Law clinics confront tough issues

By Ann Nicholson

Immersing themselves in contested child custody cases, adult and child orders of protection and child support hearings, students in the School of Law's Civil Justice Clinic learn effective lawyering skills — and make a difference in the lives of neglected children and adult domestic abuse victims.

"The clinic exposes students to people who are living in incredibly dire circumstances," said Jane H. Aiken, J.D., professor of law, who has taught the clinic the last 10 years to visit inmates at nearby prisons, to brighten their monotonous days, and to teach the artistry and history of clowning.

"This is an art form that can have the same effect on the clinic student," she said.

Jane Abendschein and Dana Abendschein, husband-wife team bring joy to the University of Missouri-Columbia.

"We always give ourselves a theme," said Dana, "like 'What is the Latin root for laughter?'" She tells something about the history of that particular word and does a mini-concert. Next, I do a song and we sing together.

"We love to entertain children," she said, "especially those that are hospital-bound."

The Abendscheins have been performing for two years in the annual program that encourages young women to aim high in their career aspirations. University volunteers organized more than 15 events throughout the day, introducing participants to subjects from science to performing arts, medicine to business.

"This is a real gift," said Dana. "It is something we can do, something that we enjoy doing."

Dana Abendschein entertains Wesley Williams, 4, at St. Louis Children's Hospital.

New find in Portugal

Skeleton defies theories, suggests modern humans' Neandertal roots

By Ann Nicholson

A 24,500-year-old skeleton found in Portugal shows that modern humans intermixed and produced children — contrary to commonly held theory that confirms the Neandertals to be the direct ancestors of modern humans.

"This find tells us what it means to be human," said Trinkaus, who is working with João Zilhão, Portugal's director of antiquities and head of the excavation team. "Many people like to distance themselves categorically from Neandertals. This skeleton, which has some characteristics of Neandertals and others of early modern humans, demonstrates that early modern humans and Neandertals were not all that different. They interbred and produced children."

Trinkaus believes the child lived 4,000 years after the time that Neandertals and early modern humans coexisted in the Iberian Peninsula. The discovery challenges the commonly held theory that the Neandertals were not direct ancestors of modern humans.

"This find tells us what it means to be human," continued Trinkaus. "The word human has certain connotations that we are a separate species, that you can almost hear the tension shatter," Dana said, "and after they laugh, they'll just say, 'Thank you.'"

The Abendscheins had the same effect recently, visiting the playroom at St. Louis Children's Hospital. As Belle and Liberty, they moved quietly among children resting at pint-sized tables or in wheel chairs, letting them adjust to their bright outfits while telling jokes.

"Once the crowd had warmed up, Belle gave out smiley face stickers and Liberty "jumped" into a swimming pool," she said.

The Abendscheins entered the first woman away from the man who is confusing her, helping her get into a shelter, giving her that lift so that she can focus beyond the day-to-day and find a way to change her life and the lives of her children.

Working in small teams, the law students tackle six to 10 cases a week, and draft pleadings, letters, documents, and briefs. They also gain first-hand experience with verbal and trial procedure, as they identify and interview witnesses, gather documents, conduct direct and cross examinations and negotiate settlements in the St. Louis City and County Family Courts.

Under Aiken's leadership, the 25-year-old clinic has grown in both scope and depth. This semester, 13 students — double the usual enrollment — participated in the clinic under the supervision of Aiken; Kimberly Jade Norwood, J.D., professor of law and Leslie Freeman, J.D., adjunct professor of law.

A new arrangement with judge Thomas Frawley of the St. Louis City Family Court allows clinic students to serve as guardians ad litem in contested custody cases and adult order of protection cases involving at-risk children. The court appointments not only fill a court-appointed need, but also allow clinic students to gain valuable experience in interviewing and counseling clients to drafting pleadings.

"This clinic exposes students to people who are living in incredibly dire circumstances," said Jane H. Aiken, J.D., professor of law, who has taught the clinic the last 10 years to visit inmates at nearby prisons, to brighten their monotonous days, and to teach the artistry and history of clowning. Dana has done it for even longer, sometimes traveling overseas for clowning activities. "We go wherever the need for diversion and laughter — the medicine we provide — are needed most," said Dana, an associate professor of medicine and of cell biology and physiology.

Ask why they perform "in clown" and you'll hear about helping others forget loneliness, illness or despair. The tension-filled atmosphere of a maximum security prison soon dissolves when the pair start their skits, for example. "You can almost hear the tension shatter," Dana said, "and after they laugh, they'll just say, 'Thank you.'"
Opportunity

WU Women's Society grants scholarship
— from page 1

and integrity," Iupp said. "If you approach your future tasks with the same determination and persistence as you have in the past, we know that you will enjoy much success."

