Members of the International Student Resource group at Washington University serve as goodwill ambassadors by visiting local schools and speaking about their countries with the elementary students. Among the foreign students who participate in the Adopt an International Student Program at the Ralph M. Captain Elementary School are (from left) Ricardo De Ungria, Philippines; Neil Corrie, England; Doerte Bischoff, West Germany (sitting on slide); Rana Haikal, Kuwait; Frederique Leveziel, France, and Waan Amran Was Marat, Malaysia.

Goodwill ambassadors

Foreign students are ‘living resource’ for grade-schoolers

Mark E. Mason, vice chairman of the Oxford Development Co., and his wife, Mymi, have announced a $500,000 pledge to Washington University to support the Mason-Olin Center for Business, Law and Economics at the John M. Olin School of Business. The endowment, Mason H. Danforth has announced, will be a general partner of the Oxford Development Co. in Pittsburgh and is an active business and civic leader for that city.

Mason, who was awarded a degree in liberal arts from the University in 1951, has specified that $500,000 of the pledge will support the proposed Center for Business, Law and Economics at the John M. Olin School of Business, and $550,000 will go to the College of Arts and Sciences for classroom renovations in South Ridgley Hall.

Danforth said the Masons have been “steadfast and dedicated supporters of Washington University by giving both their time and resources. We are grateful to them for their generosity and concern,” he said.

The Masons have said, “Both gifts have been designated as challenge grants. We enthusiastically support the exciting new programs that the University is establishing, and we also recognize the need for physical plant improvement.”

Robert L. Virgil, D.B.A., dean of the John M. Olin School of Business, said, “The proposed center will involve several disciplines, including law, economics, political science and business. We are honored that the Masons have selected our program for support.”

Martin H. Israel, Ph.D., dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, said, “Ridgley Hall is one of the original buildings on this campus. It is central to our teaching and scholarship in the humanities, particularly foreign languages. The Masons’ decision to help upgrade the teaching environment is vital importance to students and faculty.”

Mason’s service to the University as an alumnus volunteer currently includes: member, Arts and Sciences National Council; chair, Arts and Sciences Annual Fund; chair, Pittsburgh Alumni Chapter; annual patron and life member, William Greenleaf Eliot Society; and member of the Alumni-Parents Admission Program.

He also has served as chairman, Alumni Board of Governors; member, Student Affairs National Council; member, Task Force on Student Life; co-chair, Eliot Society Membership Committee for Arts and Sciences; chair, and Arts and Sciences Capital Resources Committee; and member, John M. Olin School of Business Dedication Planning Committee.

Mason is a current and former member of the board of a number of business, civic and charitable organizations in Pittsburgh. He serves on the national board of trustees of the Leukemia Society.

Poet Van Duyjn will speak at Commencement

Poet Mona Van Duyjn, a winner of the National Book Award in poetry, will speak at Washington University’s 120th Commencement on Friday, May 18. The Commencement ceremony will begin at 8:30 a.m. with the traditional processional to Brookesings Quadrangle. In case of rain, the event will be held at 10 a.m. at The Arena, 5700 Oakland Ave.

Van Duyjn, who will read from her work at Commencement, received the National Book Award in 1971 for her collection of poems, To Take (1970). The previous year, she shared Yale University’s Bolling Prize in poetry with Student National Council; and member, John M. Olin School of Business Dedication Planning Committee.

Mason has co-edited with her husband, Jarvis Thurston, Ph.D., Washington University professor emeritus of English, of Perspective: a Quarterly of Literary, which from 1956 to 1976, helped begin the careers of such noted writers as W.S. Merwin and Anthony Hecht, both Pulitzer Prize-winning poets. She was poet-in-residence at the Bread Loaf Writer’s Conference in 1974 and 1975 and at Bard College, and the University of Northern Iowa and the recently completed Iowa Writer’s Workshop, she has taught at the Writers’ Workshop as well as the University of Hawaii, the University of Alabama and Washington University. She has consulted with a number of doctors from Washington University (1971) and Cornell (1972). She has also been a visiting professor of poetry at the University of Louvain and member, Task Force on Student Life; co-chair, Eliot Society Membership Committee for Arts and Sciences; chair, and Arts and Sciences Capital Resources Committee; and member, John M. Olin School of Business Dedication Planning Committee.

Mason is a current and former member of the board of a number of business, civic and charitable organizations in Pittsburgh. He serves on the national board of trustees of the Leukemia Society.
The children have such an enthusiasm for learning. I love that." He now has first-graders to a different culture, he says, helps them solve math problems via the class computer and plays soccer with the children.

