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## Washington University Record, February 7, 2003

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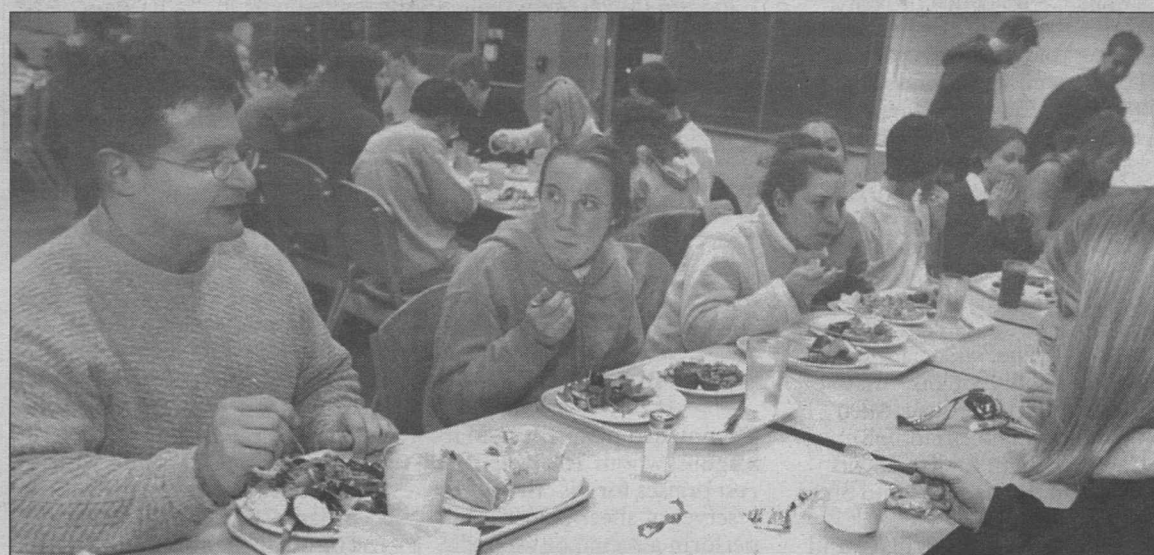
# Record

Feb. 7, 2003

Volume 27 No. 19



Washington University in St. Louis



Ron K. Cytron, Ph.D. (left), associate professor of computer science and engineering, chats with freshmen Katie Kross and Lauren Zwick (far right) during a recent floor gathering at Center Court in Wohl Student Center. Cytron, a faculty associate for Liggett Residence Hall, regularly meets with the students from his floor for meals and informal discussion.

## Faculty spark interaction outside classroom

By NEIL SCHOENHERR

The University encourages students and faculty to interact outside the classroom. However, that hasn't always been the case.

As recently as 10 years ago, the number of faculty members crossing over to the South 40 to meet with students after class was minimal.

But thanks to programs such as the expanding Faculty Associates Program, that has begun to change — to the great satisfaction of both faculty and students.

The Faculty Associates Program, sponsored by the Office of Residential Life, is designed to provide opportunities for significant faculty-student interaction outside the classroom setting.

Associates are faculty members who agree to work with resident advisers (RAs) and a community of about 50 first-

### Getting involved

For more information about the Faculty Associates Program, visit [reslife.wustl.edu](http://reslife.wustl.edu) or call Jill Stratton at 935-7576.

year students in a Residential College during the academic year. The goal is to strengthen the bonds between faculty and students and to narrow the gap between the academic and residential aspects of the University.

"I am very proud of the willingness of our faculty to interact with students in the residence halls," said Edward S. Macias, Ph.D., executive vice chancellor and dean of Arts & Sciences. "I think this adds important enrichment to the lives of both groups. Faculty involvement is essential to our concept of a vibrant living and learning environment in our

student housing."

The faculty associate's involvement is intended to accomplish several goals, among them:

- Provide undergraduate residents with role models or mentors and more contact with faculty members;
- Encourage residents' use of faculty as sources of information, referral or informal advising;
- Increase student and faculty understanding of each other's lives at the University; and
- Meet the needs of faculty who want more informal contact with undergraduates.

The faculty members involved in the Faculty Associates Program are volunteers. They do, however, receive credit on their meal card and a small expense budget for programs.

Faculty members benefit from the personal interaction with students, and they also

See **Faculty**, Page 6

## Pediatric anesthesia

### Drugs used in surgery may cause long-term problems

By JIM DRYDEN

A team of researchers from the School of Medicine and the University of Virginia Health System has found that drugs commonly used to anesthetize children can cause brain damage and long-term learning and memory disturbances in infant rats.

The researchers reported their findings in the Feb. 1 issue of the *Journal of Neuroscience*.

"We frequently perform surgical procedures on children, including premature infants, and those procedures have become increasingly more complex and take longer to perform," said the study's lead author, Vesna Jevtovic-Todorovic, M.D., associate professor of anesthesiology at the University of Virginia Health System. "That means many pediatric patients are being exposed to anesthetic drugs more frequently and for longer periods of time. Our results would suggest that might be problematic."

Previously, Jevtovic-Todorovic was at the School of Medicine, where the rest of the research team is located. The investigators anesthetized 7-day-old rats with a combination of three drugs — midazolam, nitrous oxide and isoflurane — commonly used in pediatric surgery.

As the animals recovered

from the anesthesia, the researchers divided them into three groups: One group was sacrificed the next day and their brains examined, a second group grew to be about a month old and a third group grew into adulthood. The latter two groups were tested for effects of anesthesia on learning and memory.

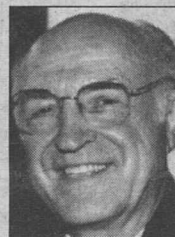
Members of the research team also recorded electrical activity in the hippocampus, a brain structure known to be important in learning and memory.

"These infant rats were anesthetized during the brain growth spurt period called synaptogenesis, which lasts for the first few weeks of life in rats, but in humans it extends from the third trimester of pregnancy until about age 3," said senior investigator John

W. Olney, M.D., the John P. Feighner Professor of Neuropsychopharmacology. "During this period, nerve cells in the brain make connections with one another and form large networks. But if something interferes with that process, the cells are programmed to kill themselves."

In this study, the team found moderately severe cell death had occurred in several brain regions in every brain examined. This included brain regions involved in learning and memory, such as the hippocampus.

See **Pediatric**, Page 6



Olney

## Student Life celebrates 125 years of publishing

By NEIL SCHOENHERR

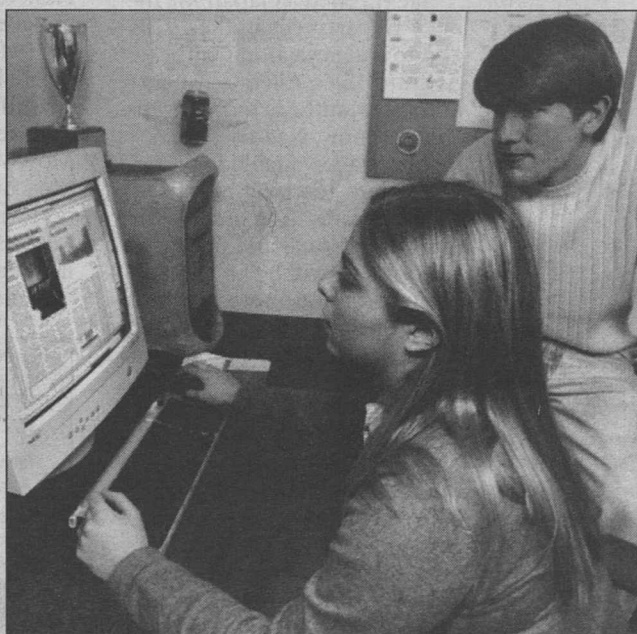
*Student Life*, the University's independent student newspaper, celebrated its 125th anniversary last month. Founded in January 1878, it is one of the country's oldest college newspapers and is the oldest continually run newspaper in St. Louis.

*Student Life* has documented some of the country's greatest crises, including World War I, the Great Depression, World War II and the social unrest of the Vietnam Era. More recently, the paper produced award-winning coverage of the presidential debates held at the University in 1992 and 2000.

In 1999, *Student Life* became independent from the University and is now published by Washington University Student Media Inc. Its board of directors includes former *Student Life* staff members such as Pulitzer Prize-winner Ken Cooper, *The Boston Globe's* national editor, and Jeff Lean, investigative editor at *The Washington Post*.

Former *Student Life* staff members also include Michael Isikoff, the *Newsweek* correspondent who broke the Monica Lewinsky story; cartoonist Mike Peters, winner of the 1981 Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning and creator of "Mother Goose & Grimm"; and many other prominent journalists and leaders in other professions.

"*Student Life* serves two very important roles on this campus," said Bernell Dorrough, editor in chief. "First, it teaches students about journalism. We don't have a jour-



Bernell Dorrough (right), editor in chief of *Student Life*, and sophomore Brett Friedman put the finishing touches on a recent issue at the paper's office in the Women's Building.

nalism program here, but even so, I feel prepared to enter the work force and seek a career in the newspaper business thanks to my work with *Student Life*.

"Second, the paper provides great news, sports and entertainment coverage for the campus, as well as a forum for discussing ideas and presenting views."

See **Student Life**, Page 6

## Career opportunities

### Engineers work to expose young people to the field

By TONY FITZPATRICK

National Engineers Week is Feb. 16-23, but don't expect to see a living, breathing team of women engineers on *Gilmore Girls* or *Dawson's Creek* that week.

Just as girls growing up before Title IX knew little of opportunities in sports, today's pre-teen and teenage girls have little inkling that women can become engineers, says Ruth Okamoto, D.Sc., assistant professor of mechanical engineering.

To help remedy this situation, Okamoto and her sister (and fellow) engineers at the University launched an innovative program in the fall of 2001 aimed at exposing young people, especially girls, to different facets of engineering on the University campus.

The program is a success, was repeated last fall and will be ongoing. It's particularly good at getting lots of hands-on experience in engineering projects for both girls and boys.

"The program was aimed at middle-school girls, who were given preference in the registration process, but we also had some boys," Okamoto said. "In fall 2001, we had 19 students — one session of 10 and one of nine — from city and county schools."

See **Engineers**, Page 6

# Gaddis papers acquired by University

University Libraries has acquired the literary archive of National Book Award-winning novelist William Gaddis (1922-1998).

Gaddis' papers will become part of the University's Modern Literature Collection, which includes the papers of more than 125 prominent 20th-century writers.

The Gaddis acquisition was made possible in part by a grant from the Lannan Foundation, a family foundation dedicated to cultural freedom, diversity and creativity.

Gaddis wrote and published the novels *The Recognitions* (1955), *J R* (1975), *Carpenter's Gothic* (1985) and *A Frolic of His Own* (1994).

Gaddis had several connections to the University, where he served as a Hurst Professor in 1979 and formed lasting friendships with esteemed writers such as William H. Gass, Ph.D., the David May Distinguished University Professor Emeritus in the Humanities, and the late Stanley Elkin.

