Risa Zwerling to bring rare gifts to role as WU's first lady

BY DAVID LINZIE

School of Medicine researchers went to the White House June 26 to help announce the assembly of a working draft of the human genome — 3 billion DNA letters that store the instructions for the human body. The Genome Sequencing Center at the medical school has contributed approximately one-fourth of the DNA sequences generated by the Human Genome Project, an international public/private partnership.

Of the working draft, Waterston said, "It's amazing not for what it actually tells us as much as for the promise it holds. With the information at the front of the image, we begin to see the path forward in a way that was hard to see without it." Waterston is the James S. McDonnell Professor of Genetics, head of the Department of Genetics and center director of the Genome Sequencing Center. Wilson is associate professor of genetics and center co-director. Sekhon is a lab supervisor.

The White House ceremony was attended by U.S. senators and ambassadors of five nations, as well as by Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D., director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, and James Watson, M.D., Ph.D., who won the Nobel prize for his role in discovering the structure of DNA in 1953. British Prime Minister Tony Blair and his wife, Cherie, appeared on a satellite link.

Scientists from labs all over the country gathered in Washington to celebrate completion of the human genome's working draft. Standing on the White House steps are (from left) James Watson, Ph.D. (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory), Eric Lander, Ph.D. (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Richard Gibbs, Ph.D. (Baylor College of Medicine), and Washington University's Robert H. Waterston, M.D., Ph.D., the James S. McDonnell Professor, head of genetics and director of the Genome Sequencing Center, and Richard K. Wilson, Ph.D., associate professor of genetics and center co-director.

Dating water New method will aid pollution studies

BY TONY FEITZERICK

Whether it's the birthday of a movie star or the "S" day on a beer bottle, American culture is obsessed with age. Yet few give a second thought to the age of water, the mainstay of life. One of those few is Robert E. Criss, Ph.D., professor of earth and Planetary Sciences, who has developed a new, nonradioactive method to date water. The method involves a sophisticated formula that relies heavily on the ratios between oxygen-16, which comprises 98.9 percent of all oxygen in water, and oxygen-18, a stable isotope of oxygen. This formula gives a distinctive "fingerprint" for the water. Using the formula, Criss is able to get an average age of water from any system he samples.

The method will be essential to future water quality and climate change studies, and eventually will serve as a way to track both the time and severity of pollutant emissions in streams. Criss is incorporating it into an ambitious study of water quality in the watersheds of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, together the largest river system in North America. Isotopes are different variations of the same element. There are three oxygen isotopes, oxygen-16, -17 and -18. All three behave chemically as oxygen, differing only in their mass, or weight.

About one oxygen atom in 300 is oxygen-18, and only one in about 2,500 is oxygen-17.

"Most methods that date water rely on radioactive isotopes, such as carbon-14, which are usually tied to some trace organic chemical dissolved in the water," Criss explained. "But with these methods, one has to ask: Are you really dating the water or looking at when that chemical got in?"

New skills Minority Youth in Construction Program is a hit

BY CHRISTINE FARMER

One might think that finding high-schoolers willing to give up six weeks of their summer vacation to learn about careers in construction would be difficult, but there were more than a few takers when the University launched the new Minority Youth in Construction Program currently under way.

About 75 African-American teens, while attending the University of Missouri high school in the fall, applied to enroll in the six-week program and were accepted. They are not only committed to this summer's session, but will return to the University for the next three summers and four years of college.

"We were surprised at the overwhelming response," said Sandra Marks, director of supplier diversity programs. "We planned on having 25 kids. We kept our recruiting effort to a simmer because we knew it was the first year, but the parents were very interested in having their children on the campus of Washington University. The boys and girls, sporting shirts emblazoned with MYIC, don hard hats while touring construction sites. They are on campus Monday through Friday and Thursday afternoons through July 28. While learning about the various facets of the construction industry, the teens also attend daily sessions at Fails Hall to build their math and computer skills. "Linda Bemard, a recent graduate of the John M. Olin School of Business, teaches the math sessions.

"The math enrichment sessions are designed for students who score in high-level skills on test for entry into high-school level courses."