"Neil has shared his home with us and discussed how things are alike and different in England and America," says Waithaka, adding that Corrie has brought the children books from England to further their understanding of the country. "And he has experienced American holidays with us. For Valentine's Day, the class had a party for him and they all made him Valentine's Day cards. All the kids love him. He's a role model for some of the kids."

Not only has Corrie exposed 28 first-graders to a different culture, he also has learned a lot about himself. "For some time I've toyed with the idea of becoming a teacher, but I've never had the 'call of education.'" In Norwich, England, he exposed British cultural to first-graders in Jan Wilson's class at the Ralph M. Captain Elementary School.

"It has been a very positive experience for me and for the children. The children have such an enthusiasm for learning. I love that." He now plans to pursue a teaching career. While exposing the community to different cultures, the international students have learned about America as well. He's learned that American elementary schools are quite different from those in Germany," says Doerte Bischoff, who, as a graduate student for the project. "We have tried to get an impression of what America is like and tell the kids something about Germany." She was surprised to find that even fourth-graders knew about the possible unification of East and West Germany. For fourth-graders, "they know quite a lot," she adds.

In her presentations to the fourth-graders, Bischoff makes comparisons between America and Germany and attempts to show them that "not everything in America is great. America has problems too." Freshman Rana Haikal, who works with Andy Parnas' fifth-graders, joined the program, in part, to correct some prevalent myths about her country. Most people don't even know where Kuwait is, she says. And then, when they find out, they want to know if people drive cars in Kuwait or if all the women wear veils. "I had a chance to tell the students that we're not all like that."

In the future, the International Student Resource Group plans to cook and deliver food to AIDS patients, volunteer in several capacities at the Grace Hill Settlement House for the homeless, make clothes and toys for needy children and drive cancer chemotherapy patients to treatment sites.

Schvey also has arranged for the international students to come into contact with distinguished members of the St. Louis community. Earlier this month, former Sen. Thomas Eagleton, Ph.D., University Professor of Public Affairs, conducted an informal round-table discussion with the group. After a 20-minute introduction on his perceptions of global issues, the students were invited to ask questions of Eagleton in a lively session that lasted nearly two hours.
France honors two faculty here with coveted chevalier title

Cultural Attaché of France Monsieur Daniel Olivier named chevalier of the French government's Ordre des Palmes Académiques, May 9 at a formal ceremony and dinner given in his honor by Chancellor William H. Danforth at the University House.

Norris J. Lacy, Ph.D., professor of French, and Maya Rybalka, instructor of French in University College, received the coveted chevalier title, which is accompanied by a medal. The Order of the Academic Palms is one of the highest honors bestowed by the French government, after the famous Legion of Honor. TheseKnighted faculty members are recognized for "advancing French culture," usually in teaching, scholarship, or public service.

Monsieur Olivier (noted that he has never heard of two faculty members from one school receiving this award at the same time. He feels that this indicates that the university believes Washington University is the only college or university in the United States to have six French faculty named chevaliers. Lacy and Rybalka join other Washington Chrétiens Michel Rybalka, Ph.D., professor of French and Maya Rybalka's husband; James F. Jones, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Romance languages and literatures department; Elizabeth Schreiber, D.S., associate professor emerita of French; and Isidore Silver, Ph.D., the Rosa Palm Professor of Mechanical Design, and Isidore Silver, Ph.D., the Rosa Palms Professor of French, as French faculty named chevaliers.

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Students place 11th nationwide in prestigious mathematics competition

Washington University has placed 11th in the nation in the William Lowell Putnam Mathematics Competition, which is known as the most prestigious event for undergraduates in mathematics.

This year students from 373 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada competed for team awards.

The Washington team was composed of William Chen, a sophomore mathematics and physics major from Auburn, Ala.; Peter Shashkin, a senior physics and mathematics major from St. Louis; and David Sherman, a freshmen mathematics major from Louisville, Ky.

The team was coached by Carl M. Bender, Ph.D., professor of physics, and Richard H. Rochberg, Ph.D., professor of mathematics.

"We had five students place in the top 100, which is absolutely superb," says Bender. Chen won a $250 award for placing eighth out of the 2,392 students who took the exam. Shashkin and Sherman were members of the top 20 percent of contestants.

"Preparing for this exam is a full-time job," adds Bender. "These contestants form a team, they work individually."

