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Friends and family will fill Brookings Quadrangle this Friday, May 16, to celebrate the accomplishments of some 2,500 degree candidates. See back page for the order of exercises and Commencement Week events.

## Sherman to address her fellow graduates

You've heard of the box-office hit "The Accidental Tourist." How about "The Accidental Senator"?

In this plot, Jaime Sherman, the lead character, is unknowingly thrust into campus politics. The setting is the early autumn of her sophomore year. Scene one opens with a phone call to her residence hall room.

"I'm senator of what?" she exclaims in surprise. Sherman received two write-in votes for the uncontested Student Union election in the School of Art — neither vote her own.

Fast-forward three years, and there stands Sherman, now senior class president, delivering the student address at Commencement.

Though unlikely, Sherman's inauguration into Washington University student government did not bring her to completely foreign territory. She had been active in many high school leadership roles. Subsequently, her Hilltop political path has included terms as speaker of the 33-member student senate and president of the 1997 senior class. *Continued on back page*



Jaime Sherman

## Class of 1997 candidates set to receive degrees at Commencement

On Friday, May 16, about 2,500 individuals will enter Brookings Quadrangle as Washington University students and leave as alumni.

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton will award the degrees in the 136th Commencement ceremony, which begins at 8:30 a.m. in Brookings Quadrangle. Of the candidates, 1,229 are undergraduate students and 1,331 are graduate and professional students.

Among the graduate students are nearly 500 candidates for doctoral-level degrees. There are 122 candidates for the doctor of philosophy degree in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences; 31 for the doctor of science degree in the School of Engineering and Applied Science; 206 for the doctor of law degree and one for the doctor of the science of law degree in the School of Law; and

126 for the doctor of medicine degree in the School of Medicine.

In the event of rain, an abbreviated ceremony will be held and souvenir plastic ponchos will be provided. In the event of violent weather, the Commencement exercises will be moved to the Athletic Complex. Commencement exercises would then be divided into two ceremonies: the first beginning at 8:20 a.m. for the awarding of undergraduate degrees, and the second beginning at 10:30 a.m. for the awarding of graduate and professional degrees.

A decision on moving to the violent weather schedule will be made by 7 a.m. the day of Commencement. This notice and other up-to-the-minute information on Commencement Week activities will be provided on the Commencement hotline at (314) 935-4355.

Regardless of weather, guests may choose to watch the ceremony via closed-circuit television in either Brown Hall Auditorium or Edison Theatre.

The Right Honorable Sir Geoffrey Winston Russell Palmer, former prime minister of New Zealand, will deliver the Commencement address. Palmer is one of five honorary degree recipients at this year's ceremony.

The four other honorary degree recipients are: William H. Daughaday, M.D., a pioneer in the study of human growth hormone's role in health and disease and the former director of the renowned metabolism division of the medical school; George Eberle Jr., a University alumnus who just stepped down as chief executive officer of Grace Hill Neighborhood Services, a not-for-profit agency serving St. Louis inner-city

communities as well as areas in St. Louis and St. Charles counties; William K. Y. Tao, a University alumnus and founder of William Tao & Associates Consulting Engineers, an internationally recognized leader in innovative engineering and building systems design; and Mildred M. Winter, executive director of Parents As Teachers National Center Inc., who serves as a consultant at the state and national levels on early childhood education and family support.

Commencement begins with the traditional academic procession into Brookings Quadrangle. Edward N. Wilson, Ph.D., professor of mathematics in Arts and Sciences and chair of the Commencement Committee, will serve as grand marshal and will lead the graduating students into the quadrangle.

Alumni of the Class of 1947 — who

*Continued on back page*

## 'Sense of community' is philosophy behind the new South 40 residence halls

From the same school of thought that spawned "a house is not a home" comes the basis for the new structure of living on the South 40 — the residential college setting.

Indeed, the rapidly changing landscape on the South 40 is both physical and philosophical in nature. Vanishing is the traditional dormitory arrangement, which provided students little more than a place to sleep.

Appearing in its place are "residential colleges" — subset communities of about 300 students that aim to provide students with everything from an enhanced sense of kinship, to expanded programmatic choices, to increased faculty and staff presence and support, to additional common areas for study or gathering.

The transformation is being phased in incrementally, with some components already in place and others circling in a holding pattern until the new residence halls are constructed. In the end — approximately five to six years on the hori-

zon — the South 40 community might include as many as 2,800 students (up from a current count of 2,300) subdivided into upwards of 10 residential colleges.

The impetus for change came straight from the student body and was well-documented in research reports such as the Task Force on Undergraduate Education and the Student Affairs National Council's Project 21.

"Quite simply, we haven't offered students the kind of housing arrangements that they now desire," said Justin X. Carroll, dean of Student Affairs. Noting that the majority of the existing residence halls were built in the late 1950s and early 1960s, Carroll added, "There was a time when students' desire to have a strong sense of community on campus, as well as interaction with faculty and staff, was not necessarily on the agenda."

Meeting these evolving needs and desires is of utmost importance, said Carroll. "The residence halls are critical to the students' success at Washington Uni-

versity," he said. "Virtually all students start their campus experience in a residence hall. What happens in the South 40 can be integral not only to their successful transition to the University, but also how they view the University and take advantage of its resources for years to follow."

The first major hurdle is to foster a sense of community. Up until now, an incoming student had limited residential choices and generally would be assigned to an all-freshman hall. After the first year, students would have to pick up and move all over again. There was never an opportunity to build a strong sense of tradition or perpetuate programs. The wheel would have to be reinvented each year.

Implementation of the new approach began last fall. The existing buildings on the South 40 were divided, generally by proximity, into eight residential colleges. In addition, some of the operational components were put into place. For openers, each college was assigned a specific mechanic.

"The mechanics were introduced, from day one, as a key member of that community," Carroll said. "This has streamlined the amount of time that it takes for work to be completed. Instead of going through

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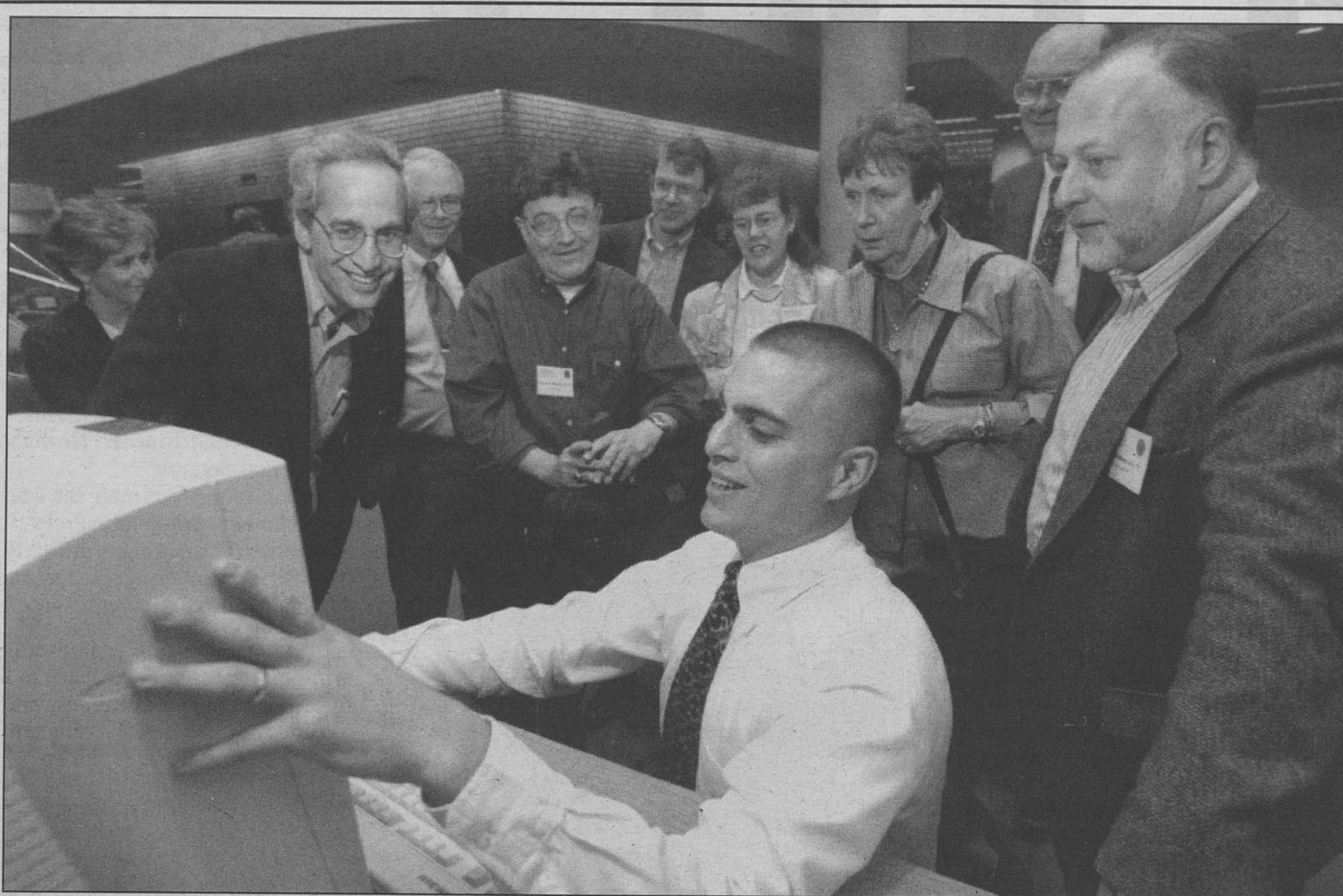
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Ten of this year's most interesting degree candidates are profiled, starting on page 4

# Medical Update



## Finding out what's new

Fourth-year medical student Gregory Gorman shows School of Medicine alumni the curriculum materials that current students can access on the medical school's World Wide Web site in The Bernard Becker Medical Library. The alumni were on campus for the annual Medical Alumni Reunion held Thursday, May 8, through Saturday, May 10.

## 'Bloodless' surgery

### New drugs and techniques may make many transfusions unnecessary

**E**lective surgeries drain about three million pints of blood from the nation's supply every year. The blood is almost universally safe, but many patients — and a growing number of doctors — are uneasy about the transfusions. Now, School of Medicine researchers are spreading some good news: With new drugs and techniques, many transfusions may be unnecessary.

"These transfusions often cause a great deal of concern and anxiety in patients," said Gerald L. Andriole Jr., M.D., professor of urologic surgery. "Anything we can do to relieve those anxieties is beneficial."

Thanks largely to the collaboration of Andriole, Lawrence T. Goodnough, M.D., professor of medicine and of pathology, and Terri G. Monk, M.D., associate professor of anesthesiology, the medical school is a national leader in transfusion-free or "bloodless" surgery. Andriole and other surgeons here have been successfully practicing bloodless surgery for years, and researchers are conducting several clinical trials of drugs and blood substitutes that may make transfusions obsolete. Andriole, Goodnough and Monk describe their ongoing research of a medication that decreases the need for blood transfusions in the March 27, 1997, issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

#### Standard treatment

Erythropoietin, a human hormone that boosts the production of red blood cells, already has prevented hundreds of transfusions at the medical school. Patients who receive six shots of erythropoietin in the weeks before surgery have the equivalent of two extra pints of blood in their body when they enter the operating room. If they lose two or three pints during surgery, they still have plenty of red blood cells remaining and won't need a transfusion from the blood bank.

Erythropoietin therapy first showed its value for Jehovah's Witnesses with prostate cancer. Members of this religion believe the Bible prohibits blood transfusions, a stance that has made many elective surgeries impossible. With the help of Goodnough and Monk, Andriole put several Jehovah's Witnesses on erythropoietin therapy and was able to perform prostate surgery without transfusions.

Inspired by that success, Goodnough

and Monk started a clinical trial of erythropoietin for prostate cancer patients. Only one of 24 patients needed a single pint of blood, and all of the patients had high red blood cell counts after surgery.

Today, erythropoietin therapy is a standard treatment at the medical school for Jehovah's Witnesses and others who feel uncomfortable about transfusions. Doctors most often prescribe the therapy for mildly anemic patients about to undergo major surgery, the kind of patients who are at high risk for transfusions. They need to start taking erythropoietin at least two weeks before the surgery, so therapy works only for operations that doctors can plan in advance.

Erythropoietin therapy remains rare outside of the medical school, partly because it can cost almost three times as much as a transfusion — \$1,500 compared with \$500 for a transfusion of three pints of blood. Monk currently is running a trial to see if lower — and thus cheaper — doses of erythropoietin still can eliminate the need for transfusions.

Medical school researchers also are testing promising new blood substitutes that carry oxygen just like red blood cells. Doctors inject the substitutes, which are

either entirely synthetic or made of hemoglobin molecules from cows or humans, into the patient right before surgery.

#### Worries about transfusions

Every pint of blood from a blood bank carries a small risk, and Jehovah's Witnesses aren't the only ones who want to avoid transfusions. The chance of dying from HIV after getting one pint of blood is about one in 600,000, and the chance of dying by accidentally getting the wrong blood type is about one in 100,000. "Those risks are small, but they're not zero," Goodnough said. "It's on all patients' minds when they're scheduled for elective surgery."

Unnecessary transfusions also deplete the nation's blood supply, Monk said. "There have been some predictions that we'll have a major blood shortage in this country by the year 2030," she said. As the baby boomers get older, they'll need unprecedented numbers of orthopaedic and other major surgeries, and there won't be enough younger donors to keep them supplied with blood, she explained. "It's important for us to come up with a strategy to decrease our use of the blood supply."

— Chris Woolston

## Korsmeyer honored for cancer discoveries

**S**tanley J. Korsmeyer, M.D., professor of medicine and of pathology and chief of the Division of Molecular Oncology, has been honored with two major awards for his breakthroughs in cancer research.

Korsmeyer received the 20th annual Bristol-Myers Squibb Award for Distinguished Achievement in Cancer Research on April 23 in New York City. The award includes a cash prize and a silver medalion.

Earlier in April, Korsmeyer received the 36th annual Clowes Memorial Award from the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) at its meeting in San Diego. The Eli Lilly Co. established the award in 1961 to honor G.H.A. Clowes, a founding member of the AACR and a research director of Eli Lilly.

Korsmeyer has identified the genes responsible for many common cancers and has shed new light on the problem of

tumor cell resistance to chemotherapy. He also discovered some of the genes



Stanley J. Korsmeyer

that control programmed cell death, or apoptosis. Researchers hope the new understanding of cell death can lead to improved cancer-fighting drugs. Korsmeyer, who joined the School of Medicine in 1986, is an investigator for the prestigious Howard Hughes Medical Institute, a foundation that funds top researchers across the country. He has published more than 175 scientific papers, and he serves on the board of directors of the AACR and the board of scientific counselors of the National Cancer Institute.

## Potassium channels will be focus of study

**J**eanne M. Nerbonne, Ph.D., associate professor of molecular biology and pharmacology, has received a five-year \$1.1 million grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to study proteins called potassium channels that fine-tune the electrical activity of the heart.