The scholarship for community college transfer students was established by the society in 1976 and in 1995 was named the Elizabeth Gray Danforth Scholarship in an expression of gratitude and admiration for all Danforth had done as first lady of the University from 1973 to 1995. Danforth presented Wood with her scholarship certificate.

"I would like to thank the WU Women's Society for this helpful opportunity," Wood said.

"This is a dream come true for me."

She first learned of the scholarship while playing soccer for Mearesco. During the game, the Washington University soccer coach, Chip Helping, telephoned to Wood.

"I told him it was during my first year at Mearesco," she said. "He told me you could still come home. He also told me about how only one person a year is awarded this scholarship. That was my goal ever since and I pretty much knew it was the only way I could go to school to here."

Wood was chosen from a 3.9 grade point average at Mearesco, a history and an emphasis in the College of Arts and Sciences and is interested in going on to medical school. She also plans to play soccer and tennis for the Bears.

"I was chosen," she said. "I was pretty excited." Wood, a Computer major and a teaching assistant. She

Campus quiz: High or low country — one of a pair — stands vigil. Where is he?

Elit Review released
The Elit Review, one of a student-run literary magazines, has released its spring issue, available free by e-mailing eewagner@artsci.wustl.edu. The issue includes topics ranging from the black-and-white photograph "The Arena — After the Fall" by Nanette Vinson, who won the journal's William Knox Award for Undergraduate Artwork.

New journal debuts
The inaugural issue of the Washington University Journal of Science is available free to students, faculty and Staff at Mallinckrodt Center. The journal's ten producer and loosely modeled after Science magazine, is one of only a handful of such publications in the country. It features original reports of science and engineering research performed by the University's undergraduate students. Reviews of science topics and publications; and a news section. Junior Michelle Williams, a biology major, and Bryant Trask, a biochemistry major and molecular biology major, are editors-in-chief. Faculty serve as advisers and on the editorial board.

Lifeguard needed
Want to be a lifeguard — for the summer season at Millstone Pool in the Athletic Complex. The season starts from May 17 through Aug. 20. Life Guard Training (LGT) and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification are required of all applicants. Work hours are flexible. For more information, contact Martha Tillman at 935-5296.

Stiff competition
The Washington University School of Medicine received 5,133 applications for admission to the 1998-99 first-year class. Of them, 120 were entitled — a ratio of almost 43 applicants per position. Altogether there are 1,296 students currently at the University in M.D., M.D./Ph.D., M.A./ M.B.A. programs. The University offers a strong occupational therapy, physical therapy and psychiatric program.

Answer: "Our king of the jungle" is a very appropriate nickname for the University from the east facade of Brookings Hall.

"News Briefs" bring you short, fact-filled items on the University. Reader comments and questions about "News Briefs" should be directed to: "News Briefs," Box 8017, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, Mo. 63130.
F
indings from a newly published study at the School of Medicine could eventually open opportunities to prevent or diminish brain damage after head injury and stroke, according to a new study.

Brain scientists long have known that a brain chemical called glutamate can be deadly to neurons when it floods out of cells damaged by head injury and stroke. Excessive amounts of glutamate kill neurons by interacting with specific proteins—known as surface receptors such as the NMDA receptor.

Glutamate is a neurotransmitter that the NMDA receptor also processes, assumes the major role of this glutamate receptor in brain damage and neurotoxicity due to excessive calcium influx. However, recent evidence has suggested that the NMDA receptor may contribute to the neuronal damage not only by enhancing calcium influx but also by increasing the flow of potassium efflux through NMDA receptor channels and allowing potassium to escape from the neurons by necrosis. But when calcium and sodium levels were low, as after brain injury, adding potassium to the NMDA receptor triggered apoptosis, that is, increased the vulnerability of the neurons to apoptosis. A shrinking cell may promote apoptosis by releasing factors that stimulate kidney inflammation or deposition of fibrous tissue. Both changes are thought to be fundamental to progression of chronic kidney disease. He also studies factors important to normal kidney function. His research during the 1970s led to unexpected insights into the mechanisms of kidney failure resulting from urinary tract obstruction, which damaged the kidneys by blocking urine flow. In the mid-1980s, Klahr and colleagues had defined the mechanism of kidney failure in patients with glomerulonephritis.

Studying the effects of chemical messengers and enzymes of the kidney.