The Gaddis papers will join the literary estates of Gass and Elkin in the Modern Literature Collection, which also holds the papers of James Merrill, Howard Nemerov, Samuel Beckett and Mona Van Duyn.

"When Bill Gass approached us and said that Washington University Libraries would be interested in acquiring our father's archive, that was that," said Gaddis' daughter Sarah Gaddis. "We were confident that this would have been our father's choice. We had not spoken with any other university, and there was no need to look further."

Gass said, "With the acquisition of the papers and manuscripts of William Gaddis, the Washington University Libraries

## Accessing the Gaddis archive

The William Gaddis archive is in the Department of Special Collections at Olin Library. The department is open from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

For more information about the Gaddis archive or other papers in the Modern Literature Collection, go online to [library.wustl.edu/units/spec/manuscripts/mlc](http://library.wustl.edu/units/spec/manuscripts/mlc) or call manuscripts curator Chatham Ewing at 935-5413.

has added to its Special Collections fundamental source material for the work of one of the most influential and innovative American novelists of our time — a true enrichment of riches."

Book dealer Ken Lopez guided the family through the transfer of the collection to the University.

The Gaddis papers span 70 years, beginning with letters and drawings created by Gaddis as a youth in boarding school.

Gaddis' archive is extensive — he threw away nothing. It includes manuscripts and source materials for his novels, as well as related correspondence and clippings, unpublished stories, film scripts and plays, and nonfiction work for IBM, Kodak, Pfizer and the U.S. Army.

It also includes his working library, including his 84-volume set of *American Jurisprudence*, which he used while researching his second National Book Award-winning novel, *A Frolic of His Own*. (*J R* was his first.)

The archive also includes source material for *Agapé Agapé*, Gaddis' final novel, published posthumously in 2002. A volume of collected essays titled *A*

*Rush for Second Place* also was published in 2002.

Both books were edited by Joseph Tabbi, associate professor of American literature at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Tabbi said, "What Balzac was to post-revolutionary France, Dickens to Victorian England and Musil to Habsburg Austria, Gaddis will be to America in the second half of the 20th century — the novelist whose work sets out what it was like in the homes, the offices, the shop floors and the art enclaves, empirically to live that history."

Gaddis was born in New York City in 1922 and remained a New Yorker until his death on Long Island. He attended Harvard University, where he was president of the Harvard Lampoon.

After leaving Harvard, Gaddis returned to New York City, where he worked as a fact-checker at *The New Yorker* magazine. He became part of the post-war 1950s Greenwich Village "scene," associating with William S. Burroughs, Anatole Broyard, Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, Alan Ansen, John Cage, Norman Mailer, David Markson, Franz Kline and Sheri Martinelli.

His years in The Village and his extensive travels provided source material for *The Recognitions*.

Gaddis' work attracted lasting attention. His fiction is renowned for being innovative, brilliant and challenging. His novels have been translated into many languages and are taught at colleges and universities around the world.

In addition to his National Book Awards, Gaddis won many other top honors. In 1982, he was received a MacArthur Foundation "genius award."

In 1989, he was elected to the 50-member American Academy of Arts and Letters and was specially honored by being assigned the Mary McCarthy chair.

In 1993, Gaddis received the Lannan Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement. He was New York state's choice for the Edith Wharton Citation of Merit as State Author from 1993-95.

Both the Guggenheim and Rockefeller foundations gave grants to Gaddis, and he expressed his gratitude in his introduction to *J R*. Gaddis also received a National Endowment for the Arts grant.

He traveled to Japan for the State Department in the 1970s and to Bulgaria along with Arthur Miller, Allen Ginsberg and other authors in the 1990s.

Until now, Gaddis' papers had been unavailable for research or teaching purposes.

Tabbi said, "The archive, rich in both personal and public documents, will be an enormous asset not only to current and future biographers, but to scholars and cultural historians interested in the methods and materials that one individual — a single mind and singular imagination — used when transmuting his own and our collective history into a compelling narrative art."

Sarah Gaddis said, "My father was profoundly grateful for receiving the Lannan Foundation's lifetime achievement award. Now the foundation's generosity will help to ensure the preservation of his legacy and will enable scholarly access."

"I am so grateful to the Lannan Foundation and Washington University for their generosity, their vision and their commitment."



**Life's a beach** University Dining Services holds a "Beaches of the World" special meal Jan. 28 at Center Court in Wohl Student Center. The event was held to thank students for voting the University's Dining Services the best in the nation among colleges and universities, according to a recent *Princeton Review* poll. The event featured a unique dinner of "beach food" from around the world, an actual sand beach created in the dining area and a steel-drum band.

## Pianist Jura Margulis at Edison recital Feb. 9

By LIAM OTTEN

Renowned pianist Jura Margulis, whom *The Washington Post* praises for his "titanic reserves of sheer power," will perform a recital of works by Russian composers at 3 p.m. Feb. 9 in Edison Theatre.

The concert is sponsored by the Edison Theatre OVATIONS! Series and the Department of Music in Arts & Sciences.

The program includes five works by Alexander Scriabin; *Sonata in G-minor* by Nicolay Metner; *Corelli Variations* by Sergei Rachmaninoff; and *Sonata No. 7* by Sergei Prokofiev.

In addition, Margulis will hold a master class at 4 p.m. Feb. 10 in Tietjens Hall, Music Classroom Building. The class is free and open to the public.

Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Margulis studied piano at the Musikhochschule in Freiburg, Germany; at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, where he worked with Leon Fleisher; and at the prestigious Fondazione per il Pianoforte in Cadenabbia at Lake Como, Italy.

He has appeared with the Russian National Orchestra, the Prague Symphony Orchestra, the SüdWest Rundfunk Orchestra and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra under Charles Dutoit, and made his New York debut as a chamber musician at Weill Recital Hall in 1998.

He has since performed chamber recitals with Dmitry Sitkovetsky, the soloists of the Moscow Virtuosi, and the Moscow String Quartet, and performed as a duo pianist with Martha Argerich in Germany, Japan and the United States.

An active recording artist,

Margulis has recorded four CDs as well as numerous concerts for radio as a soloist, as a chamber musician and with orchestra. He performed a live broadcast on the legendary Horowitz Steinway and recorded Scriabin's *Piano Concerto Op. 20* with the Baden-Baden Radio Symphony Orchestra.

Fono Forum praised Margulis' latest CD, which features works by Schumann, Debussy and Liszt, for its "controlled obsessiveness."

Margulis' honors and awards include prizes in more than a dozen international competitions, including the Ferruccio Busoni in Bolzano, Italy, and The Guardian competition in Dublin, Ireland. He also is a recipient of the esteemed Pro Europa prize, awarded by the European Foundation for Culture.

Last year, the German magazine *PianoNews* published an extensive profile titled "The Paths and Work of the Pianist and Pedagogue Jura Margulis."

A professor of music at the University of Arkansas, Margulis previously taught at the Musikhochschule and at the University of California, Los Angeles. He has led master classes throughout Europe, the United States and Japan.

Tickets for the University recital — \$15; \$10 for students, WUSTL faculty and staff; \$5 for WUSTL students — are available at the Edison Theatre Box Office and through all MetroTix outlets.

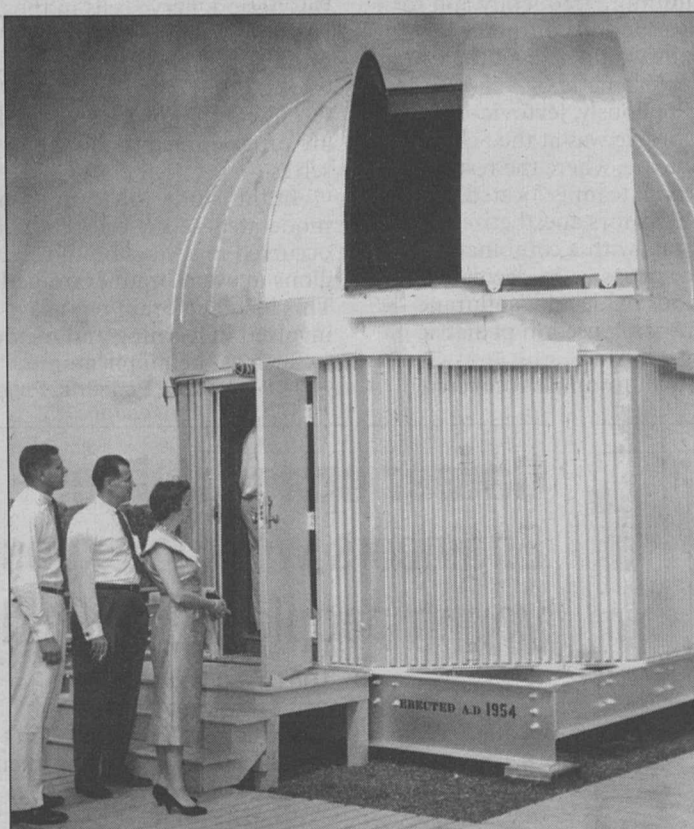
For more information about the Edison Theatre performance, call 935-6543.

For more information about the master class, call 935-7404.



Margulis

## PICTURING OUR PAST



The telescope housed in the Hilltop Campus observatory, pictured here in the 1950s, in Crow Hall is the oldest instrument still in use by the Department of Physics in Arts & Sciences. Its construction was completed in 1860, and because of the importance of the makers, Fitz and Clark, two of the most important American telescope-makers of the 19th century, the Smithsonian Institution has expressed an interest in the Yeatman refractor. However, no plans exist to retire the historic instrument. During the late 19th century, the observatory was located at 18th and St. Charles streets in downtown St. Louis and served as a source of standard time for the region. The observatory is open to the public on reasonably clear Monday through Friday evenings from 7-10 p.m. during the school year. Call 935-6278 to find out if the observatory is open.

Washington University will be celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2003-04. Special programs and events will be announced as the yearlong observance approaches.



## Record

Washington University community news

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Washington University in St. Louis

## School of Medicine Update

# Antibodies critical in fighting West Nile

By DARRELL E. WARD

School of Medicine researchers have found that immune cells called B cells and the antibodies they produce play a critical early role in defending the body against West Nile virus.

The results are published in the February issue of the *Journal of Virology*.

Mice that lacked B cells and antibodies were completely unable to combat the virus. They developed serious brain and spinal-cord infection and ultimately died.

"These findings may help explain why the elderly and others with weakened immunity are most likely to develop serious disease when infected by the virus," said study leader Michael S. Diamond, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of medicine, of molecular microbiology and of pathology and immunology.

West Nile virus was accidentally spread into the eastern United States in 1999 by infected birds that were brought into the country. The virus has spread steadily westward, reaching the West Coast last year. It is carried by mosquitoes and causes encephalitis, a brain inflammation. The virus affects mainly birds, especially crows and jays, but it also can cause disease in horses, humans and other mammals.

