Scientists grow norovirus in lab

Is common cause of food poisoning

BY MICHAEL C. PURDY

School of Medicine scientists have become the first to successfully grow a norovirus in the lab.

Noroviruses are a highly contagious source of diarrhea, vomiting and other stomach ailments that made headlines two years ago after a series of repeated outbreaks on cruise ships. These viruses are a major cause of human disease worldwide.

Researchers showed that the mouse norovirus MNV-1 could be grown inside cells found in the mouse stomach lining and in the mouse’s digestive tract.

"The ability to grow norovirus in vitro allows us to learn about the mouse virus and many of the findings we have made should be applicable to human noroviruses," says senior author Herbert W. "Skip" Virgin, M.D., Ph.D., professor of pathology and immunology and of molecular microbiology. "This part of the capital has an equivalent in human noroviruses. Altering or disabling it may give us a way to produce forms of the viruses that are more virulent and help us understand how these organisms cause disease in humans and animals."

In a study published in November in the online journal Public Library of Science-Biology, scientists who developed the new technique reported it may already have led them to a good target for vaccine development. "By looking at the mouse virus we've grown in the lab, we were able to identify a part of the capsid, the virus' protein shell, that is essential to its ability to cause disease," said senior author Herbert W. "Skip" Virgin, M.D., Ph.D., professor of pathology and immunology and of molecular microbiology. "If this part of the capsid has an equivalent in human noroviruses, altering or disabling it may give us a way to produce forms of the viruses that are more virulent and help us understand how these organisms cause disease in humans and animals."
Avenue in University City is - from Forest Park Parkway at Williams during construction. Some alleys closed over, the Research Distinguished RECORD Prize in chemistry. Ciechanovation of Aaron Ciechanover, M.D., professorships created achievements during the past accreditation visit and the prepa- tion of the detailed self-study. MetroLink operations. Residents in that area who park their cars in their garages and send their vehicles during those days need to have their cars out of the garages before 7 a.m. These dates and times may vary. For more information, call 935-7301.

Campus Watch

Martin Luther King’s legacy honored via campus events

Law dean advisory committee named

By Andy Cleckhans

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton has appointed an advisory committee to assist him in the search for the next dean of the School of Law.

Joel D. Seligman, J.D., dean of the School of Law and the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor, announced recently that he would be leaving Washington University to become president of the Uni- versity of Rochester. He is sched- uled to step down here June 30.

The Advisory Committee on the Appointment of the Dean of the School of Law is charged with identifying 3-5 individuals with the potential and leadership qualities sought. This is the new dean, Professor James Wrighton, who hopes to complete the appointment process by July. Wrighton has named David L. Stras, J.D., the Tyrell Williams Professor of Law and dean for academic affairs, to chair the committee.

Other committee members are: Jane Harris Aikin, J.D., the William C. Vax Cleve Professor of Law; Janet L. Bolin, associate professor of Biochemistry at Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, has been a visiting professor of pediatrics in the WUSTL School of Medicine since 1987.

Wrighton reported that applic- ations for the fall 2003 freshmen class are strong and currently are ahead of last year, as are applica- tions for early decision students. Campus visits by high school students are up, a sign of continu- ing interest in the University.

Notes were the recent installa- tions of four faculty members to endowed professorships created during the just-completed Campa- Ignio for Washington University Allogethe, 165 professorships were established during the campa.

Wrighton briefed the trus- ees on the appointment of Robert Seigelman, J.D., dean of the School of Law at the Ethn A.H. Shepley University Professor, as presi- dent of the University of Roches- ter. And the search for a suc- cejour to Olin School of Business Dean Stuart J. Greenhaus, Ph.D., also the Bank of America Professor of Managerial Leadersh.

Wrighton gave the trustees an up-tion on discussions regarding the establishment of the Richard A. Gephardt Institute of Public Affairs, which will continue to enhance the University’s outreach into the community through public service and student programs.

