10-14-2005

Washington University Record, October 14, 2005

Science: Martian ridge named in honor of Professor Larry Haskin 2

Medical News: Less severe colds, milder flu may be on the horizon 3

Washington People: Brian Rawls is an inspiration in Dept. of Orthopaedic Surgery 8

Record

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Washington University in St. Louis

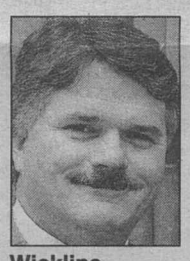
Nanotechnology cancer center is formed via grant

By Gwen Ericson

Nanosized particles developed at the School of Medicine offer hope of replacing numerous medical tests, scans or surgeries with a simple injection.

The tiny spheres can travel through the bloodstream deep into the body to locate and highlight tumors undetectable by typical methods. While at the tumor site, the nanoparticles can deliver therapeutic agents to destroy the tumor.

To advance this promising technology, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) has awarded $16 million over five years to the School of Medicine to establish the Siteman Center of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence (SCCNE).



Wickline

The NCI also awarded funding for six other Centers of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence (CCNEs) around the United States.

The SCCNE will research and apply nanotechnology for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

The center will be headed by Samuel A. Wickline, M.D., professor of medicine and of cellular biology in the School of Medicine; of biomedical engineering in the School of Engineering & Applied Science; and of physics in Arts & Sciences. He and Gregory M. Lanza, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of medicine, developed nanoscale particles that can home in on tumor cells to carry imaging agents and drug therapies directly to tumor sites.

Capable of supporting a wide variety of homing, imaging and therapeutic agents, nanotechnology offers several advantages over traditional techniques.

It can provide more-accurate visualization and characterization of tumors, revealing even tiny tumors in medical scans. It has the ability to focus chemotherapeutic drugs exclusively at tumor sites to alleviate unpleasant or risky side effects. And it offers more precise adaptation of treatment to the biochemical and molecular features of each patient's disease.

"We've entered an era of precisely targeted and individualized cancer therapy," Wickline said. "Our nanotechnology will strongly affect the practice of medicine.

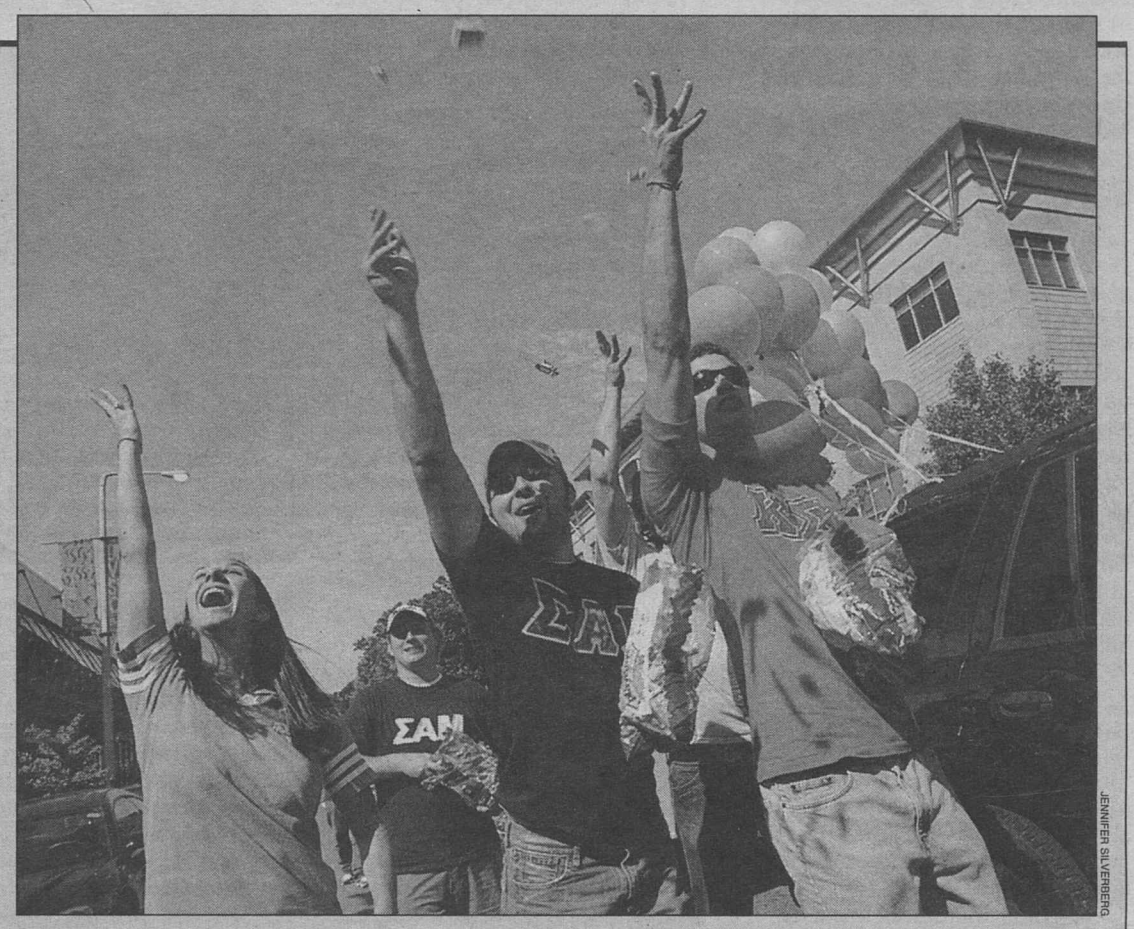
"And the grant from the NCI will allow us to build a highly effective collaborative network to bring the technology rapidly to clinical use in the treatment of cancer."

In addition to developing general oncology applications, the SCCNE will focus its efforts on breast cancer and melanoma detection and treatment. Some projects planned for the center include:

- Targeting of multiple tumors for early detection of cancer;
- A nanoparticle-based contrast agent for ultrasound imaging and therapy of tumors;
- Statistical tools to model the behavior of nanoparticles in the body; and
- Novel nanoscale sensors for rapidly screening potential anticancer drugs in single cells.

"The investment in cancer-related nanotechnology by the NCI is a show of confidence that this technology will truly advance cancer treatment," said Larry J. Shapiro, M.D., executive vice chancellor for medical affairs and

See **Grant**, Page 6



JENNIFER SILVERBERG

Heads up! (From left) WUSTL Greeks Sara Kaufman, Dan Dresner and Thomas Zeitzoff toss candy to the crowd during the "Loop in Motion" parade Oct. 1 in the University City Loop. Members of the Greek community helped organize the parade, staff a float and run fund-raising booths to gather donations for U. City East, the Greeks' chosen charity, an organization dedicated to creating a healthy community in the eastern section of University City.

Could hunter-gatherers have been more sophisticated than we once thought?

By Neil Schoenherr

The typical picture of the hunter-gatherer community is that of a small number of people wandering across the landscape, hunting for food and gathering nuts and berries. They were not complex in their political and social organization and are thought of as very simple people.

But could that traditional viewpoint be completely wrong?

T.R. Kidder, Ph.D., professor of anthropology in Arts & Sciences, thinks it may be, especially for hunter-gatherer communities in Southern and Eastern parts of the United States.

Kidder has been studying the Poverty Point site in northeastern Louisiana. The site, near the town of Epps, is one of the largest mound sites in North America. It also is one of the oldest.

It existed from 1700-1100 B.C., and the people who lived there were hunter-gatherers. The site is about 3 kilometers square and features a large earthen mound that is 72 feet tall and 700 feet long and wide. There are concentric ridges around the mound where Kidder theorizes people lived, given the evidence of disposed garbage.

He and his team wanted to know how the site came into being. Through examination of the evidence, two prominent theories arose.

"The first is a conventional model," Kidder said. "A small group of hunter-gatherers may have come to the area around 1700 B.C., stayed for a while and left. Then another small group of people came to the site and stayed for a short time. Then another and another.

"So after 600-700 years, there could be incremental construction of the site by many generations of small groups of people. That would be in keeping with the traditional hunter-gatherer model."

See **Hunter**, Page 6

Fish in ponds benefit flowering plants

By Tony Fitzpatrick

Fish and flowering plants would seem to have as much in common as pigs and beauty soap. But ecologists at WUSTL and the University of Florida have found an amazing relationship between the different species that provides a new direction for understanding how ecosystems "hook up."

A team of researchers, headed by Tiffany Knight, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology in Arts & Sciences, has shown a correlation between the presence of fish in ponds and well-pollinated St. John's wort (*Hypericum fasciculatum*, from the family Hypericaceae) at a Florida research station.

The team checked out eight ponds at a University of Florida preserve, four containing fish, the other four fish-free. They found that shoreline St. John's wort plants near the fish ponds were far better pollinated than those near the fish-free ponds.

Knight

The reason? Fish reduce, if not decimate, dragonfly populations when they start their lives in the ponds as larvae. Those dragonflies that can escape the fish grow up to live outside the water environment where their major prey are bees, moths and flies, which live in a synergistic state with the flowering plants — what ecologists call "mutualism."

A bee, for instance, gets nourishment from a flowering plant, and the plant is able to reproduce because of the bee's attention; thus, both species benefit mutually.

A novel find

"This cross-ecosystem linkage is a novel find," Knight said. "We've shown that species interactions can reverberate across two different ecosystems and have major implications for the food web and species' survival.

"The work is different from most trophic cascade — food web — studies in that it incorporates mutualism instead of focusing strictly on predator-prey relationships. Taking a complex life history into account also presents new insights into ecological processes."

A dragonfly's life history is

See **Fish**, Page 6

Health plan, flex spending open enrollment is Oct. 15-Nov. 30

Due to changing the health/dental insurance plans to calendar year, the Office of Human Resources is conducting another open-enrollment period this fall.

This is the first time that the University is combining the annual enrollment in the health/dental insurance plans and the health and child-care flexible spending plans.

The open-enrollment period is from Oct. 15-Nov. 30, with all changes effective Jan. 1.

Any addition, change or cancellation of health or dental-only coverage and enrollment in the health and/or child-care flexible spending plans must be received by the benefits office by Nov. 30. Confirmations will be sent by e-mail or by mail.

Faculty and staff who don't wish to make changes to their health/dental plans are not required to take action.

However, those wishing to participate in the health and/or child-care flexible spending plans must take action and complete and send the enrollment form to the benefits office before the deadline.

An open-enrollment brochure will be sent to campus boxes during the week of Oct. 17. This brochure includes information about plan changes, scheduled employee meetings and vendor days, enrollment

See **Health**, Page 6

Trustees elect David P. Conner as new member

At its Oct. 7 meeting on the Hilltop Campus, the University's Board of Trustees elected David P. Conner, chief executive officer of Overseas-Chinese Banking Corp. in Singapore, as a new member.

