A&S sophomores gather for help in major choices

The metaphors were tallying faster than "Titanic" ticket sales;

Selecting your major is like falling in love. Being a sophomore sometimes feels like being a "forgotten" middle child. An academic department should be a student's "intellectual home."

These parallels drew 125 second-year students away from an enticing, sun-splashed afternoon into Graham Chapel April 8 for the College of Arts and Sciences' inaugural Sophomore Convocation — an ambitious outreach program designed to welcome students into the familiar arms of the departments that house their newly chosen majors. The two-hour event had three goals — one symbolic, one substantial, one social.

Continued on page 6

Black law students ‘giving back’ in mentoring program for area youths

A s the 80 African-American youths quietly closed their books at the end of a recent Saturday tutoring session, members of Washington University's Black Law Students Association (BLSA) offered words of encouragement and inspiration.

"Education is one of the most effective means of upward mobility in our society," said third-year law student Darrell Graham, who helped set up the law students' monthly tutoring program for St. Louis area youths. "Keep your heads up high. You have a lot to be proud of."

Kendra Logan, a second-year law student and another tutor in the St. Paul Saturdays program, added: "Don't quit no matter what. When things get rough, just tell yourself, 'I can stick it out for five more minutes.' Before you know it that five minutes becomes five hours, five days, five years, if you just keep going."

This is the second year the tutoring program has been offered at the School of Law in conjunction with the non-denominational St. Paul Saturdays program: St. Paul Saturdays was founded at St. Paul AME Church in North St. Louis in 1984 by the late William J. Harrison, an associate dean at Forest Park Community College, and the St. Louis Regional History Center.

Carnival hijinks

Freshman Nate Forst is a pudding-toss target at the Sigma Chi booth during last weekend's Thirteenth Carnival. The popular event, a charity fundraiser in its 92nd year, drew nearly 100,000 people.

University to confer six honorary degrees

Trailblazing civic leaders recognized

Pioneers in brewing, broadcastting and black theater are among the six people who will receive honorary degrees during Washington University's 137th Commencement May 15. The University also will bestow academic degrees on some 2,480 students during the ceremony, which begins at 9:30 a.m. in Brookes Quadrangle.

The six honorary degree recipients are Floyd E. Bloom, M.D., doctor of science; Augustus H. Busch III, doctor of humanities; Lynne Cooper Harvey, doctor of humanities; Ronald J. Himes, doctor of arts; Fred J. Himes, doctor of humanities; and Commencement speaker George F. Will, doctor of letters.

Floyd E. Bloom

Floyd E. Bloom, M.D., who graduated cum laude from Washington University School of Medicine in 1960, has been called one of the major architects of modern neuroscience. An innovative neuroscientist with a broad-based concept of the nervous system's structure and function, he was the first to appreciate the necessity for in-depth study of comprehensive neurotransmitter systems at the anatomical, physiological and pharmacological levels.

Bloom is chair of the Department of Neuropharmacology at The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, Calif. Previously, he directed behavioral neurobiology at The Salk Institute in San Diego and was chief of the Laboratory of Neuropharmacology at the National Institutes of Health.

Bloom received a bachelor's degree cum laude in 1956 from Southern Methodist University. He developed an interest in pharmacology while a medical student at Washington University School of Medicine. After completing an internship and a year of residency at Barnes Hospital, he was accepted into a research program at the National Institutes of Health.

"I always have my books," said Darrell Sidey, 14, of Florissant, Mo., who was comfortably seated in one of the law school classrooms. "It's no quiet. You can concentrate here, not like at home. At home I do my homework in my room, but I'm always tempted to watch TV. Still, I get it done."

"Down the hall is the law school's computer lab, Mattis Hill, 10, of St. Louis was learning how to key in a report he was working on for his fifth-grade class. The report was to describe a memorable experience in school.

Carnival hijinks

"I'm writing about when my poem was published in a poetry anthology for young Americans," he said. "I felt glad when my poem was published, but I thought I was going to get some money, too."

Bloom's major contribution to research in the field of neuroscience has been the development of the concept of the neurotransmitter that controls the expression of a major neurotransmitter. This concept has been called the "neurotransmitter hypothesis."

Bloom received a bachelor's degree cum laude in 1956 from Southern Methodist University. He developed an interest in pharmacology while a medical student at Washington University School of Medicine. After completing an internship and a year of residency at Barnes Hospital, he was accepted into a research program at the National Institutes of Health.
Cardinals choose University physicians as team doctors

M argaret W. Skinner, Ph.D., professor of Nuclear Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine, is currently involved in the establishment of a new multidisciplinary center that will provide medical services for the entire Cardinals’ organization. The Washington University physicians practice at BJC Health System.