The trustees received standing committee reports on buildings and grounds development, employment policies, hill finance, research-gradient affairs, and undergraduate life, audit, medical finance, university finance, and the American Council of Education.

About David W. Detjen

Detjen, in addition to his role with Alston & Bird, is executive editor of the International Law Practicum, a publication of the New York State Bar Association, and several books ranging from how to arrange joint ventures with international partners to The Germans in Missouri, 1900-1918: Prohibitions, Neutrality, and Asylum, published in 1985. Detjen is a member of the American Bar Association, the New York State Bar Association, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, the Association of German Language and Literatures, and the Bar Association Schups Thomas and David M. Thomas Professor in the Humanities and by James W. Davis, Ph.D., professor of political science, and David Davis co-chaired the coordination of the accreditation visit and the prep- aration of the detailed self-study.

In his report to the trustees, Wrighton noted several significant accomplishments during the past few months, including the rec- eption of Aaron Ciechanover, M.D., professorships created achievements during the past accreditation visit and the prepa-

MetroLink

Several accidents closed during construction - from Page 1

Forest Park Parkway at Williams University Avenue in City is closed. All pedestrians must use the pedestrian underpasses at Wel- ley Avenue. The Forest Park Parkway is closed between Union Boulevard in the city of St. Louis and Brent- wood Boulevard in Clarton. The parkway is scheduled to reopen in 2005. Motorists are encouraged to use Interstate 64 (Highway 40) or Olive Boulevard as alternate routes.

Even the alley of some houses are being impacted. From Dec. 7 and running for about two weeks, alley behind homes on the south side of Per- son, between Olive and Pershing on the east end of the alley, are closed from 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

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Heart responds to fasting by remodeling mitochondria

**By Gwen Ericron**

School of Medicine researchers have identified a previously unsuspected response by mouse heart muscle cells to fasting conditions: the cell's power generators, the mitochondria, appear to re-model and consume extra internal walls to maintain energy supply to the rest of the cell.

"It is likely that the changes in the mitochondria make the mitochondria more energy efficient and serve as an adaptation to nutritional conditions, because after refeeding, the heart shouldn't need to increase its levels of fats," Gross said. "It is as if the heart retains a memory of deprivation and doesn't want to get caught unprepared again."

During this recovery period, another class of lipids, triglycerides, a common source of energy for the cell, also increased by 20 percent after only 12 hours of fasting.

"While we have to be careful in drawing definitive parallels between mouse lipid dynamics and human lipid dynamics, it is interesting to note that the majority of sudden death in ischemic heart patients occurs in the early morning hours when people have not eaten a long fast and are subject to a vast array of hormonal influences during the sleep-wake cycle," Gross said.

"The rise of triglyceride isn't easily explained by nutritional conditions, because after refeeding, the heart shouldn't need to increase its levels of fats," Gross said. "It is as if the heart retains a memory of deprivation and doesn't want to get caught unprepared again."

For the next step in the research team will be to study the changes in shape and structure of the mitochondria and relate these to changes in lipid metabolism.

The response by heart mitochondria might lend a partial explanation to a pattern discerned in studies of ischemic heart patients, who have restrictions placed on their flow to the heart.

"We are going to be careful in drawing definitive parallels between mouse lipid dynamics and human lipid dynamics, it is interesting to note that the majority of sudden death in ischemic heart patients occurs in the early morning hours when people have not eaten a long fast and are subject to a vast array of hormonal influences during the sleep-wake cycle," Gross said.

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**Callaway, Graae to bring evening of cabaret Jan. 15**

**Blood Drive • How We Sense Infection • Mouse Models**

**University Events**

**Friday, Dec. 10**


4 p.m. Biochemistry & Molecular Biology Seminar, "Algorithmic Improvements in Linkage Analysis: A New Model for Human Linkage Analysis," Whitaker Hall, Rm. 100. 935-9108.

