Washington University Record, May 12, 1994

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Undergraduate task force makes recommendations

Living Learning Centers in the residence halls and the introduction of a three-way teacher evaluation system are two of many recommendations proposed by the Task Force on Undergraduate Education in its preliminary report. Since Provost Edward S. Macias, Ph.D., appointed the task force 17 months ago, the 27-member group of faculty, staff and students has looked at the undergraduate-student experience and ways to improve it. Despite the task force’s extensive examination, the question of its continued existence remains.

"There was more to be done than we could do," said Burton Wheeler, Ph.D., chair of the task force and professor of English. Wheeler summarized the preliminary report at the May 3 meeting of the Undergraduate Management Team.

To ensure that the work continues, the task force has recommended that a permanent body, the Council on Undergraduate Education, be established. The council would include faculty, staff and student representatives from all of the undergraduate schools, and a core committee would present task force recommendations and implement decisions made by the council.

The final report of the task force will not be completed until September, but Wheeler said the preliminary report was released so that discussion of the recommendations can begin. "We hope to accelerate discussion and consensus building," he said. Specifically, the recommendations are meant to spur discussion and argument on what makes good teaching.

During the 1993-94 academic year, the task force focused on the first-year student experience, and released recommendations for improvement in the "Draft of the First Year Report." During the 1993-94 academic year, the task force divided itself into two sets of committees: Teaching and Learning; Academic Setting and Environment; and Academic Structure and Procedures. The task force’s report to be released this fall will contain all of the major points addressed by these subcommittees.

To find ways to improve the undergraduate experience, the task force went to the source — students. Over the past year, the task force met with six to seven student groups ranging in number from 25 to 50. "We’re getting two messages," Wheeler said of those meetings. "In the classroom, students give high rankings to course evaluations. Outside of the classroom, students express concern toward certain things."

Community issues

Students said they feel isolated and cited the need for more faculty interaction outside the classroom.

In this issue...

Diabetes program

Researchers determine effective means of stopping the disease that can safely follow intensive therapy

Research junkie

At 68, medical pioneer Michel M. Pogossian, Ph.D., says he has no desire to stop now

Q & A

Administrators answer employees’ queries to be in a revolution
Diabetes treatment

Parents take care of their children's health. The new approach is designed to prevent diabetes in children with newly diagnosed diabetes can preserve pancreatic function and thus the ability to still produce insulin. Neil H. White, M.D., lays the foundation for figuring out if some of the pancreatic function of children with newly diagnosed pancreases will be preserved. White said patients in the intensive group followed intensive therapy. Patients in both groups were able to lower blood sugar levels, the goal of diabetes management, and parents and children did not report any difference in quality of life and health status between the groups. However, patients in the intensive group had lower blood sugars. They also were at increased risk of suffering hypoglycemia. White said patients in the intensive group in the DCCT also had this problem, but hypoglycemia was manageable."The question of whether it's worth the risk," he said. The researchers conducting the DCCT concluded that the benefits of intensive therapy outweigh the risk of hypoglycemia in adolescent and adult patients supervised by experts.

White said his study is a stepping stone for figuring out if some of the pancreatic function of children with newly diagnosed diabetes can be saved. "We now know that intensive therapy is feasible in children. In 1995, we should know if children's pancreases will be preserved." White also points out that the National Institutes of Health recently has started a study to determine whether diabetes can be prevented before it occurs in relatives at high risk for developing diabetes. This study, the Diabetes Prevention Trial Type I Diabetes (DPT-I), will determine whether small doses of insulin can prevent the onset of diabetes. White will oversee this study for the medical school.

