Kidneys for cash?
Ethical questions aside, researchers study hypothetical cost-effectiveness

BY NICOLE VINE

The numbers are scary — especially if you're one of the 55,000 Americans waiting for a kidney transplant.

"Last year, only 13,600 of them got kidneys. Another 3,000 died on the waiting list," said Mark Schnitzler, Ph.D., assistant professor of health administration in the School of Medicine, and co-principal investigator with Andrew Matas, M.D., professor of surgery at the University of Minnesota, set up a mathematical model to determine the value of the donated kidney.

"We should also value the chance of being successful and can happen quickly, often in less than a year," Schnitzler said. "But what if society chose to pay living, unrelated donors for their kidneys? Setting all ethical issues aside — how much would one of your kidneys be worth?"

Society saves money, whether it would be economically efficient donor kidneys or donated organs. For the recipient of a living, unrelated donor kidney transplant, the estimated medical expense for 20 years following transplant is $277,600. The expected medical cost of a dialysis patient for that long is $372,179.

"The difference of $94,579 is the expected savings that would be generated by a living, unrelated donor — a savings that could be paid to the donor without increasing costs," Schnitzler said.

However, Schnitzler and Matas said there are additional benefits. "We should also value the extra life — the quality of life — that patients get following transplant," Schnitzler said.

"If you compare that to what we already are thinking of doing for dialysis, it increases the value of the donated kidney even more."

The recipient of a living, unrelated donor's kidney can expect, on average, nearly nine extra years of life after transplant. If that patient had remained on dialysis for life, he or she could only expect 5.4 years.

Schnitzler said assuming society values the gained life at the same rate it's willing to pay for this kidney, the value of the kidney is $277,600.

"(The arts) enlighten us, they enrich us, they give shape and meaning to our lives." — Warren E. Buffett

"The arts" enlighten us, they enrich us, they give shape and meaning to our lives.

BY ANDY CLENDENNEN

It's one of the most important positions at the University. Its occupants have their own day, they put in long hours and without them, most offices would fall apart at the seams.

So when an administrative assistant position becomes available, managers want good candidates as soon as possible, to hold things together and keep everyone in their office happy.

To help ease — and quicken — the transition period between one administrative assistant leaving and another one coming in, the Office of Human Resources has implemented an "administrative pool.

The idea is to quickly supply hiring managers with talented candidates that are a great match in skills and work behaviors for their particular administrative opening. The goal is to have administrative candidates who have been pre-assessed and ready to go.

This Week In WUSTL History

April 20, 1945

Arthur Holly Compton, the 1947 Nobel Prize-winner in physics, accepted an appointment to become the University's ninth chancellor.

April 22, 1972

Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren spoke at the dedication of the Warren E. Mittel Hall about "The Blessing of Liberty."

This feature will be included in each 2009-10 issue of the Record in observance of Washington University's 150th anniversary.

BY GERRY EVERTING

Our Rivers: A Sustainable Resource? will be the focus of a public education forum that four University faculty will lead as part of an April 22-23 community-wide symposium being held in conjunction with the fifth annual St. Louis Earth Day celebration.

"Dialogue for Development: Investing in Sustainable Communities" is the unifying theme of the two-day Earth Day Symposium, to be held at the Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd. The University is co-sponsoring the symposium as part of its celebration of 150 years.

Related: Environmental Initiative Colloquium April 21 to be moderated by Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. Page 6

Grand groundbreaking more than 1,000 people gathered April 14 for the groundbreaking of the Sam Fox Art Center's Midland Kemper Art Museum and Earl E. and Myrtle E. Walker Hall.

Speakers included Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton, John F. McDonnell, chairman of the Board of Trustees; Fox (above, center), founder and chief executive officer of Harbour Group Ltd.; David W. Kemper, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees and chairman, president and chief executive officer of Commerce Bancshares Inc.; Earl Walker; founder and chief executive officer of Carr Lane Manufacturing Co.; architect Fumihiko Maki (above, right); Mark S. Well, Ph.D., the E. Desmond Lee Professor for Collaboration in the Arts and director of the Sam Fox Arts Center; and internationally known artist Frank Stella, who presented the keynote address. At top are (from left) McDonnell, Wrighton, Marion and Sam Fox, Maki and Stella. (Photos by Joe Angell)

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The Arts: PAD to stage The Good Person of Szechwan at Edison

Washington People: Pratim Biswas has built a top-notch aerosol group

Networked reception Anne Chao (right), a 1981 alumna of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, and Mark Hannah (background, left), a 1998 alumna of Arts & Sciences, chat with students Hana Nyklova and David Patterson during The Academy of Arts & Sciences' recent Student and Alumni Networking Reception at Uammish Lounge. The annual event provides students an opportunity to learn about the career paths of alumni — how they got from the University to where they are now.