**Monday, Dec. 13**


**Tuesday, Dec. 14**

3:30 p.m. Center for the Application of Information Technology Tuesday. Special Interest Group: "Computer Aided Management," (Contact 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Dec. 12 for details about available TO groups, CAI, M. Johnston Hall, 935-4444.


**Wednesday, Dec. 15**

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar, "Vaccines Against Streptococcal Endocarditis," Henry L. White, assoc. prof, of pediatrics, CHU, 362-2763.

**Thursday, Dec. 16**


**Friday, Dec. 17**


**Saturday, Dec. 11**

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Internal Medicine CME Course. "Colling for Physician Professionals: Hospitalated Care, Critical Care, Treatment, successful, 140 hours for all medical professionals," 362-2763. 

**Sunday, Dec. 12**


**Monday, Jan. 9**

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar, "Vaccines Against Streptococcal Endocarditis," Henry L. White, assoc. prof, of pediatrics, CHU, 362-2763.

**Tuesday, Jan. 10**


**Thursday, Jan. 12**

3:30 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar, "Vaccines Against Streptococcal Endocarditis," Henry L. White, assoc. prof, of pediatrics, CHU, 362-2763.

**Monday, Jan. 16**

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar, "Vaccines Against Streptococcal Endocarditis," Henry L. White, assoc. prof, of pediatrics, CHU, 362-2763.

**Monday, Jan. 23**

3 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar, "Vaccines Against Streptococcal Endocarditis," Henry L. White, assoc. prof, of pediatrics, CHU, 362-2763.

**Thursday, Jan. 26**

3:30 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar, "Vaccines Against Streptococcal Endocarditis," Henry L. White, assoc. prof, of pediatrics, CHU, 362-2763.

**Monday, Jan. 30**

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar, "Vaccines Against Streptococcal Endocarditis," Henry L. White, assoc. prof, of pediatrics, CHU, 362-2763.

**Tuesday, Jan. 31**

3 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar, "Vaccines Against Streptococcal Endocarditis," Henry L. White, assoc. prof, of pediatrics, CHU, 362-2763.

**Wednesday, Feb. 1**

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Internal Medicine CME Course. "Colling for Physician Professionals: Hospitalated Care, Critical Care, Treatment, successful, 140 hours for all medical professionals," 362-2763.
Galumph, a New York-based dance trio that combines physical comedy, acrobatic choreography and striking visual effects, will come to Edinboro University Jan. 15 as part of the obvious for young people series.

Vocations! for young people presents Galumph, Jan. 15

BY LIAM OTTEN

A three-headed human fly? To- dally possible that come to life Vlclcro-ballon-wielding weirdos who defy the laws of physics! This is no horror movie or a comic book.

No, it's Galumph, a New York-based dance trio whose dar- ing combination of physical comedy, acrobatic choreography and striking visual effects is quickly earning a national following. In January, the troupe will descend upon St. Louis for a one-time, one-night stand at Edison Theatre.

The performance, presented as part of the Edison Theatre's year- long celebration of the new millennium, will begin at 11 a.m. Jan. 15.

According to anthropologists, "galumphing" is the manifestation of the seemingly intransigent play-energy of children in children, kittens and other four-legged friends. "We galumph when we hop, jump and through all MetroTix outlets.

The duo's performing and choreographic credits include service for the Amherst College Cooperative Union in Massachusetts, and Spoleto-Japan in Tokyo.

As Galumph, Horowitz, O'Brien and Brotto have toured widely performing at venues around the world and earning a prestigious Edinburgh Festival Fringe's Choice Award. They have performed at MTV, Southwest, A&E and The Late Show with David Letterman, among many others.

Other projects range from "Ecotain," an MTV video with the band friend. To a Japanese television commercial, the British game show The Generation Game and more than 300 workshop and lecture demonstrations for children. Galumph's company delivers a fast-paced, athletic mix of acrobatics and comedy, combining the two elements to create an afternoon that's fun for the whole family.

