New York Times that Leax roughly bound in a pillar and placed in an ocean tidal flat for a year, where it was sculpted and modified by the action of the tides and aquatic life. "The library was about trying to merge some kind of ontological experience (the activity of being) with the epistemological (how we know what we know)," he says.

Leax also has created a series of three-dimensional periodic tables, literally using the form of the

Above: Nutrient Trap (detail), 32" x 74" x 56", mixed materials; 1984. • Right: Professor Ron Leax with Laboratory #9, 82" x 40" x 36", mixed materials; 2005.
periodic table to organize the activity and elements of sculpture. Another large body of work, called Laboratories or Last Suppers, conflated certain aspects of science, religion, and art.

"I wanted to look at big questions," Leax says. "It wasn’t really about religion, science, and art; it was about unanswered questions and how all of these things somehow come up short. It was about inadequacy."

He laughs, adding: "I’m pretty obsessed with ordering. Hopefully there’s some humor in it. Now I’m working on these kind of over-the-top laboratories."

Those looking for a glimpse of the inner Ron Leax in his art won’t find a lot of autobiographical material. He eschews what he calls the “romantic, self-indulgent, artist-in-the-garret myth,” striving instead for public engagement. His work is distinctly cerebral, often laced with humor, and created with the materials of daily life. He does not frequent art supply stores.

Because his own work crosses traditional aesthetic boundaries, it is easy for Leax to encourage a similar creative license among his students.

"Ron Leax is an absolutely wonderful professor," says Liz Giardina, B.F.A. ’02. "He sees value in students and what they’re doing, regardless of their medium. I love fashion and textile design. Other people did sound pieces or work that was completely Internet-based. But we were all sculpture students. Ron inspires you to think creatively and to find your own voice."

"There are lots of different effective teaching styles, and lots of different kinds of effective teachers. But Ron is one of the most effective," says Jeff Pike, dean of the School of Art. "Very few teachers are excellent at beginning instruction, mid-level instruction, and advanced instruction, and Ron has excelled in all three here."

Asked to describe his own role as a teacher, Leax smiles and says simply, "Stay out of the way as much as possible."

"He’s someone who pushes students, and he’s not a hand-holder at all," says Giardina, now working in Los Angeles as the assistant designer for Halston. She credits Leax with
encouraging her to create a broad, nontraditional portfolio.

"He's there every studio day, which is a great example, showing how to really follow through on your obligations as an artist," Giardina continues. "He also likes to make it fun. I think what matters is that you have professors like Ron who give you a strong background and then let you do something new and different."

"I've always enjoyed the classroom," Leax says. "I think sometimes there's this idea that the teacher is the giver all the time, when actually in the studio there's pretty rich invention coming back to you from the students, which invigorates the teacher.

"As you go up the academic ladder, from the introductory students to the upper-level students to the graduate students, teaching gets more complex," he adds. "Students begin to think that they know it. At the upper stages, in particular, I try to do very little telling. I try to do more listening. Then I offer a response, and the student and I have a discussion. Then the student is responsible for drawing conclusions and taking directions out of it."

Leax also worked for almost 10 years to develop and implement the national curriculum for advanced placement in three-dimensional design, a program that allows high-school students to pursue college-level studies for college credit.

From the students, which invigorates the teacher.

"When I was young, the expectation, I think, was that I would become a scientist," Leax says. "And as an artist, my work has always been grounded in the sciences."

"I'm always working on a multiplicity of things," Leax says, gesturing to the many drawings in his studio. "But now I'm really enthralled with the forms that come out of laboratories. As an artist you always try to go over the top a little bit, so I'm kind of in tin-foil city right now, aestheticizing the scientist aesthetic."

While Ron Leax's work may seem to exhibit a certain emotional detachment (you'll find no smiling portraits in his studio), in reality it is a very humanistic study of the way people interact with their environment.

"He's blending his love for science with his art and articulating his views of science through his art," Giardina says.

His drawings intrigue because they are not drawings at all in the traditional sense. He employs wine and oils and other unexpected materials. They're sprinkled, they're splashed. Coffee cup rings share the paper with candle wax drippings.

It is an evocative exploration of experience. He was in Florence, Italy, when he created many of these drawings, and the materials he used reflect his activities there.

His current body of work manipulates the iconography of medical technology, offering a very personal—and sometimes mocking—response to a cold and sterile scientific world with which we, as humans, often cannot comfortably coexist.

"Everything is designed, everything is engineered—and often badly designed and badly engineered," Leax says. "How do we address that? How does it affect us? How do we really use it?"

There's the science part. Next to one piece, which is covered with clear plastic, stands a bottle of blue cleaning spray.

"Yes, the plastic bag is part of the sculpture," Leax says. "The cleaner isn't, but I just like that color."

That's the art part. It's a rare and intriguing blend. 

Terri McClain is a free-lance writer based in St. Charles, Missouri.
In the hopes of alleviating diseases such as Alzheimer's, diabetes, and Parkinson's, University scientists urge Missouri legislators not to ban the research procedure "somatic cell nuclear transfer."

Professor Steven Teitelbaum, past president of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, says the promise of this research is that patients could use their own cells to ward off serious illnesses.
"This is the most important issue for medical research and future patient care that I can recall in the 44 years I’ve been a Missourian!" says research scientist and physician Steven L. Teitelbaum, who left Brooklyn in 1960 to enroll in the Washington University School of Medicine. What Teitelbaum, the Wilma and Roswell Messing Professor of Pathology and Immunology, cares about so deeply are the vast possibilities for healing diseases like Parkinson’s and diabetes—cures that could result from research on early-stage stem cells (sometimes referred to as embryonic stem cells).

Throughout the State of Missouri and beyond, scientists, research institutions, patient-advocacy groups, health-care organizations, and individuals strongly support early-stage stem-cell research. Unfortunately, a group of conservative political and religious leaders are attempting to criminalize such research in Missouri, specifically a research procedure to derive early-stage stem cells called “somatic cell nuclear transfer,” or SCNT.

The basic state of stem-cell science

Separating reality from hearsay and facts from fears—and understanding what somatic cell nuclear transfer is and is not—begins with basics, and publicized terms are often misleading. Stem cells, then, are basically of two types, adult and embryonic. Both can replicate themselves in the body and differentiate into mature cells.

Adult stem cells—present in fetuses, children, and adults—repair some types of damaged tissue, and each type seems able to develop only a limited number of mature cells into cells such as blood or bone cells. Adult stem cells are not a research substitute for embryonic stem cells, Teitelbaum emphasizes; scientists must study both adult and embryonic stem cells.

Embryonic stem cells are strikingly different from adult stem cells because they are pluripotent—they can differentiate into any type of mature cell. The possibility is strong that they could replace diseased or deteriorated cells and heal different parts of the human body.

To understand SCNT, one must first understand how the process differs from the early-stage human reproductive cycle. Several days after normal fertilization occurs in human beings, and before implantation in the womb, a pinpoint-sized ball called a blastocyst forms. The structure consists of undifferentiated cells including embryonic stem cells. Once the blastocyst implants itself in the womb, its cells begin to differentiate into various organs and structures. SCNT, however, is different and has nothing to do with the process and products of conception.

What somatic cell nuclear transfer offers medical researchers is a way of generating embryonic stem cells without a sperm fertilizing an egg. (The word somatic applies to all the cells in the body with the exception of sperms and eggs, which are called germ cells.)

Teitelbaum explains the SCNT procedure (see graphic on page 25): “The nucleus of an unfertilized egg is replaced with the nucleus from a somatic cell, such as a skin cell, from the patient who will ultimately be transplanted with the appropriate differential cells. It becomes a structure that looks similar to—but is very different from—a blastocyst produced by a sperm and an egg. Within it are embryonic stem cells but—and this is critical—they are unable to undergo the genetic reprogramming that, after sexual reproduction, permits the development of a healthy baby. And these SCNT-generated embryonic stem cells (ESC) have nothing to do with products of abortion and nothing to do with a sperm fertilizing an egg.”

Because the cells produced by SCNT contain the patient’s own DNA, there is a strong possibility that they will not be rejected after transplantation, even without the use of anti-rejection medication with its severe side-effects.
Stem-cell research may promise medical breakthroughs

Scientists are enthusiastic about SCNT-based embryonic stem-cell research because it may "lead to cures for people with diseases for which there is currently no hope," says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. Among these afflictions that disrupt or obliterate productive and meaningful lives:

- Parkinson's disease, whose progressively worsening movement difficulties are altering the lives of a million people in the United States alone;
- Diabetes, which affects more than one-sixth of the U.S. population, including children—and can produce complications ranging from heart, vascular, and kidney disease to blindness or coma;
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease), which causes the gradual death of motor neurons and progressive loss of all voluntary muscle movement including breathing;
- Heart attacks, strokes, Alzheimer's disease, severe spinal-cord injuries, and cancer—whose collective ravages are widely known because hundreds of millions of America's loved ones have battled them or are valiantly combating their destructive effects today.

Think what ESC research by means of nuclear transfer could mean, says Teitelbaum. "As a physician, I could NOT sit across from a patient with Parkinson's disease and say to that father or mother or neighbor: 'Investigating a promising way to save your life is just not worth using a pinpoint-sized ball of undifferentiated cells derived from an unfertilized egg and a simple skin cell.'"

Instead, Teitelbaum says he'd prefer to say that medical science is investigating Parkinson's disease with promising new treatments, thanks to SCNT.

Challenges of the new science

Because ESC research is so new, understanding the fundamental processes of the biology is the first mission. "We can't get to cures until we do the science, moving forward on all possible fronts," says Teitelbaum. "Science is standing in front of 20 doors and knocking on each of them. Behind 19 you may find nothing, in spite of all your hard work—but behind the 20th you may find gold."

Just a few of the labor-intensive realities researchers face are learning the best, most efficient way to encourage ES cells to generate the specific cells needed to treat different diseases, ensuring that the new cells will not become tumors, and learning how and where to deliver the cells effectively to sites in the body.

SCNT: A fundamental force for good

A bill may go before the Missouri legislature that supports criminalizing "human cloning"; however, language embedded in this legislation would also criminalize research using SCNT. While Washington University and research institutions throughout the region emphatically oppose cloning human beings (reproductive cloning), they urge lawmakers to authorize somatic cell nuclear transfer for medical research.

"SCNT—which is aimed not at making people but at curing people—has to be separated out of the legislation," says Teitelbaum. A national leader in his profession, and past president of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, he adds: "I know of no scientist who favors reproductive cloning of people."

Two weeks before 2005, leaders of four Missouri research institutions wrote to legislators in Jefferson City in support of SCNT: Chancellor Emeritus William H. Danforth, chairman of the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, in St. Louis; Elson Floyd, president of the University of Missouri System, in

David I. Gottlieb, professor of neurobiology, is among those researching the most effective ways to encourage embryonic stem (ES) cells to generate into specific cells. In his lab, the focus is on turning ES cells into neural stem (NS) cells.
Teitelbaum explains the SCNT procedure: "The nucleus of an unfertilized egg is replaced with the nucleus from a somatic cell, such as a skin cell, from the patient who will ultimately be transplanted with the appropriate differential cells. It becomes a structure that looks similar to—but is very different from—a blastocyst produced by a sperm and an egg. Within it are embryonic stem cells but—and this is critical—they are unable to undergo the genetic reprogramming that, after sexual reproduction, permits the development of a healthy baby."

Columbia: William Neaves, president and CEO of the Stowers Institute for Medical Research, in Kansas City (and member of Washington University’s Board of Trustees); and Chancellor Mark Wrighton. They pointed out that SCNT works entirely with the ordinary body cells of already-living persons and does not create new life—and urged legislators to follow other states’ examples by criminalizing cloning human beings (reproductive cloning) but authorizing somatic cell nuclear transfer for medical research.

"Banning research with nuclear transfer would undermine Missouri’s efforts to build a strong life sciences industry," the letter read in part. "It would damage our ability to attract and retain scientists, entrepreneurs, and life science companies. Very importantly, the medical care for Missouri’s citizens would be harmed. As new treatments and cures emerge from this promising research conducted elsewhere, many of our state’s citizens would not have access to cutting-edge medicine and would be forced to settle for second-class health care."

Continuing to build the region’s brilliant research community will benefit not only the region but the world, Wrighton says. St. Louis is at the heart of a rapidly developing BioBelt, in which thousands of scientists in dozens of academic and other research institutions—including companies that take discoveries to the community—are working on behalf of the plant and life sciences.

The free and open inquiry so essential to scientific strides is vital to the University as well. "Banning this research would have a chilling effect on our faculty," says Wrighton. Washington University’s climate of academic freedom, protected by research guidelines consistent with the laws of the state and federal government, "has been essential to our ability to recruit and retain the most talented faculty—including people not necessarily focused on stem-cell research.”

“We must maintain our welcoming environment for scientists,” Teitelbaum continues. “My colleagues in California, in a sense, are hoping that the bill will pass, because we have this great University—and they’re looking to pick off our faculty.”

**At the heart of it all**

"I believe in medical research," says Chancellor Emeritus Danforth. "Old cemeteries are full of the graves of babies and graves of young women, who died during or after childbirth. That is no longer true."

"During my internship at Barnes Hospital, a polio epidemic struck St. Louis. I helped put young people into iron lungs; some never came out. Others were paralyzed permanently. Today's house officers don’t see such things. "But house officers today see other serious diseases that cause suffering, pain, and premature death. I can’t imagine anyone wanting to stop medical research. Of all human undertakings, medical research is one of the most noble, and moral." Danforth concludes with an admonition to encourage SCNT, not to ban something that holds such great promise for our future health and well-being."