Milestone

WU geneti cists attend celebration at White House

BY BETTY ROGERS

Risa Zwerling has a gift for connecting with people. She has spent her life shaping these fundamental linkages with others — with girlfriend friends in Queens, N.Y., with suffering patients in a New York City rehabilitation hospital, with disadvantaged toddlers at St. Louis' Our Little House, with disadvantaged students missing their families and providing members of the community another means of escape to Vietnam.

Born in Brooklyn in 1948 and raised in Queens, Zwerling received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Barnard College of Columbia University in 1970 and soon afterward took a job as a social worker at Ed's Color Hospital, on the East River's Welfare Island under the 59th Street Bridge. Color was a rehabilitation hospital, treating patients with chronic, long-term conditions arising from drug or alcohol addiction, birth defects, spinal cord injuries and other causes.

The patients were very much in charge of the place. Zwerling said, They had established their own culture there, and to work with them was a challenge. I had to adapt accordingly. "When you went to work and landed on that island, you became part of their community," Zwerling reflected.

From Color she went to the University of Maryland in Baltimore, earned a master of social work degree in 1973 and became a psychiatric social worker at Baltimore's Sinai Hospital. Then, newly married to men's clothing manufacturer Robert Schmidt and relocated in St. Louis, she went to work at Missouri Baptist Hospital.

With the birth of their first daughter, Anna, in 1980, Zwerling became a stay-at-home mom. I was very wrapped up in being a mother, she said. A second daughter, Leah, followed four and a half years later.

After Leah was born, Zwerling enrolled at Washington University's John M. Olin School of Business and earned an MBA in 1989. Zwerling, who had earned her B.S. in 1987, signed on after graduation to Citicorp Mortgage in St. Louis and soon became a vice president. Zwerling remained a vice president with Citicorp Mortgage for 19 years.

As the University's new first lady, Zwerling said, "It's amazing not for what it actually tells us as much as for the promise it holds. With the information at the front of the image, we begin to see the path forward in a way that was hard to see without it. Waterston is the James S. McDonnell Professor of Genetics, head of the Department of Genetics and center director of the Genome Sequencing Center. Wilson is associate professor of genetics and center co-director. Sekhon is a lab supervisor. The White House ceremony was attended by U.S. senators and ambassadors of five nations, as well as by Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D., director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, and James Watson, M.D., Ph.D., who won the Nobel prize for his role in discovering the structure of DNA in 1953. British Prime Minister Tony Blair and his wife, Cherie, appeared on a satellite link.
Helping investors to make a difference and a profit

First Midwest lending school set here

By GERRY EVERSING

B
ankers, private developers, and community development lenders attended First Midwest Lending School, held at Washington University Thursday-Sunday, July 16-20, to learn how to make a profit and a difference — by investing in low-to-middle income neighborhood housing and business initiatives supported by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and St. Louis and hosted by the Center for Social Development at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. The event marks the first time that the Federal Reserve has offered its National Community Development Lending School (NCDSL) at the Midwest University.

"We're hoping that holding the lending school in St. Louis will provide a good boost to community development initiatives in this part of the country," said Matthew Ashby, community affairs representative with the St. Louis Federal Reserve.

"Many banks and development organizations have expressed an interest in learning how to increase their own profitability and/or make a bigger difference in their communities," Ashby continued. "The Midwest has never been a great hotbed for community development lending, at least not at the level it's practiced on the coasts. In a big picture way, we hope the school will spur greater interest in community development here."

The school's participants with the latest skills and techniques for successful community development lending in such areas as single- and multi-family housing, small business, commercial real estate and community-based facilities. Creating profitable long-term business relationships between banks and community development organizations is a primary goal of the community lending movement.

Banks and other lending institutions have come under pressure to invest in and make loans to the communities they serve, an obligation generally outlined in their charters. The Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 defined this obligation by requiring banks to help meet the credit needs of all communities. But community lending is gaining attention nationwide as more and more institutions discover the profits to be made in serving the needs of inner-city, low-income areas. More and more financial institutions are adopting an aggressive approach to low- and moderate-income communities — a strategy that yields higher profits.