In humans, West Nile virus causes serious illness in only a small proportion of infected people. Last year, doctors reported more than 3,500 cases of infection, with 5 percent to 10 percent of those resulting in serious illness or death.

Diamond and his colleagues infected a strain of immune-deficient mice that lacked two important components of the immune system — T cells and B cells — and compared the animals' response to mice with normal immunity. T cells coordinate immune responses and kill infected cells; B cells produce antibodies that attack viruses before they infect cells.

The immune-deficient mice became sick and died even with low doses of the virus. However, they could resist infection if given a dose of B cells after being injected with the virus.

"We were surprised by how susceptible the mice were when antibodies were missing," Diamond said. "Just one viral particle — an exceedingly low dose — was enough to kill the mice."

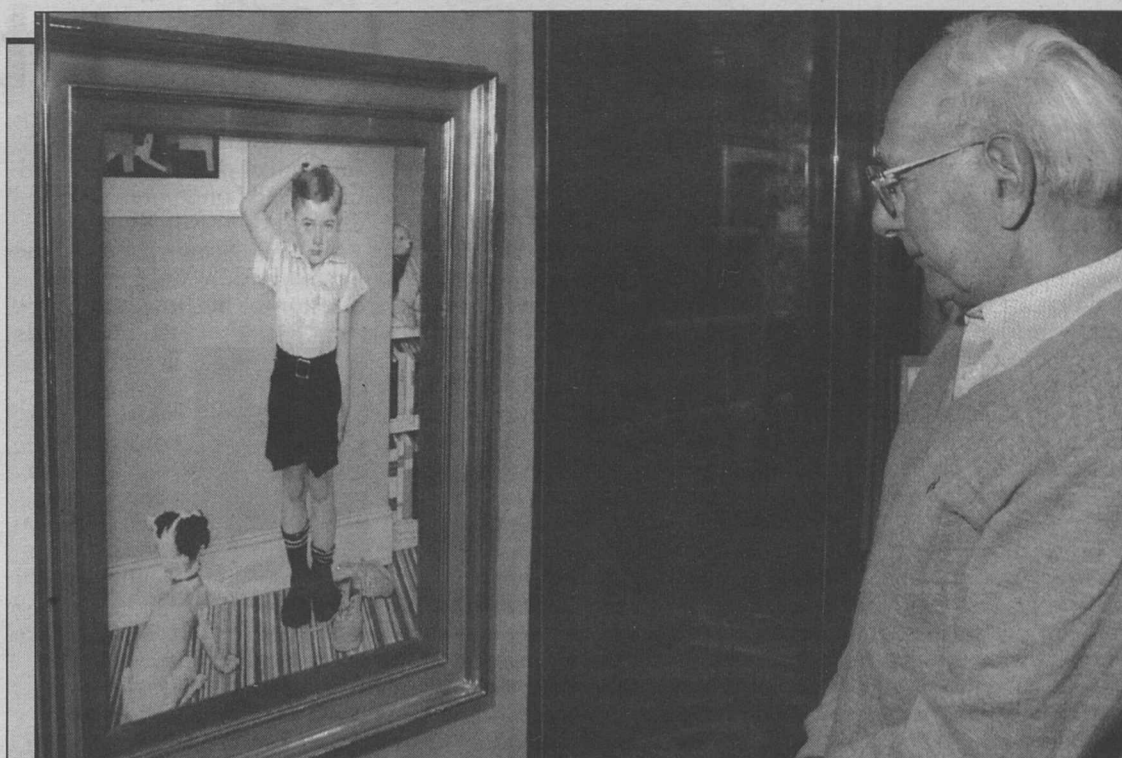
To confirm the importance of B cells and antibodies in defending against West Nile virus, the researchers then gave the virus to a group of immune-deficient mice that lacked only B cells and antibodies, again comparing their response to mice with normal immunity.

At day two, both the B-cell deficient mice and normal mice had equal levels of the virus in the blood. The levels declined thereafter in the normal mice and were undetectable by day six. In the B-cell deficient mice, however, viral levels continued to increase, with 500-fold higher levels by day four.

From this, the investigators conclude that B cells and antibodies appear to be essential for controlling the infection.

"Our findings suggest — but this is just speculation — that humans who have weak antibody responses early during infection are more likely to develop serious disease," Diamond said. "Those are the people we'd want to target when a vaccine or treatment becomes available."

Diamond and his colleagues now are studying how antibodies control infection and what other parts of the immune system are involved.



**The art of medicine** Carl Frieden, Ph.D., the Raymond H. Wittcoff Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics and head of the department, admires Norman Rockwell's work, *He's Going to be Taller Than Dad*. The painting is part of the Pharmacia Rockwell Collection on exhibit at the Bernard Becker Medical Library until March 20. The collection, called *Your Doctor Speaks*, was inspired by a 1930s educational health campaign designed to inform the public about the advances in medicine. The paintings showcase a series of artistic medical messages that appeared in popular magazines like *Life*, *Time* and *The Saturday Evening Post*. Frieden was instrumental in bringing the collection to the University.

## Search and destroy Newly identified intestine protein kills bacteria

By GILA Z. RECKESS

University researchers have discovered a new antibiotic protein that appears to kill certain types of bacteria in the intestine.

"These findings were completely unexpected," said Lora V. Hooper, Ph.D., instructor of molecular biology and pharmacology. "We initially thought that this protein might be involved in blood vessel formation. What we discovered, though, is that it's a potent killer of bacteria."

The results were published Jan. 27 in the online version of the journal *Nature Immunology*

and are slated for print publication in March.

Hooper is first author of the study; Jeffrey I. Gordon, M.D., the Dr. Robert J. Glaser



Hooper

Distinguished University Professor and head of the Department of Molecular Biology and Pharmacology, led the study.

The team identified a protein called angiogenin 4 (Ang4), which belongs to a class of proteins originally believed to be involved in the development of blood vessels that supply tumors with nutrients. The group discovered that Ang4 was released by specific cells, called Paneth cells, located in the intestinal lining.

Because Paneth cells are known to assist the immune system in defending against infection, the team examined Ang4 to determine how it interacts with a variety of different microbes. They found that the protein killed certain kinds of gut microbes and conclude that Ang4 may be part of an arsenal of microbicidal proteins deployed by Paneth cells to help keep gut bacteria from getting too

close to the intestinal lining, where they could cause damage or mount an invasion.

Moreover, the researchers were surprised to find that production of Ang4 is controlled by a bacterium that makes its home in the intestine. The microbe, called *Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron*, is a prominent member of the mouse and human gut microbial community. This makes Ang4 unique, as it is the first example of a protein antibiotic whose expression is controlled by friendly intestinal bacteria.

"Robert Frost said it best: 'Good fences make good neighbors,'" Hooper said. "Apparently, one of the functions of normal gut bacteria is to help erect an 'electric fence' that protects the internal milieu from microbes we encounter throughout our lives."

The group also discovered that other mouse and human angiogenins, which are produced in other organs, also are able to combat dangerous microorganisms.

"These findings support the notion that the angiogenin family of proteins may represent a critical component of the body's innate defense system," Gordon said.

## Samuel R. Goldstein leadership awards announced

By KIMBERLY LEYDIG

The Samuel R. Goldstein Leadership Awards in Medical Student Education, which recognize faculty members who have made outstanding contributions to medical education, were announced recently.

The 2002 recipients of the award are: Dana R. Abendschein, Ph.D., associate professor of medicine, of cell biology and physiology; L. Michael Brunt, M.D., associate professor of sur-

gery; and Jeffery E. Saffitz, M.D., Ph.D., the Paul E. Lacy and Ellen Lacy Professor of pathology and immunology and professor of medicine.

Alison Whelan, M.D., professor of medicine, of pediatrics and core co-director of hereditary cancer at the Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center at the School of Medicine and Barnes-Jewish Hospital, received a special recognition award.

The leadership awards were established in memory of Goldstein, a longtime friend of the

medical school. The recipients were selected by faculty peers after a formal nomination process.

"The selection represents among the highest honor in teaching awards at the School of Medicine," said William A. Peck, M.D., executive vice chancellor and dean of the medical school. "I hope everyone will join me in congratulating the award recipients for their outstanding dedication to the education of our medical students."

By GILA Z. RECKESS

A drug called linezolid is more successful at treating a deadly form of pneumonia than the standard treatment, vancomycin, according to School of Medicine researchers.

These results are based on data from two identical phase III clinical trials comparing linezolid to vancomycin in the treatment of pneumonia cases that develop in the hospital.

"Doctors need to recognize that the antibiotics they select can impact whether a patient lives or dies," said Marin H. Kollef, M.D., associate professor of medicine. "This data demonstrates that critically-ill patients taking linezolid were more likely to live than those taking vancomycin."

Kollef is one of the principal investigators who presented the findings Jan. 30 at the 32nd Critical Care Congress of the Society of Critical Care Medicine in San Antonio, Texas.

Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) is a virulent bacterium that is becoming increasingly resistant to standard therapies used to treat infections in intensive care units.

Mechanical ventilation is one of the most common therapies for patients in intensive care units. However, about 8 percent to 28 percent of patients on a ventilator develop ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP), with mortality rates as high as 50 percent when MRSA is involved.

Kollef and his colleagues

analyzed data from 91 patients with VAP caused by MRSA who took part in one of two international phase III, randomized, double-blind trials to identify significant predictors of survival. Patients received intravenous linezolid or vancomycin twice daily for seven to 21 days.

The team found that the patients were significantly more likely to survive when treated with linezolid compared with those treated with vancomycin.

Linezolid is marketed by Pharmacia Corp. under the trade name Zyvox. It is indicated for the treatment of pneumonia infections caused by *S. aureus* (both methicillin-susceptible and resistant strains) and *S. pneumoniae* (penicillin-susceptible strains only).



**Community outreach** Siteman Cancer Center Community Advisory Board members (from left) Ned Lemkemeier, Gloria White, Bud Meissner, Janet McAfee Weakley and Virgil Loeb, M.D., professor of medicine, celebrate the opening of the new Health and Cancer Information Center at the Center for Advanced Medicine at a recent VIP reception. The new center serves the Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center at the School of Medicine and Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

# University Events

## Broadway composer Schwartz at Edison Theatre

By LIAM OTTEN

Nothing says romance like a full-throated, heart-on-your-sleeve Broadway showstopper, and few have perfected that art like Grammy and Oscar award-winning songwriter Stephen Schwartz, whose songbook ranges from classic musicals such as *Godspell* and *Pippin* to the recent animated films *Pocahontas*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* and *The Prince of Egypt*.

This Valentine's Day, Schwartz — accompanied by Broadway veteran Liz Callaway and performer/songwriter Scott Coulter — will present a rare, intimate concert for the Edison Theatre OVATIONS! Series. Performances begin at 8 p.m. Feb. 14-15.

Born in New York City in 1948, Schwartz studied piano and composition at The Juilliard School while in high

school and graduated from Carnegie Mellon University in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in drama.

He worked as a producer for RCA Records but soon migrated to Broadway, where his first major credit was the title song for the play (and later film) *Butterflies Are Free* (1969).