Judy H. Watts is a free-lance writer and former editor of this magazine.

For more information, please visit the Web site for the Missouri Coalition for Lifesaving Cures: www.MissouriCares.com.
Remembering the ‘FORGOTTEN HALF’

BY BETSY ROGERS

Alumnus Samuel Halperin’s landmark study reveals the obstacles faced by non-college-bound youth in today’s economy. His current focus is educating legislators on possible solutions.

Samuel Halperin trained as a political scientist, but he has given his life to education. Halperin earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in 1952 and his Ph.D. in 1956, all in political science and all at Washington University. He then began teaching political science at Wayne State University, in Detroit, but hoping to learn more about the practical world of politics, he applied for and won a Congressional Fellowship from the American Political Science Association. It took him to Washington, D.C., and, for the most part, he’s been there ever since. That practical world of politics, and in particular the politics of education, became his life’s work.

By the early 1960s, he had joined the team of legislative architects writing the education and social services bills for Lyndon Johnson’s Great Society. As assistant U.S. commissioner of education for legislation and, later, as a deputy assistant secretary of health, education, and welfare, he helped craft the historic church-state compromise that cleared the way for passage of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, providing federal funding for programs to help low-income children in public and private schools. Another law bearing his stamp was the 1965 Higher Education Act, which provided substantial new sources of financial aid for college students, the forerunners of today’s Pell grants.

In the decades since, he’s continued to practice the art of the possible, mastering the inner workings of the legislative process, helping craft and pass key legislation, and finding new and compelling ways to convince legislators of the critical role education plays in a civil society.

Today, as senior fellow at the American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF) in Washington, D.C., he still works to improve public education and to open up opportunities for those who might not otherwise even dream of college, the youth of the “forgotten half.”

Halperin turned his attention to this issue in 1986, when he went to work for the William T. Grant Foundation as study director of its Commission on Work, Family, and Citizenship. “While the attention of the nation was focused on kids going to college,” Halperin says, “the truth is that 70 percent of our adults never earn a college degree. Something needed to be done to give them the skill and the opportunities to be successful in society and in the employment market.”

In 1988 the commission issued two landmark reports, “The Forgotten Half: Non-College Youth in America” and “The Forgotten Half: Pathways to Success for America’s Youth and Young Families.” The reports, which Halperin co-authored, revealed the obstacles facing non-college-bound youth making their way in today’s problematic economy, where advanced technical skills are the coin of the realm and a high-school diploma falls far short of guaranteeing a job. (Halperin also edited an update, “The Forgotten Half Revisited,” in 1998.)

The Grant Foundation, not content simply to publish the reports, asked Halperin to stay on and help disseminate the findings, to identify solutions, and to work for their implementation. “It was visionary,” he says of the foundation. “These ideas don’t walk by themselves. You have to keep reminding people of the findings, you have to update the findings, and you have to get and retain the attention of policy-makers.”

To accomplish this last end, in 1993 Halperin founded the American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF) with the express purpose of bridging the gap between research, policy, and practice in the fields of education, youth development, and employment readiness. It is here that he continues his decades of service to American youth.

The AYPF brings together policy-makers, researchers, and youth-services practitioners with senior congressional aides, executive branch leaders, and officers of
Alumnus Samuel Halperin is founder of the American Youth Policy Forum in Washington, D.C., which works to bridge the gap between research, policy, and practice in education, youth development, and employment readiness.

associations concerned with youth development. These groups gather both for field trips and for forums. "We get people away from Washington," Halperin observes, "seeing what it's really like in the classroom, talking with parents, young people, employers, to get a sense of what's working and what isn't." The forums, held on Capitol Hill, discuss new studies and new literature in the field, as well as current contentious issues.

"We keep trying to create a voluntary professional development atmosphere in which people, regardless of which agency they work for or which political party they're attached to, come and learn together." And in the midst of Washington's fierce partisanship, they also work hard to keep a balance. Both parties, for instance, are represented in the top AYPF staff. "I think we've walked that line very successfully," Halperin says. "We've maintained a pretty open dialogue for 12 years."

The obstacles to expanding educational opportunities are daunting, Halperin concedes. For one, though Americans when polled always give education a high priority, frequently they fail to vote for the very bond issues or tax increases that would help improve their schools. Funding is always on the line, hostage to some budgetary crisis or other.

There are also widely held beliefs, sometimes warranted but often not, that the school systems are riddled with waste. And there's an incrementalism in attacking social problems that works against any grand vision. "The nature of American social policy-making is gradualism," he observes. "It's piecemeal. You hardly ever get a comprehensive and politically practical strategy."

At the same time, American education has remarkable strengths. "We have this wonderful graduate education that attracts students from all over the world," he notes. He cites the Job Corps, which helps 70,000 young people train for employment every year—who for want of that opportunity," he adds, "would probably be on the streets, in jail, or worse." Halperin is especially enthusiastic about the nation's community colleges, whose presidents and boards, he believes, are the real entrepreneurs in the educational marketplace, fashioning training programs to give today's youth 21st-century skills. "They've managed in many cases to figure out what their communities need," he explains. "They go to employers, to different segments of the public, and fashion local solutions to meet local needs."

Historically, America has had a grand educational vision, he says. "The finest thing we ever did in this country was the land-grant college legislation, which saw to it that every community could have access to the best research and the best knowledge available. Before that the Northwest Ordinance set aside public land in every community for the support of public schools. In more modern times, I can't think of anything superior to the GI Bill, which said, in effect, 'Go, develop yourself, and we will support you in that life-changing endeavor.'

"My vision would be that everybody could get any opportunity that our society provides."

Halperin understands well the priceless benefit of transformational opportunity. He has held high rank in the federal government. He has written or edited a dozen books on the political process and educational policy. He has taught at Wayne State, American, Duke, and Columbia universities. He has received the President's Medal of The George Washington University, the American Association of Community College's Harry S. Truman Award, and numerous other distinctions.

But, he adds: "I could not have done what I've done without initial loans and a fellowship from Washington University. An incredible number of faculty members took a personal interest in me. And the studies equipped me to think and to deal with change. They gave me a way to look at the world and to cope creatively with it, and I'm very grateful."
Financial Career

AddS UP TO PBS

Alumna Barbara Levy Landes wields a “can-do” attitude, bringing inspiration and positivity to her role as CFO of PBS, as a volunteer for Girls Inc. and WomenMatter, and as a mother of two young women.

BY KRISTIN TENNANT


These four words are used on the PBS.org homepage to describe the media enterprise’s programming, but they are equally fitting descriptors for Barbara Levy Landes, A.B. ’71, the organization’s CFO.

“Courageous” in particular best characterizes Landes in the years following her graduation from Washington University with a political science degree. She built her career on a series of pioneering steps, beginning with her status as one of the youngest and few female MBA students at the Wharton School of Business. A decade later she became the youngest female finance VP at NBC, and shortly thereafter combined motherhood with her career with the birth of her twin daughters. In these and countless other ways, Landes has boldly cut a path for other women to follow.

Landes says what fuels that type of courage and inspiration—especially for young women—is the power of education combined with an unwavering belief in oneself. For her, these gifts stem largely from her education at Washington University and her major adviser, John Sprague, who was then chair of the political science department.

“He was a wonderful adviser,” Landes says. “He encouraged me by recognizing that I had brains and could do anything I wanted to do. He instilled in me a ‘you-can-do-it’ confidence that kept me going in business school.”

This love of learning and level of encouragement Landes reaped from her contact with Sprague are things she spends much of her time sharing with others today. These common themes tie together what might seem unrelated at a glance, from her financial work at PBS to her volunteer activities to her role as a mother of two young women. It is fitting, for instance, that a woman whose own daughters grew up on Sesame Street helps keep the educational, self-esteem-building program and others like it on the air today. It is also fitting that Landes gives of her time serving on the board of directors for Girls Inc., where she is also treasurer and chair of the Financial Oversight Committee. The not-for-profit organization helps girls develop skills and self-esteem, exposes them to career options, and offers college scholarships. Most of the girls who benefit are from low-income families, many of them headed by single mothers struggling to provide for their children. Through her participation, Landes helps achieve the organization’s mission and tagline: “Inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold.” This, of course, is...
something Landes has been able to do for her own twin daughters—with the enthusiastic support and involvement of her husband, Mark—and it drives her involvement in Girls Inc.

"I have two girls—and I want to help give other girls opportunities to succeed in life and business," Landes says. "I was also very fortunate in my own career path. I was a pioneer early in my career because I had the skills and encouragement I needed."

Landes launched her career at CBS before further developing her extensive experience in broadcast media at NBC Radio and NBC Corporate, and then WWOR-TV, a broadcast “superstation.” Along the way, Landes has worked in a variety of areas for private and public companies, including an international consulting firm, an information technology company, and, more recently, for America Online's AOL for Broadband unit. She says she's thrilled to be back in broadcasting with her early 2003 PBS appointment.

“I feel that everything I’ve done before has prepared me for what I’m doing here at PBS,” Landes says. “So many of my professional and personal experiences have really come together in this position. ...”

As the youngest female finance VP at NBC in the early '80s, Barbara Landes also became the mother of twins. Successfully combining motherhood and career, Landes now works hard to give other girls opportunities to succeed in life and business. Her daughters also have high aspirations; in fall 2005, Beth (left) plans to apply for law school and Elissa for medical school.

children's cable channel and video-on-demand service, and negotiating a major real estate lease for the 2006 scheduled move of PBS' corporate offices in the Washington, D.C., area. The move will allow the organization to benefit from a custom-renovated and -designed space, at about the same long-term cost as staying in their current space. Landes says this kind of variety in her work at PBS both leverages her skills and provides new learning opportunities—a combination that continues to motivate her.

“We engage in a number of diverse and divergent business activities,” she says. “Yes, we distribute programming by satellite to 349 public television stations, but we also manufacture and distribute videos, are involved in e-commerce, and maintain the third largest dot-org in the world. The variety of what we do involves me in many ways.”

There are many similarities between running for-profits and not-for-profits—as Landes points out, a large organization embodies many intricacies, regardless of its tax status. But leading the financial arm of a not-for-profit does offer unique challenges. Most obviously, PBS serves a different type of customer than NBC or CBS—the American public, and many are “members” of their local public television stations. On a financial level, PBS' mission and status binds it to different “rules” regarding business activities and revenue options.

But even with less than 20 percent of PBS' income being funded through federal sources including grants, Landes says PBS has financial stability, thanks to a diverse funding stream. Most of the funding comes from private sources, most significantly the dues paid by member stations and the sale of mission-related and educational products. The new ventures that Landes is involved with, such as the partnership with Comcast and the formation of a PBS Foundation, further diversify and stabilize the organization's financial base.

Considering her many responsibilities at PBS, it is remarkable that Landes can still devote time to inspiring and empowering others. In addition to her involvement in Girls Inc., Landes is on the National Advisory Board for WomenMatter, a nonpartisan organization empowering women to unite and get involved in the political process, and she serves on the board of a local hospital foundation and on the Audit and Compliance Committee of the parent hospital system. As a longtime Washington University Eliot Society member, Landes also does fundraising for the Society, soliciting renewals and new members in the Washington, D.C., area. These many activities, although varied, all connect back to the common themes Landes embodies: one who's connected to people, passionate about education, courageous in her life endeavors, and an inspiration to so many. 

Kristin Tennant is a free-lance writer based in Urbana, Illinois.
Like a journalist with a poet’s eye, Christopher Cokinos, M.F.A.W. ’91, pursues stories of the obscure and natural—from extinct birds to meteorite hunters.

by C.B. Adams
ome writers find their genre early and stick with it—once a poet always a poet. For others like Christopher Cokinos, M.F.A.W. '91, writing is a circuitous journey that touches and then later retouches many disciplines.

Growing up on the west side of Indianapolis, Cokinos liked to look at the sky. His top-three interests were astronomy, space flight, and football, but when he was in high school, he became interested in writing. He worked on the school newspaper and attended summer journalism programs at Indiana University, where he later enrolled intending to become a hard-news reporter. After his freshman year, he had an internship at the Knoxville News-Sentinel and learned what daily news reporting was really like.

"I quickly found out that wasn't what I was cut out to do," he says.

While continuing to take journalism classes, Cokinos shifted his interest to English and creative writing, "backing into an English major and finding my real love, writing poetry." Cokinos applied to several M.F.A. programs and chose the one at Washington University in St. Louis, in part because he was offered a generous University Fellowship. However, he became disillusioned after his first year in 1986-87 and took a leave of absence.

"I simply wasn't emotionally ready to handle the graduate program at the time," he says. "I had a hiatus between my first and second year, but in that intervening time I grew up a lot and matured as a writer."

During his time away, Cokinos got married and followed his spouse to Kansas State University, where she had accepted a position. He took an administrative job but was not happy with the work.

"My unhappiness underscored that I really needed to finish my M.F.A.," he says.

Perhaps more important, Cokinos' time in Kansas continued to nurture his recent interests in birding, nature, and environmental concerns. These worked their way slowly into his poetry. Cokinos worked on his master's thesis long distance, then returned to the University to complete his course work. Many of his thesis poems were published in 1993 in his collection Killing Seasons, which won the Woodley Press' Robert E. Gross Award for Poetry. Cokinos considers one of the poems, "Loggerhead Shrike," to be a pivotal work.

"That for me was, if not the first such poem I had written, certainly the one that marked my maturation as a poet. All the essential things I had been struggling with as a poet—lineation, voice, engaging the self while honoring the world—all came together in that poem," he says.

Around the same time the collection was published, Cokinos embarked on what would become a 10-year project to chronicle the extinction of six species of North American birds. The project began surreptitiously on a blustery November afternoon.