The troupe was formed in 2002 by Andy Horowitz and Greg O'Brien, artists-in-residence at Binghamton University. Rounding out the troupe are Marlon Torres, a former child television star in his native Venezuela and O'Brien's high school classmate.

Horowitz and O'Brien have performed together for more than six years, en route to a third-place finish at the prestigious Edinburgh Festival Fringe's Choice Award. They have performed at MTV, Southwest, A&E and The Late Show with David Letterman, among many others.

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Lab

from Page 1

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Zwerling Wrighton honored by YWCA

BY ANDY CLERNERSDIN

S. Wrighton was honored at the YWCA's annual Leader Lunch and inducted into the Academy of Leaders at WUSTL. Each year, the YWCA Leader Lunch recognizes outstanding women for their involvement in the community and for their leadership. Zwerling Wrighton selects a "future leader" (a senior from a local high school) and a "social justice" honoree.

"I was thrilled to learn that I received the award, especially because I was nominated by the senior management of [Magellan Health Systems]," said Zwerling Wrighton, wife of University Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. "It was revealing to know that my co-workers recognized that I not only work hard for the company, but also was involved in the community.

At Magellan, the largest provider of employee assistance programs and managed behavioral health services in the country, Zwerling Wrighton manages a group responsible for acquisition, development, and implementation of programs to assist employers in maintaining the well-being and productivity of their workforces. A strong believer in a keeping work and life balanced, Zwerling Wrighton shares the same commitment to the well-being of students at Washington University. She created the Home Plate program, which provides baseballs and local families to help recapture the experiences they miss as students away from home.

She spends most evenings at Harbison House, where she hosts dinners honoring distinguished faculty and visitors, dignitaries, as well as events with students, civic groups and WUSTL supporters.

"There were times in my life, when I was working and raising my two daughters as a single parent, when I could do anything to keep our lives going," she said. "Later, after I remarried and my children were older, it was great to discover that I had the psychological energy, experience and opportunity to make a bigger difference in this world — to help others beyond my own family.

"That is a wonderful place to be in life — when you can see beyond your own need."
For Barton H. Hamilton, P.D.D., it’s all about the questions.

It’s the quest for answers that drives Hamilton, the Robert Brooking Smith Distinguished Professor of Entrepreneurship in the Olin School of Business, to teach, research and mentor.

A professor of economics, management and entrepreneurship at the Olin School since 1996, Hamilton jammed his time between classes with researching, mentoring students and junior faculty, and taking care of his 11-month-old twins, Bogdan and Nina.

“I love doing research. I come to work every day challenged,” Hamilton says. “This is the best job in the world. Really, you come to work every day and you have some goal that you want to answer or some set of questions you’re trying to answer, and you’re around a bunch of smart people that all have similar quests that they’re on.

I’ve never said, ‘God, I wish I was doing something else,’ he adds. ’I’ve never seen another job I’d rather do.’

Teaching and research go hand-in-hand, Hamilton says. “I think what makes a university great — and certainly what I think I’m a strength of the Olin School of Business — is we are really high-impact research. We’re research-focused, and that’s part of the reason I wanted to come here and why I like it here so much.”

Hamilton came to the Olin School from McGill University, the leading English-language institution in Montreal, where he taught economics and conducted economic research for five years.

When a referendum for secession in 1860 was held in the Quebec province from Canada, a place that didn’t value some of its institutions, “I figured I didn’t want to be in a place that didn’t value some of its institutions,” he says.

Besides, the Canadian chill was a bit of a shock to the Santa Barbara, Calif., native. Hamilton majored in economics at the University of California, Berkeley, after writing in his entrance-exam essay that he wanted to be an economics professor.

“I was a 16-year-old ever got the idea that he wanted to be an economics professor, I have no idea,” Hamilton says. He suspects his interest in statistics and economics — applying statistical tools to economic data — grew out of his childhood passion for sports.