The election was announced by Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

A 1974 WUSTL Arts & Sciences graduate, Conner earned an M.B.A. from Columbia University, beginning his career in 1976 with Citibank, including extensive experience in Asia and the Pacific region. He served as managing director and market manager of Citibank Japan, chief executive officer of Citibank India, country corporate officer of Citibank Singapore, and in 2002 was named chief executive officer of Overseas-Chinese Banking Corp.

"We are extremely pleased that David Conner will be joining the board," Wrighton said. "His leadership in Asia, his loyal service to Washington University and his active membership on the International Advisory Council for Asia have proven immensely helpful to the University."

In other action, the trustees received a detailed report from Wrighton on the status of the University, noting that the number of applications for next fall's freshman class is more than 8 percent higher than this time last year.

In addition, he noted that the 1,390 freshmen entering this fall represent the best class in the University's history according to indicators such as test scores and rank in high-school graduating class. He also said the University received the highest number of applications in its history — more than 21,500.

Wrighton announced that a day-long diversity retreat will be held Oct. 15 for members of the University Council and the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and their spouses. Speakers will touch upon such issues as the importance of diversity in campus and business environments, among faculty and throughout higher education in general.

He also recounted the successful dedication of the Farrell Learning and Teaching Center at the School of Medicine on Sept. 16 and the dedication of the Richard A. Gephardt Institute for Public Service on Sept. 19.

Searches for the dean of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts and for a vice chancellor for research continue on schedule, Wrighton said.

He added that an advisory committee to assist in the search for a successor to retiring engineering Dean Christopher I. Byrnes, Ph.D., the Edward H. and Florence G. Skinner Professor in Systems Science and Mathematics, will be appointed soon, so that a successor can be appointed when Byrnes steps down June 30.

Updating the trustees on new facilities, Wrighton noted that both the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum and Earl E. and Myrtle E. Walker Hall are taking shape at the Sam Fox School. Occupancy is expected for late spring of 2006.

He also said Koenig House on the South 40 is completed and students have moved in. Construction on Phase IVB of Liggett House is proceeding, and occupancy is scheduled for fall 2006.

Planning continues on the new University Center, as well as on a social science/law building.

The meeting program focused strongly on international initiatives in graduate and professional education, with presentations by Wrighton, Robert E. Thach, Ph.D., dean of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, and James V. Wertsch, Ph.D., the Marshall S. Snow Professor in Arts & Sciences and director of a new initiative to be announced later in October.

The conversation was opened by a detailed report from Wrighton on the 10-year history of the initiatives begun through the work of the International Advisory Council for Asia (IACA), culminating in activities scheduled for Oct. 24-29 in Shanghai and Beijing, China.

Thach reviewed the International Graduate Scholarship Conference to be held Oct. 29 in Beijing for students from 38 leading Chinese universities. Co-sponsored by WUSTL, the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation and the China Scholarship Council, the conference will attract representatives from 12 prominent American universities, including Penn, Yale, Michigan, Colorado and Indiana.

More than 1,000 of China's best students are expected to participate in the event, which will provide detailed information on how to pursue graduate education in the United States.

Wertsch briefed the trustees on a unique and innovative new concept intended to attract the best and brightest students from throughout Asia to pursue graduate and professional education at WUSTL. The program involves the establishment of university partners throughout Asia, support from sponsoring corporations and a significant naming gift to endow the program.

The details of the program will be announced on Oct. 19 in New York City, Wertsch explained, noting that much work has gone into fulfilling this dream first announced by Wrighton more than a year ago at the IACA meeting in Seoul, South Korea.

"We are preparing to announce this initiative shortly," Wrighton said, "and we expect that it will be received well both here in the United States and throughout Asia. With the help of the IACA and the leadership of key faculty — starting with Jim Wertsch — we have conceived, organized, and generated significant support for something we believe will be meaningful not only for Washington University and America, but also for future generations of leaders in Asia."

In other action, the trustees passed memorial resolutions and observed a moment of silence in memory of two past trustees who recently passed away — Katherine B. Magrath, retired managing director and president of ValueQuest/TA LLC; and Paul L. Miller Jr., president of P.L. Miller & Associates Inc. Miller served on the board until 2003 and Magrath until May 2005.

The trustees received standing committee reports from the following areas: development, audit, educational policy, University finance, Medical finance, nominating and the Alumni Board of Governors.

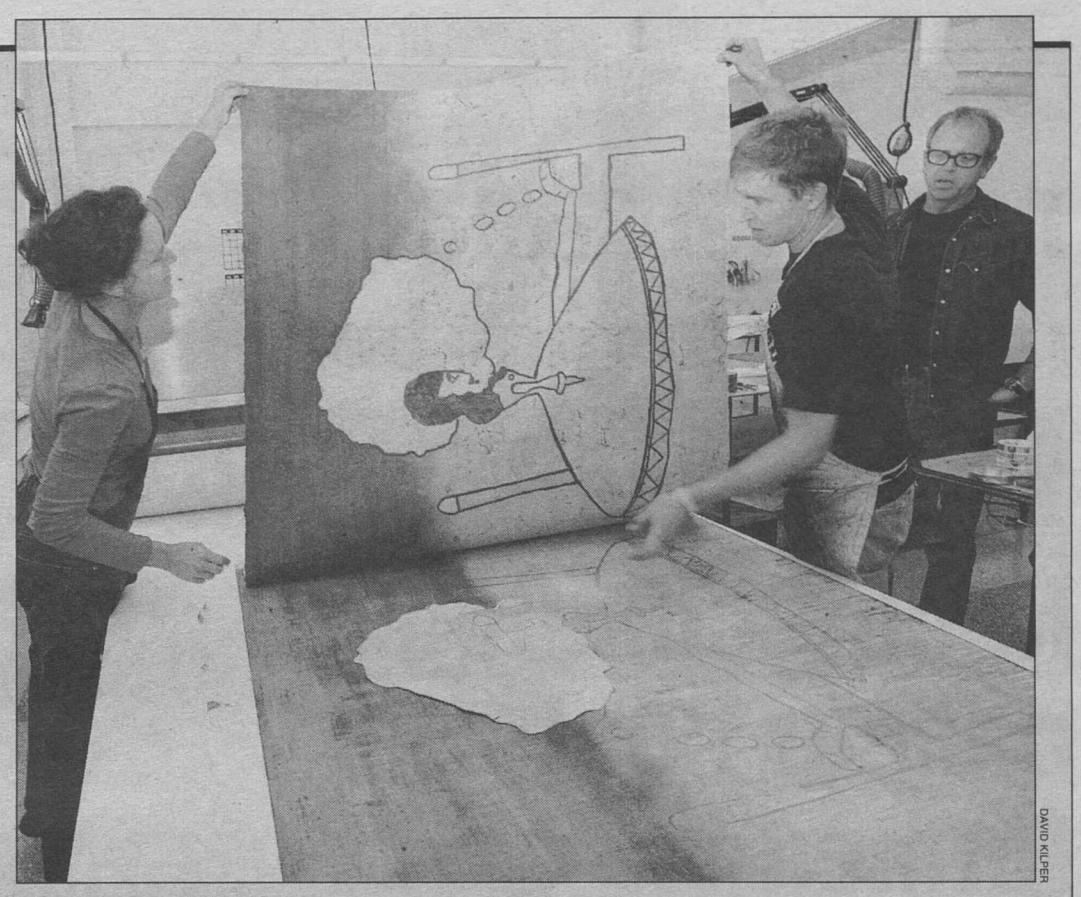
About David Conner

David P. Conner has served as chief executive officer of the Overseas-Chinese Banking Corp. (OCBC) of Singapore since 2002.

OCBC is one of Singapore's top banks with about 45 branches, offering a wide range of consumer finance, business banking, investment management and global treasury services. OCBC originally was founded to serve the Chinese business community of Singapore and other parts of Asia, but now the bank serves all members of the public.

Following his graduation from WUSTL's Arts & Sciences in 1974, Conner earned an M.B.A. in 1976 at Columbia University. He then joined Citibank for more than 25 years, where he served as managing director and market manager for Citibank Japan, CEO of Citibank India and country corporate officer for Citibank's Singapore and Brunei operations.

Conner and his wife, Selina, are the parents of a 2003 WUSTL Arts & Sciences graduate, Marian.



DAVID KILPER

An artist's touch (From left) Lisa Bulawsky, associate professor in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, and Tom Reed, master printer for Island Press, work on a project with visiting artist T.L. Solien, who was recently in residence. While employing pop imagery as a starting point, Solien — associate professor of painting at the University of Wisconsin — frequently incorporates autobiographical influences to investigate contemporary figuration. His work has been featured in numerous university, museum and corporate collections, including the Art Institute of Chicago, the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York.

NASA team names Mars ridge after Haskin

BY TONY FITZPATRICK

The Athena science and engineering team for the Mars Exploration Rover (MER) mission has named a prominent ridge on the east side of the Husband Hill summit on the Red Planet "Haskin Ridge," in honor and in memory of Larry A. Haskin, Ph.D., the Ralph E. Morrow Distinguished University Professor of earth and planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences.

Haskin was a very highly regarded NASA veteran and former chair of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences. He died March 24 of myelofibrosis, a blood disease he had fought for many years.

Haskin worked on the MER mission up to his death and had the last paper he authored on results of MER explorations published July 7 in the journal *Nature*.

Haskin Ridge is a major topographic feature of Husband Hill. The Columbia Hills comprise a rugged ridge complex of seven peaks spanning some 2.2 miles in length and reaching a maximum height of 348 feet above the plains of the rover *Spirit's* landing site within Gusev crater.

Spirit is expected to descend Husband Hill soon, coming down Haskin Ridge and gathering data as it descends.

The high point in Columbia Hills is Husband Hill, named after the late Rick Husband, commander of the shuttle *Columbia*. Six other hills are named after the six other astronauts who flew on *Columbia's* last mission.

Haskin's WUSTL colleagues on the Athena science and engineering team are — all from the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences — Raymond E. Arvidson, Ph.D., department chair and the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor; Bradley Jolliff, Ph.D., research associate professor; and Alian Wang, Ph.D., and Ed Guinness, Ph.D., senior research scientists.

"Larry is richly deserving of this honor," said Wang, who worked with Haskin for 12 years. "He was my mentor, a great example of a passionate yet cool-headed scientist, a persistent leader, and a teammate in the battle trenches."