"Understanding these proteins has enormous clinical implications," Nerbonne said. "Potassium channels are targets for several classes of drugs used to treat and control abnormal heart rhythms. Because many of these drugs are not specific or have unwanted side effects, there is great interest in developing better agents. In addition, several cardiac disorders are thought to involve changes in the production or properties of potassium channels."

Ion channels are proteins in cell membranes that open to allow ions to flow into or out of the cell. Channels selective for sodium, potassium or calcium ions open when heart muscle is stimulated, like security gates that open when the right code is punched in. This redistribution of ions creates an electrical current that ultimately makes the muscle contract, enabling the heart to pump blood.

During 10 years of electrophysiological experiments with heart muscle, Nerbonne has identified several types of potassium channels that differ in how quickly they open or how long they stay open to release ions. She also has determined how the various types of channels shape electrical activity and how they are affected by hormones or chemical messages from nerve cells.

The new grant will allow her to explore the molecular basis for these physiological differences.

More than 35 different protein building blocks are known, and these could be mixed and matched to produce the body's large repertoire of potassium channels. "Our theory is that the channels differ physiologically because they are made of different subunits or different combinations of subunits," Nerbonne said. "We are hoping to test this idea."

Nerbonne is producing cells with custom-made potassium channels. She also is studying the consequences of inactivating particular subunit types.

# Record

**Acting editor:** Martha Everett, 935-5235, Campus Box 1070

**Associate vice chancellor, executive director, University Communications:** Judith Jasper

**Executive editor:** Susan Killenberg

**Editor, medical news:** Diane Duke, 286-0111, Medical School Box 8508

**Assistant editor:** David Moessner, 935-5293

**Production:** Galen Harrison

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**Washington**  
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

# Washington People

## Peck sees medical school earning greater acclaim

In an age when academic medicine is experiencing both rapid change and extraordinary challenges that are threatening its survival — from the emergence of a health-care environment proliferated by managed care to proposed cuts in federal funding of graduate medical education — a medical school's success or failure in meeting its multiple missions of patient care, teaching and research can fall squarely on its leader's shoulders.

William A. Peck, M.D., executive vice chancellor for medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine, has led the medical school since 1989, during which time a number of milestones have been achieved. Among them:

- 10 outstanding department heads have been recruited.
- The medical school has risen to be the third largest recipient of National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding among the 125 U.S. medical schools.
- The clinical relationship between the medical school and Barnes-Jewish and Children's hospitals has been renegotiated, and the medical school has become linked to BJC Health System.
- Major changes in the institution's business practices and clinical strategies have been developed to enhance the medical school's position in a new, highly competitive health-care environment.
- Much-needed research facilities have been added to the campus.
- "The Public Realm Project" is being developed by the medical school and BJC. The plan will revitalize the grounds and surrounding public areas by extending the ambience of Forest Park and making the Medical Center more comfortable and convenient for patients and their families.
- The highly successful redevelopment plan, initiated in the early 1970s to reverse the deterioration of the Central West End, has advanced and extended to the Forest Park Southeast area. This program is overseen by a partnership that includes the medical school, Barnes-Jewish and Children's hospitals, the Central Institute for the Deaf and the Barnard Free Skin and Cancer Hospital. Peck is president of the partnership.

### Teamwork

Peck is the first to admit that these major initiatives are not the work of one person but of a multitasking team.

"As dean, you get more credit than you deserve," said Peck. "These changes have involved so many people who have contributed in meaningful ways. They're a group effort. In my view, our executive faculty system of governance is the most important contributor to the institution's success."

Colleagues, however, give Peck much of the credit for the medical school's success.

"Bill Peck has been vice chancellor for medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine during a time in which the medical school has done fantastically well," said William H. Danforth, M.D., chairman of the Board of Trustees. "Significant changes have been achieved in the hospital scene, research grants are up and searches for new department heads have culminated in outstanding results. Dr. Peck gets a tremendous amount of credit for these achievements."

David M. Kipnis, M.D., Distinguished University Professor of Medicine and chair of the Department of Medicine from 1972 to 1992, hired Peck as co-chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine and physician-in-chief at Jewish Hospital of St. Louis in 1976. Kipnis was one of Peck's teachers during his internship and residency at Barnes Hospital and fellowship at the medical school from 1960 to 1963.

"Bill Peck is very articulate and is able to phrase things in a clear fashion that can be understood by a diverse audience," said Kipnis. "He has a broad spectrum of experience. He also had held managerial positions before accepting the deanship here. Those kinds of experiences are vital to medical institutions, which must respond to the needs of so many audiences. Bill Peck also has a lot of common sense."

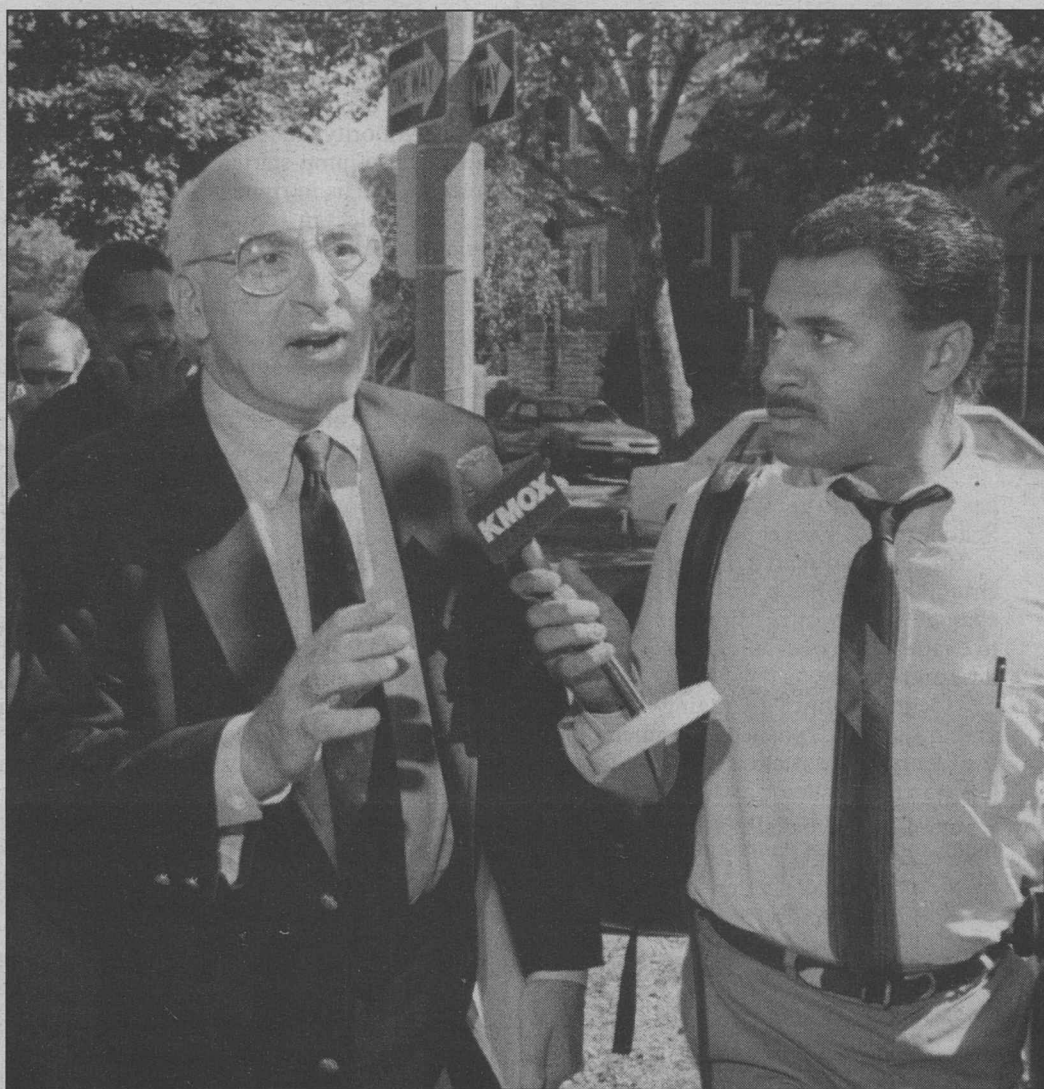
Peck was exposed to the practice of medicine at an early age. His father, Bernard, a general practitioner in New Britain, Conn., maintained an office adjacent to the family's home. But it was an early, personal experi-

ence with life-saving medical care that cemented his career path.

At the age of 7, Peck's role as medical observer changed to that of patient when he contracted osteomyelitis, an infectious inflammatory disease of the bone. Contracted before the age of antibiotics, the only treatment then for this life-threatening illness was surgery.

"I remember the doctors being very patient with me," said Peck, now 63. "They treated me very well. I was fortunate to have had good care because I could have died. The whole experience created a permanent mindset in me."

After graduating cum laude from Harvard University, Peck earned his medical degree from the University of



William A. Peck, M.D., discusses neighborhood revitalization with KMOX reporter Darryl Lloyd while touring the Forest Park Southeast neighborhood in 1995. Also, during the past 20 years, the School of Medicine has been involved in a highly successful redevelopment plan that has revitalized the area north of the Washington University Medical Center.

"In my view, our executive faculty system of governance is the most important contributor to the institution's success."

Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 1960, then completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at Barnes Hospital and a fellowship in metabolism at the medical school.

In 1963, he accepted a two-year position as a clinical associate in the metabolic diseases branch of the NIH in Bethesda, Md., where he studied bone disease at the cellular level.

"We were the first lab to study bone cells extracted from bone tissue," said Peck.

But Peck wanted to teach. "I enjoy interactions with students, residents and fellows," said Peck, who was named Clinical Teacher of the Year at the medical school in 1984. "I end up learning as much as or more than the students."

He accepted a position as chief resident and instructor in medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine's Strong Memorial Hospital in 1965 and remained with the school until 1976, advancing to professor of medicine and of biochemistry and head of the endocrine unit.

Then Kipnis called, leading to Peck's appointment as co-chairman of the internal medicine department and physician-in-chief at Jewish Hospital.

"I learned a great deal from Dave Kipnis in the areas of administration, finance and academic excellence," said Peck. "I also was able to continue teaching and research."

### 'Instant authority'

While Peck's basic research in bone cell biology was well-funded, his interests expanded into the clinical field for which he has become internationally recognized. He was called upon by the NIH in 1984 to chair an eminent panel of experts gathered for its Osteoporosis Consensus Development Conference.

None of Peck's research had focused on osteoporosis — a position which made him ideal for the job, according to the NIH, because he would have no biases. The panel's recommendation that estrogen therapy be used to prevent osteoporosis received widespread media coverage, bringing this "secret" disease to the forefront of public awareness and turning the conference's reluctant chair into an instant authority.

In 1987, Peck was awarded a \$5 million grant to head a five-year study on the causes and prevention of hip fractures in the elderly. The grant was the largest in Jewish Hospital's history.

Peck served as the founding president of the National Osteoporosis Foundation (NOF) from 1985 to 1990.

"Bill was a moving force in the NOF, where he's been very articulate and highly organized and has instilled confidence in people," said Paul G. Rogers, chairman of the board of NOF. "I've also been able to view his work in moving the School of Medicine into this age through major adjustments. He's done this with assurance and great confidence. I'm very admiring of his leadership and capabilities."

From 1987-88, Peck served on the chancellor's panel that studied combining the roles of dean and vice chancellor. He later was approached by several department heads to put his hat in the ring for the new position.

"At first, I said, 'No way,'" recalled Peck. "Then I realized that opportunities to influence the direction of a great medical school come along only rarely. I was attracted by the chance to work closely with outstanding department heads and with a great chancellor, Bill Danforth."

Peck discussed the professional opportunity with his wife, Patricia, and following a national search, Peck was appointed to the new dual role.

"The key to being successful in this position is to have people around you who are experts," he said. "They must be as good as or better than I am in specific areas. I believe we have the greatest administrative staff in American medical colleges. And, we have the input of the brightest minds in the country through our Executive Faculty. I think I have probably the best deanship in the country. Patricia's unfailing support also has been an enormous asset."

"Washington University School of Medicine was a great school before I became dean, and it's still a great school," said Peck. "As long as we can continue to change and adapt to the new health-care environment and emphasize our research and teaching missions in every decision we make, we will become even greater."

Peck believes there are several issues facing the medical school that will require strong leadership and strategic direction, including the continued redevelopment of the medical center, the future right-sizing of the institution to match diminishing resources and an expanded relationship with BJC. He also believes the medical school must work to enhance the diversity of its student body and faculty.

"This is enough to keep me busy for the foreseeable future," said Peck, who continues to teach periodically and to treat patients, as well as consult in the academic arena. He recently was elected chair of the Council of Deans of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Physician. Scientist. Teacher. Administrator. When asked to choose the role with which he most closely identifies, Peck modestly is unable to pick one.

"I'm an academic type," he said. "I'm master of none."

— Brenda Murphy

# Gallery of Graduates

## 'A playground of ideas' drives Brummer's passion

Ofentimes, it is the small, seemingly insignificant event that marks a great beginning. For senior Christopher Brummer, it was the essay contest sponsored by the U.S. Congress and its German counterpart, the Bundestag.

"I needed a few extra credit points for my high school German class in Fayetteville, Arkansas," recalled Brummer, "so I entered the contest with a 25-page essay on the German constitution. I had no idea I would win."

Brummer's prize? A year abroad in Braunschweig, Germany, where he lived with a host family, attended a German school and tasted the life of a typical German teen. Brummer grew fond of German language and culture, but it was not until he came to Washington University as a John B. Ervin Scholar that he considered pursuing a career in academia.

Upon graduating summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in Germanic languages and literatures, Brummer will spend the next five years at Princeton University. His first year will be funded by an Andrew Mellon Graduate Fellowship in Humanistic Studies. He will study Germanic languages and literatures with a specialty in post-colonial Germany.

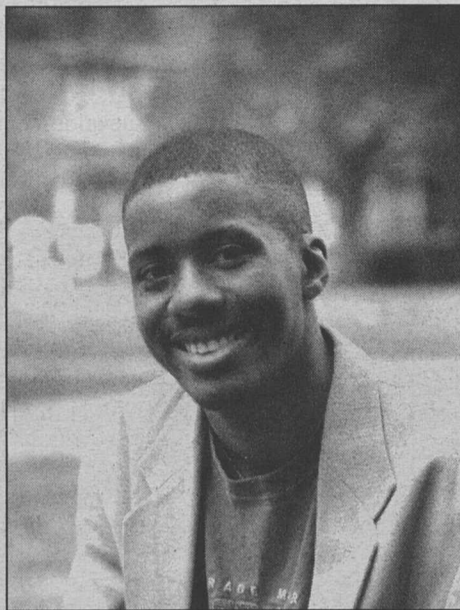
"German intellectual history is extremely fascinating," offered Brummer. "The connection between Western metaphysics and literature is strongest in German thought, where you have everything from ideas glorifying extreme fragmentation to others touting the Hegelian dialectics."

Calling himself a "cultural theoretician," Brummer said of his discipline, "It's a playground of ideas for me."

All the world seems a playground for the buoyant Brummer. A former valedictorian of his high school senior class, he is disciplined, extremely bright, articulate and an intrepid explorer of the intellect.