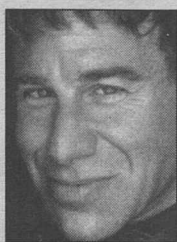
In 1971, Schwartz wrote music and new lyrics for *Godspell*, for which he won several awards including two Grammys, as well as the English texts for Leonard Bernstein's *Mass*, which opened the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

In 1972, Schwartz penned music and lyrics for *Pippin*, followed by *The Magic Show* in 1974.

In 1976, Schwartz wrote music and lyrics for *The Baker's Wife*, which closed before reaching Broadway after a disastrous out-of-town rehearsal tour. The cast album, however, achieved

cult status and led to several subsequent productions, including a 1988 London revival directed by Trevor Nunn.

In 1978, Schwartz earned the Drama Desk Award for best director for his Broadway adaptation of Studs Terkel's



Schwartz

*Working*, presented on PBS as part of the *American Playhouse* series.

In 1985, Schwartz wrote music for *Personals*, an off-Broadway revue, and in 1986 contributed lyrics to Charles Strouse's music for *Rags* (which, like *The Baker's Wife*, made up for a disappointing initial

Broadway run with a successful cast album that led to subsequent productions, including a well-received revival at the American Jewish Theatre in New York).

Also in 1986, Schwartz wrote music and lyrics for a one-act musical for children, *The Trip*, followed by a children's book, *The Perfect Peach* (1988). In 1991, he penned music and lyrics for *Children of Eden*, a book by John Caird.

In the mid-1990s, Schwartz collaborated with composer Alan Menken on the scores for the Disney animated features *Pocahontas* (1995), for which he received two Academy Awards, and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (1996), which is currently being adapted for the stage.

He also provided songs for DreamWorks SKG's first animated feature, *The Prince of Egypt* (1998), winning his third Academy Award for *When You*

*Believe*.

In 2000, Schwartz wrote music and lyrics for *Geppetto*, an original musical broadcast on *The Wonderful World of Disney*.

In recent years, Schwartz has released two CDs of new songs, *Reluctant Pilgrim* (1997) and *Uncharted Territory* (2001). He currently is working on *Wicked*, a Broadway musical based on the life of the Wicked Witch of the West.

Schwartz's performances at the University are made possible with support from the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency; and the Regional Arts Commission, St. Louis.

Tickets — \$27; \$22 for seniors, students, WUSTL faculty and staff; \$13 for WUSTL students — are available at the Edison Theatre Box Office and through all MetroTix outlets. For more information, call 935-6543.

## Fragments of Havana • Jazz at Holmes • Faith & Science

"University Events" lists a portion of the activities taking place at Washington University Feb. 7-20. Visit the Web for expanded calendars for the Hilltop Campus ([www.wustl.edu/calendar](http://www.wustl.edu/calendar)) and the School of Medicine ([medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html](http://medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html)).

### Exhibitions

**Contemporary German Art: Recent Acquisitions.** Continues through April 20. Gallery of Art. 935-4523.

**Cuba Si: Fragments of Havana.** Photographs by Carl Safe, prof. of architecture. Continues through Feb. 21. Givens Hall. 935-6200.

**Italian Renaissance Engravings, c. 1470-1510.** Continues through March 2. Gallery of Art. 935-4523.

**Made in France: Art From 1945 to the Present.** Continues through April 20. Gallery of Art. 935-4523.

### Film

#### Sunday, Feb. 9

**1 p.m. French Film Series.** *Amélie*. Jean-Pierre Jeunet, dir. Sponsored by the Program in Film & Media Studies. Brown Hall Rm. 100. 935-4056.

#### Friday, Feb. 14

**7 p.m. Breathless.** Jean Luc Goddard, dir. Gallery of Art. 935-4523.

#### Sunday, Feb. 16

**1 p.m. French Film Series.** *Under the Sand*. François Ozon. Sponsored by the Program in Film & Media Studies. Brown Hall Rm. 100. 935-4056.

### Lectures

#### Friday, Feb. 7

**9 a.m. Association of Women Faculty Brown Bag Forum.** "Safety and Self-Defense for Women." Gwendolyn Patton, WUSTL police officer. Women's Bldg. Olin Studio I. 935-4449.

**9:15 a.m. Pediatric Grand Rounds.** "Medical Evaluation of Internationally Adopted Children." Margaret Hostetter, chair, of pediatrics and physician-in-chief, Yale U. & New Haven Children's Hospital, Conn. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 454-6006.

**Noon. Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar.** "The Role of LIM Proteins in Cell Adhesion and Motility." Gregory Longmore, assoc. prof. of medicine and of cell biology & physiology. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 426. 362-1668.

#### Saturday, Feb. 8

**11 a.m.-noon. University College Saturday Seminar Series.** "Utopia, Nostalgia, and Antimodernism: From Delacroix to Gauguin." Elizabeth Childs, assoc. prof. of art history. McDonnell Hall, Goldfarb Aud. 935-6759.

#### Monday, Feb. 10

**Noon. Molecular Biology and Pharmacology Research Dept. Seminar.** "Understanding Repolarization in the Heart: One Potassium Channel at a Time ..." Jeanne Nerbonne, prof. of molecular biology & pharmacology. South Bldg., Rm. 3907, Philip Needleman Library. 362-0183.

**Noon. Neurology & Neurological Surgery Research Seminar.** "Consequences of Inhibiting Neuronal Apoptosis Upfront, in the Middle, and at the End." Eugene Johnson, Norman J. Stupp Professor of Neurology. Maternity Bldg. Schwarz Aud. 362-7316.

**Noon-1 p.m. Work, Families & Public Policy Brown Bag Seminar Series.** "Stressed Out on Three Continents: Time Crunch or Yuppie Kvetching." Daniel Hamermesh, Edward Everett Hale Centennial Professor of Economics, U. of Texas. Eliot Hall Rm. 300. 935-4918.

**4 p.m. African & Afro-American Studies Lecture.** "Uncle Tom's Cabin: From Book to Film." Richard Yarborough, prof. of English, UCLA. Duncker Hall, Rm. 201, Hurst Lounge. 935-5690.

**4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series.** "Engineering Autoimmunity." Diane Mathis, distinguished visiting prof. of immunology. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 362-2763.

**6 p.m. Architecture Monday Night Lecture Series.** "Revolution of Forms: Cuba's Forgotten Art Schools." John Loomis, visiting asst. prof. of architecture, Stanford U. (5:30 p.m., reception, Givens Hall.) Steinberg Hall Aud., 935-6200.

#### Tuesday, Feb. 11

**Noon. Molecular Microbiology & Microbial Pathogenesis Seminar Series.** "Predicting Immune Regulatory Mechanisms in the Host Response to *M. tuberculosis*." Denise Kirschner, assoc. prof. of microbiology & immunology, U. of Mich. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-3692.

**Noon. Program in Physical Therapy Research Seminar.** "Seeing Clearly: Computer Vision to Improve Motion Capture and Analysis." Robert Pless, asst. prof. of computer science. 4444 Forest Park Bldg., Rm. B108/B109. 286-1404.

**4 p.m. Siteman Cancer Center Cancer Genetics Seminar Series.** Timothy P. Fleming, research asst. prof. of surgery. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg. Rm. 426. 454-8566.

#### Wednesday, Feb. 12

**8:15 a.m. Obstetrics & Gynecology Grand Rounds.** "Female Sexual Dysfunction." Rachel Pauls, chief resident in obstetrics & gynecology. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 362-1016.

**11 a.m. Assembly Series.** Benjamin Youngdahl Lecture. "Now a National Health Care System for the U.S.?" Steffie Woolhandler, assoc. prof. of medicine, Harvard U., co-founder, Physicians for a National Health Program. Graham Chapel. 935-5285.

**11 a.m. Public Interest Law Speaker Series.** "Rectifying the Tilt: Equality Lessons from Religion, Disability, Sexual Orientation, and Transgender." Chai R. Feldblum, prof. and dir. of the Federal Legislation Clinic, Georgetown U. Anheuser-Busch Hall, Bryan Cave Moot Courtroom. 935-6414.

**4 p.m. Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics Seminar.** "Protein-Protein and Protein-DNA Interactions in Transcription Initiation." Tomasz Heyduk, assoc. prof. of biochemistry & molecular biology. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-0261.

**4 p.m. Physics Colloquium.** "Explosions on the Sun: Solar Flares as Cascades of Reconnecting Magnetic Loops." Maya Paczuski, lecturer in mathematical physics, Imperial College, London. (3:30 p.m. coffee.) Compton Hall, Rm. 241. 935-6276.

#### Thursday, Feb. 13

**Noon. Genetics Seminar Series.** "Life in a Microbial World: Exploring the Molecular Foundations of Symbiotic Host-bacterial Interactions in the Mouse and Human Gut." Jeffrey Gordon, Dr. Robert J. Glaser Distinguished University Professor and head of the Department of Molecular Biology & Pharmacology. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 823. 362-2139.

**1:10 p.m. George Warren Brown School of Social Work Lecture Series.** "The Future of Social Work." Elizabeth Clark, exec. dir., National Association of Social Workers. Brown Hall Lounge. 935-4909.

**3 p.m. Mechanical Engineering Sesquicentennial Colloquium.** "Complex Fluids." Amy Shen, asst. prof. of mechanical engineering. Cupples II Hall, Rm. 100. 935-6047.

**3 p.m. Siteman Cancer Center Basic**

### The Woods rescheduled

The Performing Arts Department in Arts & Sciences has rescheduled its production of David Mamet's *The Woods*, which recently was postponed because of an injury to one of the cast, for May 8-11. Previously issued tickets will be honored at the new performance corresponding to the same time and day of the week (i.e., tickets for 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, will be honored at the 8 p.m. Thursday, May 8, show). Those needing to make any changes or adjustments should call the Edison Theatre Box Office at 935-6543. — Liam Otten

**Science Seminar Series.** John Dick, prof. of molecular and medical genetics, Hospital for Sick Children, U. of Toronto. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 454-8566.

**4 p.m. Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Seminar.** "Strange Vision: Ganglion Cells as Circadian Photoreceptors." David Berson, prof. of neuroscience, Brown U. Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-1006.

**4:15 p.m. Earth & Planetary Sciences Colloquium.** "Accelerator and Brakes: Driving Extension in the Western United States." Leslie J. Donder, prof. and chair of earth sciences, Dartmouth College. McDonnell Hall, Rm. 362. 935-5610.

#### Friday, Feb. 14.

**9:15 a.m. Pediatric Grand Rounds.** "Cerebral Palsy: Trading in Our Crystal Ball for a New Pair of Glasses." Janice E. Brunstrom, asst. prof. of neurology & cell biology, dir., Pediatric Neurology Cerebral Palsy Center, St. Louis Children's Hospital. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 454-6006.