Sustainable management of rivers is focus of Earth Day forum April 22

New HR pool helps match applicants with positions

Related: Environmental Initiative Colloquium April 21 to be moderated by Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. Page 6

A collaboration that involves 39 organizations, government entities and companies,

The program's goal is to provide the St. Louis community with new tools and strategies to enable profitable development, a clean environment and the long-term livability of healthy, dynamic communities.

The University-led program on sustainable rivers will be held from 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. April 22 and will feature Pratim Biswas, Ph.D., director of the Environmment.

An interdisciplinary symposium being held in conjunction with the fifth annual St. Louis Earth Day celebration.

See Pool, Page 6

The Good Person of Szechwan

Treasuring the Record...
Roman installed into Welge presidency

By Tony Fitzpatrick

G

nisu-Catalin Roman, Ph.D., professor and chair of computer science and engineering, was installed as the Harold B. and Adeleide G. Welge Professor of Computer Science in a ceremony April 8 in Uncas A. Whita

ker Hall for Biomedical Engineering.

The professorship was created in 1988 by a University alumnus and his wife in the "hope that engineering education and research may be made more effective in present years, as well as years to come..."

Harold Brinton Welge earned a bachelor's degree in architectural engineering in 1930 and a master's degree in structural engineering in 1933 from the University.

He spent more than 26 years as a mechanical engineer and administrator with Procter & Gamble in St. Louis and Cincinnati, before retiring to work for the St. Louis Water Division. He retired in 1979 and died in 1980. Adealide Gaines Welge earned two degrees from the University of Pittsburgh, a bachelor's in general science and a master's in mathematics. She worked as a buyer for a major department store in Pittsburgh before marrying Harold in 1939.

"Her career took her on business trips to Europe, where she became interested in fashion design and costume," she died in 1990.

In 1975, at the age of 25, he also earned a law degree from Washington University. He became professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science in 1977, just the third person to head the department.

In recent years, he has led his computer science colleagues through dramatic transformations.

In just five years, the faculty size reached an all-time high of 25. Thirty faculty members were hired as part of a successful recruiting effort, and three transferred into the department as a result of a restructuring that consolidated the computer engineering and computer science programs into a single department, the Department of Computer Science and Engineering.

Roman's research spans a broad range of computer science subjects, including mobile computing, formal design methods, visualization, requirements and design methodologies for distributed systems, interactive high-speed computer vision algorithms, formal languages, biological simulation, computer graphics and distributed databases.

His international reputation played a critical role in securing St. Louis as the host city for the 2005 International Conference on Software Engineering, for which he will serve as general chair.

Baseball in Japan, U.S. focus of today's forum

By Gerry Everding

"The forum focuses on baseball teams in Japan, the United States and Japan's Orbit BlueWave baseball teams at 2 p.m. today in the

ar Care Move Courtroom of Anheuser-Busch Hall...." The forum will feature BlueWave owner Yoshikiko Miyachi, chairwoman of the Orbit Corp.; Frederick O. Hamer, vice chairman of the St. Louis Cardinals; and the third person to head the department.

Washington University is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2003-04. Special programs and announcements will be made throughout the yearlong observance.
Brain activity changes in Tourette syndrome

By Jim Dryden

Scientists have known for years that abnormal brain activity involving a brain chemical called dopamine is somehow connected to the movements and vocalizations of people associated with Tourette syndrome. New researchers have found that brain activity in these patients is abnormal in a memory task.

"We've observed in the living brain a dopamine-sensitive abnormality in people with tics. That's been hypothesized for 40 years, but this is the first time it's been demonstrated," said Kevin J. Black, M.D., assistant professor of psychiatry, of neurology and of radiology. "That's been hypothesized for 40 years, but this is the first time it's been demonstrated. We actually have a direct demonstration of abnormal brain activity in people with Tourette syndrome that is corrected when they're given a dopamine-type medication." The study was published online and will appear in May in the Journal of Biological Psychiatry.