The colorless and odorless gas, carbon dioxide, is a product of cellular respiration. In the lungs, carbon dioxide diffusion into the bloodstream is accompanied by oxygen uptake. The blood then returns to the heart, and the oxygen-rich blood is pumped to the kidneys. In the kidneys, the oxygen-rich blood is used to synthesize glucose and protein metabolism in the cells. In the urine, glucose and protein are filtered out of the blood.

A stitch in time as a recent session of the mini-medical school, Jean Tihlar, a teacher of anatomy and physiology at Ladue High School, practices suturing on artificial skin in an operating room lab. Students also learn about laparoscopic surgery in this session. The mini-medical school is an eight-week course being offered to the public by the School of Medicine. To get on the waiting list for future mini-medical schools, planned semianually, call 362-9858.

Clowning

Laughing is medicine this couple provides -- from page 1

pool made out of a plastic foam cup. Seeing her 4-year-old son, Will, collapse from the brushes and wiggling their "tail feathers" to music, or "yelling" to change a wardrobe, Dana laughing when her child's knowledge of Dorothea was won over. "I had to drag him over here," her mom, Shannon Brewer, said. "He has a history of recovering from bladder surgery. "And now that he's here, he's stumbled a couple of times," she said, and she smiled.

Adults often get into the spirit of the Abendscheins' visits as much as children. And sometimes, the couple inspires others much as children. And some-

Saud Khler, M.D., John F. P. and Adaline Simon Professor of Medicine, has been elected to the Royal College of Physicians and will be inducted into the college in London in June. The Royal College, England's oldest medical college, honors Khler for his contributions to the study of kidney diseases. Klahr is a leading researcher in chronic renal disease.

Klahr directs Research and Scientific Affairs at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. His name also has appeared several times in directories of the best physicians nationwide. In addition, he is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Klahr also has published classic studies on the regulation of chemical messengers and enzymes of the kidney.

Klahr's latest work focused on normal kidney physiology and biochemistry and the impact of kidney disease on patients. He has contributed a number of studies in the field of kidney disease. His research during the 1970s led to unexpected insights into the mechanisms of kidney failure resulting from urinary tract obstruction, which damaged the kidneys by blocking urine flow. In the mid-1980s, Klahr and colleagues had defined the mechanism of kidney failure in patients with glomerulonephritis.

"Belle can have an attitude," Dana Abendschein learned during college, that he enjoyed making people laugh. "You have to bring yourself down to the others. "You just feel people's emotions and try to rival the appearance of circus clowns. "The audience in the playroom at Children's Hospital suggested the Abendscheins pass the believability test with flying colors."

For visits with prison inmates, though, they might instead appear as sad-eyed beggar clowns in worn, mismatched clothing. Dana becomes Hopeless and Jane portrays Poloma. "That's an extremely hard character for me to do," she said. "You have to bring yourself down lower than anybody you're with at the time to enable people around you feel better by boosting their spirits."

But the two agreed that these characters serve a purpose similar to their own. "It's a way to process your own emotions," she said. "So they're reacting that you're lifting them up. That has a power that's hard to describe."
Terra Incognita • Patagonia • Baseball • Fashion Show

University Events

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Terra Incogni...
Aiming high and looking for something to measure your success may be a cliché, but it is also a surprisingly useful strategy. Curtiss received a patent on promising new vaccine technology.

BY TONY FITZPATRICK
Aiming high and looking forward at the future have long been hallmarks of students possessed by Washington University students. Now, if they could only do something besides write the recommendations of the Task Force on Career Services, it would really help students to further that sharper goal.

Many students, vice chancellor for students and dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, appointed the task force in March 1998 and charged it with helping students look at career services for liberal arts graduates.

The task force, chaired by Robert L. Barchi, dean for provost, exterior business and the former dean of the John M. Olin School of Law, had the goal that the University "must give significantly greater attention, commitment and investment to career services in the future."

To that end, the task force made a number of recommendations:

(1) All schools must have in the goal of University students to have career planning and placement services second to none.

(2) The essential, core services must be improved so that we are providing services that are cost effective and perceived as such by students, parents, faculty, and others.

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(4) There must be a substantial increase in the attention, support and development given to internships, externships and other forms of applied experiential learning as a primary feature of career services.

(5) The Career Center should be energized as volunteers to form interdisciplinary teams of professionals.

(6) A comprehensive marketing plan directed at students, faculty, and others, with the expectation and responsibility that we are providing services second to none.

(7) Career advising should be available on a full-time basis.

(8) The student experience should be focused on student advising and collaboration.

(9) The student experience should be focused on student advising and collaboration.

(10) Parents of students should better understand their role in the education process.