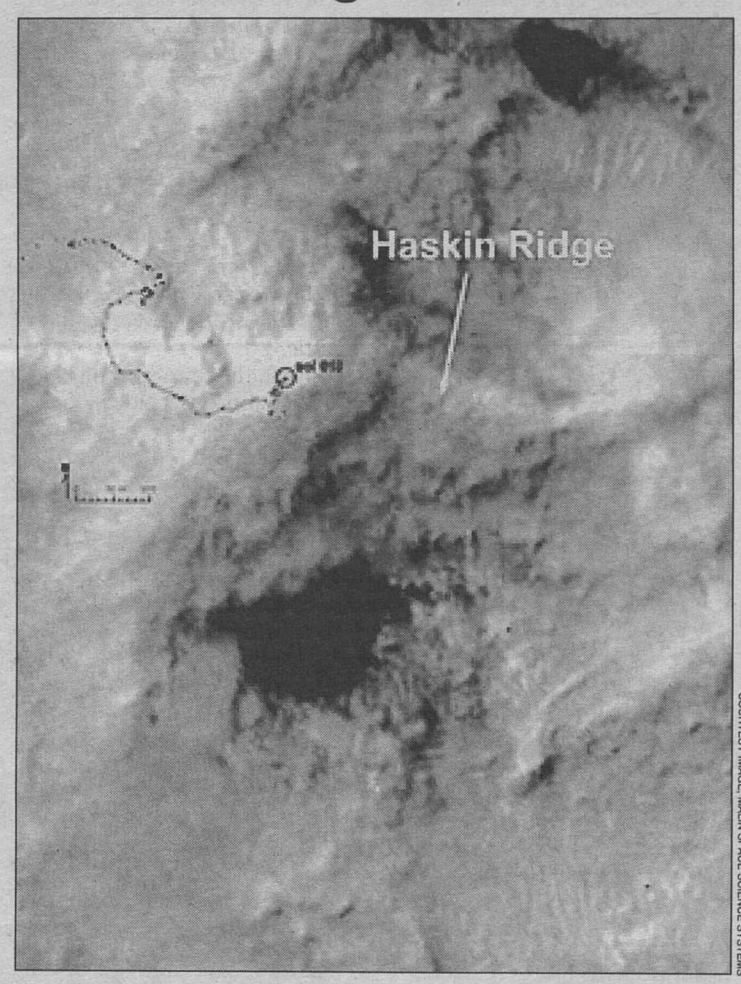
"Larry was special," Arvidson said, "a warm and caring individual and an excellent scientist. We miss him very much."

"We miss Larry", echoed Steven Squyres, Ph.D., Athena science payload principal investigator and professor of astronomy at Cornell University. "He was known to be a thoughtful scientist, known for deep and careful analyses.

"I thought of him as the scientific conscience of our team, a steadying influence who would reel us back in when we drifted off on some geochemical flight of fancy."

Spirit's counterpart, *Opportunity*, is on the other side of Mars, near the Meridiani Planum.

The MER mission has been one of NASA's most successful. The solar-powered rovers landed on Mars in January 2004 and are still traversing and gathering data after more than 600 Earth days.



COURTESY IMAGE, MALIN SPACE SCIENCE SYSTEMS

Haskin Ridge in the Columbia Hills area inside Gusev Crater, as imaged by the Mars Global Surveyor MOC Narrow Angle Camera. The Athena science team for the Mars Exploration Rover mission has named a prominent ridge on the east side of the Husband Hill summit on the Red Planet "Haskin Ridge," in honor and memory of Larry A. Haskin, Ph.D., the Ralph E. Morrow Distinguished University Professor of earth and planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences.

Further honors

In addition to the ridge on Mars, NASA has announced the establishment of two yearly fellowships called the Larry Haskin Early Career Fellowship.

WUSTL's McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences has established the Larry Haskin Graduate Fellowship in Planetary Geochemistry and Petrology.

And the WUSTL earth and planetary sciences department has set up the Larry A. Haskin Memorial Lecture Fund for Geochemistry and Cosmochemistry.

School of Medicine Update

Less severe colds, milder flu may be on the horizon

BY GWEN ERICSON

Enlisted to help fight viral infections, immune cells called macrophages consume virus-infected cells to stop the spread of the disease in the body.

Now, School of Medicine researchers have uncovered how macrophages keep from succumbing to the infection themselves. Boosting this mechanism may be a way to speed recovery from respiratory infections.

The researchers found that a specific protein produced in the course of respiratory viral infections can serve to protect macrophages from an untimely death.

A report will appear in an upcoming issue of *Nature Medicine* and was available at the journal's Web site Oct. 9.

"If the macrophages were to die, the infection would spread further," said senior author Michael J. Holtzman, M.D., the Selma and Herman Seldin Professor of Medicine and director of pulmonary and critical care medicine. "So the macrophages use a protein called CCL5 to ensure that the infection process can be stopped before it goes any further."

Holtzman thinks the information about the role of CCL5 may lead to new methods to hasten recovery from respiratory viral inflections like influenza or the common cold, which at present have no pharmacological cure.

Holtzman

CCL5's role was discovered while Holtzman's group was testing mice that had respiratory infections. They found that the sick mice produced massive amounts of CCL5 — about a hundred times more than they produced when healthy.

"CCL5 was just off the chart compared to the other 30,000 mouse genes," Holtzman said. "Then the challenge was to figure out why CCL5 gene expression should be so far above everything else."

They found that mice lacking the gene to make CCL5 died much more frequently from respiratory virus infection than normal mice. Examining lung tissues from these CCL5-deficient mice, the researchers saw that macrophages — which would ordinarily enter the airway, clean up virus-infected cells and then leave — remained stuck in the airway tissue.

It became apparent that the macrophages were unable to leave because they were infected with virus and so were dying prematurely.

Unexpectedly, the investigators found that CCL5 turns on signals that allow cells to escape virus-induced death. These signals are termed anti-apoptotic because they work against a process of programmed cell death called apoptosis.

The CCL5-induced anti-apoptotic signals therefore help keep macrophages alive, which allows them to continue their job in the face of a viral onslaught.

"CCL5's role is somewhat of a paradox," Holtzman said. "Ordinarily, apoptosis is a protective mechanism. Death of infected lung airway lining cells, or epithelial cells, would deprive the virus of its home and protect the host against the spread of infection.

> "We commonly see children, for example, who develop these same types of severe respiratory infections as infants and then go on to develop asthma later. If we can improve the outcome from this first interaction with the viruses, we are very likely to also prevent the later development of persistent airway disease."
>
> MICHAEL J. HOLTZMAN

"But in the case of the macrophage, it is the opposite. Preventing the death of the macrophage allows the host to ultimately clear the viral debris and so finally halt the infection. Balancing these cell death and survival pathways can determine whether the virus or the host wins the battle."

Next, the researchers will look further at precisely how CCL5 prevents cell death.

"In this initial study, we identified the cellular receptor for CCL5 and some of the first downstream signals that convey a survival message," Holtzman said. "Now, we aim to define more specific signaling proteins that allow the cell to live or die in the face of infection.

"Identifying these signals may allow us to regulate these signals during an infection, and so make epithelial cells and macrophages more effective to shorten recovery time or lessen symptoms."

The ability to decrease the severity of lung infections may also have important implications for asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and other chronic lung diseases, according to Holtzman.

"We commonly see children, for example, who develop these same types of severe respiratory infections as infants and then go on to develop asthma later," Holtzman said. "If we can improve the outcome from this first interaction with the viruses, we are very likely to also prevent the later development of persistent airway disease."

TIM PARKER

Sharing the game (From left) Ruth Doerr and her granddaughter, Victoria Peck, the nursing administrator for the Urologic Surgery Center; and Martha Hayden and her granddaughter, Anita Fernandez, a patient billing service representative in the Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery Center at St. Louis Children's Hospital, were guests in the BJC Home Plate Suite during the Sept. 30 Cardinals/Cincinnati Reds game at Busch Stadium. Washington University Physicians gave Peck and Fernandez tickets to the game because they were named Star Performers for their outstanding commitment to excellent patient care. Peck's and Fernandez's grandmothers are lifelong Cardinals fans.

Greasing interferon's gears may pave way to greater benefits, fewer side effects

BY GWEN ERICSON

Interferon — a critical protein that mediates the body's defense against a wide variety of infectious agents and tumors — may soon have greater therapeutic value as the result of a new study by School of Medicine researchers.

"Essentially, we found a way to grease the gears that drive the interferon signal," said Michael J. Holtzman, M.D., the Selma and Herman Seldin Professor of Medicine and director of the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine.

The researchers modified the structure of a protein called Stat1, which relays signals from interferon at the cell surface to genes in the cell nucleus. The modification upshifted Stat1's response to interferon.

The study appeared in the Oct. 7 issue of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* and was selected as the journal's "Paper of the Week," which recognizes the top 1 percent of the journal's papers in significance and overall importance.

The development of a mechanism to tweak Stat1's responsiveness may prove particularly useful for patients with such disorders as hepatitis C, multiple sclerosis and many types of systemic cancer, who currently benefit from interferon treatment but sometimes find it difficult to tolerate the side effects of the high doses required.

"We reasoned that if we could enhance the way interferon produces its beneficial defensive effects, the body could respond to its normal level of interferon and receive enhanced benefit without side effects," Holtzman said.

The group engineered a mutant Stat1 protein in which the identities of two amino acids were switched. Investigations conducted on cells growing in culture showed that the altered Stat1 proteins reacted more efficiently to the presence of both type I and type II interferons.

Further tests revealed that the souped-up Stat1 recruited more of a specific protein it needs to pass on the interferon signal, essentially raising the speed limit on signal transmission.

"Ordinarily, the interferon signaling system's rate may be slowed because this helper protein interacts with Stat1 at less than the maximum amount," Holtzman said. "It's possible that the maximal setting would be harmful in the long term, because too much interferon could lead to inflammatory diseases.

"But we may find advantages to increasing Stat1 action in the short term using drug treatments."

Such therapies could allow physicians to turn up the effect of interferon temporarily to treat infections or other disorders and then to turn it back down to normal levels when the patient is cured.

"The potential for this 'rheo-Stat' strategy is exciting," Holtzman said. "As an example, one could improve Stat1 efficiency during the winter months in patients at risk of developing serious viral infections, including children with asthma, heart disease or compromised immune systems."

It may be possible, as well, to screen patients for levels of Stat1 responsiveness and use the same treatment strategy to correct low levels of response, Holtzman said.

The researchers are currently screening newborn infants for levels of Stat1 action and tracking their susceptibility to viral infection.

In addition, the group is studying transgenic mice engineered to carry the same Stat1 mutations that were examined in cells. In this way, the researchers can investigate the benefits of hyper-responsive Stat1 for infection control and cancer treatment in a living organism.

These studies lay the foundation for the development of human treatments that use drugs that increase Stat1 responsiveness and consequently enhance the benefits of interferon produced naturally in the body or given as treatment.

Obstetrics & gynecology receives first training grant in reproductive sciences

BY DIANE DUKE WILLIAMS

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology is starting its first federally funded training program to provide support for postdoctoral fellows in reproductive sciences.

A grant from the National Institutes of Health will enable postdoctoral fellows to train in basic and clinical research and focus on subjects such as miscarriage and endometriosis.

This grant is part of the NIH's efforts to fund translational research — studies that solve fundamental questions about a disease and that translate into new treatments and better patient care.

"Research training in reproductive sciences in obstetrics and gynecology has been needed nationwide for many years," said Irving Boime, Ph.D., program director and professor of obstetrics and gynecology. "This is very exciting for the University because this is the first training grant the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology has received."