#### Saturday, Feb. 15

**11 a.m.-noon. University College Saturday Seminar Series.** "As in the Mind, So in the World: Visions of Heaven and Hell in Chinese Buddhism." Beata Grant, assoc. prof. of Chinese language & literature. McDonnell Hall, Goldfarb Aud. 935-6759.

**1 p.m. Joint Center for East Asian Studies Symposium.** "Regional Voices in East Asia." Linda Isako Angst, asst. prof. of sociology & anthropology, Lewis & Clark College, and Willy Wo-Lap Lam, sr. China analyst, CNN. Women's Bldg. Formal Lounge. 935-4448.

#### Monday, Feb. 17

**10:30 a.m. Division of Infectious Diseases Seminar.** "Long-term Immunity to Infectious Disease: From Sap to Anthrax and Smallpox." Shane Crotty, dept. of

## National health-care plan advocate to deliver Youngdahl lecture

By NADEE GUNASENA

Steffie Woolhandler, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of medicine at Harvard University, will deliver the Benjamin E. Youngdahl Lecture as part of the Assembly Series at 11 a.m. Feb. 12 in Graham Chapel.

In addition to teaching and conducting research at Harvard, she co-directs the Harvard Medical School General Internal Medicine Fellowship Program and practices medicine, specializing in primary care internal medicine at Cambridge Hospital and at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Over the years, Woolhandler has become known for her advocacy regarding national health-care issues. In 1986, she co-founded the Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP), an organization that promotes a single-payer system of national health insurance that is equally accessible to all residents of the United States.

The goal of PNHP is to educate physicians, as well as the general public, on the need for a high-quality, publicly funded health program that includes the removal of all barriers to adequate health care currently faced by the uninsured, the poor, minority populations and immigrants.

Having been one of two national coordinators for the organization during its first five years, Woolhandler now serves as a board member and co-authors the PNHP newsletter.

Woolhandler has received considerable recognition for her work in academia and medicine. In 1984-85, she was awarded Teacher of the Year by the Boston University School of Public Health, and in 1996, she

was named Humanist of the Year by the Ethical Culture Society.

She is a member of the American Public Health Association and the Society for General Internal Medicine. She also is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and of the National Academy of Social Insurance.

Woolhandler has been widely published in a variety of medical journals, such as the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *The Lancet*, the *American Journal of Gastroenterology* and the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Woolhandler earned a bachelor's degree from Stanford University, a master's from Louisiana State University and a doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley.

All Assembly Series lectures are free and open to the public.

For more information on Woolhandler's lecture, call 935-4620 or visit the Assembly Series Web site, [wupa.wustl.edu/assembly](http://wupa.wustl.edu/assembly).



Woolhandler

# Cuban architecture subject of lecture

BY LIAM OTTEN

John Loomis, visiting associate professor of architecture at Stanford University and author of *Revolution of Forms: Cuba's Forgotten Art Schools*, will speak for the School of Architecture's Monday Night Lecture Series at 6 p.m. Feb. 10.

The talk is free and open to the public and takes place in Steinberg Auditorium, located in the Gallery of Art, Steinberg Hall. The lecture will be preceded by a reception at 5:30 p.m. in Givens Hall.

*Revolution of Forms* (1999) examines the convergence and collision of architecture, ideology and culture in 1960s Cuba through the design of the Escuelas Nacionales de Arte (National Schools of Art), which Loomis calls "the most outstanding architectural achievement of the Cuban Revolution."

Situated in the western suburbs of Havana, the Escuelas

Nacionales were conceived and initiated by Fidel Castro and Che Guevara shortly after the revolution's victory in 1959. The five-building complex included schools of modern dance, plastic arts, drama, music and ballet and represented an attempt on the part of its three architects — Cuban Ricardo Porro and Italians Vittorio Garatti and Roberto Gottardi — to reinvent architecture just as the revolution hoped to reinvent society.

Unfortunately, the project — which was modeled after an African village and featured a synthesis of Spanish and Afro-Cuban motifs — soon fell out of favor as a "bourgeois luxury" and, by 1965, was left abandoned to the jungle. Today, its distinctive brick and terra-cotta Catalan vaulted structures lie in various stages of use and neglect.

However, by examining the history and politics surrounding their creation and demise,

*Revolution of Forms* has helped reclaim the Escuelas Nacionales as significant, though largely unknown, works of architecture, prodding the Cuban government to commit to their restoration.

Loomis has written for numerous publications, including *Design Book Review*, *Casabella* and *Progressive Architecture*. He holds a bachelor's degree in art history from Stanford and a master of architecture degree from Columbia University.

He practiced and taught architecture in New York until moving to California in 1996.

Loomis has been a visiting scholar at the Getty Research Institute and a Loeb Fellow at Harvard University, and from 1998-2002 he was chair of architecture at the California College of Arts and Crafts.

For more information on Loomis' Feb. 10 lecture, call 935-6200.

# Author James Galvin to read Feb. 13

BY LIAM OTTEN

Poet James Galvin will read from his work at 8 p.m. Feb. 13 for the Writing Program Reading Series.

The reading is free and open to the public and takes place in Hurst Lounge, located on the second floor of Duncker Hall. Copies of Galvin's works will be available for purchase, and a book signing will follow the reading.

Galvin is the author of several collections of poetry, including *Imaginary Timber* (1980); *God's Mistress* (1984), which was select-

ed by Marvin Bell for the National Poetry Series; and *Lethal Frequencies* (1995).

His most recent volume, *Resurrection Update: Collected Poems 1975-1997* (1997), was a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Award and the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize.

He has also published a novel, *Fencing the Sky* (1999), and a book of writing about the American West, *The Meadow* (1992).

"James Galvin achieves a power of vision that is rare, indeed, in contemporary litera-

ture," said Carl Phillips, professor of English and of African & Afro-American Studies, both in Arts & Sciences. "He lays bare the eerie grace that can result when our vulnerability is tested by life's more brutal truths, and how suffering not only defines but refines us as human beings."

"Whether in his poetry, fiction or nonfiction, he brings to language his own unmistakable brand of tough elegance. Galvin is truly among our finest writers."

For more information, call 935-7130.

# French Film Series scheduled to begin Feb. 9

BY LIAM OTTEN

The Program in Film and Media Studies in Arts & Sciences will present the second annual Tournées Film Series on Sunday afternoons throughout February and March.

The series, which features free screenings of contemporary French films, begins Feb. 9 with Jean-Pierre Jeunet's box-office hit *Amélie* (2001).

Subsequent films include *Under the Sand* (2000), directed by François Ozon, Feb. 16; *The*

*Crimson Rivers* (2001), directed by Mathieu Kassovitz, Feb. 23; and *Venus Beauty Institute* (1999), directed by Tonie Marshall, March 16.

The series concludes March 23 with *Time Out* (2002), directed by Laurent Cantet.

"This series includes a broad spectrum of recent critically acclaimed French films featuring award-winning performers and directors," said Katrina Boyd, visiting lecturer, who organized this year's lineup. "Some — such the stylistically

inventive *Amélie* and *The Crimson Rivers*, a thriller about a serial killer — are faster-paced.

"Others are quieter and more introspective, about the mental lives of people dealing with loss. *Time Out* is about a man fired from his job, while *Under the Sand* stars Charlotte Rampling as a woman who is unexpectedly widowed."

All films are in French with English subtitles and begin at 1 p.m. With the exception of *The Crimson Rivers*, all films will be

screened in 35mm format in Brown Hall.

*The Crimson Rivers* will be projected via DVD in the University of Missouri-St. Louis' Lucas Hall Auditorium, 8001 Natural Bridge Road.

The series is co-sponsored by Washington University's Committee on Comparative Literature and Department of Romance Languages, both in Arts & Sciences, and is made possible with the support of the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the French Ministry of Culture.

For more information, call Lori Turner at 935-4056.

## Sports

### Women's basketball remains undefeated

The No.1-ranked women's basketball team improved to 18-0 and 7-0 in University Athletic Association play with a pair of home wins, against Brandeis University, 93-70, and New York University, 53-44. The Bears have won 49 straight regular-season games, 74 straight regular-season home games and 27 straight UAA games. Jan. 31, The Bears led Brandeis by just three points, 41-38, at the half, but then used a 27-6 second-half run to put the game away. Sophomore Lesley Hawley led the way with a career-high 23 points, while Kelly Manning added 16. Feb. 2, the Bears took care of NYU as the visitors managed just three field goals over the last 11 minutes of the game. Diana Hill led a balanced attack with 12 points.

### Other updates

The No. 1-ranked **men's basketball** team also continued its hot play, defeating both Brandeis and NYU to remain undefeated. The men have won 38 straight regular-season games, 28 straight home games and 21 straight UAA games, all of which are team records. WUSTL is also alone atop the UAA at 7-0. The Bears put the hammer down against Brandeis, leading 46-27 at the half before cruising to a 92-60 victory Jan. 31. Chris Jeffries paved the way with a game-high 21 points;

Jarriot Rook and Scott Stone each scored 11. Two days later, the Bears struggled with their shot but still managed a 64-56 win against NYU. Seven converted free throws in the final minute helped WUSTL overcome a six-of-29 shooting performance from three-point range and keep the Violets at bay. Jeffries led with 19 points, while Dustin Tylka had 18.

Paced by junior Kammie Holt's two national-qualifying marks, the Bear jumpers once again led the charge for the **indoor track and field** squad at the Knox College Pentangular Meet in Galesburg, Ill., Feb. 1-2. Holt dominated the triple jump, winning the event with an NCAA-provisional-qualifying leap of 37 feet, 3.75 inches. Holt's jump, which established both meet and field house records, is also the leading mark in the UAA and sixth-best jump in the country in Division III. Holt also won the long jump with a distance of 18 feet, 3 inches, an NCAA provisional mark. Senior Andrew Miller set the tone for the jumpers on the men's side, winning the long jump with a mark of 21 feet, 8.25 inches. Sophomore Lance Moen opened his season with a solid performance in the 400 meters, winning in 50.77 seconds.

The **men's tennis** team had its record evened at 1-1 as the Bears dropped a 6-1 decision to NCAA Division II Southwest Baptist University Feb. 1 at the Frontenac Racquet Club.

# Student Life

— from Page 1

Dorrough praised the newspaper's staff for producing such a high-quality product.

"It's been a pleasure to work with such a dedicated group of people who truly care about what they do and take it very seriously," he said.

In addition to the paper's 125th anniversary issue, which was published at the end of January, *Student Life* will celebrate with an alumni reunion Sept. 12-14.

microbiology & immunology, Emory U. McDonnell Pediatric Research Bldg., Rm. 8101. 362-1514.

**Noon. Molecular Biology & Pharmacology Research Seminar.** "Regulation of a Powerful Innate and Adaptive Immune Effector System." John P. Atkinson, prof. of internal medicine. South Bldg., Rm. 3907, Philip Needleman Library. 362-0183.

**Noon. Neurology & Neurological Surgery Research Seminar.** Laura Dugan, assoc. prof. of neurology. Maternity Bldg., Schwarz Aud. 362-7316.