(11) A point person in the Career Center should have responsibility as the liaison with academic departments and external organizations in the career planning and placement business, government, not-for-profit and other better understand their role in the education process.

(12) In due course, the Career Center should have an external home.

McLeod praised Virgil and his colleagues in Morgan for being "an outstanding faculty and students," Bob-Virgil and his outstanding committee for the assistance they provided in "building the light on an area that has become more and more important to the students and more and more a part of their development over the past decade and a half, and sometimes it promises to be an ongoing task.

"These recommendations, which are not just about a student's career — it's about his or her education."

Curtiss receives patent on promising new vaccine technology

BY TONY FITZPATRICK

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"These recommendations, which are not just about a student's career — it's about his or her education."
The University's open annual meeting for employee health benefits is scheduled from May 1 through June 1. During this time employees can consider their health care needs and decide the type of coverage they wish to have. Starting July 1, Washington University in St. Louis, will provide faculty and staff with opportunities to discuss and perhaps change their health care providers, the University is holding a series of meetings in May on the Hilltop, Medical and West campuses. The schedule of those meetings is as follows:

**Hilltop Campus**
- From 9 to 11 a.m. and from 2 to 4 p.m.
  - May 3 — 10:30 a.m.
  - May 5 — 10:30 a.m.
  - May 7 — 10:30 a.m.
  - May 10 — 10:30 a.m.
  - May 12 — 10:30 a.m.

**Medical Campus**
- Includes carrier meetings
  - Meetings for the medical school are in Cori Auditorium in the McDonnell Medical Science Buildings and representatives from all of the insurance carriers will be available to meet with employees at the meetings:
    - May 15 — 10:30 a.m.
    - May 17 — 10:30 a.m.
    - May 18 — 10:30 a.m.
    - May 19 — 10:30 a.m.
    - May 20 — 10:30 a.m.

**West Campus**
- From 9 to 11 a.m. and from 2 to 4 p.m.
  - May 6 — Library Conference Room A/B

**Medical Carrier Meetings**
- Representatives from all of the insurance carriers will be available to meet with employees on the Hilltop Campus in Holmes Lounge on:
  - May 18 — 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.
  - May 20 — 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

**Use the World Wide Web to obtain complete job descriptions. Go to**

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www.wustl.edu/wumshr (Medical).

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**Skeleton**

Find challenges common view of human ancestry — from page 1

early modern humans from elsewhere in Africa. Scientists have debated the extent to which Neanderthals practiced cultural rites, including ritual burial, or whether such rituals originated with early modern humans, who are thought to have had more elaborate burials than earlier human populations. Today, the Portuguese Institute of Archaeology originally discovered the Lagar Velho child's head in a plaster cast two years ago in November in the Lagar Velho Trench. While the replacement could not be removed from the site several years earlier, choosing Upper Paleolithic deposits. An archaeological team led by Zilhão then removed the plaster that turned out to be a nearly complete skeleton. In January, Trinkaus flew to Portugal to begin conducting the palaeontological analysis of the bones. The skeleton is now at the Portuguese National Archaeological Museum in Lisbon, where an international team of specialists, including Trinkaus, will be examining it this year. This find refutes strict replacement models of modern human origins — that early modern humans evolved in Africa about 2 million years ago and then spread and wiped out the Neanderthals without interbreeding, Trinkaus said. "While the replacement adherents argue that Neanderthals became extinct about 30,000 years ago and, therefore, were not ancestors of modern humans, the Lagar Velho find would indicate a transition period in which both populations interbred, leading to the descent of modern humans," Trinkaus said. That is not an easy claim to make.
Of note
Graduate Arts and Sciences Dean Robert S. Thakker, joined 15 graduate students in Arts and Sciences April 16 with the Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence, recognizing their “superb performance and dedication to teaching undergraduate students. They are Christian A. Kogut, student in music; Angela Belle, philosophy and logic; and J. C. A. van Rossum, planetary sciences; Mark A. Cyr, biology;

Biology students win Spector Prize
Phoebe Lin and D. Ian Dickman, both graduating seniors in biology, have been named recipients of the Marian Smith Spector Prize in Biology for 1999. The students will be honored at a May 14 reception along with other students Lin, Dickman. The prize, which began in 1974, is an annual award presented by the Department of Biology to outstanding undergraduate students. The award is named in honor of Marian Smith Spector, a 1938 graduate of the University.

Phoebe Lin, a 1999 graduate of the School of Arts and Sciences, has been honored for her work in the field of biology. Lin, a senior majoring in biology, has conducted research on the role of the protein Lin in the regulation of cell proliferation and differentiation. Her work has been published in several scientific journals and has been presented at national and international conferences.