Diane Duke

Study evaluates possible treatment for improved lung cancer survival

Researchers at the School of Medicine's Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology are participating in a national study to evaluate a new treatment approach that may improve survival for certain lung cancer patients. The new approach is designed to benefit patients with non-small cell lung cancer whose cancer has spread into lymph nodes in the center of the chest. The majority of these cancers are found in smokers or "secondary" smokers. Lung cancer is the number one cancer killer in men and women. These patients traditionally have been treated with radiation therapy alone, said principal investigator Mary Graham, M.D., instructor of radiology. Their survival rates have been bleak, with five-year survival rates rarely exceeding 10 percent. Part of the reason for low survival is that the cancer spreads quickly to other parts of the body, she said. The presence of cancer in the lymph nodes is a sign this spread is likely.

The study will determine whether adding chemotherapy or surgery to traditional treatment might provide an advantage, Graham said.

"We now know from recent studies that a combined approach using radiation therapy and chemotherapy helps keep the disease from spreading and improves survival," said Graham. The national study will provide further information by evaluating the combined approach in a larger number of patients. All eligible participants will receive the same initial radiation therapy and chemotherapy, then half will receive additional radiation and chemotherapy, and half will undergo surgery. The study will determine which approach is best. "We want to know if we can improve survival with chemotherapy and radiation therapy, or if surgery is also necessary," Graham explained. For information, contact Graham at 362-8503.
Father of PET keeps looking for answers

Michel T. Ter-Pogossian, Ph.D., right, explains the operation of a PET scanner to fourth-year medical student Rob Southwick.

"You are continuously trying to find something ... no matter what."

WASHINGTON PEOPLE

Twenty years ago, a new medical technology began in the form of an awkward-looking machine dubbed "The Chicken with the Comb." Today, the technology, known as positron emission tomography or PET, has transformed medicine by giving medical researchers an invaluable window into the human body.

Like other imaging techniques, PET illustrates function rather than form. PET machines register signals from radioactive tracers inside a patient's body. The signals, in colorful, cross-sectional images that reveal biochemical activities of organs and cells. Ter-Pogossian said his work on PET's development in the early 1970s, investigations have used it to study brain function, cancer, mental illness, heart disease and a host of other medical problems.

It is not surprising that colleagues describe Ter-Pogossian, professor of radiation science at the School of Medicine's Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, as a thinker and a creative problem solver. A physicist by training, he is well known as a pioneer in putting radioactive substances to use in medical research. His early accomplishments include: creating one of the first scanning devices for detecting radioactivity concentration in living material in 1951, developing a new tool for delivering radiation therapy for cancers of the cervix and uterus, and being the first to use radioactive tracers to locate brain tumors.

But he is best known as the father of PET. In the early 1950s, he was among the first to realize the potential of the short-lived radioactive tracers that now are a key component of PET imaging. He developed PET to take advantage of those tracers and has played a key role in its evolution ever since.

Ter-Pogossian entered the world of science early, while he was a child in France. He conducted miniature experiments with toy physics and chemistry sets in a closet of his family's apartment. The interest stuck with him; in 1943 he earned a mathematics degree from the University of Paris, the degree he needed for graduate science careers. Then World War II complicated his life.

"It was a difficult time. Many of our family friends were arrested, and many of them who were Jewish never came back," he said. He became interested in joining war resistance efforts. Ter-Pogossian's father, out of concern for his son's academic future, told him he must continue his education either in England or the United States. The younger Ter-Pogossian knew the United States would be "more exciting," and he left Europe in 1946.

He was drawn to Washington University partly because its chancellor at the time was Arthur Holly Compton, a Nobel laureate who described a fundamental physics concept now called the Compton Effect. Ter-Pogossian joined the Department of Physics in 1946 as a research assistant. He earned a master's degree from the University in 1948 and a doctoral degree in nuclear physics in 1950. A short time later he became interested in medicine and took a position at Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology.

PET evolved from his interest in using short-lived radioactive tracers, or isotopes, for studying chemical processes in the body. They were called short-lived because their radiation disappeared within minutes. Researchers had used other types of radioactive tracers since the 1940s, substances such as iodine-131. Ter-Pogossian thought short-lived isotopes of oxygen, nitrogen and carbon would be more valuable because, unlike previously used tracers, these participated directly in the body's chemical activities.