The orthopaedics department and the otolaryngology specialists will work together with other University physicians to provide comprehensive medical care on a daily basis and in emergency situations. Those services include pre-season, pre- and post-game evaluations and physician presence at games. The doctors also will use a computerized system to monitor injuries and develop an injury-prevention program. University faculty physicians also will serve as consultants for the team’s minor league affiliates.

Electrode placement and size are determined by many factors: (1) the size of the surgical opening, (2) the size of the cochlea, (3) the type and size of the electrode array, (4) the number of patients that will be fitted, (5) the number of electrodes that can be placed, and (6) the size of the auditory nerve.

The cochlear implant is placed surgically behind the ear. The microphone is placed on the patient’s head and sends the signal to a processor that converts the sound into an electrical signal. The signal is then transmitted through the implant to the cochlea, where it is perceived as sound.

Cochlear implants use an external microphone placed on the head to pick up sound, which is then sent to a processor. The processor sends the signal to a receiver-stimulator that is surgically implanted. The receiver-stimulator sends the signal to the cochlea, where it is perceived as sound.

The cochlea is the part of the inner ear that is responsible for hearing. It is a coiled structure that contains the hair cells, which convert sound waves into electrical signals that are sent to the brain for interpretation.

Washington University School of Medicine is one of the leading biomedical research institutions in the United States and has a long history of medical breakthroughs.

Grant to support cochlear implant research

The Washington University Medical Center has received a $7 million grant from the National Institute of Health to support research on cochlear implants. The grant will enable researchers to investigate the effectiveness of cochlear implants in people with hearing loss.

The cochlea is a coiled structure located in the inner ear that contains hair cells and nerve fibers. When sound waves enter the ear, they travel through the cochlea and activate the hair cells, which send electrical signals to the brain.

The cochlear implant consists of an external microphone, a processor, a receiver-stimulator, and electrodes. The external microphone collects sounds and sends the signal to the processor, which converts the sound signal into an electrical signal. The electrical signal is then sent to the receiver-stimulator, which sends the signal to the cochlea via the electrodes.

The cochlear implant is often used in people who have severe to profound hearing loss. It can provide hearing for people who have lost their ability to hear.

The cochlear implant is a medical device that allows people who are deaf or hard of hearing to hear. It consists of an external microphone, a processor, a transmitter, and electrodes. The external microphone is worn outside the ear and collects sounds, which are then sent to the processor. The processor converts the sound signal into an electrical signal and sends it to the transmitter. The transmitter sends the signal to the cochlea via the electrodes, where it is perceived as sound.

The cochlear implant is a surgical procedure that is performed by a team of medical professionals. The process involves the placement of electrodes in the cochlea, which is done through a small incision in the ear. Once the electrodes are in place, they are connected to the processor, which is worn on a belt or in a pocket. The processor is connected to the microphone, which is worn on the patient’s head.

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Lipeles brings law and engineering together

Maxine I. Lipeles, J.D., and graduate student Demian Wincele explore environmental law’s complex issues.

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Thursday, April 23
11 a.m. Mental Health Services Spring Service Seminar Series. Overview of NIH-funded project "HIV Prevention and Life Options for South in Foster Care." Wendy Austender, assoc. prof. of social work; and doctoral students Diane Ritz and Ron Thompson. Room 222 Goldfarb Hall. 935-7435.

Noss. Comprah semece-Athology and Neurosurgery. "Progress Towards the Closing of One Tumour Suppressor Gene Predicting Women's Progress Towards the Development of Carcinoma Cervicalus." Danielle S. Gerhardt, research assistant prof. of genetics and asst. prof. of psychiatry. Room S21 Genetics Library, McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg. 362-7078.

4 p.m. Cancer Center seminar. "Graduate Transfer into Hematopoietic Stem Cells." Arthur Niemuth, assoc. prof. of pediatrics and medicine, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Room 116 Children's Place.


5:30 p.m. Art history and neuroscience lecture. "Psychology of Visual 'Movement.'" Michael Lehr, prof. of art history, MIT. Room 201 Steinberg Hall. 935-5270.

6 p.m. Arts and Sciences Center Student Lecture Series. "Mars: Exploration and Life." Raymond Arvidson, chair of earth and planetary science. Room 216 Mudd Hall. 935-8003.

7:30 p.m. Law School Art of Lecture Series. "Translations." Slade guest lecture by Steven Friedberg. Room 118 Brown Hall. 935-6500.


Friday, April 24


4:30 p.m. Managed care symposium. "Fruits of Directness in Managed Care: Academic and Industry Perspectives." Eric Newmann, president of PreferredCare. Friday Aprill, 25, 9 a.m. 935-6450.