Recently, Bank of America announced plans to invest $500 million in community development lending programs around the country. Firstar has agreed to invest more than $100 million in St. Louis alone.

The lending school chose the CSFD as a host because of its national leadership role in promoting innovative programs. Partially funded by the CSFD, the program is designed to give the area’s 5,400 physicians a greater understanding of community development lending.

Students at the lending school will have the opportunity to network with other bankers from across the country to share problems and solutions. Participants will fly to University residence halls in the Washington University area's 5,400 physicians

Nearly half of the St. Louis area's 5,400 physicians will attend the school during June, July and August by registering with the Washington University Lending School.

The school's 15-member faculty includes leading experts in the field of community development and consulting, including Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii, co-sponsor of the Senate bill that authorized the school; Rep. Jeff Nugent, senior vice president at the Development Training Institute, Baltimore, where he directs the Public and Private Institutions Department.

Dr. Shantil Khinduka would give the address at the opening ceremonies Sunday, July 16, in Holmes Lounge.
Scientists discover new way to distinguish self from other

By Linda Sage

Challenging an important dogma, immunologists have discovered a new way the body distinguishes self from its foreign cells so it can destroy microbes and maintain health. The findings, reported in the June 10 issue of Science, open a new approach to autoimmune disease and ovarian cancer. Like the macrophages that kill harmful bacteria and parasites, immune cells must learn to distinguish self from other. If they don’t, they destroy their comrades with friendly fire. Until now, scientists thought only immune cells called natural killer cells were equipped for the job. These cells can kill other cells for a security badge called MHC class I. If this badge is missing or altered, the offending cell is destroyed. But researchers at the School of Medicine have discovered that cells called macrophages, which eat microbes and damaged cells, also can distinguish self from other. Instead of relying on MHC class I for their security, they use a surface protein called CD47.

“The beauty of the CD47 system is that a macrophage with a single receptor can discriminate between self and foreign,” said Per-Arne Oldenborg, Ph.D., lead author of the Science paper. Oldenborg is a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Frederick Lindberg, M.D., Ph.D., professor and head of the Department of Anesthesiology, who also is a professor of molecular biology. “Until now, our understanding of how the immune system tells the difference between self and foreign has been based on the dogma that only the interaction between natural killer cells and MHC class I is important,” Lindberg said. “Our finding challenges that dogma by showing that the body’s own cells can be represented by CD47 and that the macrophage, a much more basic component of the body’s defense system, can make the distinction.”

In 1998, Lindberg’s group injected white blood cells that lacked CD47 into normal mice and found that the cells quickly disappeared. After Oldenborg joined the group in 1999, he obtained the same result with red blood cells that lacked CD47. By injecting stained red blood cells and examining slices of various organs under the microscope, he found the cells in the spleen. They were in a region called the marginal zone, whose many macrophages are involved in damaged cell and foreign particles. Because the injected red blood cells differed from normal red blood cells only in their lack of CD47, the researchers concluded that macrophages must recognize this cell-surface protein. "CD47 tells macrophages to leave them alone," Oldenborg said. "Because bacteria and other foreign particles in the blood do not express CD47, they get eaten up.

Macrophages round the body, congregating in places such as the lungs, gut and spleen where harmful bacteria and parasites are likely to enter. The body’s own cells can be distinguished from these pathogens by the CD47 molecule, which the body’s own cells lack. "CD47 is the body's way of saying, 'I’m well. If it sees a particle without CD47, it knows the particle is foreign,'" said Oldenborg. "This system, can make the distinction."

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"The beauty of the CD47 system is that a macrophage with a single receptor can discriminate between self and foreign," said Per-Arne Oldenborg.