Using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), the researchers studied people with tics and Tourette syndrome patients with 10 healthy adults the same age and gender. Brain scans were taken while participants performed a memory task that involved remembering and identifying letters on a computer screen. Brain scans were taken while participants performed a memory task that involved remembering and identifying letters on a computer screen. Brain scans were taken while participants performed a memory task that involved remembering and identifying letters on a computer screen. Brain scans were taken while participants performed a memory task that involved remembering and identifying letters on a computer screen.

"The task measures working memory, a type of short-term memory that involves communication on several things at once. We chose to look at the brain's response to a working memory task because past research has shown that memory could be affected by dopamine levels in the brain," said first author Tamara Hershey, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychiatry.

"We also know dopamine is involved in tics, but if we looked at a task that involved movement, for example, the fact that some tics involve movement could have made it harder to interpret the differences in brain activity. In terms of speed and accuracy during the memory task, there were no differences between the two groups, but fMRI scans revealed that several brain areas were more active in Tourette syndrome patients than in healthy participants.

The clearest differences were in a brain region called the parietal cortex, at the top of the brain roughly in between the front and back of the head. Tourette syndrome patients also had increased activity in the medial frontal gyrus and in the thalamus, which as the brain's relay station between the outer layer, or cortex, and the rest of the nervous system.

"People with tics couldn't perform this task just as well as people without them, so it's not something that involves a difference in out-put," Black said. "Therefore, we believe any differences we saw in the fMRI scans reflect changes in the way the brain is working."

To determine whether the results were related to dopamine abnormalities, Hershey, Black and their colleagues gave all participants an intravenous infusion of the drug levodopa. When the two groups repeated the original working memory task, brain activity in healthy participants was unchanged. In Tourette patients, however, the areas that had been abnormally overactive were substantially less active after treatment.

"Levodopa seems to normalize the excess activity we had seen in the working memory task in the group with tics," Hershey said. "There were changes in activity in the other structures, too, but the changes in the parietal cortex were the most dramatic.

Before deciding which brain scan belonged to which participant, Black looked at the patients' medical histories and used a standard method of rating the severity of their illness. He found that those with the most severe history of Tourette syndrome who showed the most levodopa decreases in brain activity during the working memory task.

Black and Hershey plan to look at brain activity during different tasks to see whether they can find more dopamine-related differences.

"We are finalizing a treat-ment study to determine if levodopa helps control tics in Tourette syndrome patients.

Coverage of the uninsured focus of panel discussion

By Kimberle Lietz

St. Louis experts on health-care issues and public policy will discuss medical care and coverage for the uninsured at "Cover the Uninsured Week," a national campaign aimed at training awareness of the health-care access crisis across the country.

Panelists and speakers include: Tim McBride, Ph.D., Saint Louis University's School of Medicine; Gail Heiler, M.D., Washington University's Siteman Cancer Center; William A. Peck, M.D., director of the University's Office of Medical Affairs; and Glendia Hatton, president of the Missouri Physicians Association.

The panel discussion titled, "The True Cost of Health Care," will be held at 3:30 p.m. April 21 at the Eric P. Newman Education Center at Washington University's Barnes-Jewish Hospital Campus. The event will be free and open to the public.

"We've had tremendous support from the Hilltop Campus," Peck said. "Every year it's easier to find people willing to attend. And it's amazing how many resources there are to help us. We have two distinguished guests from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, who are not only journalists, but also doctors and researchers. And we have a very community-minded speaker, Dr. Hatton.

"I think this service can be very helpful to young faculty and staff in learning the 'correct' way to author a manuscript or grant," Lietz said. "It will also help the medical student or medical school resident understand the idea, including Timothy J. Eberlein, M.D., the Baby Professor and chairman of the Department of Surgery and director of the Siteman Cancer Center."

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Brecht's The Good Person of Szechwan

By Lisa Otten

IT is an unwise world, is it possible to be good? That is the dilemma posed by The Good Person of Szechwan. Bertolt Brecht's provocatively modern parable parses the tensions and alliances between virtue and ruthlessness.

In 1931, the Performing Arts Department and the Center for the Humanities in Arts and Sciences present The Good Person of Szechwan as its spring MainStage production in Edison Theatre.

Performances will be at 8 p.m. April 16-17, at 2 p.m. April 18 at 8 p.m. April 23-24, and at 2 p.m. April 27.

The Good Person of Szechwan tells the story of Shen Teh (junior Deprit Ramkumar), a kindly, heart-bent, but penniless prostitute who, after everyone else in his village has refused, agrees to take in three weary travelers. Carrie Lewis, Judith Lesser and Daniel Malmberg.