Saturday, April 25

Monday, April 27


Tuesday, April 28


Wednesday, April 29


8 p.m. WU Opera performance. The 45th annual Alpha Phi Omega Serial. "Nabucco." One-act play by Giuseppe Verdi. Conductor, John D. D'Annunzio. Room 199 Cupples Hall. 1-30 p.m. and midnight. Filmboard "Cinema Paradiso." 8 p.m. WU Opera performance. (See story on page 5.)

Performances
Thursday, April 23
8 p.m. A. E. Hatcher Playwriting Competition. "Flash." Written and performed by students. "Tallahassee." One-act play by Alan Grady. Conductor, Stephen L. Hultman. Room 199 Cupples Hall. 1-30 p.m. and midnight. Filmboard "Cinema Paradiso." 8 p.m. WU Opera performance. (See story on page 5.)

Friday, May 1

4 p.m. Mathematics colloquium. "Waves and Reflections." Speaker, Carl Sanders. U. of Tenn. Room 199 Cupples Hall. 935-7190.

Friday, May 1

Friday, April 30
7 p.m. Chancellor's Concert. "Addressing Domestic Violence in Youth in Foster Care." Wendy Austender, assoc. prof. of social work, and doctoral students Diane Ritz and Ron Thompson. Room 222 Goldfarb Hall. 935-7435.

Saturday, April 30
9 a.m. Saturday workshop. "Designing Administrator Reading." Reading of MFA candidates. Room 216 Mudd Hall. 935-6730.

Saturday, April 30
9 a.m. Saturday workshop. "WU Opera performance. "Pirate Fingers." Make decorative "I Hate Myself."" (Also May 2, same time.) University Lounge, 4565 McKinley Ave. 935-6543.

Sunday, May 1
9 a.m. Sunday workshop. "Theatre Making." Founded by the National Conference on Christians and Jews and lead an educational workshop on understanding issues of cultural inclusion and oppression. (Continues Thursday, April 30, 9 a.m. 1-3 p.m. and midnight. Brown Lounge. 935-4909.

Sunday, May 1

Sunday, May 1

Sunday, May 1
7 p.m. Chancellor's Concert. WU Symphony Orchestra and gitar, the Choir Chair of WU. "Psalms of Glee." Proctor's, "Little Kiteki J" and the music of P. Grier. St. Louis Symphony Music School, 561-2845.

Monday, April 27
8 p.m. Black Composers Repor- Tatory concert. Grinnell Church. 935-4909.

Wednesday, April 29
6 p.m. SONGFEST 1998. WU Vocal Jazz Ensemble and Black Dance, Dunhart Lounge. 935-4841. (See story on page 5.)

Friday, May 1
8 p.m. WU Opera performance. "Painting." Make decorative "I Hate Myself."" (Also May 2, same time.) University Lounge, 4565 McKinley Ave. 935-6543.
Mayor Harmon, others to read favorite poems here in Midwest launch of national project

Curt Phillips, associate professor in the Department of English in Arts and Sciences, will launch Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky’s Favorite Poem Project in the Midwest at 2 p.m. April 25, in Simon Hall’s May Auditorium at the John M. Olin School of Business.

The event, which coincides with National Poetry Month, will feature up to 20 non-poets reading works by their favorite American poets. Participants will include a range of Missourians, from high school students to St. Louis Mayor Clarence O’Quinn and renowned jazz musician Grant performing a song by Langston Hughes. Pinsky, a professor of English and creative writing at Boston University, will attend the reading, which will be recorded for the Library of Congress’ Archive of Recorded Poetry and Literature.

The reading is scheduled to last for about one hour and will be followed by a reception. Both the reading and the reception are free and open to the public. The event is co-sponsored by the Library of Congress, the John M. Olin School of Business, and the Center for the Book in Jefferson City.

The Favorite Poem Project is part of a project from the Library of Congress. Rooted in the belief that we believe in them." Pinsky said.

The new millennium and the consciousness of the American nation’s future, an archive that reminds us of the place poetry has in our lives, the project will create a record of poetry.

The program is free and open to the public. Those interested in participating should call 935-6543.

Senegalese singer Baaba Maal performs April 25

Welcoming prospective students

Members of the University of the Hawaiian Club entertain with ethnic dancing at the Chancellor’s dinner, held Saturday, April 18, in the Athletic Complex as part of April Welcome’s Multicultural Celebration. About 350 high school seniors who have been admitted to the University attended the weekend, which celebrates ethnic diversity.