Dickman, a 1999 graduate of the School of Arts and Sciences, has been honored for his work in the field of biology. Dickman, a senior majoring in biochemistry, has conducted research on the role of the protein Lin in the regulation of cell proliferation and differentiation. His work has been published in several scientific journals and has been presented at national and international conferences.

The Spector Prize in Biology is one of the many honors awarded to outstanding undergraduate students at the University. The prize is named in honor of Marian Smith Spector, a 1938 graduate of the University, and is awarded annually to outstanding undergraduate students in the field of biology.

Speaking of
Arnold J. Heidenheimer, Ph.D., professor of psychology and American culture and literature, recently presented a paper titled “The Relocation of German National Identity: The Concept of ‘German Citizenship’ as a Basis for Cultural Integration” at a conference on contemporary German politics sponsored by the Political Science Advisory Council for Asia.

Glenn D. Stoner, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology and international studies, recently presented a paper titled “Political Parties and Democratic Transformation: A Comparative Analysis in Historical Perspectives” at the European University Institute in Fiesole, Italy.

Ahmet T. Karamustafa, Ph.D., associate professor of history and political science, has been awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to study the impact of Islam on the development of Turkey.

On assignment
Nicholas O. Davidson, M.D., instructor in medicine, has been selected to serve as a member of the Public Health Service’s Scientific Review Committee. The committee, which meets twice a year, reviews and makes recommendations on the scientific and technical aspects of public health programs.

Donald Matthews affirms once more the rigorous discipline of literary criticism.

Donald Matthews affirms once more the rigorous discipline of literary criticism.

Business school to honor five alumni
Five outstanding alumni in business and in service to the John M. Olin School of Business have been named as the 1999 Olin Distinguished Alumni Award winners. The award, given to alumni who have made significant contributions to the school and to the field of business, is one of the highest honors bestowed by the school.

The alumni honored are:

- Phoebe Lin, a 1999 graduate of the School of Arts and Sciences, has been honored for her work in the field of biology. Lin, a senior majoring in biology, has conducted research on the role of the protein Lin in the regulation of cell proliferation and differentiation. Her work has been published in several scientific journals and has been presented at national and international conferences.

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Understanding the elder-care struggle

Nancy Morrow-Howell knows the obstacles to meeting challenges facing seniors

BY GERRY EVENING

Washington People

Born and raised in St. Louis

Education University of Kansas, B.A., M.A., University of California, Berkeley, Ph.D.

Position Associate professor, the George Warren Brown School of Social Work

Family Husband, Michael Morrow-Howell, daughter, Claire, 16, son, Matt, 14

Avocations Gardening, community volunteering

Nancy Morrow-Howell, Ph.D. (left), works with Cathy McDougall, who will receive a master’s in social work degree this spring with a specialization in gerontology.

Nancy Morrow-Howell, Ph.D. (left), works with Cathy McDougall, who will receive a master’s in social work degree this spring with a specialization in gerontology.

Morrow-Howell finds time to spend in her garden and to volunteer in the community. She currently serves on advisory boards for at least six St. Louis organizations, including the Jewish Community Center, the Older Women’s League, and the Alzheimer’s Association.

She also has held a range of leadership positions in the social work schools, including 10 years as coordinator of the gerontology concentration and five as course chairman. Her teaching has earned the enthusiastic praise of students and several awards, including three distinguished faculty honors from both the school and the University in 1997.

Morrow-Howell has spent much of her career seeking solutions for the neediest and most isolated seniors; recently she has been focusing on the emerging focus in her field — finding ways to help an increasing number of wealthy and wise segment of the elderly population remain independent and productive well into their golden years.

Productive aging

“For years, our perspective on old age has been dominated by the threeDs — Depression, Dementia and Disability,” she said. “This idea of all old people as being needy and dependent has never been more accurate, and now that the baby boomers are growing older, they are demanding that the world change. Aging is not a disease and they want the world to know that.”

The growing “productive aging” movement aims to harness the untapped potential of senior citizens and use it to strengthen the workforce, mentoring programs and other social contributions.

Morrow-Howell welcomes the fresh perspective on aging, but she does stress that social workers and other social services leaders for at least six St. Louis boards for at least six St. Louis seniors still need help accessing basic human services.

“I’m excited about the promise of a more productive aging for the majority of our senior population,” she said, “but as a social worker, it’s difficult for me to ignore that segment of the senior population that needs help the most — that’s what social work is all about.”

Morrow-Howell explains “Links-Plus,” a hotline she developed with a local agency to provide regular phone counseling and support to depressed elders in the community, for an American Association of Social Work.

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