Scientists discover new way to distinguish self from other

Alex S. Evers is named president of university anesthesiologists

Alex S. Evers, M.D., the Whitney Eliot Mallinckrodt professor in 1974. He was named associate director in 1983 and later was awarded a doctorate in applied mathematics and computer science. He also will continue teaching process information systems. He also will continue teaching process information systems. He also will continue teaching process information systems. He also will continue teaching process information systems.
University Events

Breast Cancer • Iron Copper Connection • 'Kol Nidre' • Music of Spain

Two summer concert series offer wealth of free music

looking for a pleasant way to pass lazy evenings before next semester's academic onslaught? This summer, the Holmes Jazz Series and the Gateway Festival Orchestra will conspire to help campus concerts enjoy marquee timework with a wealth of free music throughout July and early August.

Now entering its third year, the Holmes Jazz Series presents St. Louis musicians performing in Holmes Lounge at 8:15 p.m. on Thursdays. On July 20 the Mike Karpowicz Trio comes up to bat, followed by pianist Paul Westcott on July 27 and the Dark Blue Duo Aug. 3. For further information call 955-4845.

The Gateway Festival Orchestra, now in its 30th season, performs at 7:30 p.m. Sundays in Brookings Quadrangle. On July 16 the orchestra — under the direction of conductor David May — concludes "A Taste of the Classics," with "The Marriage of Figaro" and Tchaikovsky's "1812 Festival Overture." In the event of rain, the orchestra will perform "Serenade for the Strings" by Tchaikovsky at Brookings Chapel at the same hour.

For further information, call 569-0371.

The Holmes Jazz Series is sponsored by the College of Arts & Sciences, the Department of Music, the Office of Student Activities and Campus Life, and the Gateway Festival Orchestra is sponsored by Washington University, the American Federation of Musicians, The Recording Industry Trust Fund, & Education Council of St. Louis, the Missouri Arts Council and Emerson Electric Co.

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Genome
WU researchers join White House event — from page 1

President Bill Clinton noted the ceremony was taking place in the room where Meriwether Lewis sketched the map of his western expedition for Thomas Jefferson. “The human genome is the most important, most wonderful map ever produced by humankind,” Clinton said.

The genome is the basic set of instructions for the development and functioning of an organism. Sequencing means determining the exact order of DNA’s basic building blocks, so scientists can track the genetic make-up of individual patients.

Cragg, president of Celera Genomics, also announced the sale of direction of his company’s working draft of the human genome. "We’re only 4 percent into the genome," Cragg said. "We can’t monitor our progress if we don’t have the machinery to do so." The Genome Project used a different sequencing strategies to reach their goals.

The researchers now must publish their drafts. Back at work, the scientists can only get tougher. Of the pressure cooker, "we all still gaps in the sequence to trouble." The official deadline for the final, highly accurate draft is 2003, but the public consensus has a form or better, and 24 percent is completely finished. This working draft is helping scientists understand how a human being develops from a single cell into an adult. It also is revealing what goes wrong at the genetic level in many diseases. Using this information, scientists hope to develop drugs that compensate for the genetic glitches, as well as tailoring genetic treatments to the genetic make-up of individual patients.

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**Challenge seeks to raise $500,000 for architecture**