Tennis teams ready for UAA tourney

Baseball Bears lose three games

Senaugle singer Baaba Maal, one of the rising stars of the World Music movement, will bring his 12-piece African Band maal ("Voice of the People") to Edison Theatre 9 p.m. Saturday, April 25, for a special one-night-only performance. Maal will be joined by legendary Griot guitarist Mamou Seck in a concert sponsored by Edison Theatre’s OVATIONS! Series and The Sheldon Concert Hall.

Maal, one of the most accomplished performers in the high-paced traditional music of West Africa, combines African styles like tasso and yela music with modern, rock, and rock music. Equally at home with folk rhythms and modern technological innovations, Maal has emerged, along with Youssou N’Dour, as one of Senegal’s biggest international stars. Working in both acoustic and dance-pop idiom, his songs often speak to issues facing Africa today, such as the changing role of women, the need to work towards self-reliance, the importance of settling old tribal conflicts and the connection between the past and the future.

Maal was born in Poder, a well-in the north of Senegal. As the son of a mace, a Moslem chieftain who calls the faithful to prayer five times each day, Maal was not encouraged to become a musician — a profession generally reserved for the Griot caste. He initially studied law but later joined the Asly Fourt Orchestra, a traditional music academy in Dakar, where he won a scholarship to study in France at the Ecole des Beaux Arts.

In 1984, Maal and Seck, whose families have long been acquainted, recorded an album of acoustic guitar music, "Djam Leele," which blended elements of traditional African live music and American country blues. Maal has gone on to record more than a dozen albums, including "Wango," "Taara," "Mayo," "Lam Tolo" and "Fintou." Maal recently founded a new recording label, Yeuf Productions, which releases music by Senegalese artists on compact disc.

Tennis teams ready for UAA tourney

The men’s tennis team defeated the University of Illinois-Springfield 9-0 April 19, Current Record: 16-4.

The women lost three of four matches last weekend at the Midwest Invitational Tournament in Madison, Wis., defeating the DePauw University (5-4) but falling to Gustavus Adolphus College (7-1) and DePauw University (5-0).

Current Record: 1-18

This Week: 9 a.m. Friday-Sunday, April 26-26, 1st annual UAA Championships, Tao Tennis Center and Dwight Davis Tennis Center, Fort Collins, Colo.

Baseball Bears lose three games

The Bears dropped three games to NCAA tournament contender this past weekend. U1 fell 6-2 to neighboring rival Fontbonne University, Friday, April 17, at Kelly Field. The Bears, who were missing a pair of their top hitters, then lost 6-1 and 6-4 at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Sunday, April 19.

Current Record: 16-14

This Week: 9 a.m. Friday-Sunday, April 26-26, 1st annual UAA Baseball Championships, Tao Tennis Center and Dwight Davis Tennis Center, Fort Collins, Colo.

Women runners win

The Women’s track and field team won the 1998 Millikin University Classic Saturday, April 18, behind four first-place finishes. The men’s squad placed fifth of 11 teams. The men are the defending UAA outdoor champions, while the women seek a UAA sweep after winning the indoor conference championship in March.

This Week: 9 a.m. EDT Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and 26, at UAA Champions, Atlanta. Ga.
Student medics pass test in dramatic quake drill

“EARTHQUAKE: LOPATA HALL.” The words practically scream from the digital pager at a moment past noon.

“Within four minutes, senior Sheila Lee, sophomore David Salvy and senior Rachael Payne of Washington University’s Emergency Support Team (EST) raced through the halls. Blood, water and power failures. More immediately, the three are mobbed by a haphazard crowd who seek escape from the steps of the venerable engineering building. Payne dashes from room to room, quickly taking stock of the situation.

Almost instantly, a command structure is established. Payne begins identifying the situation, prioritizing and treating the victims based on the severity of the wounds.

Totally, another 32 members of the EST team — triggered via phone chain by Salvy — stream into the building in just 20 minutes, each falling into step and fulfilling a role. What turns out to be nearly 50 victims.

What seems like a scene from M*A*S*H, indeed, stages the mock disaster drill, held Sunday, April 19. The event, designed to test Washington University’s emergency response capabilities of students, the Class of 2001, and faculty members, the organization that provides free and confidential 24-hour emergency response capabilities to the university community.

The goal of the drill, the goal is realism. To that end, members of the English department and the Scott Air Force Base near Belleville, Ill., arrived that morning and applied makeup and fake blood to simulate injuries on 32 volunteer students and faculty members — the goster, the better.

Also on hand — both to assist and to monitor — were representatives of the Clayton and St. Louis Fire Departments, University police and observers from the University’s Emergency Preparedness Planning Committee.

