Hilltop campus tackles transportation issues

MetroLink use, van- and carpools are encouraged

With finite space on the Hilltop Campus and St. Louis facing air-quality sanctions from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the University is taking positive steps to encourage fewer vehicles on campus.

"The issue is to reduce parking demand," said Mark Siedband, the University's new transportation management coordinator, who is charged with developing and implementing program initiatives on parking.

"We're committed to this. Through education, financial incentives and commuting options, the University seeks to reduce single-occupancy vehicle use on the Hilltop. The plan would be similar to the popular Transportation Management Association program on the Medical Campus, which has attracted more than 500 participants since its inception in 1996. Proposals under consideration for the Hilltop include

- increased NIH funding
- the construction of Goldfarb Hall, the University's new building, and its opening to accommodate the School of Social Work's new programs
- re-stripping and repainting of parking areas
- offering incentives for employees who carpool or use public transportation
- providing shuttle service to and from campus.

"We want to lay the groundwork for changing habits," said Steven P. Hoffner, assistant vice chancellor for operations. "Charging parking and commuting habits is imperative not only for environmental reasons but also for economic ones as well. Missouri could lose an annual $400 million in federal highway funds if its air quality is not improved, and EPA sanctions could put the brakes on economic development in the region."

Already, a number of steps have been taken on the Hilltop to increase the availability of parking and reduce demand. Within the last year, the University has re-striped and

Ah, spring

Freshman Julie Nebel found inspiration for sketching in Brookings Quadrangle during last week's baby weather.

New strategies to prevent bone loss could emerge from discovery

When Mae West pronounced that too much of a good thing sometimes is a good thing, she probably didn't mean the versatile molecule nitric oxide in mind. The molecule is found throughout the biomedical world, playing a vital, though often baffling, role in everything from blood pressure to bone loss to rheumatoid arthritis to male erection.

Now, biologists at Washington University have confirmed the legendary West's observation by showing that a high concentration of nitric oxide in large bone cells called osteoclasts may serve to prevent osteoclasts from eating too much bone away, thus preventing bone loss associated with diseases such as osteoporosis.

Nitric oxide (NO) is not to be confused with nitrous oxide, or laughing gas. NO was Science magazine's "Molecule of the Year" in 1992, a biochemical poster boy for ambiguous behavior. Like a character in an old Western, at times it wears the good guy's white hat, only to switch and don the villain's black hat. For instance, human cells produce one form of nitric oxide as a weapon against invading bacteria, but very high concentrations of the molecule can make NO a killer of the very cells it helps protect.

Philip Odosby, Ph.D., professor of biology in Arts and Sciences, and a team including his wife, Patricia Collin-Osdoby, Ph.D., research associate professor of biology, added an antibody to osteoclasts that already carry another free radical, superoxide, believed to be a weapon against invading osteoclasts. The target molecule — an antigen — it recognizes in the osteoclasts.

"We look forward to continued research and discussion of the mechanism of NO as a cancer killer," said William Powel, M.D., Ph.D., who, with fellow researchers at the University's Genome Center, confirmed the University's decision on the antibody reaction, the biologists found that introducing the antibody into the osteoclasts halted the process of bone resorption — the work of osteoclasts to grind away bone when the cells are too active or numerous. This leads to pits in the bone matrix and weakening of bone.

After adding the antibody, biochemical tests revealed that another free radical, superoxide, was elevated, and, following the burst of superoxide production, there was an increase in NO. This was followed by decreases in bone resorption and decreased production of acid phosphatase.
that part of the current federal
President Clinton has suggested
question, Gephardt said he would
ing in the quest to decipher all of
Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.) came
“This project has enormous
center at 4444 Forest Park Ave.
The University of Michigan School of
of the Division of Cardiothoracic
and an internationally
and Shabbir H. Safdar, M.D.,
professor of medicine and a long-
the appointment was
by Timothy Eberlein,
that the enzyme can
possess a novel receptor for
This new appointment is a
Mohanakumar is the principal
research focuses on the structural
and their possible role in pre-
not to only Dr. Mohan-
Mohanakumar's superb
also to the partnership of
and Jackie Maritz with Washington
neighborhood. He said:
their support in this time of cost cutting in health
care is vitally important, and it
emphasizes the important role
that these partnerships play in the
St. Louis community." Eberlein added that:
Mohanakumar is the principal investigator on four separate grants from the
National Institutes of Health (NIH). "This is phenomenal
because fewer than 1 percent of all NIH investigators have more
than two such grants," he said.
Mohanakumar's current
research focuses on the structure
and function of peptides and their possible role in pre-
venting organ rejection, par-
ticularly in kidney and lung
transplants. He also is working to define the human immune
response to pig organs, which are being considered as trans-
plant options because suitable human organs are in short
supply. A third area of research is identifying and characterizing
peptides that might help in the treatment of breast and lung
cancer.
He will continue as Director of the St. Louis Facility. Mohanakumar is active in a number of professional societ-
ies, including the American Association for Cancer Research and the
American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has been a member of study sections of the Ameri-
can Cancer Society and the American Red Cross and has chaired study sections for the
NIH and works as a regular member of the journals
Transplantation and Human Immunology.