Fred M. Kemp, a St. Louis architect, has launched the Kemp Challenge to match gifts made to the school's annual fund up to $500,000 over two years. "Fred M. Kemp is a generous and dedicated alumna who has contributed greatly to his profession and to Washington University," said Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton in announcing the pledge. "He cares deeply about sustaining the excellent reputation that the School of Architecture enjoys on campus. It gives me a feel for the way he would work around the house, and wants to strengthen his understanding of high school is that there are not enough African-American role models. They are getting that here, and we are showing the kids that there is a reason to do well in high school even if you are not going to college. We tell them that they can join the workforce when they turn 18 and ultimately make $25 an hour — $50,000 per year — depending on the trade. We are also exposing them to Washington, University, and they may decide to enroll here and become an architect or an engineer." That's exactly what 14-year-old Shaquon Howard plans to do. "I am very interested in engineering. I like math and science, and when I was little I would work around the house with my dad," he said. "My science teacher at Normandy Middle School told me about the program." James Pennington, 15, chose the MYC program instead of a summer academy focusing on poetry, and he's glad he did. "I love poetry, but I picked this one over that to learn about math and construction," he said. "I am interested in bricklaying and contracting. Ever since I was about 10 or 11 I've liked to build things. I am good with my hands, I want to be better in computers." The University is providing the classroom space for the program and pays Marks' and Porter's salaried. St. Louis area contractor sponsors are providing students and are funding the $150 stipend each student will receive upon successful completion of the session this summer.
Zwerling has a gift for volunteer commitments after her day jobs end. She spends Wednesdays connecting with 2- and 3-year-olds. This will be a natural fit, she said. "I'm a bit of a bridge." And she has become a director of the Center of Contemporary Culture. She recently joined its board of directors and enjoys one of them. "I'd like to thank the University community. It's a wonderful mentor," she said. "I can't imagine a place being so warm and welcoming." After she and Wrighton decided to marry, she talked with Elizabeth "Ibby" Danforth, wife of Chancellor Emeritus William H. Danforth and the University's beloved first lady for 24 years. "I asked her if we could have lunch so she could give me some pointers," Zwerling recalled. "I want to have lunch," Ibby said, "but let me give you give you the pointers right now — you'll be yourself in the lunchroom." When asked what she would like to say to the University community, she said, "I hope that everything is going well for all of you." She was pleased to be reconnected with people and to continue her work. "I'm really excited about it," she said. "This is going to be a new adventure for us. For our family, it's always been a new adventure for us. There are new people, new experiences, new environments." She was happy to return to the University community. "I love to use my time and talent to help the University," she said. "I hope always to have my own identity and my own responsibility." công. She is a leader in today’s work force and is continuing her education and career. She said that he planned to develop a bridge program in the future so that he can continue to customize the program to fit the needs of the students. She also anticipates providing students with opportunities to choose courses without paying for them. This fall, the program, which will be a sister of the University College program, will be offered to students. Registration for the program and all University College courses begins July 26. For more information, visit www.wustl.edu/colleges or call 935-4320.

"A leader in today's work force must be equipped to manage people, perform multiple tasks, communicate effectively, analyze problems, consider many perspectives when making difficult choices and bring about innovation and change."

Steven M. Ehrlich
Jeff Pike reappointed dean of School of Art

Jeff Pike has been reappointed dean of the School of Art at Washington University, the university announced today according to Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. The appointment follows the work of an advisory committee co-chaired by James W. Davis, professor of art history and historical science in Arts & Sciences, and Ronald A. Leax, professor of art.

"The committee reviewed many outstanding candidates in a national search to identify possible leaders for the School of Art," Wrighton said. "I am glad to report that Jeff has agreed to continue in that role. Over his 17 years of leadership, the School of Art has grown significantly in every aspect of its mission." Pike has agreed to continue in that role.

Pike joined University in 1984 after having been greatly benefitted from his talents since 1978. The School of Art's athletics department into the Vincentian Conference with the administration as well as faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the School of Art.

In addition to overseeing the School of Art's athletics facilities, Pike also serves as associate dean of the Division of Visual Arts and Design (VADC) at Washington University as a member of the VADC Executive Committee.

"Pike has played a key role over the last year as we have continued to refine our plans for the VADC," Wrighton said. "With our leadership in place, I am confident that we will continue to build on that momentum and the potential generated under our new administration."

Pike also would like to thank all members of the advisory committee who served on the panel as well as the many colleagues who contributed to this appointment.

"I think Jeff Pike is a superb choice. We are fortunate to have such a talented and zealous leader in our midst," Davis said. "The committee engaged in a year-long search, and I think Jeff Pike is a strong choice. He knows the school, and he knows the University, and he certainly enjoys the respect of his colleagues.

Added Pike: "I am extremely honored by this opportunity. Washington University's School of Art has a long history of distinct innovation, providing its students with the highest quality studio and academic programs. I look forward to building on the great tradition of the School of Art and design, and we've been able to take advantage of our position within a major research university and build on the momentum generated under our new administration."