By all accounts, the EST team came away with high marks.

“Overall, I was very pleased with EST’s performance,” said Steven P. Hoffner, assistant director for operations, who oversees the University’s disaster preparedness. “The drill was a valuable learning exercise for the EST and for those of us who evaluated it.”

Sargent Laurie Reitman, M.D., Health Service director and EST’s medical director for the past six years: “EST always exceeds my expectations. That’s not just one example of their commitment to the University community. It’s part of their training.”

Forty-four members strong, with 24 women and 20 men, the EST team prides itself on rigorous training and preparation. In addition to a thorough initial training regimen, the group also receives auxiliary training for nearly two hours every Sunday and Wednesday evening in the school of medicine.

Such dedication pays dividends. Last semester alone, EST responded to 11 serious calls, ranging from sprained ankles to cardiac distress.

“I think students felt it met a number of their needs. Many seniors, for example, requested additional training in many respects, from your basic Emergency Medical Service (EMS) training, said Justin Bachmann, EST’s disaster-ech. ‘The people we train are the same students you see in your classes. For them to trust in the ability to be trusted is why we want to do that. Why we want to train so hard’.

The EST’s David Salvy and Dmitry Rashkovetsky tend to an “injured” Todd Chung during an earthquake preparedness drill April 5.

SONGFEST 1998 offers music of four University vocal groups

SONGFEST 1998, a special concert featuring four vocal groups of the Department of Music in Arts in Sciences, will kick off at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 29, in Graham Chapel. Refreshments will be available.

Each vocal group will perform on different stages and by different conductors, to let them experience the advantages and limitations of each position.

The concert is the brainchild of Leonard Bernstein’s "Candide." The work was performed to honor the late President Dieter Hall in his role as music school director.

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Univeristy to confer six honorary degrees at Commencement

from page 1

associated with the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). After two years at Harvard, he went to Yale University, where he continued his lifelong research there in the field of inorganic chemical basis by which the anesthetic agent nitrous oxide affects the brain function.

In 1962, he returned to the NIMH as chief of the laboratory of neupharmacology. Bloom was one of the first neurologists to use radioactive tracers to study the brain function and the characterization of brain-specific genes. Recognizing the value of computers in neuroscience, he pioneered their application in neurophysiological investigations and the development of a neuromatronic database. Bloom is credited with many diagnoses and the development of computerized neuroanatomical image.
Celebrating history and nature at Tyson — from page 1

University researchers and faculty and students from other local universities, colleges, elementary and secondary schools have benefited from research projects as varied as studying the history and urban and suburban experiences of the area, studying the impact of development and the military and to the Tyson Research Center in a rich history, much of which is still visible. The site includes a company store. History Day tours of the company store. History Day tours will visit the village and also the Quarry Cave where limestone was mined for agricultural and industrial purposes. And then there are the bunkers, used in the past for farm equipment and livestock. We are exploring the testing and firing of ammunitions, both hand and machine, throughout the site at night.

Further back in time, little is documented about how the Indians lived and what they did. Kandace Detwiler explored part of the site with the help of the anthropology, researching the extent of American Indian settlement in what is now St. Louis County. She will be at History Day to talk about her findings. Detwiler is one of the many undergraduate research students and students who are using Tyson to advance research interests. The site has yielded some wonderful finds and has been instrumental in helping the American Indians' use of fire in managing their habitat.

Broad choices in continuing education to be explored in brown bag seminar

Expand your horizons by taking our seminar for continuing education at the brown bag seminar "Learning Choices in the Midst of Change." Two sessions of the free seminars will be offered by the Office of Human Resources from 12:10 to 12:50 p.m., Tuesday, April 28, at St. John’s Hospital, 3005 Forest Park Blvd., and Thursday, April 30, in the Man-O-War Room of the School of Medicine.

The seminar will be led by University College in Arts and Sciences staff member David Willis, coordinator of undergraduate advising, and Maria Hunter, academic coordinator. Willis and Hunter will discuss the multitude of educational opportunities available to university employees, strategies for success, including returning students, time management skills and accessing resources.

University College offers...

Employees may adjust health plans...

N ow is the time to initiate open enrollment and terminations in health or dental-only coverage under the University's health insurance plans. The current open-enrollment period runs through May 15. In general, employees may make changes in benefit elections, terminate coverage or elect a different carrier during the open-enrollment period. Changes in coverage made during the open-enrollment period will be effective for the remainder of the plan year.

Employees must be enrolled in a plan in order to make changes. If your benefits are currently split between the University's plans, you may make changes in one plan without affecting the other plan. Employees may set up an arrangement with their bank or credit card company to set up an automatic payment plan.