He and his colleagues did experiments on brain metabolism and blood flow with isotopes produced by a University of Chicago nuclear reactor. In 1953, Ter-Pogossian thought short-lived isotopes of oxygen, nitrogen and carbon would be more valuable because, unlike previously used tracers, these participated directly in the body's chemical activities.

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Although Ter-Pogossian is happy PET has found clinical uses, he predicts its biggest value in the future will be for basic research. "The most important application of PET will be as a tool that allows us to understand the real events that can't be probed by any other means," he said.

Ter-Pogossian from the beginning PET would be an important research tool, said Ronald Evens, M.D., head of the Department of Radiology and director of the Hybrid Imaging Center.

"The key to PET's success, added Raichle. "The gathered the right people together at the right time and that combination of people was unbelievably productive."

Ter-Pogossian also has been a willing mentor for researchers interested in PET. "It's been incredibly supportive of my career and my studies. He really tries to foster the use of PET," said Bergmann. In fact, nearly all of the world's leading PET researchers have been members of the Ter-Pogossian group at one time or another. He also has made sure the radiation sciences division, which he led from 1973 to 1990, is in good hands when he retires eventually, added Evens. Michael Welch, Ph.D., professor of radiation science, trained with Ter-Pogossian and took over the division in 1990.

In 1993, Ter-Pogossian received the Gairdner Foundation International Award, famous for predicting Nobel Prize winners. To date, 40 of its 225 recipients also earned a Nobel Prize. His other honors include the Hermann Baurgart Pioneer Award, and the highest recognition for science bestowed by the Society of Nuclear Medicine.

Ter-Pogossian said he has reason he stayed at Washington University. "May 12, 1994 —

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Juli Leistner

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EMI. CT uses X-rays and computers to create cross-sectional images. When the Washington University team helped EMI develop the first CT machine for body imaging, Ter-Pogossian was the first volunteer. "The first images on a body system were of my body. I still have them," he said.

At the time, he and his colleagues needed radiation detectors that would provide more information about their isopect's distribution in the body. It occurred to Ter-Pogossian that a system similar to CT might apply to his isotope studies. He started on PET in 1971. "The Chicken"

Raichle and his colleagues have identified regions of the brain responsible for speaking, reading, attention and memory with PET. "I remember the day we found out PET imaging not just what the brain looks like, but how it works. "I think it's impossible to give up," said Bergmann. "The most important application of PET will be as a tool that allows us to understand the real events that can't be probed by any other means," he said.

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Exhibitions

"Bachelor of Fine Arts." Features creations by senior bachelor of fine arts students. (Opening: 5-7 p.m. May 13.) Through May 22. Gallery of Art, upper level, Steinberg. Hours: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. weekdays; 1-5 p.m. weekends. 935-5692.

"Paracelsus, Five Hundred Years." Through July 15. Glazer Gallery, School of Medicine Library. Hours: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. weekdays; 1-5 p.m. weekends. 362-7080.


"Curse Show." Features works of first-year and sophomore art students. Sponsored by the School of Fine Arts. Through May 22. Bixby Gallery, Bixby Hall. Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays; 1-5 p.m. weekends. 935-6979.

Lectures

Thursday, May 12

Noon. Genetics seminar. "A Regulation of Cell O2Tightness by a Multi-Component Operon Leader Region," Cathleen Chan, graduate student, Molecular Genetics. Program Room 322 Reebok Hall.

4:30 p.m. Central Institute for the Deaf Research Seminar, K. Braun, professor, Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology seminar. Program Room 306 McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg. 362-7072.


5:30 p.m. Psychology seminar. "The JAK-STAT Signal Transduction Pathway in Genes From the Cell Surface," James E. Darnell, Jr., professor, of Molecular and Cell Biology, Rockefeller U, New York, N.Y. Moore Aud., 4350 Scott Ave. 362-8748.