Alumnus Christopher Cokinos is the author of Killing Seasons, which includes many of his M.F.A. thesis poems, and Hope Is the Thing with Feathers, a chronicle of the extinction of six species of North American birds. A Whiting Writing Award winner, he is assistant professor of English at Utah State University in Logan.
when he and his wife were bird-watching in the Flint Hills. They noticed a bright green bird that looked like it belonged in the rain forest, not Kansas. Cokinos contacted an experienced local birder who confirmed that the bird, a Black-hooded Conure, was indeed from the tropics and had probably escaped from its owner.

"Seeing this bird (conure) led me to learn of—and revere—America's forgotten Carolina Parakeet, which once colored the sky 'like an atmosphere of gems,' as one pioneer wrote. ...as I traveled to libraries and natural history museums on the trail of the vanished parakeet, I soon learned of other birds, other vanished lives: the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, the Heath Hen, the Passenger Pigeon, the Labrador Duck, and the Great Auk," Cokinos writes in the introduction to his book *Hope Is the Thing with Feathers, A Personal Chronicle of Vanished Birds*, which was published by Tarcher/Putnam in 2000 on the centennial anniversary of the shooting of the last known wild Passenger Pigeon, named Buttons. The book received attention from many venues, including NPR, *People*, *Scientific American*, and *The Washington Post Book World*.

The book is part natural history and part chronicle as Cokinos describes his experience gathering the information to complete the book, with the help of a Lila Wallace/Reader's Digest Fund Fellowship from the American Antiquarian Society. The project was also an endeavor that drew upon his experience in journalism and his emerging interest in prose and the essay.

"I realized that working in prose would allow me the expansiveness required to write about these birds," he says. "From a writerly perspective, I was haunted by them, and I became fascinated with the obscure, the odd stories tucked away in footnotes and dusty little folders somewhere. I have always had an interest in quirky, odd things that have some historical depth combined with a poet's interest in lyricism. These coalesced for me as I finished the book."

In 2002, following a divorce, Cokinos moved west. He is now an assistant professor of English at Utah State University and editor of *Isotope: A Journal of Literary Nature and Science Writing*. In 2003, he was one of 10 national recipients of the prestigious Whiting Writing Awards, given annually to emerging writers of exceptional talent and promise. In addition, he received the *Mid-American Review*'s FineLine Award for his lyric essay, "Blue False Indigo." He still writes poetry and currently has a book-length collection of poetry and a collection of cross-genre pieces that he is hoping will be published.

The $35,000 Whiting Award arrived at the perfect time to assist Cokinos in his latest writing project—detailing the exploits and obsessions of meteorite hunters both past and present. Cokinos, still looking skyward, discovered the topic of his new book when he learned about a woman, Eliza Kimberly, who in the 1880s believed she had found meteorites on her homestead in Kiowa County, Kansas. She had—and sold them, becoming the richest woman in the county.

"Her story led to other stories that I found compelling. I thought, 'I can write about these people and their obsessions, go to the places where they collected meteorites, and find out what happened to them.' The rocks themselves often aren't much to look at, but the people and the science associated with them are fascinating," he says.

In researching modern meteorite hunters, Cokinos discovered that one of the places richest in meteorites is Antarctica. He applied to the National Science Foundation Antarctic Visiting Artists and Writers Program and was approved to be a member of the 2003-04 Antarctic Search for Meteorites expedition. Cokinos spent several weeks in Antarctica with scientists—including, by chance, two from Washington University, Andrew Dombard and Gretchen Benedix—as they all searched for meteorites. They found more than 1,000.

The book is still two to three years from completion, but Cokinos knows he has hit his stride as a writer.

"I feel lucky that I was the one who found these stories first and got to tell the story of the last Passenger Pigeon and now the story of meteorite hunters. I am committed to these stories and to telling them as best I can. I still write poetry, but I think of myself now as a nonfiction writer," he says.

C.B. Adams is a free-lance writer based in St. Charles, Missouri.
BUILDING ON THE EXAMPLE of Helping Others

The Washington University School of Medicine and the St. Louis Holocaust Museum are among the many St. Louis institutions touched by Ira and Judith Gall. An integral part of the community they've come to love—Ira as a physician and founder of Medicine Shoppe International, and Judith as a dedicated volunteer—their commitment to the area started in 1952 during Ira's medical residency and has continued to grow over the last 50 years.

Ira, having earned his medical degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1951, accepted a residency in obstetrics and gynecology with Washington University’s School of Medicine at Barnes Hospital. “I had expected to complete my residency before going into the service,” Ira explains, “but the draft board had other ideas.” The couple spent two years at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio, before returning to St. Louis in 1954. “We thought we would only stay [in St. Louis] a few years,” Judith says. “We didn’t know anyone here, and our families were in Cincinnati.” (And their families had been influential in Ira and Judith initially becoming a couple. “Our grandparents were friends, and, knowing that we attended the same high school, they wanted us to date!” she says. “Finally we went out.” The couple married in 1952.)

Upon returning to St. Louis the second time, Judith was employed at Jewish Hospital, working with people arriving from Europe who had been displaced by World War II. She eventually left that position to raise the couple’s three sons, but many years later, the courage and heroism of the refugees Judith met helped to inspire the founding of the St. Louis Holocaust Museum.

PHYSICIAN AND BUSINESSMAN

Following his residency, Ira began a fellowship at the medical school in the field of infertility, which at that time was a subspecialty of gynecology. “There was one little room, an assistant, and me,” he recalls. “Today, reproductive endocrinology is a board-certified specialty with nine physicians at the School of Medicine. It’s been exciting to see the growth and progress in the field.” For a couple of years, he worked with the late William Masters, who was a pioneer in infertility and professor of clinical obstetrics and gynecology before pursuing his celebrated studies of human sexuality.

In 1957, Ira entered private practice with the late Mitchell Yanow, M.D. ’41, professor emeritus of obstetrics and gynecology at the School of Medicine. They formed one of the first physician corporations in Missouri, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Inc., which eventually grew to include eight doctors. Gall became vice chief of staff and a member of the board at St. John’s Mercy Hospital, and he remained on the faculty of the School of Medicine, where he recently retired as a professor of obstetrics and gynecology. He retired from private practice in 2002.
That would be a successful career for most physicians, but in 1970, Gall and Yanow founded Medicine Shoppe International, Inc., a chain of community-oriented franchised pharmacies that handle prescriptions and medical supplies. The partners began with 15 pharmacies, and by 1995, when Medicine Shoppe was purchased by Cardinal Health, Inc., it was the largest franchiser of independent pharmacies in the nation. In 1991, Gall and Yanow were named "Master Entrepreneurs of the Year" by Ernst & Young, Inc. Magazine and Merrill Lynch Business Financial Services.

"It was a case of being in the right place at the right time," Gall says, "yet there were times it was a real struggle. We had a great opportunity and the good fortune to be associated with some very fine people, but we put in a lot of hours, and it didn’t happen overnight. Our success was a combination of hard work and a lot of luck."

In return, Ira and Judith have shared their good fortune with others. Ira says: "My father instilled the belief that you have an obligation to give back to your community. He was not a wealthy man, but he believed in helping others. I am very grateful that we have been able to build on his example."

James R. Schreiber, the Elaine and Mitchell Yanow Professor and head of the obstetrics and gynecology department at the medical school, says: "Judith and Ira Gall are true friends of Washington University. They have provided resources to improve our academic programs, and they have given wonderful support to my wife, Mary, and me."

**SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY AND BEYOND**

Ira and Judith also are generous with their time. Ira has served on the medical school’s National Council for more than a decade and is a member of the Campaign committee for the Farrell Learning and Teaching Center. He is a former board member of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and a lifetime trustee of Temple Israel, where the Gall Sanctuary is named in the family’s honor.

Judith currently is the programs chair for the William Greenleaf Eliot Society. At the Miriam Foundation, she was a member of the board for many years and led the fundraising effort for the new Miriam School, which continues the foundation’s tradition of serving children with learning disabilities. She is a lifetime member of the Jewish Hospital Auxiliary and a former board member of the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, and she currently serves on the board of MERS Goodwill (Metropolitan Employment and Rehabilitation Service and Goodwill Industries); KMOX radio and the Suburban Journals named her a Woman of Achievement in 1999.

Judith also is one of the founders of the St. Louis Holocaust Museum and Learning Center and chaired the museum docents, many of whom are Holocaust survivors. Located in a 5,000-square-foot facility at the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, the museum will celebrate its 10th anniversary in May. It provides a chronological history of pre-war Jewish life in Europe, the rise of Nazism and events from 1933 to 1945, and post-war events including the Nuremberg Trials and Jewish life following the Holocaust. Exhibits include photographs, artifacts, and personal accounts of the many Holocaust survivors who emigrated to St. Louis.

Visitors to the Holocaust Museum come from across the United States and around the world. In the past year, 25,000 students from 350 schools toured the exhibits, including 1,000 students from St. Louis City schools, who were provided with transportation. The museum holds workshops for middle-school and high-school teachers and offers export programs for classes that cannot visit. Recently the museum received a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to develop a pilot project with St. Louis City Police at the Police Academy.

Judith says: "There is a 1939 photograph in the museum of a class in Hebrew school in Czechoslovakia. There are three dozen children in the picture, and only one is known to have survived the Holocaust. And you ask yourself: ‘What would this child have become, or that one? What wonderful things might they have done?’"

Ira and Judith Gall have dedicated themselves to helping others do great things. They have established scholarships at the Miriam School and the Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, and in 1998 they endowed the Ira C. and Judith Gall Professorship in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University’s School of Medicine. "Ira and Judy Gall have enabled us to grow and sustain our leading gynecological cancer program, and Ira has contributed significantly to the medical school’s remarkable ascendancy through his clinical work and his wise and thoughtful counsel," says William A. Peck, the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Distinguished Professor of Medicine and the former dean and executive vice chancellor for medical affairs. "They are wonderful people and absolutely committed to excellence. I have learned a lot from them and cherish their friendship."

Ira says: "Washington University School of Medicine is a superb institution with outstanding people. To belong to such a community makes you a better person and a better doctor. It has been the single most important professional association in my life, and whatever we have been able to contribute only partially repays what the School of Medicine has done for us."

—Susan Woolleyhan Caine

"My father instilled the belief that you have an obligation to give back to your community. ... I am very grateful that we have been able to build on his example," says Ira Gall.
outstanding student leaders are a hallmark of Washington University. Helping these student leaders become alumni leaders is a new program being coordinated by the Alumni Association. Student leaders from the undergraduate classes of 2004 and 2005 (dubbed the “Alumni Transition Team”) have gathered with representatives of the Alumni Association during their senior year to determine the best way to ease the transition from campus life to the alumni world, while helping retain class unity.

For the Class of 2004, the association joined with senior class leaders in producing life after school. explained., a book of helpful advice on everything from how to prepare for a critical interview to setting up a retirement account. The Alumni Association also helped pave the way for students to retain their University e-mail address beyond graduation. More than two-thirds of the Class of 2004 signed on.

J.J. Stupp, M.B.A. ’83, chair of the Alumni Board of Governors, comments: “Student leaders have helped us understand that we need to better articulate the benefits, not just the responsibilities, of being an alum. They know our University does a fantastic job in raising the funds necessary to move Washington University forward (and that they’ll be called upon to help). However, it is clear that we need to make them aware that there are also many advantages to life as an alum. Things like career networking, social and academic opportunities, not to mention the ability to stay meaningfully involved in the life of the University.”

Washington University Clubs
Connect with our community at 40 Washington University Clubs around the world. Participate in faculty presentations, community service, sporting events, cultural outings, and more.

Career Connections
Parents and alumni can join this international network of Washington University community members who have volunteered to provide insight on their education and career paths.

Rings & Things
The official Washington University ring, gifts, accessories, and apparel may be ordered online at alumni.wustl.edu. Click on “New for Alumni, Parents, and Friends.”

The University’s Alumni Association joined with senior class leaders from the Class of 2004 to produce life after school. explained., a reference book of helpful advice from proper dining etiquette to the “ins” and “outs” of retirement accounts.
Online Alumni Directory
Password-protected and designed exclusively for the use of Washington University alumni, the Alumni Directory allows you to update your address, locate a classmate, or find alumni in your community. To log on, you'll need the seven-digit Alumni Identification Number that appears above your name on the back of this magazine.

Reunion
Celebrate with your classmates and renew old friendships. For undergraduate alumni, Reunion is held in the spring—5th Reunion classmates celebrate during Thurtene Carnival weekend and older classmates in conjunction with Commencement. Reunions for graduate alumni vary, and you will be notified by your school.

Library Links
Alumni, parents, and friends can take advantage of the University Libraries' special page of links and searchable databases.

The Travel Program
One of the Alumni Association's greatest commitments to lifelong learning is our Travel Program, offering more than a dozen international and domestic trips each year, many led by University faculty members.

News of Note
Watch for Washington University in St. Louis Magazine four times a year, in addition to news and invitations from your school. One of the many benefits of having your e-mail on file with the Online Alumni Directory is the monthly e-mail newsletter @Washington University in St. Louis.

Your Records
Student transcripts are now available without a fee!

Special Events
If you live in the St. Louis area, or when you visit, take advantage of educational opportunities on campus, including alumni Century Club breakfasts, the Assembly Series lectures, the Travel Lecture Series, and courses offered through the various academic divisions. Alumni are invited to Founders Day each fall, a gala evening featuring prominent speakers.

Month of Caring 2004

Bears "Make Their Mark"
Since it began four years ago, more than 1,800 alumni and friends have participated in the Washington University Alumni Network Month of Caring. In October 2004, alumni, parents, and friends volunteered once again to represent Washington University and continue the great tradition of community service by generations of Washington University students.