**4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series.** "Apoptosis & Inflammation in Autoimmune Demyelinating Disease." John Russell, prof. of molecular biology & pharmacology. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 362-2763.

**6 p.m. Architecture Monday Night Lecture Series.** "Designing for the Non-nuclear Family." Yoko Kinoshita Watanabe & Makoto Watanabe, architects, ADH Architects, Tokyo. (Reception, 5:30 p.m., Givens Hall.) Steinberg Hall Aud. 935-6200.

### Tuesday, Feb. 18

**4 p.m. The Art of the Essay Writers Series Seminar.** Katha Pollitt, poet and essayist. McMillan Hall Café. 935-5567.

**5:30 p.m. Laser Vision Correction Seminar.** "Understanding LASIK" and "Am I a Candidate?" Michael S. Conners, asst. prof. of ophthalmology & visual sciences. Center for Advanced Medicine. 747-8036.

### Wednesday, Feb. 19

**8:15 a.m. Obstetrics & Gynecology Grand Rounds.** "Clinical Molecular Diagnostics at BJH." Barbara Zehnbauser, clinical

assoc. prof. of pathology & immunology, dir., molecular diagnostic lab. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 362-1016.

**11 a.m. Assembly Series.** Lock & Chain Lecture. "A View From the Middle East." Judith Miller, senior correspondent, The New York Times. Graham Chapel. 935-5285.

**11 a.m. Public Interest Law Speaker Series.** "Social Change, Judicial Activism, and the Public Interest Lawyer." Thelton Henderson, senior judge for the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Calif. Anheuser-Busch Hall, Bryan Cave Moot Courtroom. 935-6414.

**7:30 p.m. Catholic Student Center Seminar.** "Faith & Science: Conflict or Complement?" Catholic Student Center, 6352 Forsyth Blvd. 935-9191.

### Thursday, Feb. 20

**1:10 p.m. George Warren Brown School of Social Work Spring Lecture Series.** "Serving Our Cities: The Need for Public-Private Partnership." Francis Slay, mayor of St. Louis. Brown Hall Lounge. 935-4909.

**3 p.m. Mechanical Engineering Sesquicentennial Colloquium.** "Materials." Shankar Sastry, the Catherine M. & Christopher I. Byrnes Professor of Engineering. 935-6047.

**4 p.m. Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Seminar.** "Role of T Cell Subsets and Apoptosis in a Primary Model of Herpetic Keratitis." Patrick M. Stuart, asst. research prof. of ophthalmology & visual sciences. Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-1006.

**4:15 p.m. Earth & Planetary Sciences**

**Colloquium.** "There and Back Again: An Account of the Man in the Moon's Journey to the Lunar Core ... and Back." Dave Stegman, research asst., earth & planetary sciences, U. of Calif., Berkeley. McDonnell Hall, Rm. 362. 935-5610.

**4:30 p.m. Mathematics Talk.** Kirk Lecture. Tadeusz Iwaniec, John Raymond French Professor of Mathematics, Syracuse U. (4 p.m. tea, Cupples I Hall, Rm. 200.) Cupples I Hall, Rm. 199. 935-6760.

## Music

### Sunday, Feb. 9

**3 p.m. Department of Music and OVATIONS! Recital.** Jura Margulis, piano. Cost: \$15, \$10 for students, WUSTL faculty & staff, \$5 for WUSTL students. Edison Theatre. 935-6543.

### Monday, Feb. 10

**3 p.m. Master Class.** Jura Margulis, prof. of music, U. of Ark. Tietjens Hall. 935-4841.

### Thursday, Feb. 13

**8 p.m. Jazz at Holmes.** Lawrence Fields, piano. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

**8 p.m. Voice Recital.** Karen Hetzler, soprano & Henry Palkes, piano. Music of Handel, Mozart, Strauss, Pulenc and Barber. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

### Friday, Feb. 14

**8 p.m. OVATIONS!** Stephen Schwartz & Friends. (Also Feb. 15, 8 p.m.) Cost: \$27, \$22 for seniors, students, WUSTL faculty & staff, \$13 for WUSTL students. Edison Theatre. 935-6543.

### Sunday, Feb. 16

**3 p.m. Concert.** Washington University Symphony Orchestra, Dan Presgrave, dir. Music of Vivaldi, Chabrier, and Shostakovich. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

### Thursday, Feb. 20

**8 pm. Jazz at Holmes.** Ptah Williams, piano. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

## On Stage

### Friday, Feb. 7

**7 p.m. Play Performance.** *Wit*. Presented by the Barnes-Jewish Hospital Ethics Committee and WUSTL School of Medicine Program for the Humanities. (Reception and discussion follows.) Eric P. Newman Education Center. 362-6298.

### Thursday, Feb. 20

**8 p.m. Performing Arts Department Performance.** *Psalms of a Questionable Nature*. Marisa Wegzyn, writer. Heidi Winters Vogel, dir. (Also Feb. 21, 8 p.m., Feb. 22, 5 & 9 p.m., Feb. 23, 2 p.m.) Cost: \$12, \$8 for WUSTL faculty, staff, & students. Edison Theatre, A.E. Hotchner Studio Theatre. 935-6543.

## Sports

### Friday, Feb. 14

**6 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. Emory U.** Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

**8 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. Emory U.** Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

### Sunday, Feb. 16

**3 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. Case Western Reserve U.** Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

**1 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. Case Western Reserve U.** Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

## And more...

### Friday, Feb. 7

**7 p.m. Gallery of Art Guided Tours.** Tours of *Contemporary German Art: Recent Acquisitions, Made in France: Art From 1945 to the Present*, and *Italian Renaissance Engravings, c. 1470-1510* led by student docents. Gallery of Art. 935-4523.

### Thursday, Feb. 13

**8 p.m. Writing Program Reading Series.** James Galvin, poet. Duncker Hall, Hurst Lounge. 935-7130.

### Monday, Feb. 17

**7 p.m. The Art of the Essay Writers Series Reading.** Katha Pollitt, poet and essayist. West Campus Lower Lvl. 935-5567.



Students construct buildings made of sugar cubes, graham crackers and peanut butter to simulate masonry and then see how earthquake-resistant the buildings are on the shake table of Shirley J. Dyke, Ph.D., associate professor of civil engineering. University engineers are reaching out to local schools to interest children, especially girls, in engineering opportunities early in their schooling.

## Engineers

— from Page 1

Seventeen were girls. The program was publicized on the cover of the Gifted Resource Center (GRC) Learning Lab flier.

She added, "I recruited fellow faculty in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, especially women, to each spend a 90-minute Saturday-morning session discussing their area of engineering and doing hands-on activities with the students. We visited six labs, including mine."

Okamoto specializes in medical applications and presented a session on the mechanical testing of blood vessels.

Okamoto said reaching girls early is key in letting them know that engineering can be an option for them.

"My goal is to get girls — and boys — interested in engineering in middle school," she said. "Unless a student has a relative who's an engineer, they probably don't have any idea what engineers do. I certainly didn't at that age."

"The prevailing wisdom is that reaching girls before they get to high school is important so that they take math and science courses and consider engineering as a career possibility."

Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert, Ph.D., assistant professor of biomedical engineering, who collaborates with the doctors who have

helped actor Christopher Reeve, has assisted Okamoto with the coordination responsibilities. She also conducted a learning lab on neural tissue engineering.

"I didn't really know what engineers do until college, so I think the GRC program is a great opportunity to get kids, especially girls, excited about engineering and to help them learn what different types of engineers do," Sakiyama-Elbert said.

"Design is a critical part of engineering, and in this workshop the students get to experience problem-solving through design, such as the building design for earthquake testing or designing satellites to survive launch stresses."

"Hopefully, if we spark their interest at an early age, we can change some of the misconceptions about science and engineering not being for women and encourage them to take more math and science courses."

Shirley J. Dyke, Ph.D., associate professor of civil engineering and noted earthquake engineering expert, presented a learning lab on protecting buildings from earthquakes. In this session, students created graham-cracker and sugar-cube buildings — and then saw the destruction wreaked on their constructions from a simulated earthquake on a shake table.

Other sessions include removing heavy metals from wastewater and building satellites.

## "Women in Engineering Day"

The Society of Women Engineers will be holding its annual "Women in Engineering Day" Feb. 8, according to Annie Carey, president of the society.

High school girls from the St. Louis area come to the University to interact with female engineering students and learn about career possibilities in engineering.

The high school students arrive on the evening of Feb. 7 and stay in the dorms with current engineering students to get a taste of college life.

The next day is packed with activities, including seminars conducted by faculty, the "Engineering Olympics," a duct-tape competition and a panel discussion with engineering students.

— Tony Fitzpatrick

Okamoto also is a departmental coordinator of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences' Learning Through Engineering and Applied Science Partnership, a program involving the Department of Education in Arts & Sciences and two St. Louis middle schools — one in the city, the other in the county — and University faculty and students.

dence halls.

"I think it really humanizes the faculty members. They have many other interests outside the classroom, and we are trying to make students feel more comfortable with the faculty as a resource — not only for their classroom knowledge, but their knowledge outside it as well."

The associates were each nominated by the students. The number of associates will increase to 27 for 2003-04, so faculty volunteers are needed, Stratton said.

Marvin H. Marcus, Ph.D., associate professor of Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures in Arts & Sciences, is enjoying his first year as a faculty associate, though he'd had very little interaction with the South 40 during his previous 17 years at the University.

He decided to give it a try on the recommendation of a colleague.

"I've truly enjoyed the adviser experience," Marcus said. "It's enabled me to get to know a terrific group of kids — on neutral turf. I think it's meant something to them to have had a close encounter with a faculty member who's not in the business of grading or prodding or

critiquing. And I know that it's meant a lot for me to not have to be their grader and prodder!"

"Thanks to the program, I think I've developed a more balanced and nuanced understanding of my student clientele. I'll certainly want to give this another try next year."

Students are enjoying seeing more of their professors outside of class.

"The Faculty Associates Program has enabled the residents on my floor to create a relationship with Professor Cytron (Ron K. Cytron, Ph.D., associate professor of computer science and engineering) that they would most likely never have within the classroom setting," said Lisa Warnke, an RA in Liggett Residence Hall.

"The program creates a bridge between academic life on campus and social life on the South 40."

"My residents are now able to see faculty members as real people with families of their own. The program makes my residents more comfortable approaching other professors in the classroom setting because of their relationship with Professor Cytron."

## Campus Watch

The following incidents were reported to University Police Jan. 29-Feb. 4. Readers with information that could assist in investigating these incidents are urged to call 935-5555. This information is provided as a public service to promote safety awareness and is available on the University Police Web site at [police.wustl.edu](http://police.wustl.edu).

### Jan. 29

6:31 p.m. — An unknown person stole long-distance telephone access codes from Anheuser-Busch Hall and made several international calls over winter break.

### Jan. 31

2:23 p.m. — An unknown person took two DVDs from the Anheuser-Busch Hall Law Library.

### Feb. 4

11:28 a.m. — A staff member reported the theft of a VCR from an audio-visual cart in a classroom in Anheuser-Busch Hall. Total loss is estimated at \$100.

