Mark S. Wrighton, Ph.D., provost and chief academic officer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), has been appointed chancellor of Washington University, effective July 1, 1995, according to an announcement released April 10 by the Washington University Board of Trustees.

Wrighton will succeed William H. Danforth, who has served as chancellor since 1971, and whose 24-year tenure is one of the longest among active educational leaders in America. Wrighton was selected in a nationwide search that began a year ago when Danforth announced his intention to retire.

"Washington University is most fortunate to find a person like Mark Wrighton to continue the strong tradition of leadership among its chancellors — leadership that has guided our emergence as one of the world's great teaching and research institutions," said William M. Van Cleve, chair of the search committee and of the Board of Trustees. "In our search, we sought a leader who could provide our students with a course through the many challenges facing higher education in the next few years. Mark Wrighton is the person to accomplish that."

Danforth pleased with choice

"I congratulate the search committee and the trustees for finding and selecting someone of Mark Wrighton's excellent qualifications," Danforth said. "He is a wonderful choice whose experience with faculty, students, staff, trustees, alumni and friends at MIT will serve Washington University well."

As provost of MIT since 1990, Wrighton not only oversees the $1.1 billion budget, but also manages the annual five-year planning process. He heads MIT's education and research programs, and the academic dean's of MIT's five schools report to him, as do the associate provost, the director of libraries, the director of Lincoln Laboratory, the dean of the graduate school, dean of undergraduate education and student affairs, and the vice president and dean for research.

In his role as provost, he has emphasized the value of teaching in a research university and the strengthening of undergraduate education. He initiated the establishment of the Margaret MacVicar Faculty Fellows Program to recognize and enhance undergraduate education. As provost he also is the senior officer for a joint program between MIT and Harvard Medical School, known as the Division of Health Sciences and Technology.

Wrighton led efforts to build new environmental and educational programs and coordinated the development of international education and research programs to build diversity within the MIT faculty and strengthened the support of all faculty by developing funding programs to seed new research and to endow faculty salaries. He also focused attention on enhancing and reshaping science and engineering education.

"Washington University is one of the leaders of American higher education, and I am greatly honored to be asked to become its next chancellor. What has happened at this University is testimony to the strength of the faculty, the students, and the tens of thousands of people who each year support this great institution," Wrighton said. "The University has flourished under the leadership of Bill Danforth and now is poised to build upon the prominence of its excellent educational and research programs. I look forward to working with all of the Washington University community in meeting the challenges that lie ahead."

Unanimously supported by board

"The 24-member search committee reviewed hundreds of nominees. The committee unanimously recommended Mark Wrighton to the Board of Trustees. The board also unanimously supported that recommendation. We looked long and hard for a worthy successor to Bill Danforth," Van Cleve said. "The search committee met frequently over nearly a year. The day-to-day work of the committee was coordinated by vice-chair James W. Davis, Ph.D., professor of political science.

When Wrighton becomes chancellor on July 1, 1995, he will head a university that has had associated with it a total of 20 Nobel Laureates, 22 members of the National Academy of Sciences, 17 members of the Institute of Medicine, and 21 members of the Academy of Arts and Sciences. Total enrollment of the University is 11,653 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students taught by full-time and part-time faculty of more than 3,400. The institution is ranked as one of the top research universities in America, as are several of its schools and programs. The University has one of the 10 largest endowments in America — $1.7 billion — and receives more than $210 million annually from federal and private research support. The University's operating budget was $780 million in 1993-94, including the $479.5 million budget of the School of Medicine.

The Washington University Medical Center is one of the premier academic health centers in the nation — serving several hundred thousand patients each year through the work of outstanding medical faculty and students who teach, heal, and conduct leading-edge research. The medical school consistently is ranked as one of the best in the nation.

About Mark S. Wrighton

Wrighton has been a member of the MIT faculty since 1972, and became a full professor at MIT at the unusually young age of 28. He has been featured in Fortune, Business Week, Science Digest, U.S. News and World Report, and Enquirer as one of the nation's leading scientists. His numerous awards include a MacArthur Foundation Prize-Fellowship in 1983. He also received the E.O. Lawrence Award from the U.S. Department of Energy. Wrighton holds 14 patents and is the author of more than 400 research papers. He also is the co-author of a book, "Organometallic Photochemistry," and he has been the consulting editor for a major freshman textbook now in its fourth edition. In his research, Wrighton has used chemistry to seek to mimic the photosynthesis of plants and to tailor the properties of surfaces with respect to optical, wetting, or catalytic properties.