Compelled by an insatiable curiosity,

Brummer lives in a state of perpetual motion. Aside from academics, he has devoted time to the Black Undergraduate Panhellenic Council; service projects associated with his membership in Phi Beta Sigma fraternity; and educational programs with St. Louis' African-American community. For the past two years, he



Christopher Brummer calls himself a "cultural theoretician."

has worked part-time in the John M. Olin School of Business computer lab.

Broach his research discipline, and Brummer cartwheels across the field changing perspective, direction and level to examine German culture with freshness and vitality.

"Identity politics are raging in Europe and in America," posited Brummer, citing the identity construction resulting from German reunification and Germany's evolving role in Europe. "Both the Germans and African Americans are struggling with identity issues that put them at

a critical juncture in how they define themselves. This is an area I hope to study."

Brummer's 4.0 average his freshman year enabled him to participate a year early in the German department's year abroad program in Tübingen, Germany. "He returned simply overflowing with ideas and enthusiasm," said Lynne Tatlock, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures in Arts and Sciences. "He also wholeheartedly reaffirmed his intention to pursue a career in post-secondary education. Chris has the talent, ambition, determination and educational foundation to flourish in any of the best graduate programs."

While in Tübingen, Brummer learned that he had been awarded an Andrew Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship. He also jump-started his teaching career there. His intrigue regarding how the black dialect in Toni Morrison's "Sula" translates into German led him to his professors, one of whom invited Brummer to teach a tutorial in African-American literature.

By the end of his junior year, Brummer had completed all of his course requirements for the German major. In fall 1996, he presented a paper on the intersections between German literature and post-colonial theory — a chapter of his honors thesis — at a graduate-student conference held at Indiana University in Bloomington. In March, he served as a panelist at the international symposium "The Third World Through European Eyes: Post-colonial German Literature," held at Washington University. These achievements, which he described as "awesome and energizing," snagged the attention of participating academics. The word on Brummer was out.

"The past six weeks have been incredible," says the young scholar, who

recently was initiated into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious honors organization. "One morning I woke up to a call from Henry Louis Gates Jr., who explained why Harvard's program would be the perfect match for me."

That Brummer seeks a place in the academic world seems natural. The son of an elementary school teacher and a University of Arkansas (Fayetteville) law professor, Brummer and his twin brother, Craig, a Howard University graduate who will begin medical school at New York University in the fall, grew up in a lively, academic environment.

"During the summers, my parents would set up a school for us for half a day," explained Brummer. "We traveled in our motor home. Had friends over often. It was a great childhood."

Brummer said his years at Washington University followed suit and were topped by his association with a remarkable German department.

"Everyone there is intelligent and genuinely interested in the students," commented Brummer. Characteristically quick to prove his point, he added: "Professor Paul Lützel is a wonderful, highly regarded scholar who has backed everything I've done. I've never seen a more dynamic teacher than Naomi Lebowitz, an English and comparative literature professor who is brilliant and can literally act out 'Don Quixote' in class. Professor Tatlock is the leadership of the department and has always been there for advice. And Professor Lutz Koepnick — new, young and very smart — is an inspiration."

Brummer will strive for that day when such praise can be turned upon himself. It will be the ultimate contest, and he knows he will be prepared. Already he is out of the gate running hard and fast.

— Cynthia Georges

## Forsyth works for children's sake

While earning her undergraduate degree in psychology from Duke University in Durham, N.C., Jessica Forsyth spent a semester tutoring children and organizing financial support for a squatter community in Costa Rica.

She spent her first two years after graduation in the Teach for America program providing bilingual instruction to poor Latino children in a downtrodden neighborhood of Altadena, Calif.

In the summer of 1995, she found herself in the jungle highlands of Borneo contemplating her future as she wrapped up a two-year stint as a fourth-grade teacher for the Surabaya International School in Indonesia. She had come to the Kalimantan Island of Borneo to visit an orangutan refuge operated by Birute Galdikas, a woman whose environmental writings Forsyth had found inspiring.

"Hiking up to the refuge I began thinking about something Galdikas had written," Forsyth said. "She once said that you could look into the eyes of an orangutan and see God, and that day, I realized that, for me, the same thing was true of children. It dawned on me that I'd seen a bit of God in the eyes of every child I've worked with."

That revelation solidified her resolve to build a career in an area where she could continue her work with children and led, eventually, to her decision to enroll at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. She graduates this May with a master's in social work and an emphasis in the management of services for children, youth and families.

A native of Midlothian, Va., a suburb of Richmond, Forsyth grew up on the outskirts of Washington, D.C., where her father worked as a congressional aide and in other government positions dealing with low-income housing. She traces her

interest in social issues to her experience growing up in a family that included two adopted biracial brothers. Her mother taught elementary school in the District's inner city, and her sister teaches there now.

"I've always been very aware of race issues and very concerned about those less served in our society," Forsyth said. "My family has had a big influence on the way I approach my work with children."

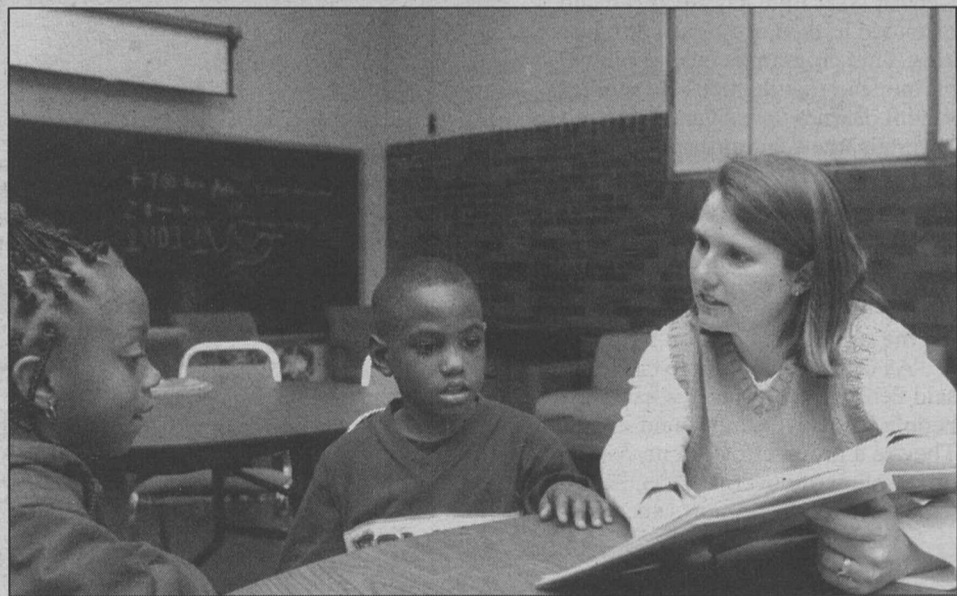
A career in child welfare was not necessarily on Forsyth's radar screen when she set foot on Duke University's campus in 1987. But soon, she was drawn to several programs that made use of her skills in one-on-one counseling situations.

In her freshman year, Forsyth began working in a Duke psychiatric department program designed to provide support and extracurricular opportunities to troubled youths. She struck up a close relationship with one child in the program — a friendship that lasted throughout her four years at Duke. She also found work as a residential adviser and volunteered on a suicide hotline.

"I first realized that I really wanted to work with kids during my semester abroad in a squatter's village in Costa Rica," Forsyth said. "I came back and saw the Teach for America advertisement at Duke. It sounds corny, but it was the only thing that brought tears to my eyes."

Forsyth spent eight weeks at the University of Southern California training with others in the Teach for America program, but she describes her first assignment working with low-income Latino children in a Los Angeles-area school district as a "baptism by fire."

Assigned to provide instruction to students ranging in age from kindergarten to second grade, she spent most of her time dealing with a host of student behavioral problems and offering counseling to



Jessica Forsyth works with second-grader Avion Wolford and first-grader Candice Walker at Stix Early Childhood Center in St. Louis, where Forsyth is a part-time substitute social worker.

children confused by home lives tainted by drug and immigration problems.

She contrasts the experience with her teaching assignment in Indonesia. "In Los Angeles, I was hired to be a teacher, and I spent most of my time as a social worker," Forsyth said. "In Indonesia, I was hired to be a teacher, and I actually had to teach. But both experiences made me realize how much I enjoy working with children. Kids are kids, no matter what their situation."

As part of her graduate studies at Washington University, Forsyth has been involved with child-welfare issues at both the direct-practice and policy levels. Her fieldwork includes counseling at-risk children and implementing the Second Step Violence-Prevention Program at Clay Elementary School, an inner-city public school in St. Louis.

As an allocations board member of the United Way of Greater St. Louis, she has analyzed programs and finances of member agencies and made funding recommendations on programs offering services to

families. She spent her final two semesters with Citizens for Missouri's Children, a non-profit organization where she helped analyze and promote policies and proposals on children's issues in the areas of health, education and welfare reform.

She is a co-founder of Voices for Children, a student-volunteer service organization, which was inspired by attendance at the 1996 Stand for Children rally in Washington, D.C. She also served as treasurer of the social work school's student council and as a teaching assistant for a family practice course.

Forsyth currently is working as a temporary substitute teacher in the St. Louis public school system. "I love working with kids and adolescents, and I wouldn't want a job that doesn't allow me some personal contact with them," she said. "But I'm also very interested in working to help improve policies and change systems in ways that benefit all children. I think there are some positions out there that will allow me to do both."

— Gerry Everding

# Gallery of Graduates

## Xu's road to success stretches from now to infinity

All her life, Qian Xu — better known as Cherry — has loved going places, both literally and figuratively. And she uses planning, pluck, determination and, yes, a lot of drive, to get there despite the odds.

Take, for instance, her first driving experience. Having grown up in China where bicycles, not cars, are *de rigueur*, Cherry rode her bike 45 minutes to work each day. She had never driven a car when she came to St. Louis in 1995 to attend the John M. Olin School of Business.

"As soon as I arrived in St. Louis, I realized not having a car here was like having no legs," she said. But it wasn't until a year ago when she landed a summer marketing internship with Hewlett-Packard Co. in Andover, Mass. (near Boston), that she decided to buy a car and learn to drive. She had her first "driving lesson" on side streets. The next day she tackled Highway 40; the next week she got her driver's license; and within two weeks she drove 1,700 miles to Boston.

It was a summer of achievement and adventure. She not only won kudos for her services and support project at Hewlett-Packard, but she explored all the beaches within driving distance. She also enjoyed living with an American family and getting to know the company's 21 other interns. "I became the group's social director," she said, "and it was fun to prepare authentic Chinese food for them or to go beer-tasting with them in Harvard Square."

Xu, who has concentrated on strategic planning and marketing in her study for a master's in business administration (MBA), has come far since her first year at Olin, when she hardly said a word in class. "The language barrier can discourage class participation," she said, "and Chinese culture encourages thinking more and talking less."

But she began to realize she learned more when she participated in class discussion, so in "Quality Management," taught by Dean H. Kropp, Ph.D., associate dean and the Dan Broida Professor of Operations and Manufacturing Management, she vowed, as her own personal quality goal, to participate more.

"Cherry contributed more and more as the semester progressed," Kropp said, "and by semester's end, her participation helped her team make the most-professional presentations."

Having supportive classmates, such as Michael Mulcahy, a 1997 MBA candidate who was a teammate in "Pricing Strategies," helped, too. "She jarred us out of our traditional mode of thinking," he said, "and she brought an invaluable international perspective." Their professor in the class, Z. John Zhang, Ph.D., assistant professor of marketing, had empathy for Xu and admiration for her courage. "It's not easy for foreign students to join in discussion, especially in a course as abstract and intellectually tough as this one," he said. "It's often intimidating to be with top students — most of whom are steeped in U.S. culture — so it's very impressive that she holds her own in such an environment."

Xu is not easily intimidated. Born into an intellectual family in Tsingtao, also known more recently as Qingdao, a seaside city of 1.4 million on China's east coast, her courage and adventurous spirit showed early. In this city, known for brewing Tsingtao beer, she lived with her father, a senior chemical engineer; her mother, a senior physician in obstetrics and gynecology; and a brother two years older. She loved outdoor activities, and in high school, she especially enjoyed swimming and volleyball, as well as studying literature.

Upon graduation at age 16, she struck out to attend The Institute of International Relations in Beijing, and she's lived independently ever since. This, Xu said, is unlike most young people in China, who live with their family until they are married. "I wanted to meet and learn about people from all over the world," she said, "so I knew Beijing was the place to go."

As is common in China, the government paid for her undergraduate education, and she graduated in an exceptional year — 1989 — the year of protests by many students in Beijing's Tiananmen



Qian "Cherry" Xu proudly displays her Missouri driver's license.

Square. The government assigned her a job as research assistant at The Contemporary International Relations Research Institute but sent her to Inner Mongolia for "retraining" before she began the job.

After months in dire circumstances, she became quite ill and was approved to return to Beijing to begin work. After 13 months, Xu quit. "It didn't make sense to me, and there was too much bureaucratic inefficiency," she said. "My parents and I repaid the government (for her education costs) and, in a way, bought my freedom."

Xu vowed to live a meaningful life, a life someplace where her hard work would pay off — and to make enough money to allow her to help her parents. "Their skills and dedication have never been fairly compensated," she said, "and that shows the system's shameful inequity."

She got a job as head trainer and then banquet sales manager of Kempinski Hotel-Beijing Lufthansa Center, where

one of her clients was Hewlett-Packard Co., China. The president of that firm admired her organizational skills. Soon after, he hired her as executive assistant. Within a year, she became a marketing specialist at the company.

After three years there, she decided to go after her longtime dream — getting an MBA. "It was a busy time," she said, "because I was working 10 to 12 hours a day and studying for my GMAT (Graduate Management Admissions Test)." Soon after, she was talking with admissions officers at several top business schools in the United States.

Because it made the best offer, Olin came out the winner. "Olin has helped me understand that business education is about much more than plugging numbers into formulas, building models and solving equations or poring over financial statements and applying rules," Xu said. "Here, I've not only acquired skills in project- and time-management, problem-solving, and sound decision-making, but I've learned to work well with people of diverse backgrounds and to value creative spark and big-picture thinking."

She credits changes Dean Stuart I. Greenbaum, Ph.D., has made to encourage active, self-directed, experiential and reality-based learning. "I've learned to be an opportunity-seeker and a judicious rule-breaker, not just a skillful problem-solver," she said, "and, most importantly, I've learned that the pursuit of excellence in both personal and business development is a nonstop trip with a starting point of now and an ending point of infinity."

Her next destination? Manager of strategic planning at Monsanto Co.'s division of life sciences, beginning June 2. "I'm joining Monsanto at a very exciting time," Xu said. "I'm the only Chinese and the only person from China on the team, so my knowledge of doing business in China and experience with joint-venture companies should be very helpful."

From the looks of it, Xu, much to Olin's pride, is cruisin' in overdrive and, in so many ways, has already arrived.

— Nancy Belt

## School leader Vedder exemplifies that care is the best medicine

For Todd Vedder, Washington University fourth-year medical student, altruism used to be an extracurricular activity. Now, as he becomes a pediatrician, he sees altruism as his career.

"It's not individual acts anymore — it's all the time now," he said. "I'll be helping children, their families and their communities develop their full potential."