Four postdoctoral fellows will train for two years in the laboratory of a mentor, where they will actively participate in ongoing research. Trainees will select from among nine faculty members in three subgroups: molecular reproductive endocrinology, biology of maternal-fetal interactions and gynecologic oncology.

In addition, trainees will learn grant and manuscript writing as part of their career development. The newly formed Office of Postgraduate Affairs at the School of Medicine also will provide support and resources to these individuals.

Kelle H. Moley, M.D., associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and of cell biology and physiology, and Hyunjung J. Lim, Ph.D., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology and of cell biology and physiology, are co-principal investigators of the program.

"Our hope is that these trainees will establish their own labs some day and pursue problems in reproductive medicine," said Boime, who also is professor of molecular biology and pharmacology.

"What we learn here can be translated into new solutions for the problems that affect so many women."

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology has 33 full-time faculty and nine faculty holding joint appointments from six different departments.

University Events

Spoken-word artists Universes bring *Slanguage* to Edison

BY LIAM OTTEN

From hip-hop and blues to boleros and salsa, the cutting-edge poetry collective Universes captures the distinctive sounds and percussive rhythms of their native South Bronx, N.Y.

Universes will make its St. Louis debut at Edison Theatre later this month with *Slanguage*, a blistering yet exuberant depiction of modern urban life.

Performances — which launch the 33rd annual Edison Theatre OVATIONS! Series — will be at 8 p.m. Oct. 21-22.

Like Russell Simmons' Def Poetry Jam or the Nuyorican Poets Café, Universes arose from New York's vibrant (and fiercely competitive) spoken-word scene.

Each of the five members was well-known as a solo artist when the group formed in 1998 and soon began performing at major venues such as PS 122 and the New York Shakespeare Festival's Public Theatre. Today the troupe boasts its own UniverseCity Theater Network in the Bronx.

In 1999, Universes began collaborating with Obie Award-winning director Jo Bonney, perhaps best-known for her work with playwright-performer Eric Bogosian.

For *Slanguage*, which debuted in 2002, Bonney helped the group structure some 30 autobiographical vignettes into a single evening-length work, in which "traditional theater synthesizes with poetry, storytelling, rhythm, music, song and dance."

COURTESY PHOTO

Kicking off the 33rd annual Edison Theatre OVATIONS! Series will be *Slanguage* by the group Universes Oct. 21-22. "Their energy and realness is unmatchable," *The Village Voice* says of Universes.

Loosely organized around a subway ride from Brooklyn to the Bronx, *Slanguage* captures the humor, energy and pressures of life on the streets and in the tenements.

Beggars and preachers jostle with hustlers and sidewalk jumpropers in rapid-fire English, Spanish, Spanglish and Ebonics. What emerges is a moving yet affectionate poetry-slam portrait of contemporary New York in all its eccentric, multiethnic glory:

Chinese shoes at a Latin house party
Playing spoons to disco toons
With a knish in my left hand
And the blues in my heart.

The New York Times called *Slanguage* "exuberant, insightful" and noted that Universes has "created something special, a work of heart and soul that distills the essence of the city."

The Village Voice noted that the "effervescent, racially mixed group (is) as likely to kick some poetry as break out into a cappella singing, to orchestrate a vocal exercise as they are to burst into a step show. … Their energy and realness is unmatchable."

Slanguage has been performed at major venues around the country, from Actors Theatre of Louisville to the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles, and was anthologized in *The Fire This Time: African American Plays for the 21st Century* (2002). Yet the piece also continues to grow and evolve as the troupe adds new members and continually revises and polishes the language.

The current tour features three original cast members — Steven Sapp, Mildred Ruiz and Gamal Abdel Chasten — along with talented newcomers Dominic Colon and Ninja. Bonney directs, with lighting design by James Vermullen and sound design by Darron L. West.

Edison Theatre's OVATIONS! Series serves both the University and the St. Louis community by providing the highest caliber national and international artists in music, dance and theater, performing new works as well as innovative interpretations of classical material not otherwise seen in St. Louis.

Focusing on presentations that are interdisciplinary, multicultural and/or experimental, Edison Theatre presents work intended to challenge, educate and inspire.

Edison Theatre programs are made possible with support from the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency; the Regional Arts Commission, St. Louis; and private contributors.

Tickets are $28; $24 for seniors and University faculty and staff; and $18 for students and children.

Tickets are available at the Edison Theatre Box Office and through all MetroTix outlets.

For more information, call 935-6543.

The Tale of Genji • Looking for St. Louis • Painless Defibrillation

"University Events" lists a portion of the activities taking place Oct. 14-27 at Washington University. Visit the Web for expanded calendars for the Hilltop Campus (calendar.wustl.edu) and the School of Medicine (medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html).

Exhibits

American Writers at Home — Photographs From the Book by J.D. McClatchy and Erica Lennard. Washington University Special Collections. Olin Library, Grand Staircase Lobby and Ginkgo Reading Rm. 935-5495.

Film

Friday, Oct. 14

7 p.m. Sam Fox School Unsettled Ground Film Presentation. *Deseret*, 1995. James Benning, dir. Steinberg Hall Aud. 935-9347.

Wednesday, Oct. 26

7 p.m. Asian & Near Eastern Languages & Literatures Japanese Film Series. *The Tale of Genji* (*Genji monogatari*), 1987. Ridgley Hall, Rm. 219. 935-5110.

Lectures

Friday, Oct. 14

9:15 a.m. Pediatric Grand Rounds. Annual Philip R. Dodge Lecture. "Treat the Patient or the EEG?" Gregory Holmes. prof. of medicine and pediatrics, Dartmouth Medical School. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 454-6006.

Noon. Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar. "B-cell KATP Channels in Health & Disease." Show-Ling Shyng, scientist, Center for Research on Occupational & Environmental Toxicology, Ore. Health & Science U. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 426. 362-6630.

1:30-3:30 p.m. Center for the Study of Ethics & Human Values Seminar. "'HealthSouth: Lessons Learned': Providing Ethical Leadership in the Health Care Industry in a Time of Corporate Scandals." Jay F. Grinnney, pres. and CEO, HealthSouth Corp. Eric M. Newman Education Center. 935-9358.

4 p.m. Music Lecture. "Toward a Poetics of Improvisation in the Renaissance." Todd Borgerding, assoc. prof. of music, U. of Wisc.-Oshkosh. Music Classroom Bldg. 935-4841.

Saturday, Oct. 15

10 a.m. Physics Saturday Science Lecture Series. "Planets, Stars and Galaxies." Henric Krawczynski, asst. prof. of physics. Crow Hall, Rm. 201. 935-6276.

Monday, Oct. 17

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Memory CD4 T Cell Development During Chronic Leishmaniasis." Phillip Scott, chair and prof. of microbiology & immunology, U. of Penn. Moore Aud., 660 S. Euclid Ave. 362-2763.

5:30 p.m. Cardiac Bioelectricity and Arrhythmia Center Seminar Series. "Imaging Arrhythmias: Toward Painless Defibrillation." Igor Efimov, Stanley and Lucy Lopata Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering. (5 p.m. reception.) Whitaker Hall, Rm. 218. 935-7887.

7 p.m. Sam Fox School Architecture Lecture Series. Michael Maltzan, Michael Maltzan Architecture, Los Angeles. Steinberg Hall Aud. 935-9347.

Tuesday, Oct. 18

Noon. Molecular Microbiology & Microbial Pathogenesis Seminar Series. "Autophagy and Immunity." Vojo Deretic, prof. and vice chair of molecular genetics & microbiology, U. of N.M. Health Sciences Center. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-8873.

Noon. Program in Physical Therapy Research Seminar. "Noninvasive Monitoring of Skeletal Muscle." Tiffany Frimel, postdoctoral research scholar in physical therapy. 4444 Forest Park Blvd., Lower Lvl., Rm. B108/B109. 286-1404.

4 p.m. Anthropology Colloquium. "The Cost of Being King: The Bioarchaeology of Early Classic Copan." Jane Buikstra, Leslie Spier Distinguished Professor of Anthropology, U. of N.M. (3:30 p.m. reception, McMillan Hall, Rm. 101.) McMillan Hall, Rm. 149. 935-5252.

Wednesday, Oct. 19

8:30-10:30 a.m. Center for the Application of Information Technology Program. "The Information Workplace: Big Changes Ahead in the World of Work." Erica Rugullies, sr. analyst, Forrester Research. Chase Park Plaza. For info. and to register: 935-4444.

5:30 p.m. East Asian Studies Lecture. Annual Nelson I. Wu Memorial Lecture on Asian Art & Culture. "Why Chinese Contemporary Art?" Lu Jie, contemporary art curator and critic. Saint Louis Art Museum Auditorium, 1 Fine Arts Drive, Forest Park. 935-4448.

7 p.m. Sam Fox School Visiting Artist Lecture Series. Phyllis Galembo, photographer. Steinberg Hall Aud. 935-9347.

8 p.m. Romance Languages & Literatures Lecture. "Sartre as Critic: Centennial Thoughts." Jeffrey Mehlman, prof. of French and modern foreign languages, Boston U. 935-5175.

Thursday, Oct. 20

Noon. Mallinckrodt Inst. of Radiology Lecture. Annual Wendell G. Scott Memorial Lecture. "The Power of Imaging: The Dilemma of the Radiologist." R. Nick Bryan, prof. and chairman of radiology, U. of Penn. Scarpellino Aud., 510 S. Kingshighway Blvd. 362-2866.

3 p.m. Siteman Cancer Center Basic Science Seminar Series. David Beebe, Janet & Bernard Becker Professor of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 454-7029.

4 p.m. African & African American Studies Seminar. "The Literature of Manual Zapata Olivella: Integrating Afro-Hispanic and Spanish-American Letters." Antonio D. Tillis, asst. prof. of foreign languages and literatures and of African-American studies, Purdue U. McMillan Hall, Rm. 219. 935-5690.

Friday, Oct. 21

9:15 a.m. Pediatric Grand Rounds. "The Effects of Early Iron Deficiency on the Developing Brain." Michael Georgieff, prof. of pediatrics and child psychology, U. of Minn. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 454-6006.

Noon. Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar. "Self-assembly and Self-destruction of Cytoskeleton Networks." Dyche Mullins, assoc. prof. of cellular & molecular pharmacology, U. of Calif.-San Francisco. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 426. 362-3964.

DAVID KILPER

Lending a hand **Junior Matt Gropler (foreground) and sophomore Andrew Stern help arrange plants while setting up for the Missouri Botanical Garden's annual Best of Missouri Market Sept. 30. Many University students volunteered to help organizers prepare for the Oct. 1-2 event. The market featured 120 vendors selling canned good, flowers, plants, fruits and vegetables, baked goods and candies, all from Missouri.**

Sports

Women runners claim third title of year

The women's cross country team claimed its third team title of the season, while the men finished seventh at the Border War Invitational.