Wrighton was born June 11, 1949, in Jacksonville, Fla. He graduated from Florida State University with a B.S. in chemistry in 1969 and then went on to the California Institute of Technology, where he completed his doctorate in chemistry in 1972 at the age of 22. He joined the MIT faculty that year as an assistant professor and was named a full professor in 1983.

Chancellor-designate addresses community

Chancellor-designate Mark S. Wrighton, Ph.D., has glanced the following remarks at the April 10 press conference announcing his appointment.

"It is an honor to be selected the next chancellor of Washington University. I am mindful of the trust placed in me, and I pledge to do my very best to demonstrate that the confidence in me is well-placed. Succeeding Bill Danforth as chancellor is a special privilege and I look forward to his wise counsel in the years ahead.

"Washington University is a great university, and it is one which is destined for even greater impact as we move into the 21st century. My research points to the leadership of Bill Danforth over the past two decades and the hard work of distinguished faculty, students, staff, trustees, and graduates, the University has grown in stature, resources, and quality and today the University is a world leader in the education and training of undergraduate and graduate students."

"During the process that has led to my selection and introduction to members of this community I have learned what a supportive environment there is in the greater St. Louis area. The business community in the many cities that comprise this area has been essential to the success of Washington University. I have much to learn about this region and will need help from many as I make the transition to this exciting university. I sense interest, enthusiasm, and warmth from all with whom I have interacted, and this support will be valuable to me personally and to the University during this transition period."

"The process that led to my appointment has been thorough and one that gave me the confidence that the University community is dedicated to sustaining its excellence in teaching and research. The enduring responsibility of a university is the educational mission, and I am pleased that the..."
Researchers identify a genetic form of Parkinson's disease

In the majority of patients, Parkinson's disease begins with a tremor of one hand. The disease steadily progresses to the other hand and to the arms and legs. Gait becomes uneven and movements as simple as walking become difficult. As the disease progresses, patients lose their ability to function independently. Until now, no one has known much about the source of this disabling illness, which affects roughly one million Americans.

Researchers at the School of Medicine recently have identified a rare genetic form of Parkinson's disease. It is caused by a gene mutation that creates abnormal iron accumulation in the brain. The finding, published in the March 28, 1995, issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, is one of the first insights into the cause of the disease.

This discovery is important because it is the first time a genetic cause of Parkinson's disease has been identified. "This is a clearly defined piece of the puzzle, and there haven't been many of those in this particular disease, I think that's what's most exciting," said Jonathan D. Gitlin, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics. "This finding may lead to new therapies for Parkinson's disease and genetic screening for the illness. Drugs now used for Parkinson's patients treat symptoms, such as slow movement, tremors and unsteady balance. No available medication can slow or stop the disease, which attacks the central nervous system. The finding also may help doctors diagnose patients with other unexplained neurological disorders for which no cause is known."

This study was supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health.

Identifying the link

In the paper, Gitlin and Z. Leah Harris, M.D., an instructor in pediatrics, and their colleagues describe a novel disease, aceruloplasminemia, that causes a new form of Parkinson's. Aceruloplasminemia is caused by a mutation in the ceruloplasmin gene, which is involved in iron transport. Researchers in Gitlin's laboratory found that the mutation alters ceruloplasmin, an iron accumulation in the brain's basal ganglia region, which results in the tremors and gait abnormalities associated with Parkinson's disease.

Scientists have found abnormalities in the brain that seem to be an important part of the disease, namely a deficiency of the crucial neurotransmitter dopamine in the basal ganglia. The resulting deficiency of this neurotransmitter interferes with normal nerve impulses, causing the symptoms. It is believed the deficiency is caused by degenerative, vascular and inflammatory changes in this part of the brain that seem to identify the cause of abnormalities in the brain in some Parkinson's patients.