As an undergraduate at Emory University in Atlanta, numerous injuries forced Vedder to retire from the track team. He became more involved in community service to fill his newfound free time.

He founded a chapter of Alternative Spring Break, a national organization that sends students to communities in need of various services. Vedder organized a trip to poverty-stricken John's Island in South Carolina. While pursuing dual degrees in history and psychology, he also organized fund-raisers for the American Cancer Society and Project READ, an Atlanta literacy organization.

Vedder, who will be the student speaker at the School of Medicine commencement, has been president of his class all four years and was a four-year recipient of The Distinguished Student Scholarship. He's also been an outspoken advocate for literacy as it relates to medical care. By working with the Literacy Council of Greater St. Louis, he has organized several conferences to promote awareness within the local medical community of the obstacles faced by patients with poor reading skills in understanding health-care information. The conferences also pointed out ways that health-care workers can help these patients, who often are not able to

read pill bottles, navigate hospitals or understand physicians and nurses.

"Some people in the medical community had not even heard of this problem," he said. "It was an attempt to start getting the word out that 'Your patients aren't always getting the message, and low literacy can be bad for your health.'"

Vedder became interested in community service through his parents. His father, Robert, a publisher at a small newspaper in Venice, Fla., raised funds locally for a new art museum and the renovation of a library. His mother, Susan, who works in the accounting office of the same newspaper, also volunteers. "It's something I sort of realized on my own, but I think I had some good models," Vedder said.

Vedder also had outstanding role models at the medical school. S. Bruce Dowton, M.D., associate vice chancellor and associate dean for medical education and director of the Division of Medical Genetics in the Department of Pediatrics, taught him about leadership and how to introduce changes. Dowton was the most influential, Vedder said. "He taught me to look at all sides of an issue before moving forward and that you need concrete data to defend the changes you are proposing."

In his commencement speech, Vedder will talk about leadership and why society needs caring physicians. Although nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physical therapists and others now are responsible for services physicians once provided, Vedder believes physicians still can be at the center of all these parties and coordinate their efforts

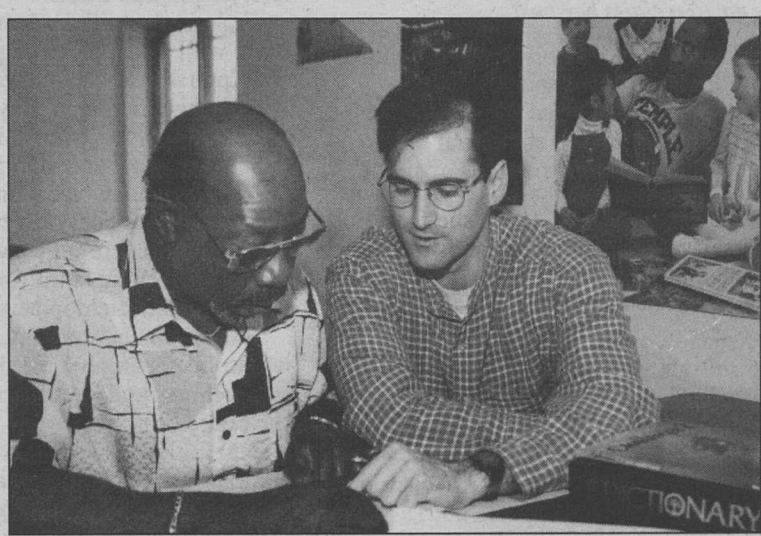
toward a patient's care.

"I'm not against the changes in health-care that have taken place, but I think that we, as graduating students from Washington University School of Medicine, need to serve as role models of what it is to be a good doctor and uphold our image in the public eye," he said. "There's been a lot of bad press about doctors, and the only way to come out on top is to take what we've learned and really practice it."

When he's not studying or volunteering, Vedder enjoys running and weight lifting. He also spends time with his fiancée, whom he will marry the day after graduation.

Then, Vedder will spend three years in a pediatric residency at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He will sorely miss Forest Park, which he thinks is the crown jewel of St. Louis.

In his commencement address, Vedder also wants to relay to the audience the importance of graduation day. "We're getting our diplomas, we're reciting an oath, and we're entering the ranks of



Todd Vedder (right) encourages awareness of literacy problems. Here he helps Jimmie Guss with his reading.

healers," he said. "I want to give the audience some perspective of why these things are so important to us — where we came from, what we've endured, and what lies ahead."

In addition to having a private practice one day, Vedder hopes to become affiliated with an institution similar to the medical school. "I want to be able to acquire the latest developments in pediatrics and be able to use that information to help my patients," he said. Vedder said that he has always wanted to help other people and to be intellectually stimulated. Becoming a doctor has made those dreams become a reality. "I really feel like those two ingredients have become a part of me and will shape the rest of my life," he said.

— Diane Duke

# Gallery of Graduates

## Award-winning undergraduate engineer Patel is in top spot

Prateek Patel's career in chemical engineering received a gentle nudge during his freshman year in 1993. That is when the Spartanburg, S.C., native took an environmental chemistry course from Jay R. Turner, D.Sc., assistant professor of chemical engineering and of engineering and policy in the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

He subsequently took a course that focused on environmental pollution detection and monitoring methods, and it required lots of hands-on laboratory work. Patel so impressed his teachers that he was offered an undergraduate teaching assistantship the next semester to teach laboratory techniques to a new batch of undergraduates.

Here was Patel, not yet 20, teaching a dozen of his peers the ins and outs of instrumentation and testing through five sophisticated experiments in a weekly four-hour lab. The early exposure made a deep impression on Patel.

"I learned that if you can teach someone something, then that proves you know it," he said. "When you go back over the material and re-learn it, that's a review for you, so the experience was very valuable both from a teaching and learning perspective."

The laboratory course was not the only teaching Patel did during his four years at Washington University. He also tutored students in four classes he'd taken previously and served as a freshman peer adviser. But Patel said it was the environmental lab experience that opened the door for him to embark on a remarkable, award-winning undergraduate career in chemical engineering. That time culminated in his receiving a National Science Foundation fellowship to graduate school at Stanford University.

"Prateek Patel is clearly the most outstanding senior chemical engineering

student to have matriculated at Washington University in the last 20 years," said John Kardos, Ph.D., the Lucy and Stanley Lopata Professor of Chemical Engineering and department chair. "He's carried a perfect grade point average and ranks No. 1 in the engineering school's senior class of 219 and No. 1 in the chemical engineering senior class of 46. He's done a wealth of activities besides his studies. Prateek is truly an outstanding student with many options open in his future."

Ironically, one of the University's biggest selling points for Patel was its strong liberal arts component.

"Often, universities with strong engineering schools don't have such comparable Arts and Sciences offerings, but I was really looking forward to the diversity of classes I would receive here," said Patel. "I enrolled in the School of Engineering, but I knew there would be other strong areas to go into at Washington if I would change my mind."

Because engineering increasingly is a part of biomedical sciences, Patel took advantage of the Department of Biology in Arts and Sciences when he enrolled in "Biology 296" and "Biology 297," required courses for pre-med majors. He found courses in mathematics and organic chemistry enjoyable and challenging, too.

But it was Patel's early work with Turner that blossomed into a challenging independent study project. Patel evaluated the efficiency of an air-sampling device. Called a Minivol sampler, it recently has been remodeled by the manufacturer to capture extremely small particles that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suspects are causing health problems in American cities. In 1987, the EPA set standards for particulate matter at 10 microns or less in diameter. The standard might become more stringent this summer because the EPA

has proposed an additional limit for particles of 2.5 microns or less.

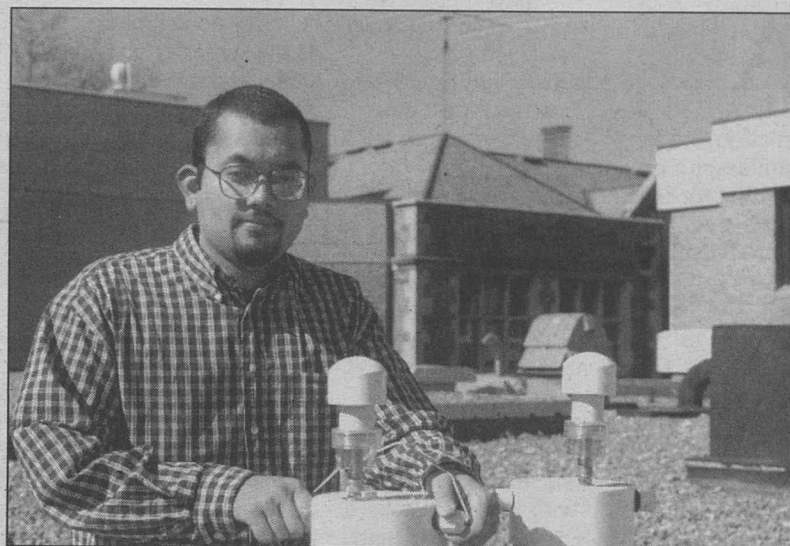
Patel ran particles through the Minivol and devised a way to check the efficiency of the instrument as it captured the larger particles on a flat plate and the smaller particles downstream on a filter.

"Jay Turner had the general vision of what he wanted, and I put the testing system together and determined how well things worked," Patel said modestly. "It was a challenging project."

Patel presented his work at the annual sponsors' meeting of the Chemical Reaction Engineering Laboratory and then, a week later, went to Chicago to present a poster talk on the project for the 1996 National Student Poster contest of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. His presentation took first place in the environmental division.

Patel is leaning toward a career specializing in colloids and surface sciences. Colloids are extremely small substances suspended in a liquid, solid or gaseous medium. He thinks an academic career is likely, but he doesn't rule out one in research and development in an industrial setting.

"This is a fundamental chemical



Prateek Patel's 4.0 grade point average ranks him No. 1 in the senior class of the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

engineering area that can be applied to lots of hot areas — environmental, biomedical and polymer engineering," he said.

Patel's proclivity toward chemical engineering is only natural. His father, Dinesh, is a chemical engineer who works with Milliken Chemicals in Spartanburg. His father and mother, Kashmira, emigrated from India in the late 1960s. He has a younger brother, Mehul, who is a junior in high school.

Patel decided on Washington University partially "because it was in another part of the country," he said. "When I came here, I said, 'Wow, now this is an academic community.' I remember walking out of Lopata Hall saying, 'This looks and feels like a university.' What a great atmosphere!"

"The School of Engineering also is a very nurturing place. You get a great opportunity to know and work with your professors. In that sense, it's like a small community."

— Tony Fitzpatrick

## Fraley's work makes a name for women in history — and for herself

*Fierce gray eyes stare hauntingly at me out of the weathered face of a southern woman clothed in a simple black dress from the last century. This image, encased in a frame of glass and wood and locked in the silence of time, mutely beckons and challenges me to reclaim her past.*

With these words, senior history major Miranda Lee Fraley describes the motivation behind her stirring and often emotional thesis on the struggles and triumphs of single mountain women in turn-of-the-century Appalachia.

Fraley pries open the bedroom door of history, revealing tender stories of young girls, widows and spinsters who sought sustenance, survival and sex amid the ramshackle squalor of homesteads, cotton mills and coal towns of the eastern mountain region.

Her painstakingly researched monograph, "Single Women in the Industrialization of Southern Appalachia, 1870-1930," has earned Fraley the Goldstein Prize for best senior honors history thesis. Her work unearthed examples that contradict the stereotypical image of woman of that period.

"I was able to find a great deal of documentation that shows there were a great many women who existed during this time as single heads of households," Fraley said. "Some of them were widows, some were abandoned by their husbands, but others simply seemed unconcerned with marriage."

Her thesis also has launched what some see as a promising career for Fraley as a serious scholar of women in early American history.

"She's very analytical, very sharp," said Liann Tsoukas, a visiting assistant professor of history who served on Fraley's thesis committee and greatly admires her work. Fraley's thesis is comparable to work done at the doctoral level, Tsoukas said.

"Her thesis is not a reflection of just one year's work," suggests Tsoukas. "It's a reflection of a great college career. She's the kind of student that has gone above and beyond for all of her four years here, and all of that extra effort is somehow reflected in this thesis."

Fraley, who will graduate summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in history and English, grew up not far from the Appalachian region in Smyrna, Tenn. She traces her lifelong interest in history to her father, a high school history teacher. Her family spent many vacations exploring civil war battlefields and other historic sites across the South. Fraley spent the last two summers working at the Stones River National Battlefield in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

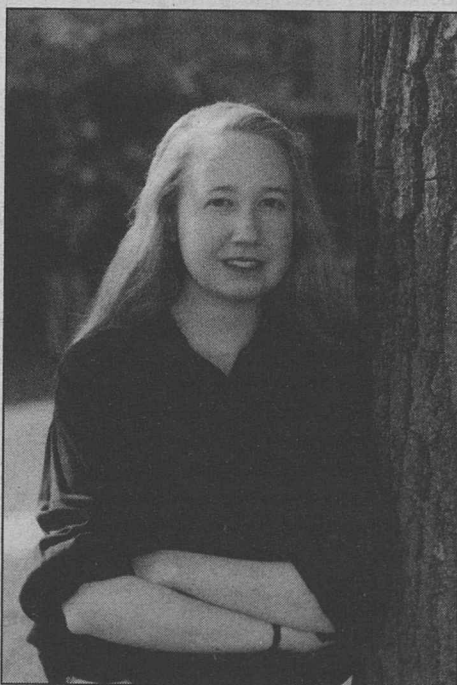
She credits her parents, Larry and Fay, with transporting her to countless libraries and archives and waiting patiently while she poured through reams of dusty documents. Fraley also spent weeks at the home of her sister, Lorinda, in Lexington while conducting library research at the University of Kentucky.

In her thesis, Fraley relies heavily on oral histories, folks songs, newspaper accounts and other primary sources that allow us to hear the trials and tribulations of Appalachian women through their own words. In one folk song, for instance, we hear the lament of a young woman who agrees to have sexual intercourse with a man after he promises to marry her, only to discover that he has changed his mind the next morning:

"He'll hug you and kiss you, He'll roll you all about," the song warns, "Then he'll leave you as I were left, To roll the baby out."

Faculty who have reviewed Fraley's thesis contend that her work breaks new ground by offering a fresh perspective on the role of women in Appalachian society. Her analysis debunks the popular notion that women from that era were powerless drudges in a male-dominated society.

"Miranda's thesis makes a variety of very original contributions to both women's history and Appalachian history," says Andrea S. Friedman, Ph.D., assistant professor of history and Fraley's main thesis adviser. "She really has contested the way many historians understand women's relationship to industrialization."



Miranda Lee Fraley's thesis on turn-of-the-century Appalachian women broke new ground.

"Most scholars view industrialization as this great liberalizing force that encouraged women to seek independence," Friedman explains, "but Fraley makes a compelling case that single women in Appalachia experienced industrialization not as encouraging a quest for independence but as a necessary part of their relationship to their families. They sought industrial work because it allowed them to feed their families."

Delving into an area where little scholarship has been conducted, Fraley shows that Appalachian farm women of the late 1800s actually had won a high degree of sexual freedom and economic autonomy primarily because their labor was so essential to families struggling to eke out an existence on small mountainside farms.