*Additionally, University Police responded to three reports of medical emergency, two reports of larceny and one report each of disturbance, tow, auto accident, lost article and returned property.*

## Pediatric

— from Page 1

In addition, the rats exposed to anesthesia in infancy had significant learning and memory deficits, both at 1 month of age and in adulthood.

Rats were tested in several kinds of mazes that behavioral scientists commonly use to evaluate learning and memory. In all of these tests, rats that had been anesthetized in infancy were significantly worse than those that had not been given the standard anesthesia drug combination.

The researchers also examined brain slices from the hippocampus of month-old rats. They ran electrical currents through those slices to induce a process known as long-term potentiation (LTP), which is thought to occur during learning and memory formation.

Brain slices from rats that had been anesthetized with the three-drug "cocktail" had far less LTP activity than normal.

"In each part of this study, we found essentially what we expected," Jevtovic-Todorovic said. "Once we had confirmed cell death, we would have expected behavioral deficits, and we found those as the rats grew into adulthood."

"In the electrophysiological experiments, we also found evidence of disturbances in the neural circuits of the hippocampus, the brain region which, through those circuits, plays an important role in learning and memory."

The team also found that the rats appeared to behave normally in most other ways, and there were no outward signs of brain damage.

"That's important because if similar brain damage had occurred in a human infant, it appears there would not be any overt signs that would alert you to it," Olney said.

This study fits together with a line of research that has repeatedly identified a relationship between certain classes of drugs that inhibit nerve cell activity and damage to the developing brain.

Anesthetic drugs work in one of two ways, both of which inhibit nerve cell activity: Either they inhibit excitatory neurotransmission in the brain or they enhance inhibitory neurotransmission.

The excitatory system that stimulates nerve cells is what scientists call the NMDA glutamate transmitter system. In 1998, Jevtovic-Todorovic discovered that the drug nitrous oxide, or laughing gas, works by inhibiting the NMDA glutamate system. Another anesthetic drug, Ketamine, also works by inhibiting the NMDA glutamate system.

Other anesthetic drugs work by enhancing the inhibitory activity of GABA (Gamma Amino Butyric Acid), which is the primary inhibitory transmitter in the brain.

In related research, Olney and colleagues in Germany demonstrated that when the developing brain is exposed to drugs that block NMDA glutamate activity, nerve cells in the brain commit suicide. They also found that drugs that enhance GABA activity could cause nerve cells in the developing brain to self-destruct.

These findings prompted them to study alcohol, which is known to block NMDA glutamate activity and also to enhance GABA activity. They found that alcohol powerfully triggers nerve cell suicide in the developing brain, providing a likely explanation for the learning and memory disturbances associated with the human fetal alcohol syndrome.

More recently, Olney and his colleagues demonstrated that sodium channel-blocking drugs used in pediatric medicine to manage epilepsy also cause nerve cell suicide in the infant rat brain.

"In all of these studies, we have found that drugs that enhance GABA inhibition or that inhibit glutamate excitation can trigger massive cell suicide in the developing brain," Olney said. "If you put nerve cells to sleep when they are supposed to be making connections, it interferes with their timing, and nerve cells are programmed to kill themselves if they don't make their connections on time."

Part of the reason cells are programmed to self-destruct is that there is redundancy built into the system. An infant is born with an excess number of nerve cells, and some cell death is normal in the developing brain.

But Olney's team has found that when drugs interfere with the cell and put it to sleep when it is trying to make connections, the suicide rate rises to abnormally high proportions.

Previous studies by these researchers have helped explain how abuse of certain drugs, including alcohol, can damage the developing brain. But in the present study by Jevtovic-Todorovic and colleagues, the investigators found that drugs used commonly in pediatric anesthesia also can damage the developing brain.

According to Olney, this is a serious dilemma because anesthesia is required to do surgery, and surgery is the only option for some infants with life-threatening problems.

"But some pediatric surgery is elective," Olney said. "In light of these findings, I would recommend that if surgery really does not have to be performed early in life, it would be prudent to postpone it."

The investigators also suggest that some surgical procedures might not require general anesthesia, or in some cases the duration of general anesthesia could be reduced.

They also say that the common practice of keeping newborns continuously sedated in pediatric intensive care units should carefully be evaluated in order to minimize potential damage from the sedating drugs.

## Faculty

— from Page 1

receive informal feedback from students that allows everyone to feel more effective in the classroom.

Faculty associates are encouraged to meet with students on the South 40, work closely with RAs, maintain regular contact with students on their designated floor and look for ways to interact comfortably with students.

The program, which started in 1997 with six associates and has expanded to 23, has had a positive impact on both faculty and students, said Jill Stratton, director of the Residential College Initiative and coordinator of the Faculty Advisor Program.

"When I first came here 10 years ago, there were not many faculty members visible on the South 40," Stratton said.

"Forsyth Boulevard was really a major dividing point. Now with the introduction of this program and others, it is not uncommon to see faculty having dinner with students or meeting with them in the resi-

## Notables

### Of note

**Saulo Klahr, M.D.**, the John E. and Adaline Simon Professor of Medicine and professor of radiology, and physician-in-chief of The Jewish Hospital from 1991-96 and director of the Renal Division from 1972-1991, has received The Edward N. Gibbs Memorial Lectureship & Award in Nephrology from the New York Academy of Medicine in New York City. This lectureship honors a physician who had made significant scientific advances in kidney disease. ...

**Venkatesh Aiyagari, D.M.**, assistant professor of neurology, has received a two-year, \$120,706 grant from the American Heart Association for research titled "Autoregulation of Cerebral Blood Flow in Acute Ischemic Stroke." ...

**Hilary M. Babcock, M.D.**, instructor in medicine, has received a three-year, \$243,000 grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health for research titled "Body Substance Exposure: Psychological Impact." ...

**Sheng-Kwei (Victor) Song, Ph.D.**, instructor in radiology, has received a three-year, \$496,973 grant from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for research titled "In Vivo Characterization of CNS White Matter Injury." ...

**Carl H. Smith, M.D.**, professor of pediatrics and pathology, has received a three-year, \$210,276 grant from the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation for research titled "Placental Hypoxia and Trophoblast Amino Acid Transport." ...

**Brad A. Racette, M.D.**, assis-

tant professor of neurology, has received a five-year, \$562,275 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for research titled "Parkinson Disease Neuro-protective Trial: Clinical Center." ...

**Joshua S. Shimony, M.D.**, Ph.D., instructor in radiology, received the Neuroradiology Education and Research Foundation/Boston Scientific-Target Fellowship in Cerebrovascular Disease Research for his research on "Improved MR Methods for Evaluation of Brain Perfusion in Patients with Carotid Stenosis." ...

**Tej K. Pandita, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of radiation oncology, has received a one-year, \$371,172 grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for research titled "Chromatin-Telomere Structure and at Genomic Sensitivity" and a one-year, \$25,000 grant from the Children's Project for research titled "Telomeres, Telomerase and Lifespan of Brain Cells of Atm Null Mice."

### Obituary

#### Summers, 82

**Joseph H. Summers** died Monday, Feb. 3, 2003, in Rochester, N. Y., after a brief illness. He was 82. Summers was a professor of English from 1959-1966 and chair of the English department from 1963-64. A memorial service will be held March 1 in Rochester.



**Interdisciplinary forum** Children and Youth Forum keynote speaker William A. Peck, M.D., executive vice chancellor for medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine, addresses conference participants and other speakers, including (seated, from left) Sheila Bader, director of the Project on Children and Youth; Joel Seligman, J.D., the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor and dean of the School of Law, and Shanti K. Khinduka, Ph.D., the George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor and GWB dean, Jan. 24 in the Bryan Cave Moot Courtroom in Anheuser-Busch Hall. The forum, which brought together not only representatives from 100 local agencies involved in serving children and youth but also University faculty and staff members, was the first step in creating an Interdisciplinary Institute for Children and Youth. The institute, in partnership with community-based groups, will support projects that study children and youth issues from a variety of perspectives, including social work, legal and medical.

## Relay for Life raises funds to fight cancer

By KIMBERLY LEYDIG

**W**ant to spend part of a weekend helping the fight against cancer while getting in shape for summer?

The University is a sponsor of the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life event March 15-16 on Francis Field. Teams of eight to 15 people will camp out overnight while taking turns walking, jogging or running around the track from 6 p.m.-6 a.m.

Relay for Life — the American

Cancer Society's signature event — raises money for cancer research and education and helps fund advocacy services while raising awareness about the impact cancer has on our community.

In an effort to end cancer, more than 2 million people and 450,000 cancer survivors helped raise \$243 million at thousands of event sites across the world last year.

Student Teresa Edwards, who is helping organize the event, explained that the "Luminaria Ceremony" will be one of the

event's highlights.

"It's often called the 'Ceremony of Hope' because it provides an opportunity for people to work through their grief and find hope," she said.

After the ceremony, cancer survivors will walk the first lap of the relay. A reception in their honor will be held after the event.

Participants must pay a \$10 registration fee and raise \$100 prior to the relay. For more information, e-mail questions to relay@retech.wustl.edu.

## Campus Authors

Richard "Red" Watson, Ph.D., professor of philosophy in Arts & Sciences

### *Cogito, Ergo Sum: The Life of René Descartes*

(David R. Godine, 2002)

**H**e gambled when playing cards, he slept in the nude, he fathered a child out of wedlock and he smoked tobacco laced with marijuana.

But René Descartes (1596-1650) also was a mathematical genius, physicist and physiologist.

And until now, no one had written a book for the general population about the life, times and ideas of Descartes. But with *Cogito, Ergo Sum: The Life of René Descartes*, Richard "Red" Watson, Ph.D., professor of philosophy in Arts & Sciences, has done just that.

"There are dozens of biographies of Descartes written by philosophers for philosophers," Watson said. "Most of them are 'life and works' biographies by scholars more interested in the works than in the life. All but two or three of them just repeat stories about Descartes' life that first appeared in Adrien Baillet's 1691 *Life of Descartes*, and very few of them are based on any original research on Descartes' life."

"The exception is that many of these biographers are very concerned about the order of composition of Descartes' works, and about the actual and possible evolution of his thought. Some of these works are quite wonderful in detail and detection, but none of them is accessible to general readers."

"Descartes is one of the

great architects of Western thought, and I believe that general readers should know about his philosophy and his life in accessible terms. So I have written that book for anybody who can read."

Descartes' philosophy refused to accept the Aristotelian and Scholastic traditions that had dominated philosophical thought throughout the medieval period. Instead, Descartes sought to integrate philosophy with the "new" sciences, and he changed the relationship between philosophy and theology. Such new directions for philosophy made Descartes a revolutionary figure.

The two most widely known of Descartes' philosophical ideas are those of a method of hyperbolic doubt, and the argument that, though he may doubt, he cannot doubt that he exists (hence cogito, ergo sum, or "I think, therefore I am").