The meet was hosted by the University of Southern Illinois-Edwardsville. The No. 1-ranked women tallied 78 points to claim the title, while DePauw University finished second with 106 points.

The men finished with 220 points; DePauw's men claimed the men's title with 76 points.

Four of the top five women's runners finished in the top 25 in a field of nearly 220 runners. Juniors Beth Herndon (fifth) and Lindsay Harkema (10th) paced the Bears.

On the men's side, senior Brennan Bonner turned in a solid performance, finishing sixth.

No. 1 volleyball team wins Bears Classic

The No. 1 volleyball team went 4-0 en route to the Bears Classic title Oct. 7-8 at the Field House.

The Bears swept Westminster College and No. 24 University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, 3-0, on Oct. 7.

The Bears hit .519 en route to a 30-9, 30-6, 30-12 win against Westminster.

In a rematch of last year's national quarterfinals, Washington U. jumped out of the gates early against UW-La Crosse.

WUSTL led 9-1 before going on to a 30-10, 30-16, 30-24 win.

On the second day, WUSTL knocked off Baldwin-Wallace College 30-20, 30-21, 30-21. Then, WUSTL scored eight straight points to open the first game against Fontbonne. The Bears won, 30-14, 30-22, 27-30, 30-16.

Chicago blanks Bears, claims Founders Cup

The University of Chicago football team claimed the Founder's Cup for the first time since 2000 as the Maroons shut out the Bears, 27-0, to spoil senior day at Francis Field.

The loss also broke Washington U.'s 15-game UAA winning streak. The Bears had not suffered a UAA defeat since a 12-9 loss to Chicago on Oct. 28, 2000.

Chicago forced four turnovers and limited the Bears to 187 yards of total offense. The Maroons outgained WUSTL 302-75 in total offense in the second half.

Senior Brad Duesing, the 2004 UAA Co-Offensive Player of the Year, was held to seven catches for 44 yards.

Men's soccer team loses two OT thrillers

The men's soccer team dropped two games last week.

The Bears (5-4-3) fell, 1-0, in double overtime Oct. 4 at Greenville College. Sophomore Onyi Okoroafor led the Bears, who had numerous scoring opportunities, with five shots.

On. Oct. 8, WUSTL dropped a 1-0 decision in overtime to UAA rival Carnegie Mellon University.

Women's soccer team nipped by Carnegie

The women's soccer team dropped its fourth one-goal game of the season as the Bears fell to No. 24 Carnegie Mellon, 1-0, on Oct. 9.

With the win, Carnegie Mellon remains undefeated at 8-0-2, 2-0 in the UAA, while The Bears fall to 6-5-1, 0-2.

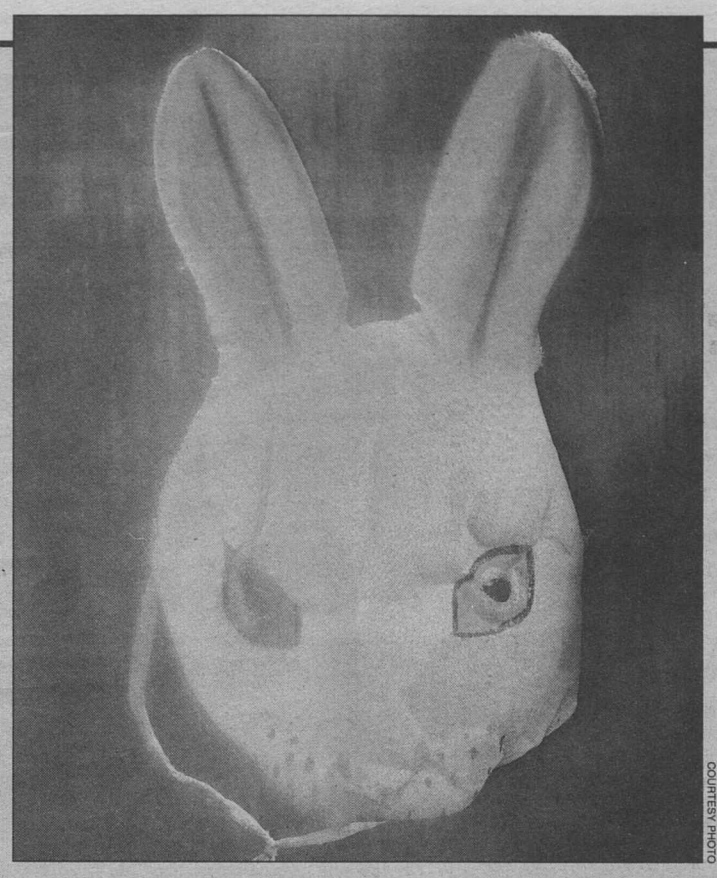
Relay teams shine at Show-Me Showdown

The men's swimming and diving team finished fifth and the women took sixth at the Show-Me-Showdown Oct. 8 in Columbia, Mo.

The men put together some strong relay performances. In the 200-yard freestyle relay, senior Michael Slavik, senior Alex Antilla, freshman Kevin Leckey and senior Eric Triebe combined to finish third in a time of 1:25.68.

In the 400 free relay, Slavik, senior Cory Zimmerman, Leckey and Triebe placed fourth (3:14.32). Leckey, Antilla, freshman Mike Scarpati and Triebe clocked a time of 1:28.44 for sixth in the 200-medley relay.

The women's 200-medley relay team also placed sixth. Sophomore Meredith Nordbrock, sophomore Jenny Yu, junior Monica Jones and junior Kelly MacArthur posted a time of 1:46.54 in the relay.



COURTESY PHOTO

The bunny's evil twin? **Photographer Phyllis Galembo will speak about her work at 7 p.m. Oct. 19 in Steinberg Auditorium for the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts' Visiting Artist Lecture Series. Galembo is renowned for documenting religious costumes and rituals in Africa, Brazil and Haiti. Her work has been collected in five monographs — including most recently *Dressed for Thrills, 100 Years of Halloween Costumes and Masquerade* (2003) — and displayed at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., and the American Museum of Natural History in New York, among many other museums. Pictured above is her *Evil Bunny* (2001).**

C-SPAN's *Book TV* Bus to visit Hilltop

BY ANDY CLENDENNEN

School buses and tour buses routinely make stops at the University.

But soon, a bus of a different sort will roll through town.

As a guest of University Libraries, C-SPAN's new *Book TV* Bus, 45 feet long with a mobile television studio, will be just west of Mallinckrodt Student Center on the Hilltop Campus from 4-6 p.m. Oct. 20.

Each weekend, *Book TV* on C-SPAN2 presents 48 hours of programming on nonfiction books, featuring interviews with authors and book group discussions.

University students, faculty and staff are being invited to board the bus for free presentations about *Book TV* and to meet the C-SPAN staff.

Visitors will be able to tour the state-of-the-art studio set, participate in interactive demonstrations about *Book TV*, and watch video clips of authors who have appeared on *Book TV*, including Susan Sontag, David McCullough, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Thomas Friedman, Toni Morrison, Laura Hillenbrand and John McCain.

The *Book TV* Bus' small production spaces permit groups of 10 people on at a time and do not allow for wheelchair accessibility. Live video cameras transmit views of the bus interior to an external plasma screen, however.

Video presentations about *Book TV* and the *Book TV* Bus have also been captioned for hearing-impaired visitors.

Book TV's Web site, *www.booktv.org*, provides an opportunity to watch or listen to programs and gives additional information on the writers and their books.

For more information, call 935-5418.

Campus Watch

The following incidents were reported to University Police **Oct. 6-11**. 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*.

Oct. 6

9 a.m. — A person parked a vehicle on the third level of the Snow Way Garage around 11 p.m. Oct. 5 and returned around 8 a.m. Oct 6 to find the vehicle missing. An investigation is continuing.

3:16 p.m. — A bicycle was stolen from the bike rack in front of Myers Residence Hall. It was a Raleigh 21-speed silver bike, valued at $130. An investigation is continuing.

Oct. 10

7:20 p.m. — Four juvenile males were located trespassing in the area of the bike racks near the Earth & Planetary Sciences Building. Officers were contacted and the subjects were identified, warned against trespassing and released.

Additionally, University Police responded to four larcenies, three assaults, two reports of property damage, and one report each of parking violation, fire and lost article.

7:30 p.m. Annual Homer G. Phillips Public Health Lecture Series. Kristy Woods, prof. of internal medicine, Wake Forest U. (Cocktails 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:30 p.m.) Eric P. Newman Education Center. To register: 362-6854.

Saturday, Oct. 22

7:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Hospital Medicine CME Course. "Update: Care of the Hospitalized Patient." Cost: $125 for physicians, $95 for allied health professionals. Eric P. Newman Education Center. To register: 362-6891.

Monday, Oct. 24

Noon. Work, Families, and Public Policy Brown Bag Seminar Series. "The Homecoming of American College Women: The Reversal of the Gender Gap in Higher Education." Claudia Goldin, Henry Lee Professor of Economics, Harvard U. Eliot Hall, Rm. 300. 935-4918.

4 p.m. Center for Materials Innovation Colloquium. "Engineered Nanoparticles for Targeted Application." Sudipto Seal, prof. of advanced materials processing and analysis, U. of Cent. Fl. (3:45 p.m. Coffee.) Compton Hall, Rm. 241. 935-9305.

4 p.m. Immunology Research Seminar Series. "Regulatory CD4 T Cell Development." Alexander Rudensky, dept. of immunology. Moore Aud., 660 S. Euclid Ave. 362-2763.

5:30 p.m. Cardiac Bioelectricity and Arrhythmia Center Seminar Series. "Molecular Mechanisms Controlling K Channel Diversity and Functioning in the Heart." Jeanne Nerbonne, Alumni Endowed Professor of Molecular Biology & Pharmacology. (5 p.m. reception.) Whitaker Hall, Rm. 218. 935-7887.

Tuesday, Oct. 25

Noon. Molecular Microbiology & Microbial Pathogenesis Seminar Series. "The Emerging Field of Sociomicrobiology and a Discussion of Biofilm Formation and Quorum Sensing in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*." E. Peter Greenberg, prof. and chair of microbiology, U. of Wash. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-3692.

4 p.m. Assembly Series. Thomas Hall Lecture. "Konrad Lorenz and Niko Tinbergen: The Science and Politics of the Founding of Ethology, 1930-1973." Richard W. Burkhardt, prof. of history, U. of Il. Rebstock Hall, Rm. 215. 935-4620.

Wednesday, Oct. 26

11 a.m. Assembly Series. Black Arts & Sciences Festival Lecture. "Exploring the Frontiers of Science and Human Potenial." Mae Jemison, first African-American female astronaut in space. Graham Chapel. 935-4620.

7 p.m. Sam Fox School Lecture. "Looking for St. Louis." Matthew Coolidge, founder & dir., Center for Land Use Interpretation, Los Angeles. Steinberg Hall Aud. 935-9347.