Gitlin and his colleagues discovered the genetic form of Parkinson's when they were studying patients in Japan that had Parkinson's symptoms and low levels of ceruloplasmin. With radiographic imaging and tissue biopsy, they found these people had abnormal iron accumulation in the basal ganglia region and in their livers. Gitlin's laboratory then ob- secured dopamine, and talked to neurologists in the early days of his research. "If we could identify the cause of this abnormality in the brain, we might be able to identify these people early and prevent the disease," he said.

Focusing on metals

The Parkinson's study is just one aspect of Gitlin's research. His laboratory studies diseases caused by the abnormal movement and metabolism of copper and iron in the body. Last year, researchers in Gitlin's laboratory identified the gene for Wilson's disease, an inherited metabolic disorder that causes cirrhosis of the liver and brain degeneration. The laboratory also is studying the Menkes disease gene.

If physicians are able to identify people with metal diseases early, they may be able to prevent the onset of disease with therapy. "Before, we wouldn't be able to find those people until they started having symptoms in their 50s and 60s," Harris said. "Many of them already have had children who are carriers of the disease or who have the disease."

In addition to adding to the body of knowledge about transition metal diseases, discovering this mutation of the ceruloplasmin gene is a building block for learning more about the biology of Parkinson's disease. "It's our first major step in understanding how this piece fits into the puzzle may provide information about other causes of Parkinson's disease and novel therapies," he said.

Gitlin's laboratory is analyzing DNA from families around the world, including a family in the St. Louis area.

--- Diane Duke

Participants needed for Parkinson's study

Investigators in the Department of Neurology are seeking for the volunteers for a Parkinson's disease study. The study will examine the cause of side effects experienced by some Parkinson's disease patients who take levodopa, the most commonly prescribed Parkinson's drug.

Parkinson's disease is a progressively disabling illness that affects the central nervous system, causing slow movement, muscle rigidity and tremors. Levodopa is one of the most effective therapies available for Parkinson's. It relieves symptoms by replacing a missing chemical in the brain. Some patients develop severe involuntary movements, called dyskinesias, in addition to the normal symptoms of Parkinson's disease. The goal of this study is to begin identifying those pathways, said lead investigator Joel S. Perlmutter, M.D., associate professor of neurology and a member of the faculty in Medicine at the School of Medicine's Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology. The researchers will use PET images of blood flow in the brain to look for differences among normal volunteers, Parkinson's patients who have dyskinesias and Parkinson's patients who do not have dyskinesias.

The investigators need the following volunteers: Parkinson's patients who have not yet received drug therapy, those who have had at least a year of levodopa treatment without developing dyskinesias, patients treated for at least a year who have developed dyskinesia, and people without Parkinson's.

All office visits and tests related to the study will be provided at no cost to volunteers. Participation requires a 28- to 36-month commitment. The study will be arranged. For more information, call Lor Minich at 362-7148.

Leax's art exhibits a fascination with the interface between the intellectual compulsions of man and the casual indifference of nature. His creations are quick to poke fun at scientific constrict and bluster, yet there is an un-mallorable reverence for the process of discovery, for the undeniable human urge to explore, to understand.

Leax has included goldfish, turtles and other live fish in his installations. He is not content merely to simply include bits and pieces of nature in his art. He compels the observer to feel the full force of nature to consummate much of his work.

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Exhibitions

Films
All films mentioned contain English subtitles unless otherwise indicated.

Thursday, April 13


2:30 p.m. Mechanical engineering seminar. “Multi-variant Process Modeling of [Microscopic Materials],” Douglas S. Cahn, research assoc. and manager, Advanced Technology, California Instruments Product Group, Maug, Utah, 100 Cupples I Hall. 935-4535.


4 p.m. Earth and planetary sciences seminar. “Determination of the preservation of the mantle Mantle Melts: Results from Diamond geothermometry,” Erik Miller, member, prof., of earth and planetary sciences. Room 320 Steinhart Hall. 935-6530.

4 p.m. Molecular oncology, medicine and pathology seminar. “Control of Mammalian Cell Growth and Oncogenesis,” Joseph R. Nevins, chair, prof. of Genetics, and investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Dana Ludwig Center, Duke U. Medical Center, Durham, N.C. 935-6726. Room 320 Steinhart Hall. 935-6530.

4 p.m. Indiana University. 9:30-10 a.m. "The IRS-signaling System and Insulin Action," Morris F White, assoc. prof., of Endocrinology and Metabolism. Room 101 Cupples II Hall. 935-4735.