After graduating from Berkeley in 1985, Hamilton went straight into a graduate program at Stanford University, from which he earned a doctorate in economics in 1991.

In addition to a preoccupation with R&D and EDA, Hamilton gained a youthful admiration for his grandfather, both successful entrepreneurs.

The paternal grandfather was an early aviation pioneer who later sold his aircraft business to what became Hamilton Sundstrand. Hamilton’s maternal grandfather had a catering business that catered the building of the Hoover Dam and the opening movie business in the 1930s.

That gold rush-like period between the two world wars offered many opportunities for people in California. Hamilton, says, “What’s interesting to me about entrepreneurship on a personal level is that I was able to take advantage of that and be successful.”

It’s “kind of like what we had in the ’90s with the Internet bubble.” As a professor of entrepreneurship, Hamilton guides undergraduate and master of business administration students through their business plans as part of the Hatchery entrepreneurship class and the Olin Cup competition.

“There’s nothing more exciting than seeing somebody pick a dream and, through a little bit of interaction with them in and outside the classroom, forming that idea into something they’re actually going to start,” Hamilton says. “And what’s exciting is seeing people actually take the plunge and start the business. It’s risky.

“Your friends who have their M.B.A.s and other Whis’s understand graduate degrees are going out working for consulting firms or investment banks, and you’re starting a small-business or a startup business.”

Former Hamilton student Lori Coulter is president of troutTortoise, a new venture that is part of the Olin Cup competition.

“Butter recognized my passion for entrepreneurship early and helped to develop my critical thinking skills,” her Olin professor said.

As exciting as it is to watch students succeed, Hamilton has never considered starting his own business. He’s more than content to teach undergraduate and graduate students, as well as executives enrolled in the Olin School’s executive education programs.

“Teaching executives is a lot of fun because they really challenge you to make what you’re talking about real-world relevant,” she says. “Also it forces you into thinking about problems in a different way on the research side.”

Coulter, who is a visiting professor at Washington University and has studied many facets of economics, especially labor and health-care economics.

“It’s a big part of the economy. Hamilton says. “We’ve been in an era over the past 15 years when there’s been a transformation of the business of medicine. There’s just a lot of interesting business and economic questions there, and they’re real important.”

He and co-researcher Brian P. McDonald, Ph.D., are working on long-term research project about infertility treatments that will ultimately result in several papers.

Their research studies the effect that lack of insurance cover for such procedures has on access to care, quality of care and outcomes; what role competition plays; and what role the government should play.

“There are so very interesting questions,” Hamilton says. They expect the research to gain understanding not only of infertility treatments, but also more general lessons about medical markets, says McManus, an assistant professor of economics at the Olin School since fall 2001.

“Bart has a very good sense of where microeconomic issues are important and might yield fruitful research opportunities, says McManus. “He has a great ability to use data and statistical information to present a coherent and strong analysis of economic issues.”

On the personal side, “Bart is a very warm and generous guy,” McManus says. “He has done a lot to welcome me — and other junior faculty — to Olin.”

Kenneth A. Harrington, managing director of the Skandalaris Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, says Hamilton is “a great colleague and one of the reasons that I enjoy being at Washington University.”

Outside of work, Hamilton and his wife, Ursula, are big St. Louis Rams fans and enjoy going to games and training camp — at least, they did before the twins were born.

But he hasn’t given up his life-long offbeat hobby of keeping pet reptiles, including several red-footed tortoises that live in the family’s backyard during the warmer months.

“Some people like to go fishing,” he says. “I like to go lizard-catching.”

Barton Hamilton

Title: Robert Brooking Smith Distinguished Professor of Entrepreneurship

Family: Wife, Ursula Kopij; twins, Bogdan and Nina.

Education: Bachelor’s degree in economics, University of California, Berkeley, 1985; doctorate in economics, Stanford University, 1992.