The Month of Caring benefits local communities throughout the United States. Washington University Clubs select organizations that fulfill important needs in their city and pitch in to help out for a day. This year, projects ranged from packing boxes at a food pantry to neighborhood cleanup to building home access ramps.

Participants give back to their communities while meeting other alumni and friends and having a great time.

Nominate Your Favorite Project for 2005
If you know of a deserving organization that needs volunteers, please let us know. Plans are under way for the 2005 Month of Caring in October, and your suggestion may be chosen as one of the projects served by our volunteers. Please e-mail your suggestions to: alumni_relations@wustl.edu.

Dallas Ramp Project
Alumni and friends joined with fellow sponsors, the Kiwanis Club of Richardson and American Airlines, to help build home-access ramps for residents of Dallas and its suburbs. The volunteer project builds more than 200 ramps a year and has installed more than 1,200 ramps to date.

Atlanta Community Food Bank
Founded in 1979, the Atlanta Community Food Bank provides food and other donated products to more than 750 nonprofit partner agencies serving 38 counties. Volunteers from Washington University spent a day in the Product Resource Center, helping to sort and pack items for distribution. Pictured: Neal Frenkel, M.D. '88, volunteers with his children, Jacob and Jennie.
We want to hear about recent 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.

Entries will appear, as space permits, in the earliest possible issue, based on the order received.

Please send news to:
ClassMates
Washington University
In St. Louis
Campus Box 1086
One Brookings Drive
St. Louis, MO 63130-4899
Fax (314) 935-8533
E-mail classmates@aismail.wustl.edu
If you want your news to appear also in a separate publication your school elects to sponsor, please send your news directly to that publication.

**ALUMNI CODES**

A  Architecture  GL  Grad. Law
B  Business  GM  Grad. Medicine
D  Dentistry  GN  Grad. Nursing
E  Engineering  GR  Grad. Arts & Sciences
F  Art  HS  House Staff
G  Grad. Architecture  MA  Health Care Admin.
H  Grad. Business  LA  Arts & Sciences
D  Grad. Dentistry  LW  Law
F  Grad. Art  MD  Medicine
M  MT  Manual Training
T  NU  Nursing
O  OT  Occupa. Therapy
U  PT  Physical Therapy
S  SI  Sever Institute
W  SU  Sever Inst. Undergrad.
C  SW  Social Work
G  TI  Tech. & Info. Mgmt.
R  UC  University College

30 S

Paul H. Streich, LA 34, who, at 90, now resides with his wife at the church-related Uplands Retirement Village in Pleasant Hill, Tenn., has written a manuscript covering their 32 years spent in Ecuador as members of the United Andean Indian Mission, a joint project of three Christian denominations—Methodists, Presbyterians, and the United Church of Christ (UCC). For many years, the Streiches resided in adobe or rammed earth houses at the mission farm on a slope of Mt. Mojanda, 50 miles north of Quito. They supervised schools for Indian children and adults, established medical dispensaries, and joined with others to begin a food co-op and a handicrafts program.

40 S

Doris Millner Kaplan, EN 49, who resides in Longboat Key, Fla., says, "(I'm) honored to have been recognized in the new sequenctenial book about our alma mater as one of the first three women to complete an engineering degree at the University." She says she can't wait to share the book, Beginning a Great Work: Washington University in St. Louis, 1853-2003, with her husband, three sons, and eight grandchildren, aged 2 to 25 years.

50 S

Gloria Banghart Strumbaugh, UC 50, GR 51, who began teaching elementary physical education in 1950 and has taught full time since 1959, retired from the St. Louis Public Schools in 1999. She has been teaching at Sacred Heart School in Festus, Mo., for the past five years. Her husband, John Howard Strumbaugh, BU 49, died in 1992. Gloria's five children—four boys and one girl—are now adults.

Patricia DuBose Duncan, FA 54, of Rockport, Maine, has donated photographic images—several stills and a two-hour video of photographer Gordon Parks to the Gordon Parks Center for Culture and Diversity at Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College. The images resulted from Duncan's commission from Life Magazine to document Parks' two tours of major prairies in Kansas, his home state, during the summer and fall of 1979. Duncan herself focused on the tallgrass prairie in a traveling exhibition and her book of color photographs. Duncan, who received a Distinguished Alumni Award from Washington University in 1980, is represented in permanent collections of several museums and in numerous corporate and private collections.

Marilyn Caside Gوردley, FA 54, and her husband, Tran Gordley, FA 56, artists based in the Philadelphia area, had a two-person show at the Atlantic City Art Center, Atlantic City, N.J., from Dec. 2, 2004, to Jan. 31, 2005. Included were their recent prints, drawings, and paintings.

Elizabeth Gentry Sayad, LA 55, GR 56, has written A Yankee in Creole Country: The Unfinished Vision of Justus Post in Frontier St. Louis (Virginia Publishing, 2004). Through a stunning collection of his letters, the book tells the story of Post, an American land speculator in the early 1800s, who was obsessed with creating "the greatest empire on earth." This aspiration led him to establish the town of Chesterfield, Mo., in 1818.

Tran Gordley, FA 56, an artist based in the Philadelphia area, was elected in 2003 to the Board of Phialadelphia Tri-State Artists Equity. He and his wife, Marilyn Classe Gordley, FA 54, had a two-person show at the Atlantic City Art Center, Atlantic City, N.J., from Dec. 2, 2004, to Jan. 31, 2005.

Patricia A. Meleck, GR 56, recently facilitated University College's Lifelong Learning course on accepting our mortality.

60 S

Floyd E. Bloom, MD 60, University trustee and former editor of Science Magazine, has been awarded the Walsh McDermott Medal, given annually to a member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) who has provided distinguished service to the National Academies, comprising IOM, National Academy of Engineering, National Academy of Sciences, and National Research Council. Bloom's service has included serving two terms on the IOM Council and on the group's membership committee, as well as speaking at annual and regional meetings.

Millie (Kovacevich) Kockeneker, LA 60, has been the executive director of Saint Louis University's M. Cathlin Casey Award for Teaching Excellence for her "exemplary service to Saint Louis University's 1818 Advanced College Credit Program at St. Louis Gateway Technical High School." She was chosen from nominees from the nearly 70 schools participating. Kockeneker recently retired from her career as a high-school English teacher in the St. Louis Public Schools, including Gateway Institute of Technology, a magnet school where she had taught for 16 years.

The Rev. F. (Elmer) Jack Ulrich, LA 61, was named pastor emeritus by St. John's United Church of Christ (U.C.C.) in Can nellon, Ind., where he served from 1964-68. In July 2002, he retired from active ministry after serving Zion U.C.C. in Elberfeld, Ind., for 27 years.

Howard Benoist, LA 64, has been appointed provost of Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas.

Irving Max Schwab, LA 64, GR 66, of Springfield, Mo., who received a bachelor's degree and master's degree in history from Washington University, now is a doctoral student in history at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. For his study there in 2004-05, he received a Graduate Council Fellowship, and he received the 2002 Albert Burton Moore Memorial Award for Outstanding Graduate Work in History.

Sue Schwartz, GR 65, who is proud to be a professional program director at the Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis, has written two books—Choices in Deafness and The New Language of Toys. She has two granddaughters and a grandson.

Leslie Klovlie Plimpton, LA 66, who earned a law degree cum laude from Boston College in 1982, is a "Best of Boston" lawyer, according to Boston magazine's editors and writers. Of Boston attorneys handling trusts and estates, she was one of four chosen, and, in the magazine's November 2002 edition, she was described as "very accessible to clients."

Howard C. Topel, LA 66, now is director of gynecologic surgery at Rush North Shore Medical Center in Skokie, Ill., an affiliate of Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. A pioneer and leader in the advancement of major gynecologic surgery, Topel was the first in the Chicago area to perform a laparoscopic hysterectomy.

Jack L. Block, LA 67, GB 68, a partner at Sachnow & Weaver law firm in Chicago, received the 2004 Edwin A. Rothschild Civil Liberties Award from the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois in honor of his accomplishments in the areas of racial justice and affirmative action.

Leslie "Les" S. Cutler, DE 68, has retired to Martha's Vineyard, Mass., after serving as chancellor and provost of the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington and as the chief science and technology business officer for the University of Connecticut System.

David M. Grossman, GR 68, GR 73, of Coconut Grove, Fla., has been appointed vice provost of the School of Professional and Continuing Studies at Thomas Edison State College in Trenton, N.J.

William Siedhoff, UC 68, SW 73, who is director of the Department of Human Services for the City of St. Louis, was awarded a 2004 Children's Champions Outstanding Leaders Award in the category of Governmental Officials at the St. Louis Children's Agenda, which consists of more than 700 individuals representing some 300 businesses, agencies, and community organizations.

John P. Wareham, GB 68, was appointed to the executive council of the Medical Center of Washington University in St. Louis Spring 2005
the University of California in Irvine. He is chairman and chief executive officer of Beckman Coulter, a biomedical company based in Fullerton, Calif., which makes products used in hospital laboratories, physicians’ offices, and group practices.

David M. Cook, LA 70, LW 74, GL 79, who practices law in Denver, has been elected chairman of the board of Good Shepherd Communities, which operates homes for the developmentally disabled. The organization serves more than 800 persons in California, Colorado, Oregon, and Washington.

Avner Falk, GR 70, of Jerusalem, a foremost political psychologist at the Institute for Psychobiological Research, is the author of *Freedom in the Holy Land: A Psychoanalytic View of the Arab-Israeli Conflict* (Wisconsin Press, 2005). It is the first English-language book to apply psychoanalysis to the most intractable international struggle in the world today—the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Toby Stein Black, OT 71, who lives in Bowling Green, Ky., enjoys a private pediatric practice and contracting services. Her two children are young adults entering professional careers.

Elaine “Shana” Folgeman Black, LA 71, resides in Honolulu, where she is a psychotherapist/counselor in private practice. She enjoys gardening, photography, and playing walking cards, among other interests. E-mail: shanac@pq.com

Judy Pfaff, FA 71, a renowned sculptor and painter and the Richard B. Fisher Professor in the Arts at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y., received a 2004 MacArthur Fellowship from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Each Fellow receives $500,000 in “no strings attached” support over the next five years.

Thomas Shapiro, GR 71, GR 78, has joined The Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass., as the Pokrosky Professor of Law and Social Policy. His latest book is *The Fledgler Cost of Being African American* (Oxford University Press, 2004). Previously, he co-authored the award-winning book *Killing the Wholly* (Dutton, 2001). He resides with his wife and son in Boston.

Linda Ray Shoveller, SW 71, recently traveled to South Korea and Mongolia to establish an office for Christian World Adoption. She is a program director for the agency, which works with families across the United States who want to adopt internationally.

Showalter also has a private psychotherapy practice in Hendersonville, N.C.

Nikki Stern, LA 71, a public relations and communications consultant, and the founder of design and design communities, serves on the New Jersey September 11th Memorial Professional Advisory Committee. The committee, in partnership with the members of the New Jersey Families’ Memorial Committee, judged the design competition for the state’s September 11th Memorial, to be dedicated to the nearly 700 New Jersey men, women, and children who were lost in the 9/11 attacks. Stern’s husband, James Potoroi, a vice president with Marsh & McLennan, was lost at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

Sanford Teplitzky, LA 71, wins the Health Law Department at the law firm of Ober, Kaler, & Hoebler, in Baltimore, is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America 2005–2006* for his depth of experience and knowledge in the area of health care. Less than 3 percent of all attorneys in the nation are selected for this honor, and he has been listed in the publication for more than 10 years.

Andrew Tuzinski, HA 71, of Millerstown, Pa., who retired in 1994, is working on his sheep farm and restoring a 1754 stone house, an 1840 stone house, and an 1803 brick mansion with seven fireplaces.

Yuk-Keung “Albert” Ip, EN 73, was appointed managing director of the newly formed airline services at Citygroup in Hong Kong in April 2003. He and his wife, Pasy, have one daughter, Isabelle.

Gregory Mizrahi, LA 71, assistant professor of history at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte, is author of *The Atlanta Riot: Race, Class, and Violence in a New South City* (University Press of Florida, 2004), which traces the roots of the Atlanta Riot of 1906.

Chao-Chung Lee, GA 75, of Houston was appointed to the Texas Military Facilities Commission, which constructs, maintains, and renovates facilities for use by the Texas National Guard. He is president and CEO of STOA International Architects, based in Houston.

John E. Spigle, LW 75, has joined Stalard & Schuh, a title insurance company, and the law firm of Stalard and Spigle, and resides in Aliso Viejo, Calif. He has served in several series shot in Hawaii, including *Jake and the Fatman*, *Raven*, and *Unsolved Mysteries*, but this is only his second role as a director. The first was for a Japanese show, *Hotel*, which, for a season, was shot in Hawaii. He said he couldn’t understand his fellow actors, but that the good part was he was allowed to write the dialogue.

David M. Zenfel, SW 75, of Tulsa, Okla., has joined Holmes, Radford & Avalon, a fundraising consultancy, as vice president and has established the Tulsa office of the St. Louis-based firm. Zenfel previously was senior program officer with the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation in Tulsa.

Mark A. Barteau, EN 76, a leading researcher in catalytic science and the Robert P. Iggo Professor and the chairman of the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Delaware in Newark, was the 2004 Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers Fellow for his contributions to the nearly 700 New Jersey men, women, and children who were lost in the 9/11 attacks. Stern’s husband, James Potoroi, a vice president with Marsh & McLennan, was lost at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. She is a program director for the agency, which works with attorneys in New Jersey’s Families’ Memorial Preamble, executive officer of Beckman Coulter, a biomedical company based in Fullerton, Calif., which makes products used in hospital laboratories, physicians’ offices, and group practices.