Of note

Judith A. Fox, assistant dean for access and bibliographic description in University Libraries, was recently elected to a three-year term as the School of Library Work with the American Library Association (UAA) titles, and the Bears also set a new record by winning nine University

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demonstrations, as well as the ongoing and the 1992 Lopata Basketball Classic in 1984. The football team won its first-UAA title, while the baseball team finished the season with a 22-10 record and narrowly missed winning the UAA title.

Ronald A. Leax, professor of art.

On July 5, 2000, the Students of the Year Award for Excellence in Medicine was presented to 25 faculty and staff members.

Hilltop faculty members receive tenure

At the A&T 5-year meeting of the Board of Trustees, the following Hilltop College of Agriculture, the Department of Planning and Technology in Ahmedabad, while also serving as the western Indian state of Gujarat.

DeKay will introduce Indian students to a range of U.S. software and monitoring tools for civil engineering designs, space to innovative use of materials and equipment. DeKay noted.

He believes U.S. architects have much to learn from foreign architects concerning more flexible adaptation of building materials and strategies for adapting buildings to harsh climates or shut out exterior conditions, depending upon climatic conditions.

"In the future, as buildings demand greater precision from fossil- fuel energy resources and the planet becomes increasingly unable to absorb the pollutants generated by burning these fuels, we have to design and learn to live in more energy-efficient buildings," he said.

DeKay's project builds upon his work with the U.S. Department of Energy and several other universities to develop and disseminate architecture course materials that promote energy-efficient design using "Energy Scheming" software. It efficiently models the effects of building design on energy efficiency, including solar heat gain and thermal mass.

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Wendy Auslander, Ph.D., studies social factors impacting health

By GERRY EVERDING

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS
record.wustl.edu

Wendy F. Auslander, Ph.D. (left), works with St. Louis-area peer counselors in the "Eat Well, Live Well" program she pioneered with colleagues at the School of Medicine.

Knowning the transforming power of hope

Wendy Auslander, Ph.D., studies social factors impacting health

Wendy Auslander believes in a world in which the Human Genome Project and other dramatic medical advances are providing new hope to people coping daily with chronic diseases, even those with advanced cases of AIDS, cancer and heart disease. Wendy F. Auslander, Ph.D., assisant professor of social work at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, is more than most about the power of hope.

In more than two decades of research into chronic disease management and health promotion, she has shown that hope for the future plays a critical role in helping people change their lifestyles to better cope with or avoid serious health problems. Her research with troubled teens suggests that the best way to change behavior, to reduce risky habits such as drug and alcohol abuse and unsafe sex, is to provide youngsters with realistic expectations for an education, a good job and a degree of happiness.

"Body, many of the kids we deal with in the social service system have little sense of the future," she said. "They see friends and family members floundering in jail, on welfare, getting shot or doing drugs, and they don't see how their lives will be any different."

In an early article in the Journal of Pediatric Psychology, Auslander and colleagues from the School of Medicine documented subtle but important differences in the kinds of social support that teenagers receiving Title I, "I Get Help With A Little Help from my Family and Friends," the article reported that when compared with family friends, were a much greater source of emotional support for teens coping with diabetes. Family members on the other hand, provided more advice and information on diabetes management. Lessons such as these, gleaned from participants and from community-based studies aimed at helping teens and families cope with chronic diabetes management, have helped inform Auslander's work on a wide range of similar health issues.

Now recognized as a national authority on social factors that influence personal health behaviors, she has received funding as principal investigator or project director on more than 10 research projects from the National Institutes of Health. She has served on the editorial boards of four leading journals, the Health & Social Work and The Journal of Early Intervention and on the advisory boards of a half dozen community service agencies, including the St. Louis Foundation AIDS and the American Diabetes Association.

While her interest in human behavior now extends far and wide, she still traces her curiosity to childhood excursions into the heart of New York.

"We all live chaotic lives these days," she said. "How many of us come home from work or school, too tired to exercise, too busy to eat right?"

Through her research, Auslander hopes to help people of all backgrounds develop a greater understanding of how their health is shaped by personal attitudes, environmental challenges, cultural expectations and the support of family, friends and communities.

Wendy F. Auslander, Ph.D.


Hobbies Tennis, traveling, music, movies, theater, cooking, walking, entertaining