Fraley contends that industrialization of the Appalachian region at the turn-of-the-century actually raised serious challenges to the independent lifestyles women had won on the farm. Women who had worked on their own or side-by-side with men in the farm fields now found themselves working alongside hundreds of women in cotton mills, or waiting powerless at home as their men headed into coal mines where no women were allowed.

"The biggest thrill of my research was finding the oral history of one family that had made the entire transition that I discuss in my thesis," Fraley said. "This woman was born as the illegitimate daughter of a widowed woman living on a farm. The daughter married when she was 13, and the entire family moved first to a coal town and then to a cotton mill town. Her husband died, and she, too, was left alone to raise her children."

Fraley, who plans to teach history or to work as a public historian for a museum or national park, will continue her studies this fall as a graduate student in history at the University of Indiana at Bloomington. She plans more research on how issues of race, gender and region have influenced American women's lives during the 19th and 20th centuries.

"Unearthing these women's stories and revealing their rich and varied histories so that everyone may learn from their experiences is my quest," Fraley writes. "Ultimately, my goal is to reclaim women's voices that are concealed in the obscurity of the past and to share the diversity of their experiences and dreams with others."

— Gerry Everding

# Gallery of Graduates

## 'It takes a village' to accomplish what Robertson did

Just think of her as Hillary Clinton's revenge.

"The First Lady caught so much flack over her book," said Christine Robertson. "Well, I'm not sure if it takes a village to raise a child, but I'm living proof that it takes a village for a mom to go back to school."

Robertson's village is Rolla, Mo. And the road to her joint degrees — a law degree and a master's in environmental engineering — is 112,336 miles long. That's the odometer reading of the Cadillac Contour she bought new in December 1993, just as she was starting at Washington University. Further, that three-year trek was made while raising her now 10-year-old daughter, Lela; helping run the family trucking company; and helping care for the livestock on the family farm.

Door-to-door, it's 114 miles — one way. From St. Louis, head west on Highway 44 and keep going. Past Six Flags, past the Jesse James Wax Museum, past vineyard country. Hang a left on Route 63 and meander all the way through the Rolla city limits. If you hit the Do Drop Inn, you've gone too far.

With no traffic and abiding by the speed limit — and Robertson said she never once was flagged for speeding — that's a two-hour-and-10-minute haul. But many times it was longer. Much longer.

"Seven hours was the worst," she recalled. "It never fails. That's when you most need to make a pit stop, you're about to starve, your books are stuck in the trunk — and you're inching!"

While the 38-year-old Robertson's road adventures qualify her for a career in trucking, she actually is taking a U-turn from that course. She drove a rig one summer in the early 1980s to help pay for her undergraduate studies after her fresh-from-high-school first marriage broke up. In addition, Robertson and her present husband of 11 years, Jerry Bartle, own a successful firm, J.B. Trucking Co. Inc., a business the couple built side-by-side.

"When we got married," Bartle recalled, "she said her lifelong ambition

was to finish her master's and get a law degree. But when our little girl came along, why, that knocked that in the head. Then she said that when Lela started school, she'd like to pursue her education. I said, 'Why, that's no problem.' I figured by six years it would all be forgotten. Well, the day that Lela started kindergarten, Chris brought it up again."

That might have been the last full night of sleep either has had. For the first two years, the alarm went off at 4 a.m. Robertson hit the highway by 6 a.m. and pulled onto campus around 8 a.m. After finishing class by 3 p.m., she'd rush to Rolla to pick up Lela from daycare by 5:30 p.m. Then it was time to hit the books.

The third year brought with it another logistical hurdle: night classes. Now, early-afternoon departures were necessary to bypass traffic. Classes could run anywhere from 8 to 9 p.m.; labs could go until 10 p.m. Then it was off to the computer lab to work until 1 or 2 or 3 in the morning.

"I literally lost track of how many nights I did not go to bed at all," she said with a laugh that comes easily. "I just showered and started a new day."

"I never had the luxury of reading everything two or three times. I did well to get it read once."

And remarkably, Robertson was reading two sets of books — environmental engineering and law. "It was rather difficult to switch gears like that," she admitted. "In the law school, there isn't so much a right or wrong answer as there is

the best argument. Support your argument. Whereas, in the engineering school, there's not only the best answer, the right answer, but take it to *this* precision. It was two different worlds."

But Robertson says that combination will make her a better litigator. "Say you're trying a case of groundwater contamination, and you're arguing the source.



Christine Robertson (right) and daughter Lela Bartle, with (from left) Lela's teacher, Karen Copeland; principal Don Brown; and Lauran Mueller, who served as tutor and surrogate mother.

Well, if you've run these analytical models, you *know* where they tweak the knobs and what input is really an educated guess — because you've *done* it."

Well, Robertson *has* done it. But why? She gives a two-part answer. The first is an easily delivered work-in-a-job-I-enjoy response. The second is advanced more deliberately, but clearly from the heart.

"I'd say 90 percent of the community was behind me," she said softly. "Whatever they could do to help, they would. There were a few, though, who thought I was an unfit mother — being selfish. 'Why would you do this to your daughter?' I wasn't doing it *to* her — I was doing it *for* her. I want her to grow up knowing not to give up on your dream just because it's 100 miles away. Don't think you're not worth it."

Even noble pursuits carry a price. For Robertson, it was missed Valentine's Day parties and rounds of trick-or-treating. It was evenings that ended in goodnight prayers over the phone instead of hugs.

That's where Dorothy Ousley came in. And Lauran Mueller. And Don Brown, Mary Kay Scott, Stephanie Hanson, Karen Copeland and countless others in Rolla — folks who tutored or chauffeured or served as surrogates. Then there was Suzanne Prosser, Sue Halvorson, Maxine Lipeles, Elaine Halley and many more at Washington University — Hilltoppers who helped ease logistical hurdles. Even the guy at the drive-through at Wendy's.

"Everyone helped in every facet and phase," Robertson said. "From the doctors to the dentist to the banker to the lawyer to the daycare to the school to the dance instructors to the other mothers — every one of them. I couldn't have done it ... ." She stopped, choking back emotion. "Their names should also be on the diploma."

Lela turns 11 in August, one month after her mom will take the bar exam and a few weeks before Robertson plans to start work in a Rolla law firm. Lela is bright, blonde and bustling. Those are the only "B's" she gets — her report cards are plastered with A's. So what lesson has she gained from the experience?

"I learned that you have to have a lot of energy to do what mom does!" Lela said with a giggle. "I feel sorry for her that she doesn't get much sleep. But I'm proud of her for doing it all."

Jerry Bartle seconds the motion: "The amazing thing about the whole deal to me was that she always found time, regardless of how tired she was, for me and Lela. We were never slighted. She'd commute to school all week, and then Lela would have a Saturday-morning dance competition in St. Louis. Chris would be right back behind the steering wheel. Now that takes a very special person. You have to commend her for that."

Now all that's left is one more drive: to Commencement. "That's okay!" said Robertson. "I know the way."

— David Moessner

## Impact and innovation help put graphic designer Bryant 'over the top'

Graphic designers leave their mark on almost every aspect of our daily lives. From corporate logos to teapots, every design is carefully planned to create some type of impact.

Jonathan Bryant believes that environmental design can have a positive impact on urban areas suffering blight. The graphic design major in the School of Art shows how this can be done in his senior thesis, titled "Signs of Progress: Environmental Graphic Design in Urban Community Restoration Efforts."

"I wanted to incorporate design and urban revitalization and show how the community needs to be involved," Bryant said of his project. "The designer has to be part of a greater effort with architects and planners and all sorts of people. I found that design really needs to be part of a community process if the solution is going to work."

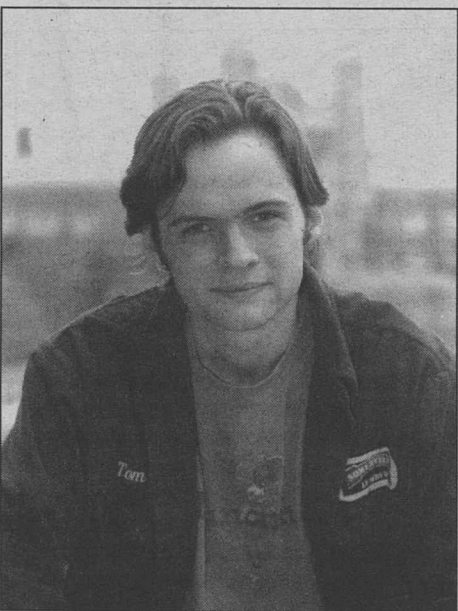
In his thesis, Bryant looks at four case studies in cities across the country where successful design projects have played a role in helping improve the area. Bryant said he chose his topic as a way to help educate the public about an important field that often is taken for granted.

The document he created is of professional-level quality, says Sarah Spurr, associate professor of art and head of the graphic design program in the art school.

"It is remarkable for an undergraduate," Spurr said. "It can be used as a tool for people who know nothing about design and for neighborhood organizations and community-development people who are looking at revitalization. Someone reading this would be able to see how a variety of communities were

able to rekindle urban areas that had fallen into decline. It has real social and cultural implications."

One of the main conclusions Bryant draws is the need for extensive commu-



Jonathan Bryant says designers can visually articulate community goals.

nity involvement in any revitalization effort. "It is not up to the designer to come in and say, 'This is what you need,'" Bryant noted. "It's up to the designer to say — and the broader planning group to ask — 'What is it that you want your community to become?' The designer can help move that along by visually articulating the community's goals and tying it together."

Bryant also concludes that using a design strategy in the early stages of a revitalization effort is a cost-effective way to build momentum and support for a project.

"You can install a \$200,000 sign program or spend a million dollars cleaning asbestos out of a building where no one can see what's happening," he said. "The signs create an impression that there is advancement and investment in the neighborhood on a visible level. This gives all the more reason for people to want to commit to the behind-the-scenes effort."

The revitalization of Grand Center, St. Louis' Midtown theater district, is a good example.

"By implementing the signage portion early — the big flashing parking signs and the neon facade at the Sun Theater — it breathed the impression of life into the area before the people were actually there," he said. "By creating that sense of energy and activity and safety, it sets the stage for people to get back involved and for people to want to invest in the area."

Bryant's first exposure to environmental graphic design came as a high school student when he took trips to nearby Boston. He was taken with how the signs and lights shaped the identity of an area. "I would think, 'That stuff is so neat,' not realizing that it's designers who actually create it," he said.

He considered a number of art programs at various universities and settled on Washington University because of its outstanding reputation in both art and academics. Now, at the end of his undergraduate career, Bryant is ready to create the designs he once thought of as simply

"neat." He will work with the distinguished St. Louis-based design firm Kiku Obata & Co.

Laura McCanna, a designer at the firm, described Bryant as multitasking. He has the ability, moxie and drive necessary to meet the demands of the firm's national and international clients, she said.

"He's very thoughtful and really thinks these things out," McCanna said. "He sees the big picture and is not just in a pigeon-hole of graphic design. Our firm looks for people who obviously can utilize their own talents but who also have the drive to look further and to learn about other areas. We found that in him."

A New Englander from Wayland, Mass., Bryant says he is looking forward to staying in St. Louis. "There is definitely innovative design happening here," he said. "I am happy I have found a place where I can grow and develop. Too many people my age go back to the Coasts. It's important to have people like us stay on board and get their hands dirty with what's going on around town."

If all goes as planned, Bryant should see his work manifest itself around St. Louis and the country. Gratification for a graphic designer comes from knowing one has visually expressed the message of the client, Bryant said, and from "knowing that you've gone beyond effective and pushed some design envelope."

He added: "The opportunity to create something that has a visible impact on the community and can foster growth would be just amazing. And then if it does that as well as being innovative, that puts me over the top."

— Neal Learner

# Gallery of Graduates

## 'The art of making' is a challenge for Pankoff

The challenges of working for two-and-a-half years with West African villagers to build sanitary public latrines and wells in the blistering heat of Ghana inspired Mark Pankoff to fine-tune his leadership and design skills by pursuing a career in architecture.

From an early age, Pankoff was interested in building, and he recalled spending hours puttering in his family's basement workshop. Later, he learned the fundamentals of construction through carpentry and roofing jobs, but it was not until he entered the Peace Corps that the experience came into focus.

"Overall, it increased my ability to analyze complex problems and weigh the solutions in relation to a very diverse set of factors," said Pankoff, who will graduate with a master's in architecture. "It also taught me the importance of listening to other people's perspectives and gave me insight into different levels of our human condition."

Keeping an open mind and learning how to mobilize others to achieve a common goal also were skills he learned working among the leaders of the rural Morso village, who, in the end, became his close friends.

"The biggest challenge was not imposing my own values on the projects. You have to let go of your preconceptions and work within their culture. You have to let the people decide what is best for them," he recalled.

As the village of Morso's leaders weighed their needs, Pankoff said he emphasized the benefits of sanitary conditions and stressed that community members could build wells and latrines themselves using readily available and affordable design techniques. As part of the educational component, he also spent time teaching school children about health issues. To

accomplish this, Pankoff had to learn the Ashanti regional dialect, called Twi.

"It was better than TV for them to see this goofy guy trying to talk Twi, but when I did, all of a sudden everyone was listening to me," he recalled.

Pankoff joined the Peace Corps — after receiving a bachelor's degree in economics from Colorado College in Colorado Springs in 1990 and spending a year doing carpentry — to give meaning to his work in the building trades and gain exposure to other cultures. At the end of his stint in Africa, he said he left with a keen sense of the importance of appropriate design and how it can positively affect people's lives.

Pankoff said he applied to Washington University's graduate program in architecture because of its excellent reputation and to be closer to his father, Lyn Pankoff, Ph.D., a professor of quantitative business analysis at the John M. Olin School of Business and recently named dean of the business school at Rochester Institute of Technology, and his mother, Mary Lee, an operations assistant for Unity Medical Group. In addition to his master's of architecture degree, he is pursuing a master's in construction management through the School of Engineering and Applied Science to round out his education with courses in estimating and scheduling, financial management and computer applications. He should receive that degree in August.

During his three-and-a-half years at the School of Architecture, Pankoff has acquired a firm understanding of design principles and the built environment. He not only has gained insight into the reasons behind the way things are built, but he has developed his own design processes.

"I am a generalist to the bone," he said. "I'm very interested in the art of making and how this informs the design process,



During his years in the Peace Corps, Mark Pankoff (left), a master's of architecture degree candidate, works with villagers in Ghana to install a well pump.

as well as how the designer can propose innovative solutions to traditional problems."

In the studio, Pankoff most enjoyed tackling a project to create a theoretical design for a new 500,000-square-foot East Terminal facility at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport. His interest in the project grew out of its multifaceted issues.

"It's all about problem-solving and critical thinking," he said. "You have to be able to zoom in and judge certain details of the project and then pull back out and understand how they relate to the whole."

Pankoff, who now is pursuing job prospects in construction management, said he is lured by the challenges of the overall management of a project.

"There is more to architecture than design. Architecture is a very complex organism," he said. "What attracts me is the challenge of continually learning as much about the entire process as possible — not only what is being built but, more importantly, how and why it is

being built. The more knowledge you can acquire, the better your designs will be."