Randal Farber, GB 81, is partner in the business transactions section of the Houston office of law firm Jackson Walker, was named a “Super Lawyer” by *Texas Monthly* magazine for 2004. Super Lawyers are the top 5 percent of attorneys in each state, as chosen by their peers.

Jessica M. Goldstein, LA 82, of Seattle, is a theater educator at the Washington Academy of Performing Arts, Freehold Studio, Seattle Children’s Theatre, and Sitka Fine Arts Camp. In 2004, she toured with Perseverance Theatre Company through Alaska and Canada and directed productions by the Royal Shakespeare Company in Kathmandu, Nepal. She also made an independent film on the Sominish Reservation. E-mail: bespecific@aol.com

Sharon Lynn Markowski, EN 82, of Broad Brook, Conn., who is an actuarial associate at The Hartford insurance company, has been named a Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society.

Brian S. Zachariah, LA 82, director of the Division of Emergency Medicine at the University of Texas in Galveston, has been named a Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society.

Elizabeth “Beth” Lippincott, Leatherman, LA 83,4, has joined Huntington National Bank in Columbus, Ohio, and became a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives in May 2004. She joins her brothers, Tabor and Alex.

Dennis McGrew, EN 83, is chief marketing officer for Caprii Dow, manufacturer of the world’s first commercially available plastic made from 100 percent annually renewable resources. He directs global commercial efforts for environmentally beneficial replacements for petroleum-based materials.

Michael J. Rogovin, EN 83, was appointed deputy to the president/chief of staff for City College of New York, whose president is Gregory Williams.

Morris Z. Rosenberg, LA 83, EN 83, SI 86, was promoted from vice president for development to senior vice president for development at Seattle Genetics, which discovers and develops monoclonal antibodies and small molecular drugs to treat cancer and other human diseases. He is responsible for managing the company’s process development, manufacturing activities, quality assurance, and quality control.

Susan F. Smith, BU 83, executive vice president and chief financial officer of Metropolitan National Bank in Little Rock, Ark.,
was named to the "25 Most Powerful Women in Banking" list for 2004 compiled by U.S. Banker magazine.

Thomas K. Tsotsis, EN 83, was selected as a Technical Fellow of the Boeing Company. Now working in the Boeing's Structural, Materials and Process Engineering Division at Huntington Beach, Calif., Tsotsis has worked at Boeing for eight years, specializing in the research and development of composite materials for aerospace applications.

Michael J. Simon, LA 85, and his wife, Julie, announce the birth of their fourth child (and first daughter), Christiana, on Sept. 3, 2004. Julie has "moved her practice of pediatrics to the home front, while Michael's practice in internal medicine remains more conventional." The family resides in Colts Neck, N.J. E-mail: mesc@optonline.net

David Anderson, MD, 86, and Amy Zadeik Anderson, HA 86, have relocated to Logan, Utah, where Allan is a general and vascular surgeon with Intermountain Healthcare and Amy is helping their three children settle into life in Logan.

Sylvia Rose Augustus, LA 87, who resides in Kansas, is the region's first officer and regional fine arts officer for the General Services Administration in Kansas City, Mo. She is responsible for the stewardship of historic federal buildings in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. E-mail: yellacorvette@hotmail.com

Paula M. Bristol, SW 87, is a therapist/team coordinator at Graydon Manor in Leesburg, Va., a facility providing treatment for children and adolescents with serious emotional problems. She says, "After more than 30 years in the profession, I am still blessed to love the work I do." Outside of work, she focuses on her grandchildren, sports, and learning Italian.

Lori Brunsman, LA 87, and David Brunsman, EN 87, announce the birth of their first son, Daniel, on July 22, 2004. Jonathan recently was promoted to the rank of professor of the Navy reserves with 30 years of service.

Lauri Hromyak Hendrix, LA 89, who received a J.D. degree from the University of Kentucky in Lexington, is general counsel for the Kentucky Legislative Research Commission, which serves the Kentucky General Assembly. She was included in the book "25 Most Powerful Women in Banking" list for 2004.

Golden M. Tennis, LA 90, and her husband, Doug, announce the birth of their third child, Kaitlyn, on Sept. 6, 2004. She joins her brothers—Ryan, 8, and Jonathan, 3. The family resides in Clearwater, Mass., where Keith is an assistant professor of cardiothoracic surgery at Baystate Medical Center.


Jody A. Elmore, LA 90, and her wife, Kristy, announce the birth of their third child, Kaitlyn, on Sept. 6, 2004. She joins her brothers—Ryan, 8, and Jonathan, 3. The family resides in Clearwater, Mass., where Keith is an assistant professor of cardiothoracic surgery at Baystate Medical Center.

Lori Jones, GR 89, and her husband, Doug, announce the birth of their first son, Daniel, on July 22, 2004. She joins her brothers, Benjamin and Timothy, at the law firm of Spencer Fane Britt Browne. Julianna recently was named to the "25 Most Powerful Women in Banking" list for 2004 compiled by U.S. Banker magazine.

Denise D. Harper, GR 90, is vice president of human resources for Mercantive Valley Bank in St. Louis. She says she enjoys her work and would love to hear from any 1990 M.A. graduates in human resources. E-mail: pdw@mercadive.com

Lynn Mock, UC 90, assistant athletic director at the University, notes that the 2004-05 year marks the 30th anniversary of the re-institution of women's intercollegiate athletics at Washington University. They were halted in 1955 by A. Gwendolyn Drew and restarted by Robert L. Virgil, now a University trustee, in 1975. Women's sports then were swimming, tennis, and volleyball. Lynn says, "We've come a long way..."

Ron Jones, GR 90, was promoted to director of Lockheed Greene's global pharmaceutical and biotechnology business unit, in Sunnyvale, Calif. Previously, he served as the nation's oldest continually run engineering company with offices worldwide.


Joni Paul, EN 90, and her husband, Gary B. Paul, EN 91, announce the birth of Jonathan on Jan. 6, 2004. He joins his brothers, Benjamin and Timothy, at the law firm of Spencer Fane Britt Browne. Julianna recently was named to the "25 Most Powerful Women in Banking" list for 2004 compiled by U.S. Banker magazine.

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Seeking Fixed Income?
See page 9
Guaranteed Income for Life

The Washington University Charitable Gift Annuity, see page 9

BROOKINGS PARTNERS
Recognizing the Importance of Planned Gifts
Washington University in St. Louis
Some guys want to keep
chilled. This is not good. Being
cold and wet in the mountains
can be dangerous, if not deadly.

J-Oie is the department head of the pediatrics
branch of the Clinton administration.

"Hypo, hypothermia! Hypo,
hypo...." The boys join
under a tarp hastily strung
above a hailstorm rages, six
mountaineers do in the face
of white on the ground. Crisis
clouds have parted to frame a
small patch of blue. The hail has
falloff, leaving

The entire series tells the story of
two teen brothers, one of whom
will become president of the
United States in 2041. It is set in
Missouri, where their mother teaches
at a university. Previously,
Cohen worked in the White
House during the first six years of
the Clinton administration.

Nichol M. Lee, LA 91, MD 95,
is taking a break from practicing
pediatrics to experience "the
other side of pediatrics" as a stay-
at-home mother. Lee, who sepa-
rated from the Navy in 2002, is
married to Gabriel Lee, also a
pediatrician, who is an active
duty naval officer. He is the
department head of the pediatrics
clinic at Naval Hospital Camp
Lejeune in Jacksonville, N.C.

Michael Sater, FA 91, prin-
cipal and creative director of Sater
Creative, an Atlanta-based graphic
design and creative services
agency, has opened an office in
Charlotte, N.C., as the firm's
second southeast regional office.
E-mail: michael@satercreative.com

Lester Satlow, LA 91, now
is an equity portfolio manager
for Cabot Money Management
in Salem, Mass. He and his wife,
Tara, and son, Logan, reside in
Andover, Mass. E-mail: Lester.
satlow@comcast.net

Kathy Schmace, GR 91, and
her husband have, "after 11 years
trotting around the globe," moved
back to the United States, thanks
to her husband's company decid-
ing to relocate them from the
United Kingdom to Malvern, Pa.,
onto the outskirts of Philadelphia.
She says, "We're starting to settle
in, but, if any old friends from
Wash. U. are in the area, I'd enjoy
hearing from you again!" E-mail:
kathy@blackcat66.freeserve.co.uk

Michael A. Spielman, LA 91,
of Shaker Heights, Ohio, now is
vice president and chief financial
officer of Hudson Metals Corpora-
tion. The company, based in
New York City, is a merchant in off-
exchange traded metals used in
superalloys, stainless steels, specialty
alloys, electronics, chemicals, and
batteries. He also serves part time as
counsel to the national law firm
Tucker Ellis & West on corporate,
securities, and tax matters, based
in the firm's Cleveland office.

Barb (Wehmeyer) Stock,
EN 91, and her husband, Dan Stock,
announce the birth of
Natalie Marie on Aug. 19,
2004. She joins sisters
Leah, 6; Stephanie, 4; and
Bridge, 1. The family
resides in Belleville, Ill.

Class Reunion at 11,000 Feet

High in the Sierras, as
a hailstorm rages, six
Washington University
alumni are having a debate.
We are at an elevation of
11,000 feet in Kings Canyon
National Park in California,
and the temperature is drop-
ing. Our raingear is soaked
through, and we're getting
chilled. This is no good. Being
cold and wet in the mountains
can be dangerous, if not deadly.

Under a tarp hastily strung
up between a few scraggly
trees, we discuss our options.
Some guys want to keep
moving to stay warm. Others
think we should quickly set
up a tent, even though the
ground is a muddy mess. I
can sense the tension building,
so I do what all seasoned
mountaineers do in the face
of imminent danger: I start
to sing, show-tune style:
"Hypo, hypothermia! Hypo,
hypothermia!" The boys join
me in a rousing chorus: "Hypo,
hypothermia!"

Welcome to Ali Bali.
Every summer for the last
16 years, a bunch of guys who
met at Washington U. have
ventured into the wilderness
for a week of backpacking,
peak-bagging, and outdoor liv-
ing. It's a tradition we call "Ali
Bali," though no one can say
for sure what that name means.

Ali Bali was born in June
1989, when Brian Oster and I
embarked on a bike trek from
New York to California. We
mapped our route to reach
Montana's Glacier National
Park on July 22, where we met
our Washington U. friends
for a backpacking trip. Every
summer since then, we have
explored wild places all over
the country.

Miles from civilization,
totally self-sufficient, on
Ali Bali we take leave of our
professions and our families
and enter a world unto our-
selves, renewing the bonds
we made at college. We spend
our days hiking on trails and
scrambling up peaks. We tell
the same jokes and stories
we've told for years. We sing
silky songs, and call each other
nicknames like Mr. Portions,
Lefty, Chouteau, Mountain
Charlie, and Dorak. But we also
compare notes on our present
lives. All in the most beautiful,
most inaccessible places in the
country. Everyone prepares
meals—and we have taken the
art of backcountry
cooking to new highs
(Charlie's Mexican
Fiesta, with fresh
guacamole) and lows
(like the time Mike
added dirty dishwater
to his Thai curry).

When we began this
tradition, we were all single,
in our mid-twenties. Now we're
in our forties, with families,
mortgages, and demanding
jobs. Each year it gets harder
to tear ourselves away. But that's
precisely why we continue to
do it. On Ali Bali we get to
experience the freedom and
 camaraderie we had at the
University. And the older we
get, the more we appreciate it.

Back at 11,000 feet, the
clouds have parted to frame a
small patch of blue. The hail has
let up, leaving

a stunning blanket
of white on the ground. Crisis
averted, we clear a space for tents.
Crisis def erred, we can now
continue the tradition. Though I can't
tell you the exact meaning of
the name Ali Bali, I'm quite sure
it has something to do with the
spirit of friendship.

Current and past members
of Ali Bali:

David Begler, A.B. '85
Steve Deutsch, B.F.A. '86
Michael Dorf, A.B./B.S.B.A. '84
George Gatch, A.B. '86
Dore Hainer, A.B. '84
Richard Kessner, A.B. '84
Lars Langberg, A.B. '86
Peter Ostrow, A.B. '85
Brian Oster, A.B. '87
Joel Priest, A.B. '84
Charlie Smith, B.S. '84

—David Begler, A.B. '85
Sandra Van Trease, GB 92, has been named group president of St. Louis-based BJHC HealthCare, one of the largest nonprofit health-care organizations in the nation. She will provide strategic oversight and direction for a select group of community and rural hospitals in the BJHC HealthCare organization.

Ivy Brown, LA 93, and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their first child, Lily Helena Buchdahl, on May 15, 2004. Ivy, who, prior to maternity leave, had been marketing manager for SPLENDAD No. Calorie Sweetener, was to become marketing director, business development and innovation, for McNeil Nutritional Products, part of GlaxoSmithKline, in September 2004.

Carey Ehler, LA 93, FA 93, a neonatologist, has been appointed assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Washington Children's Hospital in Seattle and to the medical staff of Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, a major affiliate. Board-certified in pediatrics and neonatology, her clinical emphasis is on providing intensive care to critically ill newborns and premature infants. Her research focus is on neonatal lung physiology and mechanical ventilation.

Josh Goldstein, LA 93, an architect; his wife, Rachel Goldstein, LA 93, a Web designer; and Jonathan Polk, LA 93, an editor and book production manager, founded a company selling Yiddish-themed apparel in 2002. The company, named Shoytzy ("shirts" with a Yiddish accent), offers T-shirts and baby bibs featuring clever plays on Yiddish words at www.shoytzy.com.