Both travelers, however, actually are a trio of gods, who reward Shen Teh's generosly with 1,000 silver dollars, which she uses to purchase her own freedom. Shen Teh's newfound wealth, however, brings its own problems, making her a target for all manner of freeloaders. To protect her integrity, Shen Teh invents a male alter ego, the hard-nosed, unscrupulous Qiu XCaing, to a Western reader, the character in Qi's novels quote poetry with unusual frequency. "Most novels in China contain much more poetry than Western novels, at the start of the chapter, at the end, and in the middle — and sometimes they use a poem to introduce a new character," Qiu said. "This is a tradition that has somehow necessary in order to be good! His answers are not easy, but they resonate profoundly in our own troubled times."
The St. Louis Project at St. Louis Public Library April 16-18

BY LIAM OTTEN

Krzysztof Wodiczko's project is poignant and provocative community art that brings into sharp focus the shocking effects of violence and the healing power of art. See it broadcast onto the St. Louis Public Library April 16-18.

The piece consists of audio transmitted from a half-dozen St. Louis residents who have lost loved ones to violence, remonstrating voices of prisoners now on death row in such a way that the Missouri State Correctional Facility in Fyens. Accompanying each piece is an image taped onto the library's southern facade.

The effect is strikingly anthropomorphic, as if the library itself were speaking to the city. At the same time, though the stories hold, the public is often trembling, the process of telling them is, for both participants and the community, an on-going therapy.

Several of those who have lost loved ones are able to voice their grief in this powerful yet constructive public forum, while those who have not been able to forgive may be able to express regret and warn of the costs they have paid for their actions.

The St. Louis Public Library is a beautiful and historic building. Wodiczko said, "It filled me with a million different perspectives, with a strong, monumental presence. It is a place where we can discuss these themes of loss and healing and justice."

He pointed out that the library's inscription reads, in part, 'Bounded by thought, the spirit of the past, the most lasting legacy we can leave to the future is the human spirit.'

In Wodiczko, St. Louis will speak. Art History and the Schools of Architecture and Art, The St. Louis Project is one of several events such as April 14 groundbreaking of the St. Louis Focus Arts Center.

Wodiczko, director of the Center for Advanced Visual Studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has realized slide and video projections on more than a dozen historic monuments and architectural facades in more than a dozen countries. These include the Art Institute of Chicago's Old Hall Memorial in Boston; the Abby Hoffman Nursing home, Chicago; and Germany and the Bundeshaus in Bern, Switzerland.

In 1999, Wodiczko received the Hiroshima Prize, awarded every three years by the Japanese city of Hiroshima for projects that have contributed to world peace. (Capitol) in Bern, Switzerland. Wodiczko, director of the Center for Advanced Visual Studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has resolved slide and video projections on more than a dozen historic monuments and architectural facades in more than a dozen countries. These include the Art Institute of Chicago's Old Hall Memorial in Boston; the Abby Hoffman Nursing home, Chicago; and Germany and the Bundeshaus in Bern, Switzerland.

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The University's yearlong Sequoientient Environmental Initiative Collegiate Forum will continue at 2 p.m. April 21 with a program on "Sustainable Practices and the Environment." The event will be held in the auditorium of Ursas A. pitcher Hill for Biomedical Engineering and is free and open to the public.

A panel will feature administrators from Harvard, Stanford and Arizona State universities and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Discussion will focus on various environmental educational and research initiatives for their respective campuses.

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton will preside.

For more information, go online to www.wustl.edu/environment.

--- Barbara Ros
**Introduction to new faculty members**

The following are among the new faculty members at the University. Others will be introduced pedagogically in this space.

**T.R. Kidder** joined the Department of Anthropology in Arts & Sciences as professor. He earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Wisconsin and a Ph.D. from Harvard in 1988. He has been a member of the Tulane faculty since completing his Ph.D., and in 2002 was named the inaugural dean of Tulane College. Kidder is a specialist in North American archaeology and ethnohistory, particularly the prehistoric and historic Indian cultures of the Southeast. His work concerns subsistence traditions, paleoecology, georadiocarbon dating, and the formation of hierarchical social systems, ceramic analysis, and the architecture of European contacts.

**Martin Jacobs** joined the Department of Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor of rabbinic studies. He also has a joint appointment in the program in Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies. Jacobs earned a habilitation (2002) and Ph.D. (1994) in Jewish studies from the Free University of Berlin. His research interests lie in the area of synthetic organic chemistry and include total synthesis of bioactive natural products and rational design of ligands and catalysts for asymmetric, chemical transformations. He recently completed postdoctoral studies at Columbia University, during which he accomplished the first total synthesis of merillactone A, a potent neural protectant that may be useful in the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s.