Associate Professor of Architecture Paul Donnelly, AIA, who had Pankoff as a student, said that Pankoff sets a high standard for himself and that his designs are conceptually strong.

"One of the distinguishing features of Mark's work is the level of rigor he brings to it," Donnelly said. "He engages his insight into the underlying principles associated with building technology, and he develops his ideas as they relate to these governing principles. Ultimately, his work becomes intellectually based and elegant."

Architecture Dean Cynthia Weese, FAIA, said Pankoff has been an outstanding member of the graduate program.

"Mark has been a consistently thoughtful student and has contributed much to the tenor of the school," she said. "His experiences working in another culture gave focus and intensity to his graduate studies. We know he will make a fine contribution to the ever-changing architectural profession."

— Ann Nicholson

## Hernandez roots her burgeoning career in plant genetics

During her senior year of high school in Lima, Peru, Martha Hernandez cast her net throughout the United States in search of a school that was strong in biology, particularly plant biology. She applied to Northwestern University, Cornell University, the University of Pennsylvania and Rochester University, among others — and to Washington University. She kept her mother, Esther, and father, Carlos, a cardiologist in private practice, informed of every step she took.

After viewing videotapes of the different universities and carefully reading the literature, Hernandez chose Washington University because of its strength in plant genetics, the outstanding reputation of its plant scientists and geneticists and because of strong praise for the institution, especially from her high school chemistry teacher.

"When I told my parents I wanted to come to Washington University, my father was overjoyed," she said. "Then he explained that he'd worked here during the early '70s. He didn't let me know that because he didn't want to put any pressure on me. My mother said he had a hard time containing himself while I was making my decision."

Carlos Hernandez spent five years in St. Louis doing a residency in internal medicine at St. Luke's Hospital. During that time, he worked with Washington University doctors in related hypertension research. He worked with University doctors and professors and other St. Louis doctors as he concentrated on his medical specialty. During that time, the couple had three children: Martha and older siblings, Esther (who now attends St. Louis University) and Carlos, who works in Schenectady, N.Y. The family returned to Peru when Martha Hernandez was 2.

"I had no recollection of St. Louis when we lived here, and I visited one other time when I was just 8," she said. "I remember liking it, but as I was choosing the school, I never considered the possibility that my dad might have worked here."

Martha and her parents are extremely proud of the choice. She graduates this spring with better than a 3.5 overall average and with honors in biology.

"Ever since my sophomore year of high school, I took great interest in biology, especially in genetics," she related. "I'd tell my friends that I wanted to be a genetic engineer, not knowing what that really meant. When I got here, I didn't know what area of genetics I wanted to pursue until I took a few courses."

She took a variety of plant science courses her first three years, as well as all of the pre-med biology requirements. By her junior year, she was working with Barbara A. Schaal, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Biology in Arts and Sciences.

Schaal presented Hernandez with a research project on the phylogeny of the plant genus *Manihot*, mostly known for the species of cassava (*Manihot esculenta*). Cassava is most familiar to Americans as the plant that produces

tapioca. Throughout Latin America and much of Africa, the roots of cassava are a dietary staple, much as rice or potatoes are in other countries.

"I was drawn to the plant labs because I want to go back to Peru to help my country," Hernandez said. "Dr. Schaal offered me the opportunity to use sophisticated molecular tools, which can also be applied to crop improvement. The research undertaken in her

linamarase, and compared the DNA variation in species found in Mexico and Latin America. From this study, she has been able to make a tentative inference of the plant's origin.

"Further research still needs to be undertaken, but our results suggest South America as the source," Hernandez said.

Throughout the project, Hernandez worked closely with graduate student Ken Olsen, who works in Schaal's laboratory, as well as working with Schaal.

"Ken was my adviser, and Barbara was my mentor," she explained. "I'll always be grateful to Barbara for the research opportunity and the chance to work with her. The project was important to me because it gave me hands-on experience. It's one thing to think you want to do research and another to do it and find out it's not for you. I found out I loved it."

"Mentor" Schaal said of Hernandez: "She's just a wonderful young woman — the kind that you hope your daughter will grow up to be."

Hernandez plans to go on for her doctorate in plant genetics, but not immediately. She hopes to work at the International Potato Research Institute in Lima for a year before choosing a graduate school. She looks forward to her return home and offers an open invitation to her friends at the University.

"I've had a wonderful four years here, although I missed the Peruvian culture, food and dancing, among many things," she said. "I've made many friends, including Latin American students, but my closest friends are all Americans. I want them to make good on their promises to visit me in Peru."

— Tony Fitzpatrick



Martha Hernandez in the Jeanette Goldfarb Plant Growth Facility with her research interest: the cassava plant.

## NIH grant helps train students

Washington University has received a five-year \$750,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health to train graduate students in computational genome analysis.

According to David States, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of biomedical computing and director of the Institute of Biomedical Computing (IBC), the training grant is a reflection of the University's strengths in two hot scientific areas: computational molecular biology and genome analysis. Computational biology, also known as bioinformatics, integrates the power of molecular biology with sophisticated number-crunching to systematically analyze the complexities of living organisms.

A genome is the complete collection of an organism's genes. The information is encoded as a sequence of bases in the DNA molecules that make up chromosomes. Washington University, under the leadership of Robert Waterston, Ph.D., James S. McDonnell Professor of Genetics and head of the Department of Genetics, and David Schlessinger, Ph.D., professor of molecular microbiology, has been a world leader in mapping genes and genome sequencing. The data obtained from these mapping and sequencing projects need to be analyzed to be scientifically useful. Computational tools play an essential role in both coordinating large scale data acquisition and interpretation.

"We're very happy to get this training grant, which will enable us to bring in students with specific interests in an exciting new area of research," said States, who pursued the grant. "Bioinformatics as a field has exploded in the past two years, and Washington University has been recognized as one of the top three institutions in the country with this kind of expertise. It's good for us to be in the right place at the right time."

Washington University, the University of Washington and Stanford University generally are considered the leading universities in bioinformatics and computational biology, States said.

Much of the research provided by the grant involves the IBC. The IBC is affiliated with both the School of Medicine and the School of Engineering and Applied Science. Within the IBC, faculty active in the bioinformatics program include States, Michael Zuker, Ph.D., associate professor of biomedical computing in the IBC, Garland Marshall, Ph.D., professor of molecular biology and pharmacology, and Gregory V. Nikiforovich, Ph.D., research professor of biomedical computing.

Amid the breakthroughs in genetics over the past decade, Washington University researchers have become prominent for a number of advances. For instance, the Washington University Genome Sequencing Center (GSC), directed by Waterston in conjunction with its sister laboratory in Cambridge, England, is recognized as the most productive large-scale sequencing center in the world.

The Center for Genetics in Medicine (CGM), which like the GSC is funded by the National Institutes of Health, recently completed a unique, high-resolution map of the human X chromosome. According to States, genome activities at the GSC and CGM have served as a nucleus for recruiting faculty working on the analysis of molecular sequencing.

States cites research opportunities and collaboration and tight integration of computational and experimental work as factors that distinguish Washington University biomedical computing.

"The growth in biocomputing and the increasing importance of information science in the biotechnology industry make the field of bioinformatics an exciting new area for engineering applications in biomedicine," said States.

"Bioinformatics is a very attractive career option with tremendous opportunities for graduates to move into companies and the academic world," States said. "There is very strong interest among students from high school to graduate levels in computational biology, and now with the Engineering School's new biomedical engineering department, there are more opportunities than ever to pursue careers in computational biology."

— Tony Fitzpatrick



An artist's rendering of one of the new student residence halls currently under construction on the South 40.

## New construction ushers in residential college model — from page 1

a central University system, students now speak directly to their mechanic, with whom they interact day-to-day."

Along those same lines, in January, the University terminated a contracted housekeeping arrangement and established its own in-house service. Again, the goal being to implement the housekeepers as part of the community and heighten the sense of pride in that area. Early anecdotal returns from students have been overwhelmingly positive.

The most recent operational shift came in April. Three area coordinators — residential life staff members responsible for maintaining the residence halls, overseeing the student residential advisers and improving the quality of life for students — shifted their offices from Wohl Student Center to their respective halls. A fourth area coordinator will follow suit over the summer.

That move triggers another key component of the plan: student-faculty contact. In addition to increasing interaction with staff members such as mechanics, housekeepers and residential college coordinators, a concerted effort is being made to draw faculty members across Forsyth Boulevard. Some programs already are in place, such as the successful Faculty Associates pilot that paired six professors with freshman floors on Liggett and Koenig halls for periodic get-

togethers. Other gap-bridging program proposals, both formal and informal, are in various stages of discussion.

A substantial step will be taken, in all likelihood during the fall of 1998, when a faculty member is slated to take an apartment in a South 40 residence hall. Ultimately, the plan is to introduce a live-in faculty member — in theory as many as 12 — to each residential college.

That segment of the blueprint will coincide with the construction of reconfigured facilities that include spaces such as apartments, seminar rooms, activity lounges, study spaces and computer areas. The first new cluster of residence halls — the trio to be located on the south end of the South 40 — is scheduled for completion next January.

In addition, plans for four additional structures have been approved by the City of Clayton's Planning and Zoning Commission. Final approval by the Clayton Board of Aldermen is pending. Two of those four buildings would be located in the area between Kelly Field and Alumni House and are scheduled to be operational by fall 1998. The other two structures would replace Shepley and Eliot halls, which would be demolished. The time frame for that project has not been finalized.

These new residential colleges will include both an all-freshman community,

where students will live in a double room, and suite-style living arrangements for sophomores, juniors and seniors. All rooms and suites are designed to open up into a common corridor.

Most notably, students would have the option of returning year-to-year to the same residential college.

"Eventually, when you come to Washington University as a new student, you will read a description about each residential college," Carroll said. "And, over time, they will develop traditions and history that will be unique. Perhaps one will be known for its involvement in community service and volunteer activities, for example. One of them might be a group of students that's more involved in environmental issues or wellness. We want to let these traditions develop naturally."

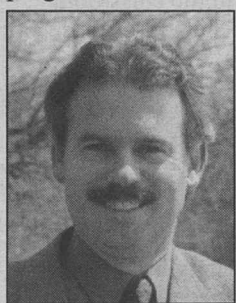
"Right now, living on the South 40, one building is not necessarily distinguishable from any other," Carroll concluded. "We want to be able to have this total community — but within it, we want to offer unique and distinctive living areas that promote a variety of education and living/learning opportunities. The smaller colleges should facilitate more interaction and a greater feeling of 'connectedness' with the University."

— David Moessner

## John Hoal leads Forest Park renovation master plan

On its 100th anniversary of hosting the 1904 World's Fair, a revitalized Forest Park should be ready to meet the recreational and cultural needs of the new millennium — thanks to a \$200 million master plan designed by Visiting Assistant Professor of Architecture John Hoal.

Head of the School of Architecture's Master of Architecture and Urban Design program, Hoal led a 20-person team in



John Hoal

developing a master plan for improvements to the park's natural systems, cultural institutions and other facilities. In his role as director of urban design for the St. Louis Development Corporation, Hoal guided the project team of naturalists, water conservationists, landscape architects, ecologists, civil engineers, soil and water specialists, architects, park managers and recreational planners who analyzed and designed Forest Park's renovations. He now is assisting with fundraising and overseeing implementation of the plan, which was the result of an intensive two-year, community-based design process.

The 200-page master plan document spells out goals for the park and addresses major issues such as flooding and erosion, conflicting uses (including the golf course running through the Grand Basin), accessibility and confusing internal roadways, inadequate parking, crumbling infrastructure, unhealthy waterways, institutional expansion and cooperation, and long-term funding.

"It has been an amazing and rewarding experience to work on a project like this and take it from the point of conception — where people couldn't believe there ever would be agreement on the park's future — to having the whole community behind this plan," Hoal said. "It's really an example of what the design process

can do. If you create the appropriate shared vision, people will respond."

Since the document's completion in December 1995, the master plan has received several awards, including a 1996 Honor Award from the St. Louis chapter of the American Institute of Architects, an honorable mention in the 1996 Missouri American Planning Association Awards, an Award of Excellence from the St. Louis chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, and an honorable mention in the National League of Cities James Howland Awards for Urban Enrichment.

The improvements to Forest Park not only will increase its stature regionally but will offer enhanced recreational and educational opportunities to one of its closest neighbors, Washington University, Hoal said.

Highlights of the plan include a jogging path adjacent to the current bike path, an art walk with outdoor statues, restoration of the water system allowing for boating and fishing, areas designed to attract wildlife and showcase a variety of

ecosystems, historical sites referencing the World's Fair and restoration of the Grand Basin and Post-Dispatch Lake.

No long-term goals ever had been set for Forest Park, despite previous attempts.

"It was the first time in the history of the park that the board passed such a resolution. It was a huge step," Hoal said.

"Apart from securing its future as the region's major public gathering space for families and the community at large, the plan supports and increases the park's educational role, encompassing ecology, wildlife and zoo animals, history, art, science and performing arts," he said.

"We want to break down the walls of the institutions in the park, so that when people see an 18th-century painting in the art museum, they can walk out and view a comparable landscape, or when people learn about the environment and ecology at the science center, they can observe a living ecosystem in the park," Hoal continued. "The future role of the park for the entire region is new, exciting and endless."

— Ann Nicholson

## 22nd Annual Staff Day set for May 19

Oil up those gloves, stretch those muscles, put on those walking shoes or just get ready for a relaxing, fun day with your co-workers. The 22nd annual Staff Day to celebrate the contributions of Hilltop Campus staff and administrative personnel is set for Monday, May 19.

A wide variety of activities, ranging from volleyball to campus tours to golf at Forest Park, has been organized for the day, along with a staff service awards and recognition ceremony and, as always, a free luncheon.

"The annual Staff Day celebration is set aside for the University to recognize the important contributions of our administration and staff to the success of Washington University," said Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. "This year's

event is special because it will be the final Staff Day celebrated under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Gloria White, who retires at the end of June. I hope everyone will come to the festivities and have a wonderful time." White is vice chancellor for human resources.

Wrighton will launch the event by hosting the recognition ceremony. Assisted by the University's vice chancellors, Wrighton will present staff service awards at 10:30 a.m. in Edison Theatre. Afterwards, staff members will gather in Bowles Plaza for lunch.

Games, activities and an arts-and-crafts exhibit will be offered from 1 to 3 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, Staff Day will be held in Mallinckrodt Center. For more information, call (314) 935-5990.

## Carl Phillips, Barbara Schaal named Guggenheim Fellows

Two Washington University faculty members have been named Guggenheim Fellows for the 1997-98 academic year.

The recipients are Carl Phillips, associate professor of English and of African and Afro-American studies, and director of the Creative Writing Program in Arts and Sciences; and Barbara A. Schaal, Ph.D., professor of biology and chair of the Department of Biology in Arts and Sciences, and professor of genetics at the School of Medicine.

Guggenheim Fellows are appointed on the basis of unusually distinguished achievement in the past and exceptional promise for future accomplishment.

"I am delighted that these two fine faculty members have received this richly deserved recognition," said Edward S. Macias, Ph.D., executive vice chancellor and dean of Arts and Sciences. "In addition to their outstanding research and creative endeavors, both Barbara and Carl are excellent classroom teachers and hard-working, effective Arts and Sciences leaders. We are all enriched by their presence here."