That's why Mohanakumar named to Maritz chair

THALACHALLOUR MOHANAKUMAR, associate professor of molecular biology and pharmacol-
ogy, received a $11.1 million grant from the National Institute on Aging to study the link
between cholesterol produced by white blood cells and artery wall damage. After activating cholesterol,
the enzyme may cause widespread cell death of the artery wall.

Heinecke first suggested this idea in the early 1990s, when he was studying single cell cultures containing arterial
endothelial cells. After a lifetime of research, Heinecke was named to the new chair, the Jacqueline G.
and William E. Maritz Chair in Immunology and Oncology in the Department of Surgery at Barnes-
Jewish Hospital and the Washington University School of Medicine

Heinecke and his group have developed ways to
find out whether they are pro-
ducers of pro-
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Early events in atherosclerosis focus of Heincke's study

JAY W. HEINCKE, M.D., associ-
ate professor of medicine and of
molecular biology and pharmacol-
ogy, received a $11.1 million grant from the National Institute on Aging to study the link
between cholesterol produced by white blood cells and artery wall damage. After activating cholesterol,
the enzyme might kill proteins in
blood vessels, hardening the artery
wall.

Since Heinecke came to Washington University in 1992, his group has shown that this
enzyme, myeloperoxidase, is active in such lesions. By oxidiz-
ing amino acids in the blood with
proteolytically active, local, non-
corrosive chemicals. Because
many of these are epimeric, the group has developed ways to
detect and measure minute quanti-
ties of these products. Using mass spectrometry, the researchers have identified
seven telltale markers in atherosclerotic lesions. Some of these com-
ponents are generated by
myeloperoxidase," Heinecke said.
"So finding them in athero-
sclerotic lesions provides strong
evidence that the enzyme
can damage the artery wall.

In the current project, the group is trying to
find out what factors might
cause the enzyme to
Damage the artery wall.

This possibility is exciting, Heinecke said because LDL must be oxidized to cause atheroscle-
rosis. Oxidation by aldehydes can provide a mechanism, so which so far has remained elusive.
By generat-
ing aldehydes, myeloperoxidase
also could contribute to the forma-
tion of brown, fluorescent com-
pounds called advanced glycation end products, which have been implicated in atherosclerosis and diabetes.
The new grant will allow Heinecke to identify the LDL and myeloperoxidase-derived aldehydes that are found in
different lesions and their possible role in the development of atherosclerosis.

Heinecke said the team will be looking at the myeloperoxidase-derived aldehydes that are found in
plasma and their possible role in the development of atherosclerosis.

This study focuses on the structural and functional aspects of atherosclerosis. The researchers will identify the LDL and myeloperoxidase-derived aldehydes that are found in
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plasma and their possible role in the development of atherosclerosis.
William Powderly, M.D., examines patient Scott Johnson. His patients, Powderly says, have taught him much about bravery, tolerance and understanding.

Real help for people with HIV

In fact, the clinic has helped scores of people with HIV. Some 2,000 have participated in one study or another here, and the medical school’s unit is considered one of the best in the country, said Charles Vanderhorst, M.D., professor of medicine at the University of North Carolina.

So well regarded was Powderly that he emerged as a key player in designing AIDS clinical trials for the National Institutes of Health. “He’s helped put Washington University in the limelight for AIDS research,” Vanderhorst said. “He has all the traits of a great clinician.”

From late 1994 to early 1995, the unit began testing protease inhibitors in combination with “cocktails.” In part, protease inhibitors prevent the virus from replicating. The drugs are so powerful, Powderly said, that in about 80 percent of users, the level of virus in the blood is no longer detectable.