7 p.m. Science on Tap Lecture. "Chaos." John McCarthey, prof. of mathematics. Schlafly Bottleworks, Crown Rm., 7260 Southwest Ave. 935-5285.

Thursday, Oct. 27

7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Obstetrics & Gynecology CME Course. "Annual Symposium on Obstetrics and Gynecology." (Continues 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Oct. 28.) Cost: $335 for physicians, $245 for allied health professionals. Eric P. Newman Education Center. To register: 362-6891.

8 a.m.-4 p.m. St. Louis STD/HIV Prevention Training Center. "Syphilis Update." (Continues 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 28.) Cost: $50. For location and to register: 747-1522.

Noon. Law School Jewish Lunch and Learn. "Examining Secular Issues and Jewish Law." Rabbi Hershey Novack, Chabad on Campus. Anheuser-Busch Hall, Rm. 201. 721-2884.

4:15 p.m. Earth & Planetary Sciences Colloquium. "What is the Asthenosphere?" Jason Phipps Morgan, prof. of earth & atmospheric sciences, Cornell U. Earth & Planetary Sciences Bldg., Rm. 203. 935-5610.

Music

Tuesday, Oct. 18

7 p.m. Jazz at Holmes. Corey Bernhard, piano. Co-sponsored by the Harvard Club of St. Louis. Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

Thursday, Oct. 27

8 p.m. Jazz at Holmes. Vince Varvel, guitar. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

On Stage

Friday, Oct. 14

8 p.m. Performing Arts Dept. Production. *Hair.* Jeffery Matthews, dir. (Also 8 p.m. Oct. 15; 2 p.m. 16.) Cost: $15, $9 for students, children, seniors, WUSTL faculty & staff. Edison Theatre. 935-6543.

Friday, Oct. 21

8 p.m. OVATIONS! Series. *Slanguage.* Universes performing arts group. (Also 8 p.m. Oct. 22.) Cost: $28, $24 for seniors & WUSTL faculty & staff, $18 for students & children. Edison Theatre. 935-6543.

Sports

Friday, Oct. 14

5:30 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. Case Western Reserve U. Francis Field. 935-4705.

7:30 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. Case Western Reserve U. Francis Field. 935-4705.

Saturday, Oct. 15

10 a.m. Volleyball vs. U. of Rochester. UAA Round Robin No. 2. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

12:30 p.m. Volleyball vs. Case Western Reserve U. UAA Round Robin No. 2. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Sunday, Oct. 16

9 a.m. Volleyball vs. New York U. UAA Round Robin No. 2. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

11 a.m. Men's Soccer vs. U. of Rochester. Francis Field. 935-4705.

11:30 a.m. Volleyball vs. Emory U. UAA Round Robin No. 2. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

1:30 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. U. of Rochester. Francis Field. 935-4705.

Wednesday, Oct. 19

7 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. Fontbonne U. Francis Field. 935-4705.

Friday, Oct. 21

7 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. U. of Wisc.-Platteville. Francis Field. 935-4705.

Monday, Oct. 24

7 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. Webster U. Francis Field. 935-4705.

Tuesday, Oct. 25

7 p.m. Volleyball vs. Webster U. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Worship

Tuesday, Oct. 25

7:15 p.m. Chabad on Campus Simchat Torah Festival. Bais Abraham, 6910 Delmar Blvd. Reservations suggested to 721-2884.

And more...

Monday, Oct. 17

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Siteman Cancer Center Breast Health Booth. Barnes-Jewish Hosp. Bldg. North, outside cafeteria. 605-2916.

Monday, Oct. 24

11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Blood Drive. Co-sponsored by Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, WUSTL Marrow Registry, Chinese Student Assn. and Project Democracy. (Also 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Oct. 25, Mallinckrodt Student Center, Lower Lvl., The Gargoyle, and 5-10 p.m. Oct. 26 & 27, Wohl Student Center, Friedman Lounge.) Mallinckrodt Student Center, Lower Lvl., The Gargoyle. 935-5066.

Wednesday, Oct. 26

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Siteman Cancer Center Breast Health Booth. Barnes-Jewish Hosp. Bldg. South, main lobby. 605-2916.

Thursday, Oct. 27

8 p.m. Writing Program Reading Series. Michael Martone, author. Duncker Hall, Rm. 201, Hurst Lounge. 935-7130.

COURTESY PHOTO

T.R. Kidder, Ph.D. (top right), professor of anthropology in Arts & Sciences, discusses the stratigraphy of Poverty Point's Mound A with Anthony Ortmann (left), a doctoral student from Tulane University, and Jon Gibson, Ph.D., professor of anthropology at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Hunter

Mound-building suggests high level of organization

– from Page 1

The alternative explanation, and the one Kidder believes is more accurate, is that the site was constructed over a short period of time by a large population using sophisticated political and social organization.

Kidder and his team spent the summer excavating a dirt platform on one side of the large mound. According to his analysis of dirt layers and lack of erosion, the platform was constructed in a year or less.

"We believe they built this entire platform in a period so brief that there was no erosion of dirt taking place," Kidder said. "Also, there would have to be a pretty sizeable population to build a mound this size. It would have taken between 7 million and 10 million 55-pound baskets of dirt just to build the platform we examined.

"That's a lot of dirt. Even working all day long, it's not something 30 people could do in that kind of time frame."

The building of the mound also suggests a very high level of social and political organization, according to Kidder.

"I find it hard to imagine that you could keep labor going on that kind of scale without some kind of directed political organization," he said. "Someone had to figure out a mechanism for organizing the people and directing them."

Why did they go to all that trouble to build a dirt mound?

"It's very interesting because there is nothing on top of the mound," Kidder said.

"There were no houses, no factories, no garbage from people working. By default, it's hard not to think of it as being a ceremonial ritual building, though that's very speculative."

What Kidder does know is that the level of sophistication it took to construct the mound is not normally associated with the hunter-gatherer lifestyle.

"I think we are able to demonstrate pretty categorically that this site, or at least the mound itself, which is one of the largest earthen mounds in North America, was built very quickly, presumably by a large number of people in a socially and politically organized fashion," Kidder said.

"That is really contradictory to the classic textbook definition of hunters and gatherers. For instance, if this mound was built in 1200 A.D., it would certainly be a big site, but it wouldn't be that spectacular because, frankly, everyone else was doing it at that point. But the fact that these are hunter-gatherers in 1700-1100 B.C. makes it absolutely unique."

He and Anthony Ortmann, who is pursuing a doctorate in anthropology from Tulane University but is enrolled at Washington University this semester, will present the team's findings at two meetings this academic year.

They will present their paper, "Recent Excavations of Poverty Point Mound A: The 'Tail' of Two Mounds," in early November at the Southeastern Archaeological Society meeting in Columbia, S.C., as well as at the Society for American Archaeology meeting April 26-30 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Kidder hopes to head back to Poverty Point next summer to continue excavating.

"This is a society and civilization that is far more complex than we've ever given it credit for," he said. "These people were before the Maya, Aztec and Inca.

"They were basically the earliest New World civilization and can be recognized (through fossil evidence) from the Gulf of Mexico to middle Missouri as a coherent, material culture of people who were sharing ideas, trading and exchanging over large distances and building monumental architecture."

Fish

Presence can alter competitive relationships

– from Page 1

complex, Knight explained, in that, like an amphibian, it occupies two different habitats during its life — thus becoming a conduit between one habitat, the pond, and another, the landscape near a pond.

The results were published in the Oct. 6 issue of the journal *Nature*.

"The study illustrates how spatial mobility can lead to surprisingly strong couplings among disparate habitats in complex landscapes," said Robert D. Holt, Ph.D., professor of biology at the University of Florida and a study co-author. "A recognition of this fact opens up fresh questions that need to be considered by both basic ecologists and natural resource managers."

Not only did the team observe more pollinators in landscapes next to ponds with fish, but they also saw differences in the kinds of pollinator species. Most visitors near ponds with fish were hymenopterans — for the most part, bees — compared with most visitors at the fish-free ponds, mainly flies.

Hypericaceae have evolved traits that attract bees, and so bees may be better pollinators of *Hypericum* than flies. The effect of reduced pollinator visits near fish-free ponds might be magnified, Knight said, in part because the few visits pollinators made to the area were from flies and moths, rather than bees.

The researchers made sure that the vegetation structures of each pond were similar. And they also experimented with another flowering plant, *Sagittaria latifolia*, and came up with similar results to what they found with *Hypericaceae*.

Avoiding fish-free ponds

The researchers also found that pollinators tend to avoid fish-free ponds because of the presence of dragonflies. Likewise, there is evidence that dragonflies avoid laying eggs in ponds with fish.

Knight noted that many organisms (salamanders, for instance) with terrestrial life stages also are key aquatic predators, so the reverse — a cascade from terrestrial to aquatic ecosystem — also is true.

"This finding will open up many opportunities to examine interactions across ecosystem boundaries," she said.

For one, getting grips on cross-ecosystem "habitat" connections could be a key component of gauging the effects of human encroachments on nature.

Stocking ponds with fish is universal, whether for a fishing hole or to reduce pests, but now urban and rural landscapers and developers can realize that the fish have a wider impact than their original purpose.

Freshwater fish introductions have the potential to alter competitive relationships among terrestrial plants, hampering the competitiveness of non-insect pollinated plants. Wetland destruction impacts dragonfly populations along with terrestrial plants.

Polluted ponds and those that dry up at certain times of the year and those suffering from an excess of certain nutrients — a condition called eutrophication — all can harm fish abundances and insect-pollinated plants.

"Consumer flows across radically disparate ecosystems can affect landscape-level processes and drive local species interactions," the authors concluded.

Grant

SCCNE to be housed in new building

– from Page 1

dean of the School of Medicine. "By bringing these creative laboratory innovations to practical medical application, the SCCNE will become a vital part of the School of Medicine's BioMed 21 initiative."

The NCI began supporting the application of nanotechnology to cancer more than seven years ago. Within the past year, the institute created the NCI Alliance for Nanotechnology in Cancer (*nano.cancer.gov*) as a comprehensive initiative to translate nanotechnology research into clinical practice in cancer medicine. The establishment of the seven CCNEs is part of this initiative.

"With the advent of the Centers of Cancer Nanotechnology Excellence, we are particularly looking forward to new nanotech-based therapeutic delivery systems that could enhance the efficacy and tolerability of cancer treatments — an advance that would greatly benefit cancer patients," said Anna Barker, Ph.D., the NCI's deputy director.

Each CCNE is a multi-institutional hub. The SCCNE is a collaboration including the School of Medicine and the Siteman Cancer Center, the University of Illinois, several private-sector companies including Kereos Inc., and large multinational corporations including Philips Medical Systems.

> **"By bringing these creative laboratory innovations to practical medical application, the SCCNE will become a vital part of the School of Medicine's BioMed 21 initiative."**
>
> LARRY J. SHAPIRO

The SCCNE will be housed in a newly constructed biotechnology laboratory complex on the east edge of the Medical Campus. Developed by CORTEX — the Center of Research, Technology & Entrepreneurial Exchange — the building is scheduled for completion in January.