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Thursday, May 3
9:30 a.m. School of Medicine Ninth Dr. Arthur M. Zuckerman, Ph.D., professor of medicine and associate dean for research.
11 a.m. School of Medicine Annual Carl G. Schork Award. Carl V. Moore Aud., 660 South Euclid.
3 p.m. Dept. of Pediatrics Seminar, "Core Exhibition," office of the director of the National Library of Medicine.
Friday, May 4
9:15 a.m. Dept. of Pediatrics First Donald J., Clopton Lecture. Amagasaki, Japan. Room 208 Urbauer Hall.
4 p.m. Dept. of Pediatrics Seminar, "Vocal Concert," for senior citizens and WU faculty and staff; and "Core Exhibition," office of the director of the National Library of Medicine.
Saturday, May 5
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dept. of Chemistry Symposium on the Frontiers of Organic Chemistry. "Host-Guest Chemical Recognition, a challenge of the 21st century," John E. McGrath, director of the Center for Chemical Sciences.
Sunday, May 6
7 p.m. Dept. of Music. "Spring is a good time to quit smoking!" Jazz Gymnastics. Contact the American Lung Association and the Missouri Lung Association for information on how to quit smoking.
Monday, May 7
4 p.m. School of Medicine Seminar by Margaret Kelly, professor of medicine and director of Division of Infectious Diseases, St. Louis U. School of Medicine. Clopton Amphitheatre, 4950 Audubon Ave.
Tuesday, May 8
9:30 a.m. School of Medicine Annual Carl G. Schork Award. Carl V. Moore Aud., 660 South Euclid.
Noon. Dept of Pediatrics Seminar, "Vocal Concert," for senior citizens and WU faculty and staff; and "Core Exhibition," office of the director of the National Library of Medicine.
Wednesday, May 9
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Dept. of Chemistry "Spring is a good time to quit smoking!", Monday through Friday, noon to 4 p.m. in Bixby Gallery. (Also Sat., May 5, same times, and Sun., May 6, at 9:30 p.m.) On Fri. and Sat., 9 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. Edgerton Center. For appointment, call WU-889-6527 and leave your name and address for location and more information about the clinic.
Thursday, May 10
9 a.m. School of Medicine Annual Carl G. Schork Award. Carl V. Moore Aud., 660 South Euclid.
Noon. Dept of Pediatrics Seminar, "Vocal Concert," for senior citizens and WU faculty and staff; and "Core Exhibition," office of the director of the National Library of Medicine.
Friday, May 11
Saturday, May 12
3 p.m. Dept. of Music. "Spring is a good time to quit smoking!", Monday through Friday, noon to 4 p.m. in Bixby Gallery. (Also Sat., May 5, same times, and Sun., May 6, at 9:30 p.m.) On Fri. and Sat., 9 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. Edgerton Center. For appointment, call WU-889-6527 and leave your name and address for location and more information about the clinic.
Women binge eaters are being sought for a study. In addition, a weight-loss group designed for women binge eaters is being formed this month.
The Department of Psychology is recruiting women to participate in a study on eating styles and dieting. Women aged 18 to 30 who are binge eating are being sought for the study.
Subjects will be asked to fill out questionnaires and to view a videotape. They will be paid $5 for their participation, which will take about one-and-a-half hours.
The study is directed by Marcia Smith, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychology. Smith is investigating the relationship between binge eating and dieting, the impact of dieting on eating and exercise habits, and sessions will address such problems as low self-esteem, low mood and poor body image.
The cost for the program is $80. For more information, call 861-4808.
Smoking cessation program to begin
The Washington University Smoking Cessation Clinic is offering a new session to help participants become quitters.
The orientation meeting for the eight-week session will be held at 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, on campus. After the orientation session, participants will participate in a smoking cessation program that will meet weekly.
The program costs $50; all but $10 of the fee is refundable at the end of the program. The clinic, now in its 13th year, is co-sponsored by the American Lung Association and the Missouri Department of Health, and is supported by a grant from the National Cancer Institute.
Spring is a good time to quit because participants who quit will have a 50% better chance of success than if they tried to quit any other time during the year.
Participants are asked to join a support group that will meet weekly during the eight weeks. The group will meet every Wednesday from 8-9:30 p.m., beginning May 9. The last session will be held July 10.
Group sessions will be led by Linda Krug, Ph.D., who studies binge eating and obesity in the Department of Psychology.
The program will focus on the relationship between binge eating and smoking cessation, as well as providing coping strategies for dealing with smoking and eating habits, and sessions will address such problems as low self-esteem, low mood and poor body image.
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