**University of Pennsylvania** in 2001-02.

Peter J. Martin joined the Department of Biology and the Department of Arts & Sciences as professor and director of the Yitzhak Rabin Research Center. He earned a Ph.D. from Duke University in 1982 and was previously professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution & Natural Resources at Rutgers University. Martin offers his expertise on a multi-billion dollar professional advisors panel including National Science Foundation, Research Foundation, Research, Scholarship, Scientific Advisory Board, Santa Barbara, Calif. Martin’s interests include contributions of microbial studies to our understanding of biodiversity and community ecology.

**Vladimir Briman** joined the Department of Chemistry in Arts & Sciences as associate professor. He earned a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2000 and a bachelor’s degree from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in 1995. His research interests lie in the area of synthetic organic chemistry and include total synthesis of bioactive natural products and rational design of ligands and catalysts for asymmetric, chemical transformations. He recently completed postdoctoral studies at Columbia University, during which he accomplished the first total synthesis of merillactone A, a potent neural protectant that may be useful in the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s.

**BY SUSAN KILLENBERG MCGINN**

Sarah Russell, associate dean of Arts & Sciences, died March 13, 2004, of a brain tumor at her home in Clayton. She was 43.

A native of Clayton, Russell’s affiliation with the University began when she enrolled as a freshman in 1959. After a 20-year hiatus to raise three children, she returned and earned a bachelor’s degree in 1982 and a master’s degree in 1983, both in English in Arts & Sciences.

In 1984, she joined the Department of English as a lecturer, teaching beginning and advanced writing courses. She received the Dean’s Award for Teaching, Excellence in 1986 and was named the Mortar Board Teacher of the Month in January 1991. She also taught a professional writing workshop in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work.

She was named associate dean of Arts & Sciences in 1990 and associate dean in 1994. Her responsibilities included serving as managing editor of the Arts & Sciences Newsletter, as liaison to the development office and as coordinator of the Arts & Sciences publications. She also oversaw Edison Theater, “Sarah was a wonderful leader and friend to so many people,” said Edward S. Mauzy, Ph.D., executive vice chancellor and provost of Arts & Sciences and the Basic Science Research Institute. David Thomas Ungar, distinguished professor in Arts & Sciences, said she had an optimistic outlook on life and in her work at the University.

“Russell helped so many people through her writing, her creativity and her use of words,” he said. “She believed deeply in Arts & Sciences and loved the Washington University community.”

She most recently served as a member of the 2004-05 Undergraduate Senate Sequoium Commission and as coordinator of the Arts & Sciences participation in the 150th anniversary celebration.

Russell also had a second career as an artist over the past 30 years. She exhibited her work, which included beaded vessels, cut paper collages and wearable beaded amulet bags, in solo shows as well as local and national juried exhibitions.

A memorial service will be held at 3:45 p.m. April 18 in Graham Chapel. Burial will be private.

Among the survivors are her husband, John Porter; two sons, Clark and Andrew Russell; a daughter, Margaret Berkes; her father, H. Richard Nussbaum; a sister, Mary Lang; a brother, Richard Nussbaum; three stepsons, Jonathan, Joshua and Justin Porter; and four grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorial contributions be made to the Sarah Nussbaum Russell Unrestricted Arts & Sciences Deans Fund, in care of Lisa Siddens, Washington University, Office of the Dean, Arts & Sciences, One Brookings Dr., Suite 662, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899.

**Russell, associate dean of Arts & Sciences; 63**

**Obituary**

**Excellence in Mentoring**

The Graduate Student Senate honored five faculty members with Outstanding Faculty Mentor Awards and another 21 faculty members with the Annual Faculty Mentor Award. The Graduate Student Senate also presented the 2003 Richard F. Nussbaum Russell Unrestricted Arts & Sciences Deans Fund, in care of Lisa Siddens, Washington University, Office of the Dean, Arts & Sciences, One Brookings Dr., Suite 662, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899.

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Pratim Biswas: Center, postdoctoral fellow Myonghwa Lee, Ph.D. (left), and doctoral student Prako Kumar. Biswas used equipment such as eddy covariance to measure smaller-edged magnetic oxides that are used in biomedical and environmental remediation applications.