When word of the drugs’ success began leaking out of the nation’s clinical trials units, the AIDS community was euphoric. It was the first sign of real hope since the epidemic began.

“He’s helped put Washington University in the limelight for AIDS research. He has all the traits of a great clinician.”

— Charles Vanderhorst

Lessons in bravery and humility

In a world that expects nothing. Of his early patients who died, he said: “You think about them as you celebrate the successes of today. How can you not? But this illness has taught me some very important lessons. I’ve seen bravery. I’ve learned a lot about tolerance, about understanding people.”

Powderly remembers one patient, in particular, whose life and death represented a turning point for him as he dealt with patients. In 1988, still in the disease’s early years, a Clayton lawyer came to the clinic. He was young, like Powderly, somewhere in his mid-30s, and he had moved to St. Louis only a few years before. “I have seen him get impatient with the bureaucracy that encumbers us. He gets mad and blusty, and it’s all for the patients,” Powderly said. “He couldn’t have been more different.”

Powderly came to the United States in 1983 as a fellow in the medical school’s infectious diseases division. He never intended to stay in this country, but now, 15 years later, he has a wife, two children and a rewarding and successful career. So, he believes he gives back to Ireland in some way. A number of fellows have come from Ireland to study under him, then returned. He began his clinical research by studying fungal infections in immune-compromised patients, such as cancer patients. When AIDS came on the scene, he shifted his focus.

“The disease has affected a whole generation of doctors,” he said. “When I was a resident, the idea of a fatal infectious disease took 30 or 40 years. Because of an infection was totally foreign. We had no concept. About understanding people.”

He’s noteworthy for being able to do things, to get information about clinical trials to people quickly and in a way they can understand.

In the epidemic’s early years, success was an elusive goal. “So many of our earliest volunteers are dead,” Powderly said. “But in the last three years, there has been a profound change in battling HIV, and clinical trials units to find out if a drug works or not — be made widely available.

“For people with HIV, participating in studies is a risky endeavor that costs with few guarantees but a lot of hope. For Powderly, overseeing such studies is the most humbling experience of his career. “It’s changed my life in so many ways,” he said.

When the trials first started, the world enormously believed AIDS was a fleeting “gay man’s disease,” though it’s true most of the 50 patients Powderly’s staff saw that year were male and homosexual. Now, however, the trials enroll between 150 and 200 participants a year, and they represent all segments of the population. The studies’ rosters are limited only by resources, Powderly said, and not because of a lack of potential volunteers. At any one time, the ACTU staff25 to 35 different studies. A separate HIV clinic treats between 500 and 600 patients a year.

Patients come from across the Midwest to receive the free treatments and drugs the study provides, Powderly said. As a native Irishman — he was born in Limerick and educated in Dublin — he has grown to appreciate the polite skepticism with which Midwesterners approach the

Powderly travels rough road toward AIDS cure
calendar

Exhibitions

"Art of the '80s: Modern to Postmodern." Showroom Row, 309 January Hall. 935-6400.

Thursday, April 2

7 p.m. Student Lecture Series. "Diving for Gold in the Gulf of Alaska." Andrew B. Kiene, oceanographer, Southwest Fisheries Center. Room 194 Cupples I Hall. 935-6760.


4 p.m. Joint Center for East Asian Studies lecture. "The National Identity of the Chinese Abroad." Dongqing Yang, director, China Institute, State Department. Room 300 Eliot Hall. 935-5658.


Wednesday, April 1


Tuesday, April 1

4 p.m. Committee on的存在ion seminar. "Recent Advances in the Synthesis of Indolocarbazole and Indole Alkaloid Products." John W. Van Keuren, assoc. prof. of chemistry, Yale U. Room 311 McClintock Lab. 935-6300.

4 p.m. Earth and planetary sciences colloquium. "Dating Terrestrial Origin of the Ursa Major Nebula, California, Using Apatite (U-Th)/He thermochronology." Peter A. Fisher, School of Meteorology, UC-San Diego. Third Floor, St. Louis Primo Hospital. 777-0519.


4 p.m. Joint Center for East Asian Studies lecture. "The National Identity of the Chinese Abroad." Dongqing Yang, director, China Institute, State Department. Room 300 Eliot Hall. 935-5658.

4:30 p.m. Mathematics colloquium. Speaker is Ata Alishahi, prof. of mathematics, Princeton U. Room 199 Cupples I Hall. 935-6760.