The other six CCNEs are at the University of North Carolina; the University of California, San Diego; Emory University and Georgia Institute of Technology (joint center); Harvard University and Massachusetts General Hospital (joint center); Northwestern University; and California Institute of Technology.

Health

Information available from numerous sources

– from Page 1

instructions, resources, contacts and a combined enrollment form.

"We have attempted to ease the annual enrollment process through clear printed materials, helpful Web site information at *hr.wustl.edu*, conveniently located employee meetings and vendor days and a simplified, combined enrollment form," said Thomas W. Lauman, director of benefits.

"We certainly hope that all faculty and staff will take the time to review this important benefit information for 2006."

Informational meetings

To assist faculty and staff with making the appropriate health and flex spending decisions for themselves and their families, employee informational meetings will be held. Each should last 45 minutes to an hour.

The schedule is as follows:

Hilltop Campus:

- Oct. 19, 9 a.m., Simon Hall, May Auditorium;
- Oct. 25, 3 p.m., South Brookings Hall, Room 101;
- Oct. 27, 9 a.m., Brown Hall, Room 118; and
- Nov. 1, 9 a.m., Simon Hall, Room 109.

Medical Campus:

- Oct. 19, 1:30 p.m., McDonnell Science Building, Cori Auditorium;
- Oct. 24, 9 a.m., Children's Hospital Auditorium;
- Oct. 26, 2 p.m., Scarpellino Auditorium (Barnes);
- Oct. 28, 7:30 a.m., Schwarz Auditorium;
- Nov. 1, 11:30 a.m., Steinberg Amphitheater (Yalem Building);
- Nov. 3, 2 p.m., Barnes West Designated Dining Room; and
- Nov. 4, 9 a.m., Scarpellino Auditorium (Barnes).

West Campus:

- Oct. 21, 9 a.m., Library Conference Center, Room A/B; and
- Nov. 3, 9 a.m., Library Conference Center, Room C.

Vendor days

The following vendor days have been scheduled to give employees the opportunity to meet with representatives from UnitedHealthcare, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Essex Dental and Vision Service Plan:

- **Medical Campus:** Oct. 25, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., McDonnell Science Building, Seashell Lobby;
- **West Campus:** Oct. 26, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., third floor cafeteria annex;
- **Hilltop Campus:** Oct. 27, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Mallinckrodt Student Center, Shoenberg Gallery.

Record

Founded in 1905
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Washington University in St. Louis

Notables

Introducing new faculty members

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

Jessica Rosenfeld, Ph.D., joins the Department of English in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. She recently earned a Ph.D. at the University of Pennsylvania, with a dissertation titled "The Ethics of Courtly Love: Narrative Transformations in the Later Middle Ages." She earned a B.A. from the University of Puget Sound in 1997. Her research and teaching interests include courtly poetry, moral philosophy, psychoanalytic theory and gender studies.

Nancy Reynolds, Ph.D., joins the Department of History in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. She earned a Ph.D. from Stanford University in 2003, an M.A. from Stanford in 1995, and an A.B. from Harvard University in 1989. She specializes in the social, cultural and economic history of the modern Middle East and women's history, and her research explores the history of commerce, commodities, and cosmopolitanism in Egypt in the first half of the 20th century.

Martin Kennedy joins the Department of Music in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor of composition. He earned a D.M.A. from the Juilliard School and his M.M. and B.M. from Indiana University. He has received several prestigious composition honors, including five ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards, a BMI Student Composer Award and several publishing contract with Theodore Presser Company. His music has been performed by the American Composers Orchestra, the Bloomington Camerata Orchestra, the Polish National Chamber Orchestra of Slupsk, the Haddonfield Symphony and the Shenandoah Symphony Orchestra, among others.

Anne Margaret Baxley, Ph.D., joins the Department of Philosophy in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor, coming from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, where she has had an appointment since 2001. Baxley earned a B.A. in philosophy from Wellesley College in 1997 and a Ph.D. from the University of California, San Diego, in 2000. She was a Fellow of the National Humanities Center in 2003-04. Her area of specialization is Kant's ethical theory. Having published a number of articles in that area, she is currently at work on a book titled *Kant's Theory of Virtue: The Value of Autocracy*.

Notables policy

To submit Notables for publication in the *Record*, e-mail items to Andy Clendennen at andyc@wustl.edu or fax to 935-4259.

KEVIN LOWDER

Singing for the South Mary Rasp, administrative coordinator in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, joins members of the Zydeco Crawdaddys during "Sounds of the South," a hurricane-relief benefit concert in the Lopata Courtyard Sept. 30. The event, hosted by the School of Social Work's student body, raised more than $1,000 for the Louisiana Domestic Violence Relief Fund, Mercy Family Center and the Houma Nation.

Campus Authors

Peter MacKeith, associate director of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts and associate dean of Architecture

The Dissolving Corporation

(EVA in cooperation with the Creative Finland Association, 2005)

Has corporate architecture doomed the city?

Over the past century, corporate headquarters — as well as churches, universities and government institutions — have been pillars of the urban environment, embodying the culture, values and aspirations of their societies.

Yet today's corporations — competing in global, open-market economies; distanced and disassociated from the means of production — have increasingly situated themselves on the suburban periphery, replacing civic engagement with simple displays of technological prowess, such as the ubiquitous glass curtain wall.

As a result, "corporations must be seen as potential 'dissolving agents' of the cities in which they have chosen to locate," argues Peter MacKeith, associate director of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, where he also serves as associate dean of Architecture.

In *The Dissolving Corporation: Contemporary Architecture and Corporate Identity in Finland* — a report commissioned by the Finnish Business and Policy Forum (EVA) — MacKeith examines a variety of recently built headquarters around the world: Nokia and Sanoma in Finland; Wal-Mart, Microsoft, Ford and *USA Today* in the United States; Nike-Europe in the Netherlands; Volkswagen in Germany; and Telenor in Norway.

"The contemporary city of corporate architecture is constructed of standardized elements, homogeneous in their glass-enclosures, planned for maximum flexibility and insured for limited time periods," MacKeith points out. "Silicon Valley's landscape of leased, glass curtain-wall or tilt-up concrete slab construction R&D 'parks' constitutes the extreme example. In that archetypal IT-driven landscape, the buildings are differentiated only by their corporate signage.

"Legally, the responsibilities of design end at the site-line," MacKeith continues. Yet architecture inevitably affects its surrounding environment and always represents values, whether elevated or banal.

MacKeith

"More and more, corporations' headquarters designs internalize their communities of employees and workers. Headquarters now provide cafés, gyms, banks and day-care centers to such an extent that daily contact with the external life of the city is no longer necessary."

MacKeith also questions whether the typical open-plan, glass-walled corporate working environment truly increases creativity and productivity — as rhetoric would have — or whether the resulting lack of privacy and stability might actually contribute to employee turnover. (The Silicon Valley average length of employment, he notes, is just eight months.)

"Put simply, the correlation of transparency and flexibility in office planning with creativity and productivity is an illusion," MacKeith contends. "The correlation of open-plan, executive-in-the-open, glass-walled environments with openness, trust, cooperation and informal brainstorming is an illusion.

"Productivity evidence in the knowledge worker office setting is essentially anecdotal and usually the result of the corporation's own surveys," MacKeith adds. "In fact, the few academic studies that are emerging contradict the conception of the open office as the most productive office."

Yet MacKeith does see some positive signs, particularly as corporations focus on issues of sustainable development.

For architects today, the key challenges, "are not those of technical knowledge or technological innovation, and certainly not ones of creative ability," MacKeith concludes.

Rather, architects must find ways to rekindle that social contract without constraining social and technical innovation; to create "a means of living and working, grounded in an ethical sensibility and in the natural world."

The report is available both as a printed volume and as a downloadable PDF from the EVA Web site.

— *Liam Otten*

For the Record

Third-year Medical Scientist Training Program student **Katherine Lee** recently was elected national president and second-year medical student **Aaron Lee** was elected senior regional director of the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA). The elections took place at APAMSA's national meeting, held this year in Chicago. …

Two groups from the University's mock trial team finished first and fourth respectively in the Mock Trial Invitational Tournament recently held at Saint Louis University. A total of 16 teams from eight Midwest schools competed. The team is coached by **Jessica Bernard**, student in the School of Law. …

Nancy Tye Murray, Ph.D., research professor in the Department of Otolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery, has received a five-year, $1,558,250 grant from the National Institutes of Health National Institute on Aging to study how aging affects a person's ability to comprehend connected discourse, a continuation of the research began in 2000. …

Robert H. Mach, Ph.D., professor of radiology, has received a four-year, $1,203,433 grant from the National Cancer Institute for research titled "Radiolabeled Probes for Imaging Caspase-3 Activation."

Obituary: Donna Murphy, University Libraries; 62

BY ANDY CLENDENNEN

Donna Murphy, shelving supervisor for University Libraries, died Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2005, following a sudden onset of illness in August. She was 62.

Born in St. Louis on Sept. 17, 1943, Murphy worked in University Libraries for the past 34 years.

She joined the staff as a library page in the Reference Department in October 1971. Within two years, she was promoted to stack supervisor in the Circulation Department.

As shelving supervisor at Olin Library, she exhibited patience and good humor while overseeing a dedicated group of workers who keep the library's 1.7 million books and other materials in order.

In 1995, Murphy was one of 10 University women honored with YWCA leadership awards in recognition of their dedication to improving their communities. She received numerous awards from the Special School District for her work helping their students succeed in the workplace.

Murphy

Murphy was a member of the American Business Women's Association. A longtime member of the Mount Zion M.B. Church (South Hanley Road), she taught adult Sunday School and was a member of the singles ministry there.

"Donna was not just a valuable employee," said Shirley I. Baker, dean of libraries and vice chancellor for information technology. "Every one of us loved her cheerful personality and her willingness to step forward to help in any situation. She will be deeply missed."

Scott Britton, head of access, agreed, saying, "We could always count on Donna's enthusiasm whenever people came together, whether it was a staff meeting or a holiday party. She got people excited and made everyone happy to be participating.

"Donna's great spirit and loving personality were such a positive force in the libraries.

"Her passing has left a void that will be felt for a very long time."

Virginia Toliver, associate dean for administration, said, "Donna's optimism, energy and zest for life had a positive impact on everyone she met. The success of the library's cooperative venture with the St. Louis Special School District is largely attributed to Donna's leadership. Her patience, guidance and wise counsel enabled these graduates to become valuable, productive, long-term employees.

"On a personal level, Donna and I shared a very special friendship for over 24 years. She was a major part of every significant life event for both me and my daughter, and ours is a bond that cannot be broken — not even by death."

Survivors include her son, Joseph Murphy, and her 9-year-old granddaughter, Mary Margaret Murphy.