Phillips is an award-winning poet and teacher who has published two books of poems: "In the Blood," the recipient of the 1992 Samuel French Morse Poetry Prize; and "Cortege," a finalist for a 1995 National Book Critics Circle Award. A third collection, "From the Devotions," is slated for publication next January.

Phillips writes of dreams and desires,

relationships and redemption. His work has been described as inventive and homoerotic, infused with a classical richness.

Robert Pinsky, the U.S. poet laureate, called Phillips "a tremendously gifted poet" with the "unmistakable voice and subject, rhythm and cadence of an original writer."

The Guggenheim award will allow Phillips some course release time to research the roles of poets in relation to their works, particularly in the light of divine visitation claimed by the ancient poets.



Carl Phillips

"Seamus Heaney speaks of poets as those who have one foot in the heavens, another in the soil," explained Phillips, citing Virgil's "Georgics" as well as Hesiod's "Theogony" and "Works and Days."

Phillips also will revisit and translate poems by ancient writers — Archilochus in particular — who may not consciously have explored the vatic-secular relationship in their work but in which this connection is clearly operative.

Schaal has studied hosts of plant species ranging from oak trees to Mead's milkweed, a Midwestern prairie plant. She applies molecular genetic techniques

such as polymerase chain reaction (PCR), DNA sequencing and DNA fingerprinting to the study of plant evolution, with special emphasis on native (non-crop)



Barbara A. Schaal

species, some of them endangered. Schaal will take a sabbatical year's leave of absence to study evolutionary genetics in the plant, *Manihot*, a neo-tropical genus of some 98 described species. Her research will focus on the tempo and mode of evolution at species boundaries and the nature and course of domestication of cassava, a cultivated *Manihot*. Schaal and her colleagues will employ powerful molecular techniques new to plant analysis such as microsatellite loci and coalescence theory, both highly sophisticated methods of population analysis.

Schaal will travel to Brazil and Colombia to collect plants and to collaborate with colleagues. Part of her time will be spent at Washington University working on the project with graduate students.

Phillips and Schaal are among 167 artists, scholars and scientists selected from 2,876 applicants. Fellowship awards for 1997 total \$4,890,000. The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation marks its 73rd year of sponsoring the annual competition.

## Denise Ward-Brown receives Fulbright Award to study in Ghana

Denise Ward-Brown, associate professor of art, has received a Fulbright Scholar Award to study various architectural design patterns in Ghana, Africa. Ward-Brown will begin her nine-month sabbatical in the West African nation starting in August.

"I'm very excited," said Ward-Brown, noting that she is looking forward to the many unknown challenges and surprises of living in Africa. "All the references to who I've been in the past are starting to fall away. I'm beginning to do something that I have no reference



Denise Ward-Brown

for — something that will probably change my life forever. And I don't know how, yet."

Fulbright scholarships pay travel expenses and a stipend to about 1,800 college students and faculty each year, allowing them to spend an academic year studying or conducting research in another country.

Ward-Brown, a well-known sculptor and area coordinator of the sculpture program in the School of Art, will live

in the northern part of Ghana. There, she will study various design patterns of the traditional adobe dwellings.

Ward-Brown approaches her study with two basic premises, the first being that pattern is the dominant element that pervades the African diaspora. "This pattern," she said, "is found not only in the visual art work, but it is found in dance and music — specifically rap music, gospel music, and rhythm and blues."

The second premise is that the way people live can tell a lot about how they view themselves — and that the people of northern Ghana live in close harmony with their environment. "The adobe architecture in northern Ghana is very organic and it changes when necessary," Ward-Brown explained. "When an aunt or uncle comes to live, they build on a new section. I want to look into these patterns to try and find out how they see themselves in the entire cosmos."

Ward-Brown often has used themes drawn from Africa in her own work, including a series of sculptures that were part of a 1995 solo "Currents" exhibition at The Saint Louis Art Museum. The series of triangular, rough-hewn, wooden sculptures created out of old doors and propped up with glass bottles memorialized those who

died on the Middle Passage, the name of the slave trade route from Africa to America.

Ward-Brown expects the experience in Africa to offer her new inspiration for future work. She plans to do drawings and small paper sculptures while there. Upon return, she said, "I'll probably start making work dealing with the ideas I encountered and probably will have some shows based on the information I discovered."

Joe Deal, dean of the School of Art, said that Ward-Brown's project is a great example of how a faculty artist's own creative research can be advanced and, at the same time, give something back to the students and, ultimately, to the community.

"What Denise will learn during her leave while on the Fulbright will be an important contribution to the understanding of another culture," Deal said. "She will bring this knowledge back to St. Louis and share it in the classroom and through the work she will produce here. It is a great and a very well-deserved opportunity."

## Spector Prize given to three biology students

Three graduating seniors in the Department of Biology in Arts and Sciences have been named recipients of the Marion Smith Spector Prize in Biology for 1997.

The winners are Nathan Lepp, Tanuj Nakra and Amy Ripperger. Their thesis work was judged the best among research done by 21 honors biology graduates. The winners presented research talks at a special departmental seminar on April 28, and also were honored at a Wednesday, May 14, reception for all honors biology students.

The Spector Prize, which originated in 1974, is an annual award for academic excellence and outstanding undergraduate achievement. It was established in memory of Spector, a 1938 graduate of Washington University who worked and studied under Viktor Hamburger, Ph.D., now the Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished Professor Emeritus of biology in Arts and Sciences.

Lepp worked in the laboratory of Allan Larson, Ph.D., associate professor of biology. Lepp's project was titled "Molecular Phylogenetic Analysis of the New World Monkey Genus *Saimiri*." He analyzed DNA sequences from five *Saimiri* and several other monkey species to determine the phylogenetic relationships between them. His is the

## Mellon Fellowships reflect excellence

One senior and two recent graduates have been awarded 1997 Andrew W. Mellon Fellowships in Humanistic Studies through the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation.

Graduating senior Christopher Brummer, a German major in Arts and Sciences, joins 1996 graduate Micah Auerback, a double-major in history and religious studies in Arts and Sciences, and 1995 graduate E. Ananda Martin, who majored in both history and Japanese in Arts and Sciences, in receiving three of the 85 fellowships awarded this year by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

In the past 15 years, more than 1,500 Mellon Fellowships have been given to college seniors and recent graduates of outstanding promise, with the objective of encouraging and assisting them to join the humanities faculties of America's colleges and universities. Nearly 500 of them have gone on to earn doctoral degrees.

The \$13,750 stipend, plus tuition and fees, provide the fellows financial support for the first year of graduate study at any U.S. or Canadian graduate school.

Brummer will attend Princeton University to pursue a master's degree and a doctorate in Germanic languages and literatures. Auerback, who currently is studying in Japan on a Fulbright Scholarship, also will attend graduate school at Princeton, working toward a doctorate in religion. Martin will pursue a doctorate in Japanese history at Columbia University in New York.

To date, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has committed more than \$61 million in support of these fellowships. The 1997 fellows were selected from nearly 800 applicants. The winners include 53 women and 42 men.

While it is an honor for a university to have even one Mellon Fellow named from its recent graduates, the selection of three fellows from Washington University is particularly noteworthy, said James E. McLeod, vice chancellor for students and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

"It is wonderful that Ananda, Christopher and Micah will be Mellon Fellows in the Humanities," McLeod said. "It is not a surprise. We have excellent faculty and students in the humanities here. Our students receive a first-rate education. These awards recognize that."

## Obituaries

### Charles Matthew Espiritu, psychology major

Charles Matthew "Matt" Espiritu, a junior majoring in psychology in Arts and Sciences, died Thursday, May 1, 1997, at his apartment near the University after a valiant two-and-a-half-year battle with cancer. He was 21.

Espiritu's father, Nick, said his son felt well enough to go to a baseball game Monday, April 28, but later began a decline, slipping into a coma Wednesday.

Espiritu's struggle with cancer began in 1994 during a Christmas break from his studies at Tulane University in New Orleans. After complaining of a lump at the base of his neck, he was diagnosed with testicular cancer.

He underwent chemotherapy and two stem-cell transplants and then decided to resume his studies at Washington University last fall. His devotion to education was so fervent that he would stay off his painkillers so that he could take exams. He got an A- on a photography final he took only

hours before going to the game and had two more exams slated for the week.

"Amazingly, Matt never displayed any bitterness or anger — or even frustration with his situation," said his academic adviser, Warren Davis, assistant dean in the College of Arts and Sciences. "He was very focused on his studies and very much wanted to graduate."

Espiritu was born and reared in St. Louis. He was a three-year varsity football player at St. Louis Priory High School and ran track for two years.

Among the survivors are his mother, Joyce K. Hallmark of St. Louis; his father and stepmother, Nick C. and Cathy J. Espiritu of Chesterfield; two step-sisters, Jill Espiritu of San Diego and Jennifer Espiritu of St. Ann, Mo.; and three sets of grandparents.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 4207 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO, 63108.

# Calendar

Visit Washington University's on-line calendar at  
<http://cf6000.wustl.edu/calendar/events/v1.1>

**May 15–June 14**



## Exhibitions

**Bachelor of Fine Arts Undergraduate Thesis Show.** Through May 16. Gallery of Art, upper and lower galleries, Steinberg Hall. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays; 1 to 5 p.m. weekends. 935-4523.

**"Counter Perceptions: The Shaping of Our Culture."** A student-curated exhibition of works from the WU art collection. Through May 16. Gallery of Art, lower gallery, Steinberg Hall. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays; 1 to 5 p.m. weekends. 935-4523.

**"Curtain Time: Student Performing Arts at Washington University."** Through May 30. Special Collections, level five, Olin Library. Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. 935-5495.

**"Dream City: Viennese Medicine as a Benchmark for St. Louis Physicians."** Exhibit of photographs, rare books and documents on the scientific developments of late 19th-century Vienna. Drawn from the School of Medicine's collections and archives. Through Aug. 29. Glaser Gallery, seventh floor, The Bernard Becker Medical Library. 362-7080.

**Photography Thesis Exhibition.** Through May 23. The Design Center, 917 Locust St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. 621-6446.

**"In the Beauty of Holiness."** The artistry of 650 years of prayer books and devotional literature. Exhibit runs June 2 through Aug. 22. Special Collections, level five, Olin Library. Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. 935-5495.

**The Third Anne F. Dillon Faculty/Family Art Show.** Exhibit runs from June 3 through 26. Kenton Faculty Center, 660 S. Euclid Ave. Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays; 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays. 362-8252.



## Lectures

### Thursday, May 15

**4 p.m. Cancer Center lecture.** "Cellular Signaling by Tyrosine Phosphorylation," Joseph Schlessinger, the Milton and Helen Kimmelman prof. and chair, Dept. of Pharmacology, New York University Medical Center. Third Floor Aud., St. Louis Children's Hospital. 747-0359.

### Friday, May 16

**7:30 p.m. Earth and planetary sciences lecture.** "Older Than the Universe? — The Oldest Stars," Matt Visser, research asst.

prof. of physics. Room 162 McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg. 935-4614.

### Monday, May 19

**Noon. Molecular biology and pharmacology seminar.** "Molecular Anatomy of a Light-Sensitive Circadian Clock in *Drosophila*," Michael W. Young, prof. and head, Laboratory of Genetics, Rockefeller U., New York. Needleman Library, Room 3907 South Bldg. 362-7078.

**4 p.m. Biostatistics seminar.** "Meta-analysis: Don't Let the Lack of Data Keep You From Publishing," Michael A. Province, assoc. prof. of biostatistics. Biostatistics Library, Room 1112 Old Shriner's Bldg., 706 S. Euclid Ave. 362-3614.

**4 p.m. Immunology seminar.** "IL-15: A Pleiotropic Cytokine With Diverse Receptor/Signaling Pathways Whose Expression is Controlled at the Level of Translation," Thomas A. Waldmann, chief, metabolism branch, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Md. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 362-8748.

### Wednesday, May 21

**6:30 a.m. Anesthesiology Grand Rounds.** "Atrial Flutter Following Congenital Heart Disease: Clinical Implications From a Canine Model," Burt I. Bromberg, asst. prof. of pediatrics. Wohl Hospital Bldg. Aud., 4960 Children's Place. 362-6978.

**6:30 a.m. Orthopaedic surgery case presentation and lecture.** The Arthur H. Stein Jr. Visiting Professor Lecture. "Fractures of the Distal Radius," Andrew J. Weiland, prof. of orthopaedic and plastic surgery, Cornell U. Medical College, New York. Scarpellino Aud., first floor, Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, 510 S. Kingshighway Blvd. 747-2562.

**8 a.m. Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds.** "Quality Improvement Process," James A. Bartelsmeyer, asst. prof. of obstetrics and gynecology. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 362-3143.

### Thursday, May 22

**4 p.m. Cancer Center lecture.** "New Approaches and New Agents for Chemoprevention of Cancer," Michael B. Sporn, prof. of pharmacology and medicine, Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, N. H. Third Floor Aud., St. Louis Children's Hospital. 747-0359.

### Wednesday, May 28

**6:30 a.m. Anesthesiology Grand Rounds.** "Unique Anesthesia Needs for Plastic Surgery of the Head," Jeffrey L. Marsh, assoc. prof. of pediatrics, prof. of radiology and prof. of surgery, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Wohl Hospital Bldg. Aud., 4960 Children's Place. 362-6978.

**8 a.m. Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds.** "Pelvic Trauma," Michele Ibrahim, chief resident in obstetrics and gynecology. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 362-3143.

### Thursday, May 29

**4 p.m. Cancer Center lecture.** "Tissue-Specific Targeting and Expression of Genes in Cancer Cells," Yvet Wai Kan, Louis K. Diamond Professor, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, U. of California, San Francisco. Third Floor Aud., St. Louis Children's Hospital. 747-0359.

### Monday, June 2

**4 p.m. Biostatistics seminar.** "Multivariate Linkage Analysis Using Sibships," Alexandre A. Todorov, research instructor of biostatistics. Biostatistics Library, Room 1112 Old Shriner's Bldg., 706 S. Euclid Ave. 362-3614.

**4 p.m. Immunology seminar.** "Developing a Murine Model for Gamma-Herpes Virus," Herbert W. Virgin IV, asst. prof. of medicine, of molecular microbiology and of pathology; and Samuel Speck, assoc. prof. of molecular microbiology and of pathology. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 362-8748.

### Wednesday, June 4

**6:30 a.m. Anesthesiology Grand Rounds.** Topic to be announced. Kevin Tremper, prof. and chair, Dept. of Anesthesiology, U. of Michigan. Wohl Hospital Bldg. Aud., 4960 Children's Place. 362-6978.

### Monday, June 9

**4 p.m. Immunology seminar.** "Regulation of the Immune Response by the FAS System: A Lesson From the Privileged," Thomas A. Ferguson, assoc. prof. of pathology and of ophthalmology and visual sciences. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 362-8748.

### Wednesday, June 11

**6:30 a.m. Anesthesiology Grand Rounds.** Topic and speaker to be announced. Wohl Hospital Bldg. Aud., 4960 Children's Place. 362-6978.