Monday, April 1


Wednesday, April 2


Tuesday, April 2


Monday, April 1


Friday, April 4

11 a.m. and 9 p.m. Catholic Student Center Annual Palm Sunday service in the Field House, will celebrate the resurrection of Christ. Cost: $5; free for students and seniors. Room 300 Eliot Hall. 935-6126.


Monday, April 1


Dinosaur expert to speak on evolutionary thought

Paleontologist and dinosaur adviser Jack Homer will deliver the annual Phi Beta Adviser to director Steven Spielberg for the movies "Jurassic Park" and "Lost World," and "A Dinosaur Grows Up." He has received 18 grants since 1982 from organizations including the National Science Foundation, National Geographic Society, and the Turner Foundation. In 1986, Homer was awarded the prestigious MacArthur Foundation grant, often referred to as the "genius" grant.

Jack Homer does not hold a formal college degree. He studied geology and zoology at the University of Montana from 1964 to 1966 and from 1968 to 1972. He currently serves as an adjunct professor of geology and biology at Montana State University. Before joining the Museum of the Rockies, Homer served as assistant curator of paleontology at Princeton University and curator of the University's Department of Geoscience.

For more information, call 935-5285.

Vonnegut to give lecture

Author Kurt Vonnegut will deliver the CHMES and Illinois Wesleyan Library Lecture at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 9, in Graham Chapel as part of the Assembly Series. The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, call 935-7453.

Vonnegut grew up in Indianapolis and frequently refers to the city in his novels. In 1945, he was correspondent for the Chicago newspaper Daily Sun. He fled the Allied bombing of Dresden that took his wife, the bombing of Hiroshima and the Allied invasion of Normandy and frequently refers to these events in his writing.

Vonnegut's novels include "Slaughterhouse-Five," a satirical science fiction writer; "Mother Night," a quirky tale of a former Nazi地下党; and "Bluebeard," a story of a man who murders his wife. He has written more than 40 books and is known science fiction writer; "Mother Night," a quirky tale of a former Nazi地下党; and "Bluebeard," a story of a man who murders his wife. He has written more than 40 books and is known scientific essays, short stories, and a column for the student newspaper of the University of Illinois.

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For more information, call 935-5285.

Men's tennis wins Wheaton crown

Extending its winning streak to five matches, the men's tennis team captured the inaugural Wheaton College Jack Swartz Invitational teams. The Bears won contests against Lake Forest College (6-1) and the College of the Holy Cross (7-1) and also won matches against Saint Louis University (6-1) and Augustana College (9-0).

Current Record: 11-3

This Week: Mon. April 6, at Illinois Wesleyan University; Bloomington, Ill.; and at the Toe Tennis Center, 1 p.m. Tues. April 7, at Wheaton College; 1 p.m. Wed. April 8, vs. University of Missouri-Kansas City; 10 a.m. Sun. April 5, v. Nebraska Wesleyan University, 1 p.m. Monday, April 6, vs. Principia College.

Women runners set three new records

A first-place showing in the 400 meters (5:22.23) and a win in the 1,500 meters (4:57.19) highlighted the weekly meet for the women's track and field team at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Meet. The Bears set three more school records. In the women's 400 meters, 4:57.19, Clairenne Rigaud won the 100-meter hurdles with a personal best qualifying and school record time at the University of Mississippi Meet. Junior female Eileen McAllister finished fourth in the 1,500 meters, but registered a provisional time and school record time of 4:43.32 seconds. Emily Richard, another junior, won the 5,000 meters with a qualifying time of 17:49.24. Freshman Dan Sarbeck led the men's effort with a first-place showing in the 400 meters (5:22.23).

This Week: 11 a.m. Saturday, April 4, at Northwest Michigan State University; Traverse City, Mich.; and at the Tooele Tennis Center.

Social Work or panacea?

Managed Care: Problem or Panacea? is the topic of a lecture by social policy expert King Davis at 110 p.m. Monday, April 6, in the Lounge of the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. Davis, a professor of social policy since 1984 at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, is a respected expert on social policy related to health care, health quality, health policy and health care systems. He is a member of the editorial board for the journal Health and Social Policy at Virginia Commonwealth University. He has served as a board member for the Center for Public Policy at Virginia Commonwealth University, the Virginia Center for Rural Mental Health at the University of Virginia and the Georgia Center for the Blind and Drug Abuse on University Campus.

The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, call 935-5285.