Friday, April 14


4 p.m. Diabetes research group seminar. “Modulating the Histamine Signal: Bor- rowing from Immunology to Neighborhods.” Nancy Baxent, researcher assoc. prof. of Immunology, Molecular Biology, and Genetics, Library, Room 3723 West Bldg.


Saturday, April 15

9 a.m. Science and social sciences seminar. "Genome Variation and Evolution," Nils Walter, prof. of Genetics, University of California, San Diego. Room 101 Cupples II Hall. 935-5450.

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Tuesday, April 18
7 a.m. "Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Job" by George Warren. Room 101 Cupples II Hall. 935-6678.

Wednesday, April 19

4 p.m. Ophthalmology and Genetics conference. "Lasers in Retinal Disease," Brett Drake, assoc. prof., of Social Work; Susan Strop, executive director, Children’s Home, Helen Williams, coordinator, St. Louis Public Schools. Room 201 Duncker Hall. 935-5450.

4 p.m. Greek, Classics and Semitic languages seminar. "The Children of the West," Brett Williams, professor of Classics, University of Dallas, Richardson, Texas. 935-5040.

Thursday, April 21

4 p.m. Ears, Nose, Voice, and Otolaryngology seminar. "The Children of the West," Brett Williams, professor of Classics, University of Dallas, Richardson, Texas. 935-5040.

4 p.m. Neurology seminar. The women’s Society Adelle Stalled lecture. "Learning to Deal with Our Children's Morals in the World," Brett Williams, professor of Classics, University of Dallas, Richardson, Texas. 935-5040.

Calendar guidelines
Events sponsored by the University — its departments, schools, centers, organizations and its recognized student organizations — are published in the Calendar. All events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

Calendar submissions should state time, date, location, title of event, name and home information for photographs with descriptions are welcome. Send items to Judy Ruhland at Box 1070 (or via fax: 935-4325).

The deadline for all entries is noon Thursday of the week prior to publication. Late entries will not be printed. The Calendar is published every Thursday during the school year, except holidays, and during the summer. If you are uncertain about a deadline, holiday schedule, or any other information, please call 935-4325.

Calendar
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Nobel laureates present talks

F  rancis Crick, winner of the 1962 Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine, and Betty Williams, winner of the 1976 Nobel Peace Prize, will deliver Assembly Series lectures in Graham Chapel.

Crick will give the Arthur Holly Commencement Memorial lecture, titled "The Problem of Visual Awareness," at 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, and Williams will present the Women's Center Lecture. Crick's talk begins at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 19. Both talks are free and open to the public.

Scientist Francis Crick

Crick is president of the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla, Calif. He is an emeritus professor of genetics at the University of California, San Diego. He was also a key member of the team that cracked the genetic code.

Williams is founder and president of the Global Children's Foundation in Huntsville, Texas, a not-for-profit, independent advocacy that focuses on behalf of children worldwide and seeks to build better lives involving children of a wider public.

Betty Williams

A native of Belfast, Northern Ireland, Williams' commitment to children's causes began when her parents were forced to flee Northern Ireland and Great Britain. In 1976 she was co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize for her efforts to bring peace to her country. Williams argues that the solution to children's needs lies in the creation of more financial aid but in individual action and involvement. Her efforts for children include helping them to trouble spots worldwide — Ethiopia, Cambodia, Kosovo, Anguilla, West Africa, where she was awarded the Albert Schweitzer Medal of Courage in 1994. For more information, call 935-5285.

Fielder Russ Chambills sparks baseball Bears

Sophomore center fielder Fielder Russ Chambills, Chesterfield, Mo., established school records in both the 1,500-meter relay and the 800-meter relay. On the women's side, the Bears closed within seven-tenths of a mile of their assault on the Washington record with a time of 1:10.50.

Chambills is a 6-2, 180-pound junior from Chesterfield High School, and he has been named to the UAA all-conference team each of the past two seasons. This year, he has hit .294 with 12 home runs and 48 RBIs. He has also been named to the UAA all-conference team each of the past two seasons.

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Truckers continue stride toward nationals

Several Bears exceeded projections at the Division III nationals held in Bowling Green, Ohio, last month. The Bears placed 14th overall and were crowned national champions in the 2,500-meter relay. The Bears also placed second in the 800-meter relay. On the women's side, the Bears finished fourth in the 4,000-meter relay.