**7:30 a.m. Orthopaedic surgery lecture.** First Annual Alumni Day. "Evaluation and Management of Hallux Valgus Deformities," Roger Mann, clinical prof. of orthopaedic surgery, U. of California, San Francisco. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 747-2562.

**11:30 a.m. Orthopaedic surgery lecture.** First Annual Alumni Day (continued). "Management and Complications of Hallux Valgus Surgery," Roger Mann, clinical prof. of orthopaedic surgery, U. of California, San Francisco. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 747-2562.



## Music

### Saturday, May 17

**8 p.m. Contemporary music recital.** Pffl, a flute and piano duo, will present a program prior to their South American tour. Betsy Feldman, flute, and Timothy Vincent Clark, piano. Steinberg Hall Aud. Cost: \$10. 935-4841.

### Tuesday, May 27

**8 p.m. Music concert.** "Fiddlers' Three." Features Alison Harney, Elisa Barston and John McGrosso. Steinberg Hall Aud. 935-4841.



## Performances

### Friday, May 30

**8 p.m. DunhamFest.** A collaborative celebration of dance and music to benefit the Katherine Dunham Centers for Arts and Humanities. (Also May 31, same time.) Features performances by the Katherine Dunham Children's Workshop; East St. Louis community and dance groups; and the university dance companies of U. of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana; Southern Illinois U., Edwardsville; Washington U.; and Webster U. Edison Theatre. Cost: \$20 for preferred seating; and \$12 and \$10 for students and senior citizens. 935-6543.



## Miscellany

### Friday, May 16

**Bike to Work Day.** All employees and students of the medical center are encouraged to try biking to work as an alternative form of commuting for the day. Sponsored by the Transportation Management Association. 747-0706.

**7-10 p.m. The 23rd annual Internal Medicine Review (continued).** The topics are general medicine and dermatology. Steinberg Amphitheater, 216 S. Kingshighway Blvd. 362-6891.

### Tuesday, May 20

**6 p.m. Hillel Center event.** "End-of-the-year Event! A Night at the Ball Park." Meet at Hillel Center, 6300 Forsyth Blvd. Cost: \$11. Call Steve Fineman at 367-1969.

### Saturday, May 31

**Benefit walk for the Arthritis Foundation.** "Joint Parade" is a kickoff event to benefit the new Center for Arthritis and Related Diseases in the School of Medicine. Hosted by the Eastern Missouri Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation. Forest Park. For more info. and to register, call Lorraine Whiteley at 362-9075.

### Wednesday, June 4

**Economic botany conference.** "The Ethnobotanical Richness of the Mississippi River Basin, Past, Present and Future." The conference features formal lectures in May Aud., Simon Hall; talks and discussions at the Missouri Botanical Garden; and field trips. Conference continues through June 8. For more info. and to register, call 935-6059 or e-mail to SEBCONF@wustlb.wustl.edu.

## Edison Theatre announces special 25th anniversary OVATIONS! season

Start with the spice of living-legend jazz drummer Max Roach; add a splash of the exotic with the Vietnamese Water Puppets; mix in the passionate movement of dancer Twyla Tharp; stir with the zany antics of Paul Zaloom's "Beakman's World"; and heat to a socially conscious boil with the Trinity Repertory Company's "Fires in the Mirror." Then, serve with a generous helping of other cultural treats, and you get the 1997-98 Edison Theatre's 25th anniversary OVATIONS! season.

Washington University's Edison Theatre has gone all out to create a special season to mark this milestone anniversary, notes Evy Warshawski, director of Edison. "It's a celebration of the arts in

every way," she said. "We've booked some incredible events this year, not only new to Edison, but new to St. Louis."

The upcoming season lives up to Edison's long standing tradition of presenting unique and diverse performing arts groups to St. Louis audiences. The 1997-98 season once again will offer an eclectic blend of world-class performances in dance, music and theater.

This season features 15 events, the largest number ever. All will appear as part of the OVATIONS! series to help focus the series and give it a stronger identity, Warshawski said.

Looking to the future, Warshawski has organized a theater advisory group made up of Washington University faculty,

students and community members to develop new ideas and address the challenges of maintaining a first-class series.

The season follows:

- Sept. 12 -13: Max Roach, solo drums
- Sept. 26-28: Jazz Tap Ensemble
- Oct. 18: Malcolm Bilson, fortepiano
- Oct. 24-25: The Bobs, a four-member a cappella group
- Oct. 31, Nov. 1: Thang Long Water Puppet Theater of Vietnam
- Dec. 6: Bread and Puppet Theater
- Jan. 30, 31, Feb. 1: Sharing an Evening of Solo Dance: Margie Gillis/Peggy Baker
- Feb. 13, 14: Cirque Éloize, a modern circus troupe from Montreal

• Feb. 21, 22: Trinity Repertory Company in "Fires in the Mirror: Crown Heights, Brooklyn and Other Identities"

• Feb. 28, March 1: Tharp! New Works by Twyla Tharp, a modern dance company

• March 13: Paul Zaloom in the monologue, "Sick But True"

• March 14: Paul Zaloom in "Beakman's World"

• March 25: Paco de Lucia Sextet

• April 17, 18: Hystopolis Productions in "Ubu Roi"

• April 25: Mahlathini and the Mahotella Queens, accompanied by the Makgona Tsohle Band

For more information or a season brochure, call (314) 935-6543.

## Three new members named to the WU Board of Trustees

At its meeting on May 2, the Washington University Board of Trustees elected three new board members: James H. Hance Jr., vice chairman and chief financial officer of NationsBank Corp. of Charlotte, N.C.; Karen E. Jennings, president of Southwestern Bell-Missouri; and Harold A. Ramis, filmmaker and co-owner of Ocean Pictures, a Los Angeles-based company with offices in Highland Park, Ill.

Hance's career began with a 17-year stint as a public accountant with Price Waterhouse. He later became part owner of a catering company formerly owned by Coca-Cola Bottling Co. and was instrumental in helping the company realize a 300 percent increase in profits during his one year of leadership. After selling the company, he became executive vice president with NationsBank and went on to become chief financial officer and vice chairman.

Hance received a graduate degree in business from Washington University in 1968 after receiving his bachelor's degree from Westminster College in Fulton, Mo. He has been active in many University activities, including serving as an Olin Cup judge, a matching gift representative and a scholarship sponsor for the business school's Scholars in Business program. His civic and volunteer activities include holding the positions of chairman of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, member of Duke University's Fuqua School of Business Board of Visitors, and chairman of the Presbyterian Hospital and Presbyterian Health Services Corp.

As president of Southwestern Bell-Missouri, a subsidiary of SBC Communications, Inc., Jennings is responsible for all regulatory, legislative and external affairs for the company that provides telephone services and products to more than 10 million business and residential customers in Missouri. Prior to her current position, she was chairwoman of the SBC Foundation, the philanthropic entity of SBC Communications. She also served as chairwoman of SBC Asset Management Inc. and was

associate vice president of the Chairman's Office for SBC Communications. She joined Southwestern Bell in 1972.

Jennings received a bachelor's degree from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and also completed executive development programs at Northeastern University in Boston and the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She serves as a director of Commerce Bank of St. Louis and is active in many civic organizations, including Greater St. Louis Area Boy Scouts, the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association and the St. Louis Variety Club. She was a member of St. Louis Mayor Freeman Bosley's Panel for Developing St. Louis.

Ramis is an internationally recognized screenwriter, producer, director and actor. His first film, 1979's "Animal House," broke box-office records. From screenwriting, he moved into acting and directing and is probably best known for his role as parapsychologist "Egon Spengler" in "Ghostbusters" and its sequel, which he co-wrote with co-star Dan Aykroyd. Ramis also co-wrote, co-produced and directed the 1993 film "Groundhog Day." Ramis and film producer Trevor Albert formed Ocean Pictures in the mid-1980s; the company's most recent film was "Multiplicity," starring Michael Keaton. The film was produced, directed and written by Ramis and Albert.

Ramis received a bachelor's degree from Washington University in 1966 and an honorary doctor of arts in 1993. In 1991, he was vice chairman of his class reunion gift committee and was given a Distinguished Alumni Award in 1988. He is a member of the St. Louis Film Partnership Advisory Board, the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, the Screen Actors Guild, the Writers Guild of America and the Directors Guild of America. He is interested in medical research and has supported such organizations as the American Foundation for AIDS Research, the National Neurofibromatosis Foundation, and Doctors Without Borders.

## Music and ceremony mark graduation — from page 1

will celebrate their 50th reunion — have been invited to march in the procession.

The program will begin with music by the Mighty Mississippi Concert Band of St. Louis, directed by Dan R. Presgrave, director of instrumental ensembles and lecturer in the Department of Music in Arts and Sciences. Stacia Marie Thiel, a graduate student in the music department, will sing "America the Beautiful." Following the music, Wrighton and William H. Danforth, chairman of the Board of Trustees, will welcome the graduates.

Wrighton then will introduce Palmer for the Commencement address.

Palmer, prime minister of New Zealand from 1989 to 1990, first entered the New Zealand Parliament in 1979 as a member of the opposition and quickly rose to a leadership position in the Labor Party. He served in a number of key positions when the Labor Party came to power, including attorney general and minister of justice, minister for the environment, leader of the House of Representatives, deputy prime minister and prime minister.

He has achieved distinction for both his decade of political service and for his legal scholarship in New Zealand, the British Commonwealth and the United States. A founding partner of the Wellington, New Zealand, law firm

Chen & Palmer, he was instrumental in crafting his country's plan for no-fault compensation for personal injuries, replacing the tort system that was considered costly, ineffective and inequitable. He also is recognized in the South Pacific for his leadership on global environmental issues and his efforts to develop a sustained environment while creating a dynamic economy in New Zealand.

Following Palmer's address, Wrighton, assisted by members of the Board of Trustees, will confer the honorary degrees upon Palmer, Daughaday, Eberle, Tao and Winter.

Jaime Sherman, senior class president, will give the student Commencement greeting.

Wrighton then will confer the academic degrees, assisted by the deans of each of the schools and Edward S. Macias, Ph.D., executive vice chancellor and dean of Arts and Sciences. After this, Wrighton will deliver his message to the Class of 1997.

Kareah Garrison, a 1997 candidate for graduation from the music department, will conclude the ceremony by singing the alma mater.

Following the ceremony, the various schools will hold their receptions. (See "Commencement Week" on this page for reception times and locations.)

to get out and meet with people from various segments of the community and to share ideas has been a lot of fun."

Now in the midst of applying for creative positions in Atlanta-area advertising agencies, the advertising design major emphasizes that her education will extend beyond the borders of the Hilltop. "There are professors who have given me so much inspiration that I know will stick with me for a very long time. I'm sure I'll hear their voices in the back of my head every time I go to design something."

— David Moessner

## 136th Commencement — Order of Exercises

8:30 a.m. Friday, May 16, Brookings Quadrangle

### Academic Procession

The audience will please remain seated while the academic procession enters Brookings Quadrangle.

### The Mighty Mississippi Concert Band of St. Louis

Directed by Dan Presgrave, director of instrumental ensembles and lecturer in music

### "America the Beautiful"

Stacia Marie Thiel, graduate student in music

### Remarks

William H. Danforth, chairman of the Board of Trustees

### Commencement Address

The Right Honorable Sir Geoffrey Winston Russell Palmer, former prime minister of New Zealand, partner of Chen & Palmer, Barristers and Solicitors, Wellington, New Zealand

### Conferral of Honorary Degrees

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton

Assisted by members of the Board of Trustees

Honorary degree recipients: The Right Honorable Sir Geoffrey Winston Russell Palmer; William H. Daughaday, M.D.; George Eberle Jr.; William K.Y. Tao; and Mildred M. Winter.

(See story on page 1 for more information about the honorary degree recipients.)

### Remarks

Jaime Sherman, senior class president

### Conferral of Academic Degrees

Chancellor Wrighton

Assisted by Edward S. Macias, Ph.D., executive vice chancellor and dean of Arts and Sciences

### The Chancellor's Message to the 1997 Graduates

### "Alma Mater"

Kareah Garrison, 1997 graduate in music

### Recession

The audience will please remain seated until the recession has left the quadrangle.

## Commencement Week

For more information on events, call the Commencement hotline at (314) 935-4355.

### Thursday, May 15

**11 a.m. Eliot Honors Convocation.** Recognition ceremony for honor students, family and friends. Field House, Athletic Complex.

**2 p.m. School of Engineering and Applied Science Recognition Ceremony for Undergraduates.** Field House, Athletic Complex.

**4:30 p.m. College of Arts and Sciences Recognition Ceremony.** Field House, Athletic Complex.

**8 p.m. School of Art Recognition Ceremony.** Graham Chapel.

### Friday, May 16 — 136th Commencement

**8 a.m.** Degree candidates assemble.

**8:30 a.m.** Commencement exercises in Brookings Quadrangle. (See the Order of Exercises on this page.)

### The following programs begin immediately following the Commencement ceremony:

#### College of Arts and Sciences

Diploma distribution and reception in the Sally E. Strain Courtyard, behind the psychology building. Rain location: Women's Building Dance Studio.

#### University College

Diploma distribution and reception in Women's Building Lounge.

#### Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Hooding and recognition ceremony in Edison Theatre, reception follows in The Gallery and The Gargoyle, lower level, Mallinckrodt Center.

#### School of Engineering and Applied Science

Diploma distribution in 324 Lopata Hall, reception follows in Lopata Gallery and Lopata Plaza between Jolley and Cupples II halls.

#### School of Architecture

Diploma ceremony on front lawn of Givens Hall. Rain location: Steinberg Hall Auditorium. Reception follows in Givens Hall.

#### John M. Olin School of Business

Diploma ceremony in Field House, Athletic Complex. Reception follows in Simon Hall.

#### School of Art

Diploma distribution and reception on Steinberg Hall terrace. Rain location: Gallery of Art, Steinberg Hall.

#### George Warren Brown School of Social Work

Diploma ceremony in Graham Chapel, reception follows on the east lawn of Brown Hall. Rain location: Brown Lounge.

#### Program in Occupational Therapy

Reception in Holmes Lounge, diploma ceremony follows in Graham Chapel.

### The following program begins at noon:

#### Health Administration Program

Diploma ceremony in the Carl V. Moore Auditorium, reception follows in the M. Kenton King Faculty Center, The Bernard Becker Medical Library.

### The following program begins at 12:15 p.m.:

#### School of Law

Diploma ceremony in Brookings Quadrangle. Rain location: Field House, Athletic Complex. Reception follows in Anheuser-Busch Hall.

### The following program begins at 3 p.m.:

#### School of Medicine

The Senior Program in the Lecture Hall of America's Center, Downtown St. Louis.

## Student speaker reflects on her tenure — from page 1

"Yes, when I ran for re-election, people *did* actually vote for me!" she said with a laugh. "I broke double digits — it was exciting."

Her accomplishments include the complete revamping of the art school's peer advising program; the bolstering of programming and financing for the Fine Arts Council, which she co-chaired last year; and the organization of numerous senior class events and functions.

Regarding her role as class president, Sherman said, "I really enjoyed learning what makes the University tick. To be able