Is managed care problem or panacea?

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The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information, call 935-5285.

Women's tennis wins

The women's tennis team moved up to the 10th ranked position in the weekly women's tennis class ranking.

This Week: 9 a.m. Saturday, April 4, vs. Wheeling College (at Principia College), Elsah, Ill.; 10 a.m. Sunday, April 5, v. Nebraska Wesleyan University, Tao Tennis Center.

Baseball wins four

The baseball Bears returned to action after an eight-day hiatus, sweeping four of five games in the current series.

The week was highlighted by a no-hitter performance from sophomore pitcher Ryan Stack. The Bears won contests against Midwestern State University of Engineering (MSOE). Washington U. also won contests against Hamline University (9-4), St. Thomas (7-5), and a second victory over MSOE (12-7). The Bears' only loss was against the University of Rhode Island, 8-3. The only loss this week was a 10-9 defeat by the University of Rhode Island, 8-3. The only loss this week was a 10-9 defeat by the University of Rhode Island, 8-3.
highlight of the George Warren Brown School of Social Work’s new Alvin Goldfarb Hall is state-of-the-art wiring for high-tech computer and technology applications. The building is equipped throughout with the latest communications technology, including sophisticated voice and data lines, coaxial video, and fiber optics.

“The school has set the building up in such a way that they should be able to do practically anything that is now possible with the communications technology available today and for some time into the foreseeable future,” said Frank Freeman, project manager in the University’s architectural design office.

Among technologies envisioned in the not-so-distant future, for instance, is the use of virtual reality software to help social work students “experience” the difficulties a person in a wheelchair might face in trying to negotiate steps or open heavy doors.

High-tech wiring will allow the school to connect classrooms with seminar and conference space, offering the potential to broadcast lectures in the school’s auditorium to every part of the new building and to any rooms in the building to connect to the Internet or a satellite downlink, said Khinduka.

For instance, a room in the new building has at least two data ports, and each port includes a voice jack, data, video and fiber optics connections.

Clayton W. Hicks, coordinator for the social work school, provided this checklist of technologies that will be available today and for some time into the foreseeable future:

- Tackle transportation — from page 1

A shuttle system initiated 15-minute service to the Skinner-DelBiviere neighborhood, as the world of students and professional lives is joining in the Brookings hood, where many graduate and professional students live.

At the May 18 Staff Day celebration of the one-academic-year transportation awareness tent to provide information on ways to reduce the number of vehicles coming to campus.

Employee input is welcome: “If someone has a good idea, I would like to hear it. Suggestions may be e-mailed to parking@wustl.edu.” — Martha Everett

March 23 9:05 p.m. — A student reported the theft of a stereo and several CDs, valued at $760, from a third-floor room in Bixby Hall.

March 24 12:05 p.m. — A contractor reported the theft of a marble buffer, valued at $2,920, from the third floor of Goldfarb Hall.

The following incidents were reported to University Police from March 23-29. Readers with information that could assist in investigating these incidents are urged to call 9:05 p.m. — A student reported the theft of a stereo and several CDs, valued at $760, from a third-floor room in Bixby Hall.

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Academy News

News Analysis contains excerpts from the Law School’s Student Comment service. The service, which provides timely faculty comments to media across the country, is distributed by the Office of University Communications.

Paula Jones case against Clinton on shaky ground for failure to show 'job detriment;' expert asserts

Law Professor Jane Allen, J.D., is an expert on “sexual character evidence” and on recent history on making it harder to bring into evidence a plaintiff’s sexual past of the defendant.

She believes the Paula Jones case against President Clinton is shaky ground. Her article on the amended evidence rules, “Sexual Character Evidence in Civil Actions: Refining the Prejudice Rule,” was published last month in the Wisconsin Law Review.

Allen believes the Paula Jones case is weak because it boils down to one alleged incident and it does not demonstrate how the alleged harassment affected Jones’ employment situation. "Paula Jones has failed to make a job detriment, and that pervades all of her claims," Allen said. "She has not met the legal requirement of showing sexual harassment under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

To prove sexual harassment, Jones must show that the protected employment status of Jones was adversely affected by the alleged harassment.

Such evidence about "other women" also can be excluded by a judge if it is ruled irrelevant or if the judge finds it would so prejudice a jury that it would not be able to render a fair judgment.

In the Paula Jones case, Judge David C. Mason has ruled that Clinton’s alleged affair with Jones was not relevant to the Paula Jones case. The Paula Jones case is likely to survive a motion for summary judgment.