Truckers have come a long way from the days of running the streets in search of food.

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Women netters win two out of three

The women's team suffered its second loss in 18 decisions this year, falling to DePauw University (7-2) on Saturday. But the Bears rebounded to topple a solid Augustana squad (5-2) on Friday night. The Bears also defeated St. John's University of Chicago (9-0) earlier on Friday.

Current record: 11-2 in spring (16-2 overall)

This week: 3 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, vs. St. Louis University, Taco Tennis Center; 4 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at Greenville College, Greenville, Ill.

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Students, staff launch pilot calendar of campus, local events on Internet

Students, faculty and staff wondering if they would meet student criteria for calendar capabilities, but were not satisfied with campus communications, or complete list.

Through the World Wide Web (see box for this month. During April; a committee of us to move this complex project along."

The committee decided to kick off the pilot project during April, when the Office of Undergraduate Admissions had assembled a vast calendar for April. Webcome. The campus community is encour- aged so log on, as well as submit calendar items by selecting "submit an event" from the menu, sending an e-mail message to calendar@www.wustl.edu, or mailing printed information to Allen Gurney, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Campus Box 1089. During April, a hard copy of the weekly calendar will be available at central locations around campus.

The first days of April, Kint said he already had received e-mail messages praising the on-line calendar, and offering suggestions.

"All the feedback has been positive so far. I'm very happy with the way it turned out," Kint said. — Savannah Webb

How to access calendar

To access the on-line calendar, type "Events" at the main portal of a campus e-mail account, or use a graphical browser such as Netscape, Mosaic, or Omniweb from the Washington University homepage (http://www.wustl.edu). From the menu, search the calendar by date range (i.e. April 13-20), keyword (i.e. baseball) or select a menu item. For more information, or to make suggestions, contact Brokaw at 935-4623.

The following criminal incidents were reported to the University Police Department April 3-9. Readers with informa-

"We are going to pay very serious attention to this," Yoak said. "We are going to pay very serious attention to this, and we are going to pay very serious attention to this."

Susannah Webb

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Dudukovic: a leader in modeling and simulation
Dudukovic is a leader in modeling and simulation, working on complex systems using software with applications in chemical and industrial processes. His research includes the development of computer models for various applications and has been awarded for his contributions to the field.

Check out the new job opportunities announced below.
Committee members, colleagues, faculty characterize Wrighton

"Mark Wrighton has the right experience and more importantly, the right qualities of heart and mind. His core values—intellect, energy, integrity, imagination, breadth, vision and understanding of people, which is what we mean when we say at Washington University that we are very particular as we enter very challenging times. I am extremely pleased that our leader will be Mark Wrighton."

Chancellor William H. Danforth

"Dr. Wrighton understands the importance of all people in the Washington University curriculum and has been a champion for the humanities at MIT, where science is king. In addition, Dr. Wrighton has been commended as a teacher of undergraduates, in the arts as well as in the sciences, in the art of translating difficult scientific thoughts into accessible language and concepts. As provost at MIT, I have been able to maintain an active research lab where he has trained many graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. He was also instrumental in creating programs which supported excellence and demonstrate excellence, which assist upon the recruitment and retention of outstanding students and which maintain the highest standards for student admission and student services. The members of this committee are confident that we have selected an excellent chancellor for Washington University."

Susan Culican, M.D.-Ph.D. student at the School of Medicine and member of the Search Committee

"MIT has been blessed with a succession of excellent leaders, and MIT has every right to be proud of its long tradition of excellence. Mark Wrighton certainly has continued this tradition. His leadership as a chancellor is important to the continued excellence and vitality of MIT. He has kept the values of the Institute—the pursuit of excellence in teaching and research actions, and I want to express my profound appreciation and respect for his exemplary service."

Charles M. Vest, president, MIT

"The Board of Trustees selected a young, articulate, and charismatic candidate, Mark Wrighton to be the next chancellor of the University. We are certain Washington University is the right place for Mark Wrighton. He is a distinguished scientist, scholar, and leader of a major research university. His personal qualities of leadership, his intellectual capabilities, and his dedication to the mission of a research-intensive university are reflected in the qualities of leadership he has demonstrated. He is a leader who is committed to the vision of a university that is research-driven, that is innovative, and that is dedicated to the highest standards of excellence in teaching and research. We are confident that Mark Wrighton will be an outstanding leader for Washington University and that he will continue to build on the strengths of the institution."