Spencer Corey Greene, LA 93, has moved to Dayton, Ohio, with his wife, Leslie (Smith) Greene, LA 96, their daughter, Alexis, and two cats—Rococo, Peaches, Abner, Kaitlin, and Blade. Spencer, a physician in emergency medicine, is EMS medical director for Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in southwestern Ohio between Fairborn and Dayton. E-mail: SGreene7@wolr.com

Sandy H. Hardgrave, LA 93, SW 96, has focused his writing on world cinema for the past six years. He is a regular contributor to the online film studies journal, The Film Studies Journal, and to the Internet. He has a chapter in The Cinema of Japan and Korea (Columbia University Press, 2004), and he co-directed a documentary of the South Korean films at the 2004 Asian Film Festival in San Francisco. Hartzell resides in San Francisco, where he works at a software company.

Leslie (Smith) Iyer, LA 93, and Surya Iyer, SI 93, SI 96, announce the birth of their daughter, Macy Kaveri, in May 2004. They join their sister, Surya, who, with her husband, is rearing two children and two grandchildren.

Daniel Maas, LA 93, has launched From the Ashes, an Atlanta-based architecture and interior design firm, with three other partners. The firm focuses on specialty commercial, corporate office, retail, restaurant, and retail stores. Most recently, Maas was senior associate at Thompson, Vennonett, Stainback, & Associates and project manager for the Georgia Aquarium.

Gennive Peter-Juana, EN 93, has two sons—Ethan, 3, and Adam, 1. She and her husband, Law Chun Ming, along with the boys, reside in San Francisco, Malaysia, and England. Peter-Juana is an information system officer for Alliance Bank Berhad.

Lisa Sherman, LW 93, has co-authored Sisters-in-Law: An Inside Guide to Practicing Law in the Real World (Shpinsch Publishing, an imprint of Sourcebooks, Inc., 2004), a humorous, but substantive, guide to aspiring and new lawyers, including women lawyers. She works for labor, employment law, and representing management in California, and who, with her husband, is raising two daughters, co-authored the book with attorneys Deborah L. Turchiano and Jill R. Schecter.

Carol (Webber) Van Ryzin, LA 93, LA 96, and her husband, Eric, announce the birth of Connor Lee on Sept. 20, 2004. The family resides in Silver Spring, Md.

Derek Wild, LA 93, and his wife, Toni, who were married in July 1997, announce the birth of Caden Gray on Sept. 21, 2004. He joins her sister, Sarah, who, with her husband, is raising two children, co-authored the book with attorneys Deborah L. Turchiano and Jill R. Schecter.

Adam (ATOM) Hartzell, LA 93, SW 96, has focused his writing on world cinema for the past six years. He is a regular contributor to the online film studies journal, The Film Studies Journal, and to the Internet. He has a chapter in The Cinema of Japan and Korea (Columbia University Press, 2004), and he co-directed a documentary of the South Korean films at the 2004 Asian Film Festival in San Francisco. Hartzell resides in San Francisco, where he works at a software company.

Tamara Pester, LA 94, left her position as counsel for First Data Corporation to launch Counsel Connect, a legal recruiting firm in Denver focusing on the permanent placement of attorneys with law firms and corporations. E-mail: tamara@counsel-connect.com

Eileen Sharky Rosenfeld, BU 94, and her husband, Robert "Rob" D. Rosenfeld, BU 93, BU 94, announce the birth of Matthew Menard on June 10, 2004. The family resides in Highland Park, a suburb of Chicago. Rob is studying for an M.B.A. degree from the University of Chicago, and Eileen manages her husband's career at Kraft Foods. E-mail: sharkyrosenfeld@yahoo.com

Adam Elegant, LA 95, and his wife, Rebecca, announce the birth of Emma Reese Goldstein on July 2, 2004. The family resides in Highland Park, Ill. E-mail: laurafriedel@yahoo.com or jehelal62@comcast.net

Erin (Schatz) Goldstein, LA 95, and her husband, Adam Elegant, announce the birth of Emma Reese Goldstein on July 2, 2004. The family resides in Hollywood, Fla. Erin and her husband, PT 95, continues to work as a physical therapist at Trinity Outpatient Rehabilitation Services in Rock Island, Ill. Primarily, she treats orthopaedic and geriatric patients.

Carrie Smalley Johnson, EN 95, and her husband, Brandon Johnson, announce the birth of Audrey Lauren on Sept. 28, 2004, at Royal Air Force Lakenheath Hospital in Lakenheath, England.

Terese Kasson, GB 95, has rejoined the faculty at McKendree College in Lebanon, Ill., as an accounting instructor. Kasson, who first joined McKendree in 1995 after working as a CPA for Price Waterhouse (now PricewaterhouseCoopers), returns to the college to care for her children. She and her husband, Rob, and their three children reside in Breese, Ill.

Megan Kostal, BU 95, and her husband, Thomas, announce the birth of their first child, Sophie Elizabeth, on May 10, 2004. The family resides in Chicago. E-mail: meganKostal@hotmail.com

Deepthi Malhotra, LA 95, and Vivek Malhotra, EN 95, announce the birth of Rahul Shyam Malhotra on March 15, 2004. The family resides in Fairfax, Va. E-mail: vmalhotra@yahoo.com

Rebekah Viloria, LA 95, and Matthew Hunninghake, LA 95, announce the birth of their second daughter, Avery Malria Jauhari, on Sept. 15, 2004. The family resides in Boston, where Rebekah is an OB/GYN physician in private practice and Matthew is in his second year of a pulmonary and critical care fellowship at Brigham & Women's Hospital, which is affiliated with Harvard University.

Evan Bronstein, GA 96, has served as a research fellow at Institute for Human and Machine Cognition in Pensacola, Fla., a medical software company, and an architectural design office. The gallery recently opened with a photographic exhibit by Brian Kuhlman.

Jason Eckert, BU 96, whose residences in Chicago, was promoted to senior manager in Accenture's Supply Chain practice. For the past three years he has been working in Washington, D.C., for a project for the Department of Defense. E-mail: jason.eckert@accenture.com

Mark Klapow, LA 96, and his wife, Kelly, announce the birth of Zachary Michael on Sept. 15, 2004. He joins his sister, Emily, 2. The family resides in Washington, D.C., where Mark is an attorney at Howrey Simon. E-mail: klapowm@howrey.com

Ayala Weiner, LA 96, and Kenneth Usdin were married on Nov. 6, 2004, in Lawrence, N.Y. Ayala, 24, is a contemporary Italian furniture alumni. Kenneth graduated from Tufts University in Medford, Mass., in 1995, and Ayala earned a Master of Science degree in physical therapy from the University of Miami in December 1999. The couple resides in Manhattan, where Ayala works as a physical therapist. E-mail: aweiener@ aol.com

Michelle Kinman, LA 97, and Michael Musolino IV, LA 95, were married on Oct. 9, 2004, in Santa Monica, Calif., where John has his own design firm and Michelle is co-founder of Crude Accountability, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing secular justice in the Caspian Sea basin.

Jonathan P. Wendt, LA 97, now is an associate in the Omaha office of the law firm Blackwell Sanders Peeples Martin.

Abby Wilner, LA 97, and Ben Miller were married in Washington, D.C., their hometown, on Nov. 13, 2004. The wedding party
and guests included several University alumni. They are consultants, and they reside in McLean, Va. Mitchell Wunsch, LA 97, and Supriya Molina were married in San Mateo, Calif., on Oct. 10, 2004. The wedding party and guests included several University alumni. The couple resides in Washington, D.C., where Supriya is an attorney for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Mitchell is a first-year law student at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. E-mail: mkwunsch@yahoo.com

Jill Fahrner, LA 98, and Matthew Frieman, LA 98, celebrated their first wedding anniversary on Oct. 11, 2004. Each received a Ph.D. degree from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. The couple now resides in Durham, N.C., as Fahrner is finishing an M.D./Ph.D. degree and Frieman is working on Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). E-mail: jill_fahrner@med.unc.edu

Amy Lindgren, OT 98, and Erik Gregers were married in December 2000. Amy is a staff occupational therapist at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital in Elmhurst, Ill. Ellen (Cohn) Menscher, LA 98, and Corey L. Menscher, LA 95, who were married in September 2002, reside and work in New York City. Ellen, who graduated from Brooklyn Law School in 2003, is a practicing attorney, and Corey has been a Web developer since graduation.

Kayla Moyer, OT 98, is an occupational therapist in the Houston (Texas) Independent School District.

Natalie (Richards) Packman, BU 98, and Marc Packman, BU 98, announce the birth of Noah David on June 23, 2004. The family resides in New York City, where Marc works in commercial real estate for Tishman Speyer Properties and Natalie is an associate at the law firm Willkie Farr & Gallagher. Martina Rubio, LA 98, and Ankur Shah, LA 99, were married in Chicago in October 2004. Ankur is finishing a Ph.D. degree in molecular biology at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, and Marissa is in her second year of an internal medicine residency at Case Western's MetroHealth Hospital. Johanna Schiavoni, LA 98, earned a law degree from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles in 2002, and, after a clerkship with a federal judge in Los Angeles, she joined the New York office of Latham & Watkins, where she litigates patent, copyright, trademark, and commercial fraud matters. E-mail: johannaschiavoni@yahoo.com

Deborah K. Steele, OT 98, and her husband, Sean Steele, announce the birth of their first child, Ella Kay Steele, on July 11, 2004. Deborah is senior occupational therapist at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose. The family resides in Sunnyvale, Calif.

Jason Zenger, EN 98, and Jennifer Antonacci were married on Nov. 6, 2004, in Chicago. Guests included several University alumni. Jason is vice president of Zenger's Industrial Supply Company in Melrose Park, Ill., and Jennifer is a realtor at the Edgebrook (Chicago) office of Coldwell Banker. The couple resides in the Wildwood area of Chicago.

WAshington Profile
Debbie Busler, A.B. '95, M.S.W. '97 • John Patrick Woolley, A.B. '94

'Social' Couple Lands in England

After traveling around the world, 26 countries on six continents, Debbie Busler, A.B. '95, M.S.W. '97, has settled in England—for the time being.

Busler is a senior social worker, investigating allegations of child abuse and neglect in the London Borough of Hounslow. She works closely with the police, schools, health personnel, sometimes the court system, and the families to piece together a picture of the past—and to create a plan for the family's future.

"The social work field is undergoing big changes in the U.K. now—requirements are strengthening, the system is evolving," she says. "It's an interesting time to be here."

Busler moved to England to accompany her longtime partner, John Patrick Woolley, A.B. '94, who is pursuing a doctorate in science and religion at Oxford University. The two met in Umrah Hall, where they were resident advisers. They've been trotting around the globe together ever since.

After Busler's graduation they began their travels with a three-week drive across the country to California, where Woolley began work on his master's degree at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. Busler accepted a position with a social service agency in the Bay Area. While there, she and Woolley became active in the United Nations Association (UNA), a volunteer group that educates the public about the United Nations.

Both Busler and Woolley served on the UNA's board of directors in Berkeley, after being recruited by Nikki Van Ausdall, A.B. '94. The organization, which was active in the '60s, had waned in recent years, so they were charged with "breathing new life into the group," says Busler.


"The run was a fun way to raise awareness while raising money," she says. "And they're still holding the run."

After California and before England, Busler and Woolley embarked on a nine-month journey to all the places they'd dreamed of seeing: South Africa, Peru, Cambodia, New Zealand, among others.

"After a few cross-country road trips, we were inspired to widen the playing field. While in California, we began planning and saving for a worldwide trip. It was the adventure of a lifetime."

With Woolley's acceptance to Oxford University, their traveling focus shifted to Europe, and Busler found her talents in high demand in England. While most U.S. social workers have a master's degree, social workers in the U.K. need only a year (now a three-year) general degree. However, because of a handful of highly publicized scandals that have put the field under scrutiny, the educational requirements are now being strengthened—though foreign-trained social workers are still sought after. In fact, Busler works with a number of international social workers, hailing from Australia, South Africa, and Canada.

As part of a nine-month worldwide journey, Debbie Busler and John Patrick Woolley visited Machu Picchu.

For her, the most challenging part of working in England is the lack of autonomy social workers are allowed. In the United States, she could take a case and run with it. But in England, every step must be supervised. Still, one day soon Busler will be doing the supervising. After less than a year on the job, she's being promoted.

Also, as an expatriate, she deals with a range of opinions about Americans, some of them rooted in myth, some in truth. At work, she finds her "American style" of communicating—straightforward, concise—a contrast to the U.K. style, which is more "round-about."

Despite the challenges, she "wouldn't trade this opportunity for anything." —Nancy Mays
ClassMates  The ClassMates editor can be reached by mailing this form and also by fax and electronic mail. By fax: (314) 935-8533. By e-mail: classmates@wustl.wustl.edu. Send U.S. mail to: ClassMates, Washington University in St. Louis, Campus Box 1086, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899.

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Address:  

Class Year:  
School or College:  

Phone:  

☐ Check here if this is a new address.  

Please tell my classmates (use an additional sheet of paper if necessary):  

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Katherine Breslow, LA 99, and Aaron Shrager were married on August 15, 2004. The Shragers reside in a suburb of Philadelphia. Katherine, who earned a master's degree in clinical psychology from Widener University in Chester, Pa., is now a doctoral candidate.  

Heather Diamond, LA 99, and Eytan Fisch were married in September 2004 in Pittsburgh. Eytan and Heather, who earned a J.D. degree in May 2003 from American University in Washington, D.C., recently relocated from there to New York City for proximity to Heather’s work as an attorney with the Legal Aid Society of Nassau County, N.Y., on Long Island.  