Wednesday, May 18


Thursday, May 19


Friday, May 20


Calendar guidelines

Events sponsored by the University — in departments, schools, centers, organizations and student groups — are listed in the Calendar. All events are open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

Calendar submission should state date, place, sponsor, title, name of speaker(s) and admission. Cost and contribution qualifications with descriptions are welcome. Send items to Julia Belkin at Box 1070 (or via fax: 362-4259). Submission forms are available by calling 935-4926.

The deadline for all entries is noon Tuesday one week prior to publication. Late entries will not be published. No free tickets. No exceptions. Except holiday schedule, or any other information, please call 935-4926.

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Six to receive honorary degrees during Commencement—Continued from page 1

Nation’s poet laureate

American poet laureate and at 40, youngest
Author of tax reform legislation
Front-line staff works across departmental lines

neither of them, who had avoided paying taxes to
sharply reduced tax rates. His reform,


Rita F. Dove

Nation’s poet laureate

Rita F. Dove is the nation’s first African-American poet laureate and was named to hold the position. As poet laureate and consultant in poetry at the Library of Congress, Dove is in charge of selecting the library’s literary calendar. Her poetry is recognized as one of the most outstanding voices in American literature.

Rita F. Dove

By through poetry town meetings. Dove, who

Front-line staff works across departmental lines

“The office representatives talked about every process, from when a student was admitted to the loan process to orientation to registering for classes to paying the bills to what happens in the classrooms,” said Rita F. Dove, chair of the Library of Congress. Congress, Dove is in charge of selecting the library’s literary calendar. Her poetry is recognized as one of the most outstanding voices in American literature.

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Board appoints committee to search for Danforth's successor

At the Board of Trustees' annual meeting on May 6, William W. Van Cleve, chair, announced that the members of the Search Committee composed of trustees, students, faculty, alumni, staff and students, Van Cleve will chair the Search Committee. James W. Davis, professor and chair, will serve as committee co-chair.

The new committee will serve on the search committee: Joseph J. Ackerman, professor and chair, Department of Chemistry; Kathleen Bricker, the George Alexander Magill Professor of Law; Larry S. Dreyfus, president; Harriet B. Spergel, Professor of Pediatrics and head, Department of Pediatrics; Jerome W. Cohen, professor of computer science; Paul Michael Letroz, the Rozsa May Distin-

The centers have faculty advisers and may include an apartment space for one or more faculty. The task force plans to recommend that the development of new Learning/ Living Center serve as a pilot for any housing renovation or construction and as a model for future planning.

The South Forty is an ideal location for developing curricular and co-curricular learning opportunities involving faculty, according to the task force.

This task force emphasizes the need for developing bonds with students and promoting a sense of community. "I think when students develop good relationships with faculty, they also develop in biology labs, and many students feel good about their whole expe-

Another recommendation is to stress the importance of good teaching to new faculty. Recruitment efforts should continue to recruit the best possible candidate, the task force says. For example, the task force recommended that all candidates should be taken into serious consideration during the hiring process. Departments might ask candidates to give lectures to classes, discuss their approaches to teaching, or provide examples of class materials or syllabi. More detailed evidence of teaching skills should be required at tenure reviews as well.

To help improve teaching, the task force also will recommend increasing the re-

The following incidents were reported to the Hilltop Campus Police Department May 2-6. Readers with information are asked to call the Hilltop Campus Police Department at 650-3400.

The Board of Trustees will begin the hiring process. Departments might be asked to provide a teaching record of candidates should be evaluated, the task force says. For example, the task force recommends increasing the number of courses requiring extensive writing, and may include an apartment space for one or more faculty. The task force plans to recommend that the development of new Learning/ Living Center serve as a pilot for any housing renovation or construction and as a model for future planning.

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In addition, the task force recommends that the University make its commit-

Teaching and research

The task force also tackled the ques-

There needs to be a reinforcement of the learning process outside of the classroom.

— Burton Wheeler

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For The Record contains news about a wide variety of faculty, student and staff and professional activities.