Law students also have taken high honors in other recent lawyering skills competitions, including:

Third-year law student James Mathis won High Oralist at the National Moot Court Competition at Pace University Law School. Mathis and his teammates, third-year law students Patrick Kennedy and Stephanie Ammerman, placed fourth overall in the national competition.

Orland Johnson, professor emeritus of musicology, choral director

Orland Johnson, Ph.D., professor emeritus of musicology and former director of choral organizations, died of lung cancer March 22, 1998, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. He was 70.

Johnson taught in the Department of Music and Sciences for 28 years, from 1961 until his retirement in 1989. As director of choral organizations, he prepared and conducted all of the University’s choirs. Some of his choirs won dozens of choral awards, including the American Choral Directors Association’s 17th appearance at the nationals.

Orland Johnson

University of Missouri at Cincinnati

Civic Chorus was his name professor emeritus in 1999.

"The most rewarding experience in my most rewarding experience in my life," he said, "is preparing to give my future clients effective representation in the law.

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The competitions have been decided against it after considerable public criticism of such tactics.

However, the Paula Jones case did not involve the alleged harassment of a co-worker as in the Paula Jones case.

"There have been a few more cases in which the alleged harassment was alleged to have occurred at work, but these involved raped and not a sexual pass," Allen said. "If the facts are true in the Jones case, it’s grievous but not enough to make a hostile environment claim under the law.

Allen believes the case never would have gotten to this far had it involved ordinary citizens and lacked the financial backing for such an extensive investigation. "In most cases, you do not see this kind of media attention.

Aschmann said that the Paula Jones case is likely to help Jones survive the motion for dismissal because it boils down to one alleged incident and it does not demonstrate how the alleged harassment affected Jones’ employment situation. "Paula Jones has failed to make a job detriment, and that pervades all of her claims," Allen said. "She has not met the legal requirement of showing sexual harassment under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act."

To prove sexual harassment, Jones must show that the protected employment status of Jones was adversely affected by the alleged harassment.

When Jones was not in class, she would be found reading. "I can read at least five books in a month through the end of April," she said.

During his residency, he also will be working on a book on the archaeology ofburst in St. Louis, MO, 63108. "I am on shaky ground. Her article on the amended evidence rules, "Sexual Character Evidence in Civil Actions: Refining the Prejudice Rule," was published last month in the Wisconsin Law Review.

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During his residency, he also will be working on a book on the archaeology ofburst in St. Louis, MO, 63108.
New strategies to prevent bone loss — from page 1

An enzyme activated by osteoclasts that helps degrade bone. When whatever mechanism is involved, the discovery gives us a whole new number of strategies to pursue," Osbade said. "Processes that regulate bone loss and osteoclast function in response to factors and include hormones such as estrogen and local factors such as nitric oxide." He added that understanding of the antigen and the regulation of its osteoclasts might help in developing new ways to prevent bone loss. The discovery also may have applications for inflammatory conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis. The bone loss problem and osteoporosis is a major health threat to people of all ages, with implants by developing strategies to preserve bone or repair bone implants such as hip replacements.

New strategies to prevent bone loss — from page 1

Osteoclasts, whose work is supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health, published its results in the January 1998 issue of the Journal of Bone and Mineral Research.

The latest publication is part of an array of osteoclast studies by Osbade and his colleagues; including Teresa Sonney, Ph.D., research assistant in biology, arts and sciences, have conducted over the past four years.

Large, multinucleated and syncytial cells, osteoclasts thrive in the bone environment. They work in an odd tandem with osteoblasts, another bone cell type. Osteoblasts regulate bone formation and resorption processes. Osteoclasts, which are produced by fusion of monocytes and macrophages, appear to have evolved to function as efficient bone-resorbing cells. They can remove bone and deposit new bone in the process. These findings provide new insights into the mechanisms of bone remodeling and expression of bone remodeling that are affected by various factors such as age, sex, and osteoporosis.

The osteoclasts, like normal bone cells, express the receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa B ligand (RANKL), which is synthesized by osteoblasts and stimulates osteoclast differentiation. The receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa B ligand (RANKL), which is synthesized by osteoblasts and stimulates osteoclast differentiation, can also be activated by osteoclasts. The receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa B ligand (RANKL) is a ligand for osteoclasts and plays a critical role in the differentiation and activation of osteoclasts.

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