Kristen (Armstrong) Matz, GA 99, and her husband, Steven, announce the birth of Ella Louise Armstrong Matz on March 6, 2004. The family and their two dogs reside in Chicago, where Kristen and Steven work.  

James E. McCleish, SI 99, who resides in unincorporated Madison County, Ill., was promoted to management engineer at Horner & Shifrin, Inc., Engineers/Architects/Planners in St. Louis. He is an environmental engineer who has specialized in the design of water treatment and distribution facilities and wastewater collection and treatment facilities for more than 15 years. He will be responsible for managing the operations of the firm’s water resources department.  

Abra Parks, LA 99, and J. Bradley Stein were married Sept. 5, 2004, in downtown Chicago. The Steins reside in San Francisco, where Abra is an occupational therapist. E-mail: abrarebecca@gmail.com  

Kristen (Armstrong) Matz, GA 99, and her husband, Steven, announce the birth of Ella Louise Armstrong Matz on March 6, 2004. The family and their two dogs reside in Chicago, where Kristen and Steven work.  

Lauren (Wacht) Simkin, FA 99, and her husband, Eric, announce the birth of their first child, Michelle Elaine Simkin, on Oct. 13, 2004. Lauren, an elementary school teacher, serves as the chair for the University’s Alumni and Parents Admission Program in the New York-Westchester County area. Eric is corporate controller for B.R. Guest in New York City. The family resides in Rye Brook, N.Y.  

Tony Thompson, SI 99, is president and CEO of St. Louis-based Kwame Building Group, which was ranked No. 34 on Engineering News Record’s list of Top 40 Program Management Firms worldwide in 2004. The firm also ranked No. 80 on the magazine’s list of Top 100 Construction Managers-for-Fee.  

Lisa Alpern, FA 00 (fashion design), a free-lance makeup artist and hairstylist in New York City, is founder and creative director of the Web site BeautyPlusPower.com, an online shopping workstation for plus-size women. It is designed to add style and substance to full-figured young women who wear sizes 12 and up. It provides more than 50 unique listings for clothing in more than 15 categories, ranging from business casual to gosh, bridal gowns to costumes, and swimwear to footwear.  

Travis H. Brown, GB 00, partner/owner of Gaines Brown Consulting, a professional lobby firm in Jefferson City, Mo., reports that clients of the firm, begun in 2002, now include the Monsanto Company, the Kansas City Chiefs Football Club, the Kansas City Royals Baseball Club, the Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists, and the Missouri Biotechnology Association.  

Angel M. Garcia, LA 00, who is in his third year of medical school that nurtured African-American students at the University Autonoma de Guadalajara (Mexico), and his wife, Dana, also a medical student, plan to relocate to Chicago, her hometown, after graduation.  

Rebecca Goldstein, FA 00, and David Silber were married on Sept. 5, 2004, in Cincinnati. The bridal party included several University friends. The couple resides outside Chicago in Buffalo Grove, Ill., where Rebecca is a graphic designer for a textbook-development firm and David is a senior financial analyst for Abbott Laboratories. E-mail: rebesch29@yahoo.com  

Lesley C. Grantham, LA 00, and Armstead Grandstaff were married on Sept. 4, 2004, in Nashville, Tenn. Lesley, who earned a Master of Education degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville in May 2003, is a reading specialist at Martha O’Bryan Center, a social service agency. The couple resides in Nashville.  

Alison Kirshner, LA 00, recently completed a clerkship with a federal judge and became an associate in the litigation department of White & Case in New York City. E-mail: akirshne@yahoo.com  

Roxanne Kohlbrecher, OT 00, and her husband, Craig Kohlbrecher, OT 95, announce the birth of their first child, Madeline Claire, on Sept. 24, 2004. Roxanne is an occupational therapist at Aviston (III.) Country­side Manor, and Craig is a program manager at the Reese (III.) Caring First Nursing Home.  

Freethi Krishnan, LA 00, is a first-year resident at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita Family Medicine Residency Program at Via Christi Regional Medical Center in Wichita, Kan.  

Benjamin Looker, LA 00, recently had his book, Point from which creation begins, published by the Missouri Historical Society Press. It narrates the development in St. Louis of the Black Artists’ Group, a seminal arts collective that nurtured African-American experimentalists working in theater, visual arts, dance, poetry, and jazz.  

Brigid Baier, EN 01, EN 01, of Oak Park, Ill., teaches physics at Fenwick High School there. She completed the Access to Catholic Education Program and earned a master’s degree in education from the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Ind., and she has begun study for a master’s degree in physics from DePaul University in Chicago. In 2003, she completed the Chicago Marathon.  

Erik Myers, FA 01, has been promoted to junior art director at Williams-Labadie, a pharmaceutical advertising firm in Chicago.  

Danica (Rodemich) Mathes, DW 01, is an叠加er at the Missouri’s “Up & Coming Lawyers” by Missouri Lawyers Weekly, which annually profiles 10 attorneys under the age of 40 throughout the state. Mathes is an attorney practicing in entertainment and intellectual property law with Blumenfeld, Kaplan & Sandweiss in St. Louis and is an adjunct professor of entertainment law at the University’s School of Law. She serves on the board of directors for St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts, the St. Louis Young Variety Board, and the StarPolish.com Attorney Panel. Also, she is a member of the American Bar Association’s Entertainment & Sports Law Forum.  

Ronald Herd II, a.k.a. R2C2H2, FA 02, created a picture book based on the life and achievements of Lt. James Reese Europe, the famous ragtime/jazz band leader and leader of the legendary Harlem Hellfighters Jazz Band of WWI. Herd also had a solo exhibition from Oct. 7-Nov. 12, 2004, at the Tennessee Arts Commission Gallery in Nashville.  

Eugene A. Hillsman, BO 02, has joined the Charles Stewart Mort Foundation, based in Flint, Mich., as a program assistant for the Pathways Out of Poverty team. In his new assignment, he is working on the Improving Community Education portfolio.  

Alana Libow, LA 02, is spending the 2004-05 school year in Bolivia, thanks to receiving a Fulbright grant. She was one of...
Shawn Siegel is the creator of a popular college basketball Web site: Collegehoopsnet.com.

Steadily, this is happening. CHN is gaining attention across the country, and its visitor count grew 300 percent from fall 2003 to fall 2004. Siegel expects the number of visitors to reach 25,000 a day during March Madness 2005.

Meanwhile, the work come the benefits—radio gigs, free tickets, a prime view of the court. However, Siegel, like those he writes about, only has so much time on the clock.

"At law school," Siegel says, "I don't have the time to take advantage of a lot of the perks."

For more information, please e-mail Collegehoopsnet@aol.com.

—Stephen Schenkenberg
New Line Theatre presented the play in October 2004 at the ArtLoft Theatre in St. Louis.

Krisena M. Fell, LA 04, is in her first year at Harvard School of Dental Medicine in Boston.

Christina J. Henslee, FA 04, who received an art scholarship when she graduated, now resides in Berlin.

Stacy N. Jeffries, LA 04, is working to combat illiteracy in the Washington, D.C., Public Schools by serving on the Serve DC CYCLE (City Year's Campaign for Literacy and Education) team.

Andrew Jones, LA 04, is pursuing a Master of Fine Arts degree in acting from the University of Texas in Austin. He says, "(I have) good health, (am) loving life, and would love to catch up with some old classmates." E-mail: ccjones23@yahoo.com

William H. Joyce, LW 04, has joined St. Louis law firm Lathrop & Gage as an associate and will concentrate his practice in business litigation law. At the University, he was a Danforth Scholar and associate editor for the Washington University Journal of Law and Policy.

Thomas J. Keating, LW 04, is an associate with law firm Husch & Eppenberger in St. Louis, where he practices in the intellectual property/patent law group. Tom and his wife, Heather, and their three sons recently moved to a new home in University City.

Jacqueline S. Lippa, LA 04, is in her first year of the M.D./Ph.D. Program in the cell and molecular biology graduate group for the School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

Lauren R. Mark, LA 04, is working toward a master's degree in dance.

Jacinthe M. Martsof, LA 04, who resides in Morriston, Ark., is raising Katahdin hair sheep and Gloucester Old Spot pigs on pasture in Petit Jean Mountain, and she is a small afternoon faculty wives' tea advisor and helpmate to her community college.

Sarah E. Polenska, LA 04, says she is "hanging at home here in Madison, working at a bank, going to school for massage therapy. Those are my plans for the next year. After that, who knows?"

Lindsay D. Puckett, LW 04, is an associate attorney at Burke, Williams, & Sorenson in Los Angeles.

Jacob A. Sepmeyer, EN 04, is in medical school at Vanderbilt University in Nashville.

Marc R. Zornes, BU 04, has begun the business analyst program at CaS Wholesale Grocers, based in Keene, N.H.

In Memoriam

1930s

Ellen Jane (Freund) Schwartz, LA 34; 12/04
Margaret (Graves) Boerner, NU 36; 12/04
Robert L. Heritage, LA 36; 11/04
Elizabeth Anne (Jarvis) Muller, LA 36; 11/04
Ewald H. Paulmeycr, DE 36; 12/04
Thomas S. Boozzer, MD 37; 10/04
Theodorick M. Knobel, EN 37; 11/04
Russell J. Seibert, LA 37, GR 38; 11/04
Phyllis Ann (Gradwohl) Cohen, LA 39; 10/04
Jane (Kelly) Mowrey, UC 39; 12/04

1940s

John A. Logan, EN 40; 11/04
Markley S. Binzel, EN 41, SI 53; 12/04
Alexander Ellman, MD 41; 6/04
Sara I. (Dowson) Prestwood, NU 41; 10/04
Margaret L. Cariss, NU 42, MD 50; 1/05
Thelma Marion (Giddan) Frost, BU 42, SW 63; 12/04
Helen Frances (Williams) Kannappel, UC 42; 1/05
Frank L. Nickerson, BU 42, SW 42; 9/04
Helen (Goerts) Biedenstein, LA 43; 12/04
Marguerite A. Jerzewik, UC 43, GR 50; 12/04
Frank G. Kirtz, LA 43, GR 44; 1/05
Stanley W. Moore, MD 43; 6/04
Henry F. Niedringshaus III, EN 44; 12/04
Marion (Slee) Clark, NU 45; 11/04
Margaret H. (Clarke) Griffin, PT 45, GR 51; 1/05
Richard E. Musser, MD 45; 4/04
A. Hal Thatcher, MD 45; 8/04
Malcolm E. Marks, DE 46; 12/04
Ivan Chorlins, EN 47; 12/04
Elza Katherine (Muench) Hunstein, LA 47; 12/04
Gilbert C. Pauls, EN 47; 9/04
John D. Steele, LW 47; 11/04
Chaplain (Col.) Paul Tomasic, GR 47; 11/04
Jean Eileen (Schmat) Brackney, BU 48; 1/05
John R. Gibbons, BU 48; 11/04
Malvin Goldstein, BU 48; 12/04
Monroe D. Levy, LA 48; 11/04
Marion E. St. John, GR 48; 8/04
Ethel P. Swenget, SW 48; 3/04
Jonathan Townsend, GR 48, GR 51; 11/04
Shirley Ann (Meichling) Wolrle, BU 48; 1/05

1950s

Lawrence L. Bierman, BU 50; 12/04
Paul S. Dobinsky, LA 50; 12/04
Allan Glubok, BU 50, GB 69; 11/04
Fred B. Kallmayer, BU 50, GB 91; 11/04
Elga G. Knudsen, FA 50; 12/04
Patricia (Brown) McKinley, LA 50; 11/04
Wallace N. Springer, Jr., LW 50; 10/04
Robert D. Stanza, Jr., LA 50, GB 56; 11/04
Albert H.M. Chang, LA 51; 12/04
Elaine Mutrux, FA 51; 1/05
William D. Wells, UC 51, GR 64; 1/04
Jonathan C. Messerli, GR 52; 11/04
Phyllis L. Rodgers, UC 52; 1/05
Dorothy G. (Donovan) Schmeenberger, LA 52; 12/04
J. Perry Short, DE 52; 12/04
Stanley Banbar, GR 53; 12/04
Leonard H. Elliott, EN 53; 12/04
Laverne S. Erickson, MD 53; 11/04
William R. Kohn, FA 53; 11/04
Robert B. Ryan, UC 53; 11/04
Irvin Schneider, LA 53; 12/04
Bruce A. Wetteroth, LA 53; 12/04
Treadway C. Parker, UC 54, GR 57; 10/04
Helen C. (Thomson) Cruec, UC 54; 12/04
J. Warren Ferguson, BU 54; 12/04
Lester Harris, SW 54; 12/04
Robert E. Kimpling, LA 54, GR 57; 10/04
Treadway C. Parker, LA 55, GR 57; 4/04
Joseph A. Sacco, UC 55; 8/04
Richard A. Stump, UC 55, GB 60; 1/05
Louise D. Fairchild, SW 56; 10/04
Paul C. Reinhard, UC 56; 1/05
Bonnie Shure, LA 56; 1/05
Vivian E. Heida, UC 59; 1/05
Bruce E. Woodruff, LW 59; 11/04

1960s

Gene J. Carron, SI 60, SI 63; 1/05
Lawrence Mose, UC 60, GB 66; 12/04
Teresa Mueller, LA 61; 2/04
Mary Stone, FA 61; 4/04
Gary M. Corbett, LA 64; 1/05
Robert J. Czura, UC 64; 12/04
Shirley Lampe, GR 65; 12/04
Jacob Szapszewicz, UC 65; 10/04

Glynn R. Boswell, UC 66; 1/05
Jay Elliott Loeb, BU 66; 8/04
Joseph E. Pastor, FA 68; 11/04

1970s

David W. Bergmann, BU 71, GB 72; 12/04
John David Halverson, HS 73; 1/05
Donald Paul Elders, GB 77; 12/04
Mary Muir, GR 77; 12/04
Bruce Robert Johnson, MD 79; 11/04

1980s

James Earl Bryan, LA 80; 12/04

1990s

Amy L. Van Dornelen, GB 90; 10/04
William W. Woods, GB 92; 12/04
Jeryll Lipe-Landsbaum, LW 95; 12/04

Correction

The editors sincerely regret mistakenly listing Avery B. Seidel, BU 55, in the winter 2004 issue's "In Memoriam" section. It was his wife, Estelle Ruth (Roffa) Seidel, BU 55, who died in August 2004.