In several ways, Descartes is considered a rebel.

"First, of course, he rebelled against the prevailing metaphysics and science of his day, that of Aristotle," Watson said. "In doing this, he was rebelling against the Catholic Church and particularly the Jesuits, who taught Aristotle in the Catholic schools. Descartes wanted to replace Aristotle, a very audacious ambition."

"Then he rebelled against the French establishment by going to live in the Netherlands. He could have found both disciples and patronage (he was offered pen-

sions by rich noblemen) in France.

"He just wanted to be independent of rich patrons and the court and also of the social life and obligations or residence in France and in Paris. I say that he was a true Frenchman in that he chose liberty, the liberty of living in a foreign land."

In four decades of probing, Watson has uncovered more than a few piquant secrets in the life of Descartes. Much of this he describes in this book, which was 15 years in the making.

In bringing a more personal view of Descartes to readers, Watson followed Descartes' path through much of Europe, from his birthplace to his death and all points in between.

"I became interested in Descartes' life about 15 years ago when I began to wonder why Descartes had accepted Queen Christina's invitation to go to Sweden," Watson said. "Descartes did go, he caught pneumonia, and he died there on 11 Feb., 1650."

"But all his rules of life, and the way he lived his life, go against his accepting the offer of a queen to enter her court. Also he was Catholic and she was Lutheran. It was a mystery."

"So I started work on a monograph, *The Death of Descartes*. As I worked on that project, my interest in his life and my research on his life expanded until it finally resulted in a full-scale biography."

— Andy Clendennen



**Stuart I. Greenbaum, Ph.D. (left)**, dean of the Olin School of Business, and **Ken Harrington**, director of the Skandalaris Entrepreneurship Program, flank (from left) **Chris Wycoff**, **Laura Crowley**, **Eric Hovey** of the "QuickScout" team, which finished first in the recent Olin Cup competition.

## Idea to expedite game film wins Olin Cup competition

**E**ight teams participated in the "Olin Cup Competition" recently at the Olin School of Business — part of the school's Skandalaris Entrepreneurship Program in the Center for Experiential Learning (CEL).

Inaugurated upon the dedication of the Olin School in 1988, the competition is the culminating activity for students enrolled in the school's "Hatchery" class.

Participants analyze, write and present their business concepts to a panel of judges, who determine the teams that best exemplify entrepreneurial spirit, strategic business thinking and high-quality deliverables. Eight teams made final presentations.

The first-place winner was "QuickScout," a business that expedites game film exchange among coaches in collegiate athletics. The team comprised Olin School undergraduates Laura Crowley and Eric Hovey and second-year master of business administration student Chris Wycoff.

Second place went to "Nucleus Remodeling Inc.," an early stage developer of platform technology related to pluripotent stem cells. The technology has multiple applications in the areas of regenerative medicine

and tissue engineering.

Team members were second-year M.B.A. students Mike Gavornik, Kin Ji and Shashidhar Rao, and professional master of business students David Kolwyck and Joshua Peck.

"Test Experience," the third-place winner, helps high school students improve their SAT scores by providing a rapid and detailed analytical feedback on test performance, targeted study guides and practice sessions tailored to address weaknesses.

Second-year M.B.A. students Sean Cunningham, Steve Gradman, Michael Feinglass, Jason Stadler and Robert Wolf made up the team.

"The competition was extraordinary, and I am very proud of the outstanding work all the teams put forth," said Ken Harrington, director of the Skandalaris Entrepreneurship Program. "We thank the Skandalaris family for their generous support, which is helping to develop Olin's entrepreneurship program into one of the finest in the country."

The winning teams will have their names engraved on the silver Olin Cup, on display in the CEL office in Simon Hall.

## Washington People

**W**elcome to the Fun House. OK, so if you want to get technical, it's officially known as the Office of Undergraduate Admissions — Room 135 in South Brookings Hall.

But with Delise LePool sitting behind the front desk, the fun never ends.

If she's not embracing you in a group hug, she's waving to you and saying "Hey baby, how ya doing?" And if she actually knows you, you'd better fasten your seat belt because it's going to be a wild, fun ride.

But that's just who Delise LePool is. LePool, a receptionist in undergraduate admissions, leaves a lasting memory on everyone she comes in contact with, whether it's a prospective student, a former student or faculty and



Friends surround Delise LePool wherever she goes. Here, surrounding her in one of her famous group hugs, are (clockwise, from top left) Chris Jensen, Dominic Robinson, Jerome Strickland, Jason Yerep, Pam Bookbinder, Alex Harmon, Jen Grusby and Julie Koppel.

# Making everyone feel special

**Admissions' Delise LePool loves her job, and she'll quickly make a believer out of you**

BY ANDY CLENDENNEN

staff members.

"I've heard from so many people that Delise is the heart and soul of the admissions office," Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton says. "From what I can tell, they're not exaggerating. Her great sense of humor, outgoing personality and commitment to the University make her an essential member of our community. She has touched and influenced the lives of many people on this campus."

It's the students, though, who have a special place in her heart. She is often one of the first people prospective students meet when visiting the University, and as such, she takes her responsibilities seriously — whether it's a student in the Class of 2006 or a fourth-year student preparing for law school.

Even after being gone just over Christmas break, students come back in a rush to say hello to LePool and participate in her famous group hugs, catch up on the latest happenings on and off campus and just hang out.

"The students? Man, they so are awesome," LePool says. "I think that's one of the main reasons I'm here, because even after they graduate or even after they go study elsewhere, they e-mail me, they stay in contact with me."

"When they come back from break, as you see, I get love. You know, it's one of the best feelings in the world."

LePool, a St. Louis native, started at the Hilltop Campus in 1993 as an assistant manager with Spann Building Maintenance, working evenings. A job for a receptionist opened in the Department of Facilities Planning

and Management, which LePool applied for and received. It was then that her love affair with the University and its people started.

She wanted something bigger, but it seemed that it was all a far-away dream.

"I started working at facilities and made a lot of good friends, and I knew when I came on campus that this was someplace I really wanted to work," she says. "But I didn't think it was something that would ever happen for me because I thought it was way out there over my head. But everyone kept on me, told me I had to keep looking for a job."

Four years later, LePool interviewed for a job as a telephone operator just days after breaking her foot climbing over some construction at Goldfarb Hall.

After her interview, the job was all but hers. When she found out, "I jumped so high off the bed that I re-injured my ankle and tore ligaments, I was so excited. I said 'Oh my God, you are so kidding me.' I was uncontrollable."

It was no joke. She had the job, and 18 months after she started, her current job of receptionist opened. She was a natural.

Of course, she wasn't doing anything differently than she ever had before.

"I knew Delise before she became the cruise director here at Washington University," head football coach Larry Kindbom says. "She worked some weekend hours for the cleaning crew in the Field House. She was always cheerful, always positive. She had a handle on picking up my — and everyone else's — spirits, inspiring me to raise my level of attitude. I am not sure I have always known what that meant."

"One day I walked into admissions and saw her sitting at control central. She had earned her University degree while working two jobs — three if you count the phonathons. I was humbled and energized at the same time, a response many of us have to Delise in her presence."

So much so that coaches take prospective student-athletes to meet LePool, or parents come by to talk and hang out, or students bring their friends to meet LePool. Such is the impact and influence her positive personality has on people.

"In (the admissions office), Washington University culture begins," Kindbom says. "People

smile; parents feel at ease.

Laughter, loud laughter, breaks the tension, and the true bond with our school begins. Her engaging personality is filled with common sense and humor. She immediately demystifies any sense of bureaucracy.

"Spontaneously, and usually to the astonishment of everyone in the room, she calls the biology department to schedule an appointment in 15 minutes to meet with a prospective student, saying, 'That's okay, baby, they love me over there.' In the same breath, she introduces a female prospective art student from Memphis, Tenn., to 'her favorite football coach' while attending to a visit request on the phone with a prospective student. And while doing so, she makes everyone feel special."

Because to LePool, everyone is special. And to treat them any differently would be a disservice to both the students and to her.

"There is something about Washington University and the students that go here that I think it would be a total loss to not to get to know as many students as you can," she says. "I haven't met one student that doesn't show appreciation for everything you do for them."

"And not only that, but I threaten them. I say that when they graduate and are rich and famous, if they don't remember me I'll kill 'em. I wouldn't miss out on any of that, not at all."

"Four years is a lot of time to build a relationship with a student, and even if you don't see them for four, five or six years, one of the things I've learned is that I have students that graduated two or three years ago that are still coming back. When they come on campus, they come to see me and that is a big, big thrill."

"Then I'm sitting there and as embarrassing as it may be, I don't even know their name, and I just call them 'baby' because it's been so long since they graduated. But they are coming in to see me. It makes coming to work easy. Even on a Monday!"

At Staff Day in 2002, LePool was awarded the Gloria W. White Distinguished Service Award, created to recognize people that strengthen the University's ability to promote learning; help create a positive working and learning environment; improve the wider community; and enhance the

University's reputation.

"When the first 'Hall of Fame for Exceptional Service' is opened, Delise will have the longest list of students, parents, alumni, faculty, staff and office colleagues to nominate her on the first ballot," says John Berg, associate vice chancellor for undergraduate admissions. "She is one-of-a-kind."

And that being the case, there was little doubt that LePool deserved the White award. Well, little doubt among people other than herself.

"I looked and said, 'That's not for real, is it? Uh-uh, that's a joke,'" LePool says. "Everyone said it was for real, and I was just crying. I just lost myself, because what I do, I do because I love it."

"You don't think that when you do something you love that you'd get a certain amount of recognition for it, because you love it."

"So I'm kind of confused as to why it is people feel the need to acknowledge what I do, when if I wasn't doing what I was doing I would be sad. And I really would. I love what I do."

### Delise LePool

**Years at University:** Almost 10

**Vices:** Elvis Presley movies and Archie comic books: "I have over 400 of those. And one of the admissions officers tells me that Archie is not a real comic book, and I should read Superman or Batman. But I love Archie, love Archie totally."

**Why she loves WUSTL:** "I love the architecture; I love the landscaping; I love coming down Brookings Drive; I love walking across campus and watching the squirrels get out of my way. The campus pulls you in with the beauty of it. In the spring and fall, man, you're talking about beauty."

**The impact of her 27-year-old son, Anthony, a computer graphics designer in Chicago, on her:** "I'm very proud of that young man. He's an albino and was labeled as someone with a learning disability. Children at a young age are not what we'd call the nicest, so he didn't have an easy time with the public school system. When he went to school and would come home every day, I'd ask how his day was, he'd never tell me. It was always, 'OK, great, wonderful'; he never complained. The only way I found out if anything negative happened was if a principal or teacher called me. It was very important to me to let him know that no matter what negative he met on the outside, that when you come home, you are coming into love. That had a lot to do with how I want people to leave my office feeling."



LePool is flanked by her son, Anthony LePool, and her mother, Mary Luster, on Staff Day 2002. LePool's family was on hand to see her receive the Gloria W. White Distinguished Service Award.