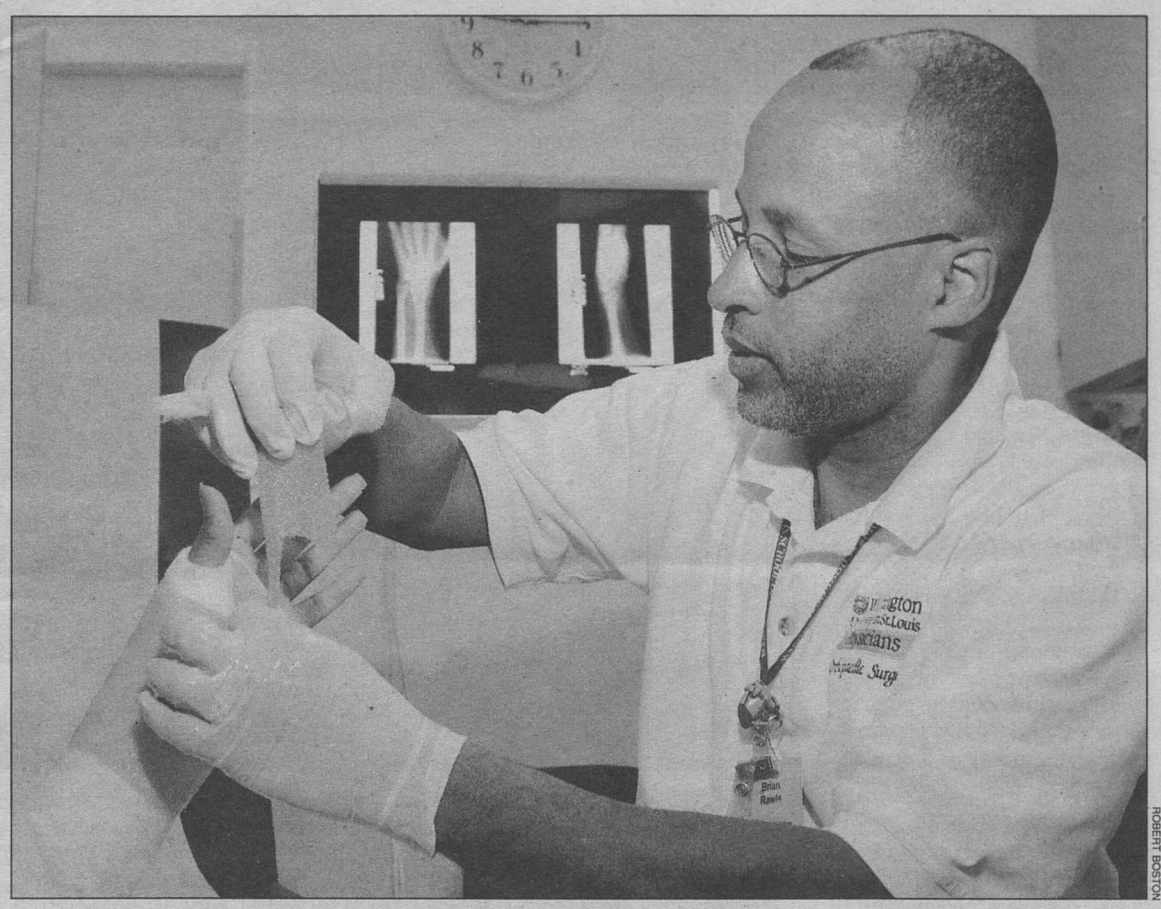
Memorials or condolences may be sent to the family in care of Joseph Murphy, 136 Brook Drive, St. Charles, MO 63301.

Washington People

A natural healer

Compassion and dedication define cast technician Brian Rawls

BY KIM LEYDIG



ROBERT BOSTON

Cast technician Brian Rawls applies a cast to a patient with a wrist injury. "(Brian) has an innate ability to listen to every patient and understand his or her individual needs," says nurse Jean Szerzinski, a clinical administrator in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. "Both our staff and patients sense his compassion and dedication. Patients leave here smiling and very grateful."

Broken bones can cause some of the most painful traumatic injuries. Last spring, I experienced that reality firsthand when I fell nearly 12 feet off a ladder and severely fractured my wrist while painting my brother's home in San Francisco.

By the time I landed in Chicago to make my transfer home, my arm was throbbing in pain, and my fingers were swollen to the size of an NFL linebacker's.

I called my internist from the airport, and he told me from the description of my symptoms, something was wrong. I needed to see an orthopaedic surgeon immediately.

Two hours later, I was in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, hurting terribly.

The swelling and intense pain most likely was caused by a temporary cast being put on too tightly in the emergency department in San Francisco.

Whether it was the tight cast or the traumatic fall, my injury required carpal tunnel release surgery, which meant a series of casts. I was dreading the casts more than the reconstructive surgery.

Then I met the head cast technician, Brian Rawls. And I smiled — even laughed — for the first time since my fall.

As he wrapped my arm in a bulky, but comfortable, temporary cast before my impending surgery, he joked with me about picking a cast color that would match my spring wardrobe (we went with black). But most importantly, he made me comfortable and put me at ease.

"Brian has an incredible bedside manner and is an inspiration to our whole department," says Richard H. Gelberman, M.D., the Fred C. Reynolds Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, head of the department — and the surgeon who treated me.

"Brian is a very unique person. He has an unwavering commitment to delivering the best possible patient care. He has excellent technical skills, and our physicians and staff really trust his work and value his opinions."

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery agrees that Rawls has a gift — an intuitive ability to assess a situation and do whatever is needed.

"Brian is always there 100 percent for his patients," says nurse Jean Szerzinski, Rawls' supervisor and a clinical administrator in the orthopaedic surgery department.

"He has an innate ability to listen to every patient and understand his or her individual needs. Both our staff and patients sense his compassion and dedication. Patients leave here smiling and very grateful."

But as Rawls so humbly likes to put it, he's just doing his job.

"Casting really offers me the opportunity to be part of the healing process," he says as he sets a woman's leg in cast after a staph infection following major reconstructive surgery. "I like that I can help someone who walks in here in a lot of pain, and they can walk out of here with hope that things will get better."

A few years ago, a young woman's foot was crushed after her boyfriend slammed a car door on her leg in the midst of a heated argument. The injury was so severe that all of her toes needed to be amputated.

"I was there when they took off the cast and was with her when she had to experience for the first time the reality of losing her toes," Rawls says. "It was one of the worst times of her life, and I was able to help her through the physical and emotional healing process.

"This job really gives me the chance to be helpful and make a difference in my patients' lives. It's a gift to be able to help someone in pain. Patients often just need someone to listen to them. A kind word goes a long way."

A shining star

Helping that young woman deal with the aftermath of amputation, assisting me through a series of casts and offering patients tips to surviving their time in a cast — a blow dryer on cool setting helps alleviate itching, a package of frozen peas reduces swelling without damaging the fiberglass — are just a few of the reasons Rawls' colleagues nominated him for the Guiding Star Award, one of the highest honors a clinician can receive at the School of Medicine.

In 2003, Rawls won the award, which honors a staff member who exemplifies professionalism, teamwork and compassionate patient care while demonstrating an ongoing commitment to exceeding job responsibilities and creating a positive work environment.

"What impresses me most about Brian is that he is very much the same as a clinician and as a person," Szerzinski says. "He is genuine and sincere.

"Brian is truly a team player. He has a great attitude, and he treats everyone with respect."

Szerzinski adds that Rawls has an amazing ability to listen to others.

"Brian says it's simple and that he's nothing special, but that is what's so special about Brian Rawls," she says. "He is a constant morale-booster for our department."

Incredibly dedicated

Rawls is the quintessential example of how hard work, determination and dedication can open doors at the University.

His career at the School of Medicine began nearly a decade ago when he took a position as an animal technician in the Department of Otolaryngology. His work with chinchillas and monkeys inspired him to learn more about anatomy and the epidemiology of various diseases.

A colleague recommended him for a position as an administrative assistant in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, and he began working in the department, doing everything from office maintenance to coordinating shipping and receiving.

Gelberman and other physicians admired Rawls' quest for knowledge and positive attitude, and they took him under their wing.

Rawls' fascination with medicine continued to grow. He borrowed books from physicians to study anatomy and physiology, and became especially interested in bones and fractures. He listened attentively while physicians taught residents and fellows. He even made flash cards to learn orthopaedic terms.

Six years ago, an opportunity for a position as a cast technician became available. His wife of 20 years, Roz, a fitness coordinator for the Wellness Program at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, encouraged her husband to "get out of his comfort zone" and apply for the job.

"You can accomplish anything you want to when you put your head to the sky," Rawls says, citing his strong faith in God. "Through prayer, anything is possible. If you want to broaden your horizons, anything is possible."

But it wasn't just faith that help Rawls get ahead — his positive attitude, dedication to the job and willingness to learn also contributed to his success.

Before long, Rawls was working with doctors, nurses and residents, learning everything from different casting techniques to understanding medical computer software.

Now as the head cast technician, Rawls oversees a staff of cast technicians. He treats patients at the School of Medicine and St. Louis Children's, Missouri Baptist and Barnes West hospitals, setting casts, removing splints and staples and assisting physicians in the irrigation of wounds. Some days in the clinic, he'll cast up to 16 patients.

"We see everything here," he says, "from construction workers who slice off their fingers from chainsaw accidents, to glamour girls who want their cast to match their nail polish shade, to kids who break their arms on the monkey bars.

"Casting is really an art, and I see this job as a real opportunity to help patients and be a part of the healing process."

Rawls worked hard to create a staff that will be there for patients and "be a friend to their broken limbs."

"I'm really thankful the department has given me a chance to be a leader," he says.

He explains one of the reasons he loves working at the University is that people here are willing to train you.

"As a teaching institution, people at the University are willing to teach you and take you under their wing, if you're willing to learn," he says. "And there's always something new to learn."

Rawls also leads a training tutorial for medical students as they rotate through orthopaedics.

"I often hear the students thank Brian at the completion of the training session," Szerzinski says.

"They stop by my office to say what a great job he did and how much they got out of spending time with Brian."

Gelberman, who called from Italy to talk about Rawls, says, "Brian is a consummate professional and has a strong commitment to learning and is dedicated to providing the best possible patient care. He is a leader and a role model to our whole department."

Brian Rawls

Family: Wife, Roz; children: Nicole, 26; Tonya 25; Angelo, 24; and Brittany, 18.

Hobbies: Gardening, restoring floors, exercising and cooking with his wife. "My wife is my best friend," he says. "Now that our kids are grown, we're enjoying the empty house. It's like we're dating again, which is really nice."

Age: 50. "I turned 50 in August, and I feel like life is just beginning."

What he loves most about casting: "Helping patients through the healing process."

Most popular cast color: "Right now it's red because the Cardinals are winning," he says.

ROBERT BOSTON

At the 2003 Clinical Employee Recognition reception, cast technician Brian Rawls of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery celebrates winning the Guiding Star Award.