Of note

Timothy J. Lemmle, Ph.D., assistant professor of education, has been selected as the recipient of the 1994 Pew and expertise fellow. Lemmle will use the fellowship award to conduct research on his next book project titled "Writing for Critical Democracy." The academic community has yet to inform the audience that he did not accept the runner-up designation for him.

Speaking of

During the Association for Arid Lands Studies' 17th annual meeting held in Albuquerque, N.M., Eugene B. Shultz Jr., Ph.D., professor of surgery and human affairs, presented two papers. They were titled "Creating Strategies for Economic Recovery at the Dry, Deteriorated Continental Arids of the Southwestern U.S." and "AIDS in Bolivia: To Replace Scarce Woodfueld in Arid Lands." Shultz is a past president of the association.

Michael Valetine, Ph.D., associate clinical professor of psychology, co-presented a miniseminar on "Hearing Loss in the Elderly and Methods to Improve Communication at the James Landis Nursing Home" in New York City.

To press

Joseph J. Archkaman, Ph.D., professor and chair of chemistry, was appointed to the editorial board of Le Vivre, a research journal based in Athens, Greece.


Daniel R. Mandelker, J.S.D., Howard A. Stamper Professor of Law, spoke at the federal fair Housing Act conference held at Rochford, Oxford. He spoke on the National Environmental Policy Act and conferences held in Denver and Washington, D.C. In addition, Michael Co. in Charlotteville, Va., recently published the third edition of his treatise titled Land Use Law.

An article by Charles McManis, J.D., Bruer wins Grawemeyer Award in Education

John T. Bruer, Ph.D., adjunct professor of philosophy and president of the James S. McDonnell Foundation at St. Louis, has received an award from the University of Louisville. Bruer was selected for a $150,000 award that recognizes ideas that have the potential to bring about significant improvements in education.

Bruer won the award for his book titled Schools for Thought: A Science of Learning in the Classroom, which was published by MIT Press in 1993. The book describes an innovative set of classroom interventions that dramatically improve the way students learn. The techniques are based on decades of educational research on how children learn. According to Bruer, "Teaching methods based on cognitive research could be the educational equivalent of the polio vaccine and a public health breakthrough."

The awards are named after Louisville industrialist H. Charles Grawemeyer, who has provided a $1 million endowment. The awards were established specifically to nomintate and entries are judged by experts from the University of Louisville and others in the nominees' fields. Winners get five annual payments of $30,000. Other Grawemeyer awards were given in music and in religion. An award for ideas to improve world order will be announced later.

Professor of Modern Letters, was named the runner-up for the 1994 PEN-Faulkner Award for Fiction for his 16th book, Van Gogh's Room at Aries. Elin named runner up for major literary prize

Stanley Elkin is a southern writer who lives with his daughter, Mary, in Washington, D.C., made the announcement. Elkin is the author of 1980 and administered at the Shakespeare Institute Library in Washington, the PEN-Faulkner Foundation.

Elkin is one of the most distinguished literary prizes. As a runner-up, Elkin Elin, 75, $5,000. The other writer, Anne Carson, the winner of the award, said he was surprised to have won the award. He said his daughter, Mary, was elated. Elkin dedicated the award ceremony in Washington to accept the runner-up designation for him. Mary is a writer who lives in London. Elkin dedicated the award ceremony in Washington to accept the runner-up designation for him. Mary is a writer who lives in London.

Elkin's Van Gogh at Room at Arles is comprised of three novels. The first and longest, "Her Sense of Timeing," concerns a wheelchair-bound professor in St. Louis who leaves his students free at his death and then before his annual party for his students. The second novels, "Town City Exclu- eded," contains a Pepe and Religion book. "How Royals Found Me "Unusable" to Former their Mayor," focuses on a woman who falls in love with Lawrence, prince of England. The narrator, Louise Beaulac, a self-admitted ex-girlfriend of the prince and the former fiancee, tells her tale in a weekly tableau of daily life. The last novel, from which he book takes its name, concerns a professor named Major. Elkin has won a foundation grant. He is sent to an academic retreat in Arizona. Upon arrival, Major is assigned to Van Gogh's bedroom.