In Remembrance

Lois J. Eliot

Lois Jameson Eliot, who focused much of her life as a supporter, adviser, and helpmate to her husband—Thomas Hopkinson Eliot, 12th chancellor of Washington University—died in her sleep on December 14, 2004, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She was 92.

"She was the one with the social skills," Dys her daughter, Nancy Eliot Ulett, of Bar Harbour, Maine. "While Dad ran the University, she ran the household schedule, which might include anything from a small afternoon faculty wives' tea to a full sit-down dinner with the prime minister of Singapore and his entire entourage, including bodyguards and secret service. And she managed to do this with complete grace and unflappability."

Born in Rochester, New York, Eliot graduated from Smith College in 1933. President of her graduating class for decades, she was an avid learner and world traveler. Eliot and her husband—who was from an old New England family that included University co-founder William Greenleaf Eliot and poet T.S. Eliot—met when she was a secretary and, he, a graduate of Harvard University in Cambridge, was an attorney in Washington, D.C. Her considerable social skills were put to good use as her husband helped draft President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal"
Social Security Act and assisted in steering it through Congress, as well as running for Congress three times and serving one term as a U.S. representative.

In 1952, when he became a professor of political science at Washington University, the family moved to St. Louis, and in 1962 he became chancellor. He was considered a key figure in elevating the University to national prominence. As chancellor from 1962-71, he weathered the campus uprising of the Vietnam War era.

Afterward, the couple returned to Cambridge, where he assumed the presidency of the Salzburg Seminar in American Studies, which took the couple to Salzburg, Austria, for several months yearly. Later, the couple co-authored The History of the Salzburg Seminar: The First 40 Years.

In addition to her daughter, Lois Elliot is survived by her son, Samuel Atkins Elliot IV; four grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

William Roth Kohn

William Roth Kohn, B.F.A. ’53, professor emeritus of painting, who was a revered teacher and one of St. Louis’ most respected painters, died November 13, 2004, of cancer at his home in St. Louis. He was 73.

A native of University City, Kohn was known for large, colorful landscapes based on his travels around the world. Subjects over the years ranged from the small towns of Andalusia to Chicago city-scapes; Grand Canyon rock formations; the pyramids in Oaxaca, Mexico; the sandstone fortress of Jaisalmer, in India’s Thar Desert; and, most recently, Filippo Brunelleschi’s famous cathedral, the Duomo, in Florence, Italy.

After studying printmaking in Paris, serving in Europe with the U.S. Army, and studying Spanish in Mexico City, he earned a master’s degree from Mills College in Oakland, California. In 1963, he joined the School of Art faculty at Washington University, where he remained until retirement in 1996.

His work has been featured in one-person shows and is included in numerous public and private collections. In 2002, he received the Missouri Arts Award, the state’s highest honor for achievement in the arts.

Survivors include his mother, Dorothy Feinblatt; his wife, Patricia Kohn; a son; a daughter; and a brother.

Susan Irene Tolman

Susan Irene (Roberts) Tolman, wife of the late Carl Tolman, former chancellor, dean, and professor at Washington University, died October 23, 2004, of heart failure at her home in Kirkwood, Missouri, a St. Louis suburb. She was 99.

Tolman, born in Manitoba, Canada, came to St. Louis in 1927, the year her husband, also from Canada, became an assistant professor of geology at the University. Family members and others agree that, during 67 years of marriage, she performed the role of chancellor’s wife, science attaché’s wife, and scholarship donor with grace and generosity. (Tolman’s husband, who was chancellor in 1961-62, served 68 years at the University.)

Intent on providing educational opportunities, Tolman tutored international students learning English, played an important role in the University’s Women’s Faculty Club for 68 years, co-founded the University’s nursery school, and helped establish scholarships. She was a 75-year, charter member of Chapter FK of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, an international women’s society, which supports the promotion of educational opportunities for women. She also was a devoted member of two St. Louis area congregations—First Congregational Church of St. Louis-United Church of Christ and later the St. Lucas United Church of Christ.

She is survived by two daughters, seven grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Soren Albert “AI” Toraian

Soren Albert “AI” Toraian, director of Washington University’s news office for nearly two decades, died November 23, 2004, from complications of pneumonia at the Life Care Center in St. Louis. He was 80.

The son of Armenian immigrants who grew up in St. Louis’ Baden area, he dropped out of high school as a freshman, but a decade later, he earned a Bachelor of Journalism degree from the University of Missouri in Columbia. He went into public relations, and, over nearly a half-century, he became one of St. Louis’ best-known and beloved PR practitioners.

He started out doing public relations for the National Society of Public Accountants, and then started his own public relations business, followed by working for such railroads as the Missouri Pacific and Wabash.

In 1961, Toraian began his 12 years as a vice president and account executive for Winburn-Branson advertising and public relations agency, and then did a stint with the Missouri Botanical Garden. Toraian came to the University in 1977, where he stayed until his retirement in 1994. Survivors include two daughters, his former wife, and a grandson.

U.S. Poet Laureate Mona Van Duyn Dies at 83

Mona Van Duyn was a poet who found meaning in everyday life. A former instructor in the Department of English in Arts & Sciences, a Pulitzer Prize-winner, and the nation’s first female Poet Laureate, she died December 1, 2004, of bone cancer at her home in University City, Missouri. She was 83.

Van Duyn (pronounced “Van Dine”) was raised in Eldora, a small town in northeastern Iowa, just west of Waterloo, where she was born. She started writing at age 5, and, when in second grade, her first published poem appeared in her school’s newspaper. Her mother and her father, a one-time farmer who ran a filling station, offered little encouragement.

She won a scholarship to attend Iowa State Teachers College (now the University of Northern Iowa) in the Cedar Falls/Waterloo area, from which she graduated in 1942. She went on to earn a master’s degree in writing from the University of Iowa in Iowa City in 1943, the year she married fellow writing student Jarvis Thurston, now professor emeritus and former chair of Washington University’s English department.

In 1947, while teaching at the University of Louisville (Kentucky), the two founded Perspective: A Quarterly of Literature. They brought the magazine with them when they settled in St. Louis in 1950 to begin teaching at Washington University. (The magazine ceased publication in 1975.) In 1971, she received an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree from Washington University.

Van Duyn’s first volume of poetry, Valentines to the Wide World, was published in 1959. “Her poetry begins domestic and ends universal,” her late friend and equally renowned poet Howard Nemerov, the Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of English in Arts & Sciences, once said.

Her second volume, To See, To Take, won the National Book Award for Poetry in 1971. In it she interwove religious and mythological themes, like divine and human love and the violence of love, with less exalted topics.

Though she won numerous awards, she did not reach widespread public recognition until she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1991, at the age of 70, for her seventh book, Near Changes (Knopf, 1990). The following year she became the sixth poet and the first woman named U.S. Poet Laureate, an eight-month position created in 1985.

Her ninth and final book, Selected Poems, which includes nearly half of the poems published in her previous eight volumes, was published in 2002. She is survived by Thurston, her husband of 61 years.

From Postcards From Cape Split:
Why am I dazzled?
It is only another harvest.
The world blooms
and we bend and bring from ground and sea and mind
its handsome harvests.

—Mona Van Duyn

A plaque bearing the above words was hung in recognition of Mona Van Duyn, by coincidence, on December 1, 2004, the day she died. It hangs outside Duncker Hall, home of the Department of English, next to one honoring the University’s other U.S. Poet Laureate, Howard Nemerov.
Don Strom frequently describes the campus community as a “family.” Perhaps that’s because, as the father of four, including a recent Washington University graduate, Strom feels a personal connection to the students and their parents.

As chief of the Washington University Police Department (WUPD), the idea of building community partnerships is central to his professional philosophy. He believes that when people think their police officers share a sense of ownership in the community, citizens and police cooperate more fully.

“People have to see that we’re not apart from but a part of the community,” Strom says. “My role is to build upon the strengths and professionalism of the people in the department, while at the same time ensuring that we are engaged in interacting with our campus partners as much as we possibly can. We’ve enhanced our communication with core groups like Residential Life and others, meeting with them on a regular basis, responding to events immediately when they occur, and also identifying and proactively dealing with some potential bumps in the road ahead.”

Strom came to Washington University in February 2000 with 20 years of law enforcement experience, having worked his way up from patrolman to detective to chief of the Carbondale (Illinois) Police Department, a position he held for nearly eight years. He also served as the inspector general for the Illinois Secretary of State’s Office, working with federal investigators to root out corruption and investigate charges of obstruction of justice.

In Carbondale, home to Southern Illinois University, Strom gained valuable experience serving the needs of students and schools. He also helped establish several community partnerships, including a police chaplain program.

A graduate of both the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, and the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville, Strom has been active in numerous law enforcement organizations, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Although university police departments are not uncommon, Strom must frequently confront misconceptions about the role of the WUPD, whose officers possess the same authority as municipal police officers.

“People don’t always understand that this is a police department as opposed to a security staff,” he says. “Our officers are highly trained professionals who are certified in the State of Missouri. The University has made an important commitment to employ people with a high level of training and expertise. It’s just another in the fantastic array of services Washington University offers in support of its community.”
Because the University's Hilltop Campus is geographically located within four different police venues (St. Louis County and City, University City, and the City of Clayton), WUPD must maintain close ties with neighboring departments. Even so, many in area law enforcement had never worked with WUPD prior to the October 2004 presidential debate, which had even tighter security than the two previous debates hosted by Washington University.

"Certainly the presidential debate was a challenge," Strom says. "It was also an opportunity for us as an organization to grow. I think one of the nicest outcomes is a new level of respect for our agency from every law enforcement agency in the region."

One of Strom's goals for the department is to provide advanced professional training and to encourage officers to take advantage of the University's educational opportunities.

"It's a challenge sometimes. We've tried to align our shift rotation with the semesters to make it easier for officers to take classes," he says. "We're also working on building a crisis intervention team and providing enhanced training for our officers regarding mental-health issues. I think it's an area in which officers have been highly under-trained, yet they deal with these issues almost daily in one capacity or another.

"Another big challenge is continuing to attract highly skilled people who are caring, compassionate, and sensitive, and who are interested in working in this environment, because not every police officer is," he continues. "I'm always excited when officers come to us who are already parents because I think they have an appreciation for some of the issues that young people and families confront here. For many families this is the first parent-child break, and parents are looking for us to watch over their children. That's quite different from what people expect from their local law enforcement."

Serving a population that changes yearly and overturns roughly every four years brings the constant challenge of having to re-educate a relatively naive community about safety and security issues. Teaching students how to prevent crimes of opportunity is a primary objective. Strom also works to improve campus security by implementing new philosophies and programs such as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, which focuses on building and landscaping to provide better light and visibility around entrances and walkways and reducing shadows where someone might hide.

"Mom and dad may be thousands of miles from here, so what occurs on our campus needs to be this large extension of family," Strom says. "Quite frankly, I think families sense that when they come here, and I like being a part of that."

Terri McClain is a free-lance writer based in St. Charles, Missouri.

Peer Review

"I've worked with Don quite closely. His values show through in his work—serving others, being proactive, doing what is best for students, and providing a safe and secure environment. He's incredibly collaborative, and he's also innovative—his department has implemented a number of programs that benefit students. And I think his attitudes rub off on his officers, because they have built great rapport with the students."

—Jill Carnaghi, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Students/Director of Campus Life

"Don Strom is a trusted and admired colleague. The professionalism and dedication he has brought to campus have without a doubt made Washington University a safer and better place. He understands well the crucial role campus police play in the lives of our students, and in that regard he is an educator. And as I learned working closely with him on the planning of two presidential debates, he is a chief who has earned the respect of security professionals from around the country. We couldn't be in better hands."

—Steve Givens, Assistant to the Chancellor

"Don is a consummate professional who has significantly improved the safety and security programs both on the Hilltop Campus and in neighborhoods where a number of our students reside. He cares deeply about the University community, and he is one of the most dedicated employees I have ever had the opportunity to work with."

—Steve Hoffner, Executive Vice President, Quadrangle Housing Company

"An excellent contributor to the safety and security of our community, Don Strom and the team he leads are disciplined and helpful in all ways imaginable. His special leadership and dedication during the time of the presidential debate were extraordinary. During most times things are just 'routine,' but we can depend on Don to keep things going well and responding promptly and effectively when emergencies arise. I am grateful to him for his exceptional commitment to the University and preserving its sense of community."

—Mark Wrighton, Chancellor
Forever Fun  Over the past decade, with assistance from University faculty, students, staff, and members of the Board, Forest Park has been refurbished, with facilities renovated, waterways restored, and wildlife reintroduced. (See the next issue of the Washington University in St. Louis Magazine, summer 2005, for a stunning photo essay of Forest Park, the St. Louis community's urban oasis.)