William M. Van Cleve, chair of the Washington University Board of Trustees and member of the Search Committee

"I certainly share Bill Van Cleve's enthusiasm and excitement over the selection of Mark Wrighton to be the next chancellor of Washington University. We have found those personal qualities of leadership that we expect of our next chancellor, and we hope that Mark Wrighton will help us to achieve the future advancement of Washington University."

"Among the most important credentials in searching for a chancellor are the characteristics of the candidate as a faculty member, as a scholar and as a teacher. I was convinced that Mark Wrighton possesses all of these characteristics. Mark Wrighton is one of the outstanding chemists in the world today and an excellent teacher of undergraduates. He is a scholar in chemistry, having published more than 400 articles in his field of photochemistry, and co-authoring an important book in this discipline. Furthermore, he has been the consulting editor for a major introductory text in freshman chemistry. He also has a good sense of humor, which is a preconception for any success as an academic leader."

Paul Michael Lutzeler, Ph.D., Rosa G. de la Guardia Chair, Washington University Professor in the Humanities and professor of German and Spanish, chair of the Search Committee

"During my many years at Washington University, I have served as a member of the faculty, assistant to the chancellor, associate provost, dean of the college, and chair, and I am a dean. One thing this has taught me is to respect those who seek to lead institutions of higher education. We are certain Washington University is the right place for Mark Wrighton. He has been an extraordinary and scholarly teacher. He is a scientist and a chemical office of one of the finest institutions of higher education in the world. He is the type of person who understands complex issues, to see where extra effort should be put. He is a person of high integrity. I am proud that he will be our colleague at Washington University."

James McLeod, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

Mark S. Wrighton, Ph.D., at an April 10 press conference announcing his appointment as chancellor-designate of Washington University

Wrighton outlines educational mission — from page 2

"A way to view research-intensive universities is to note that we represent most institutions responsible for the development of human capital—our most important asset. The resources expended in this endeavor are therefore an investment. The quality of teaching and scholarship and the successes of our most important products, our students, are our highest priority. The return on investment in the development of human capital is reflected in the careers of our graduates. Together the Washington University community can meet the challenge of providing the most outstanding opportunities for our students."

"I thank all those responsible for my appointment as chancellor and those who have been involved as a student, as a faculty member, as a scholar. Looking forward, I see an even greater Washington University building on the successes of the past and responding to the problems of today and tomorrow. With the help of the Washington University community we will succeed."

Wrighton earned doctorate at 22 — from page 1

In 1977, when he was named Frederick G. Keyes Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Wrighton became at age 32 one of the youngest people to hold a named professorship at MIT. He was named head of the chemistry department in 1987 and held that post until autumn 1990 when he became provost. In 1989 he was named the first holder of the Chi-Chegy Professorship. As an outstanding teacher, Wrighton received the chemistry graduate teaching award in 1981 and was co-recipient of the MIT School of Science prize for excellence in undergraduate teaching in 1987. Wrighton is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a fellow of the American Chemical Society, a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and he has received scholarly awards from Caltech and Florida State University. He has given more than 40 named lectures at universities and universities in the United States and abroad. He serves on the boards of directors of HLLX Technology Corp., Jenz Inc., Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Draper Laboratory, and OES Optical Imaging Systems Inc. He has extensive consulting and advising to industry, including GTE, Proctor & Gamble, Norport, Corning Glass, General Electric, General Motors and Iden, to name a few. Wrighto was also designated for his public service to government, including memberships on panels for the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Sandia Laboratories, Department of Energy, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, National Science Foundation, National Research Council, Brookhaven National Laboratory, and the Electric Power Research Institute, and the Advanced Research Projects Agency. He is a member of the American Chemical Society, from which he has received the ACS awards in Pure Chemistry (1981) and Inorganic Chemistry (1988). He is a member of the Materials Research Society and Sigma Xi. Wrighton, now divorced, has two children, James, 17, and Rebecca, 14, both of which attend private schools in Boston.