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For the 1994 PEN-Faulkner Award for Fiction for his 16th book, Van Gogh's Room at Aries, Elkin named runner-up for major literary prize

Anne Carson to associate professor of literature, Douglass A. Sullivan Jr., to associate professor of electrical engineering, and William D. D. Richard to associate professor of electrical engineering.

Medical Campus

Granting of tenure

P. B. A. C. M. to associate professor of surgery; Omari Karagwa to associate professor of pathology; Douglass A. Sullivan Jr., to associate professor of electrical engineering, and William D. D. Richard to associate professor of electrical engineering.

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For the 1994 PEN-Faulkner Award for Fiction for his 16th book, Van Gogh's Room at Aries, Elkin named runner-up for major literary prize
Hilltop Campus

The following is a list of positions available on the Hilltop Campus. Information regarding qualifying criteria has been obtained from the Human Resources Department. To apply for any open position, call 935-5990. Note: All positions require three letters of recommendation.

Administrative Assistant 94012.12, Board of Trustees. Requirements: Some college; typing 50 wpm with accuracy; experience in word processing and data preparation. Respond to: Nancy Chappell, 935-9379. Experience in handling brute force and computer equipment required; ability to prioritize and handle multiple tasks; familiarity with word processing and data preparation software; ability to work independently; typing 50 wpm with accuracy. Clerical tests required.

Administrative Secretary, Part-time 940246. School of Business. Requirements: Some college, certificate or associate’s degree preferred; excellent interpersonal skills; professional appearance; knowledge of computer systems; ability to coordinate and direct activities; typing 50 wpm with accuracy; ability to handle multiple tasks; to work in a fast-paced environment; two or more years of secretarial experience preferred; typing 50 wpm with accuracy. Clerical tests required.

Administrative Secretary, Part-time 940247. School of Business. Requirements: Some college, certificate or associate’s degree preferred; excellent interpersonal skills; professional appearance; knowledge of computer systems; ability to coordinate and direct activities; typing 50 wpm with accuracy; ability to handle multiple tasks; to work in a fast-paced environment; two or more years of secretarial experience preferred. Clerical tests required.

Office Manager 940248. Engineering Research Corporation. Requirements: Bachelor’s degree in management; professional experience in managing, planning and directing background. Duties: Develop and manage customer accounts, including quality and service; distribute monthly invoices for billing and collection of past due accounts; manage customer service account for fiscal year closure, including preparation of blanket orders for new fiscal year. Resume required.

Fund-raising Assistant 940249. National Endowment for Graduate Study. Requirements: Two or more years full-time office experience; computer skills; experience with WordPerfect for Windows preferred; experience with Alpha Four, Lotus 1-2-3 and Pagemaker helpful; typing 35 wpm with accuracy; excellent verbal and written communication and customer service skills; ability to work independently and reorganizing experience helpful. Clerical tests required.

RN/LPN, Part-time 940254. Health Services. Requirements: Registered or licensed; LPN or RN; willingness to work evening and night hours (must be available); ability to work independently and reorganizing experience helpful. Clerical tests required.

Network Technician II 940773-R. Requirements: Bachelor’s degree, preferably in computer science, or equivalent; experience with networking, terminal servers and system administration. Duties: Maintain all software and hardware needed to support the network; ability to function in a fast-paced environment; ability to work independently; ability to learn new technology quickly; willingness to work extra hours if necessary; typing 50 wpm with accuracy. Clerical tests required.

Secretary II 940255.4. Requirements: Preferred: Some college; typing 60 wpm; experience with Lotus 1-2-3, WordPerfect, INNOPAC experience preferred; experience with WordPerfect; excellent organizational and telephone skills; ability to operate routine office equipment; typing 50 wpm with accuracy. Clerical tests required.