A Hilltop History:

Early landscape architects charmed by 'vantage point,' liken it to Greece's Acropolis

By Andy Clelandinen

AEGIS

Aristotlean William Wilberforce once wrote "Things great have small beginnings."
Washington University could be a prime example of what Wilberforce meant.
The progenitor to Washington University, Elliot Seminary, started as just one building -- Academic Hall -- at the intersection of 17th Street and Washington Avenue in downtown. The building opened for classes in 1856, three years after Missouri Governor Sterling Price signed into law the charter incorporating the school.

Shortly after, Feb. 12, 1857, to be exact -- Gov. Trustees Poll signed into law the amended charter renaming the school Washington University, and an era was begun.
The city, the school and the student body all began to grow. And over the next four decades the realization set in that the school would need to relocate to a place that had more space.

Plus, the downtown area was becoming less suitable as many St. Louisans moved away to escape the air pollution, dirt and muddy mess every time it rained, and the west end of Forest Park was known as the "Wilderness."

But the hilltop vantage point remained several of the Acropolis in Greece, and it didn't take long for construction on the new home of the University to start.
The issue of design was still to be determined.
The University hired the firm of Frederick Law Olmstead from Massachusetts.

Fossett Laboratory for Virtual Planetary Exploration planned

By Barbara Rea

Whether you are old enough to have experienced 3-D technology during its "golden age" in a movie theater, or had your introduction via the newest IMAX format, virtually all would agree that stereoscopy -- the ability to create the illusion of a third dimension -- transforms the experience and allows for a tremendous amount of detail that otherwise would go unnoticed.

Imagine taking that ability and applying it to teaching and research in the study of earth and planetary sciences. Ray Arvidson, Ph.D., James S. McDonell Distinguished University Professor and chair of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences (E&PS) in Arts & Sciences, together with WUSTL alumnus and extraordinary explorer Steve Fossett, did just that, with the result being the development of the Fossett Laboratory for Virtual Planetary Exploration.

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School of Law celebrates Constitution Day Sept. 18

By Cynthia Georges

The School of Law will join more than 100 other U.S. law schools in observance of Constitution independence as part of the country's second annual Constitution Day observance Monday, Sept. 18.

With participation in a national dialogue focused on the Constitution and judicial independence, School of Law students, faculty and others at a video presentation that features noted former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, said they are deeply concerned about attacks on the judicial independence following the recent Supreme Court decisions.

"I am deeply concerned about attacks on the judicial independence that tend to be associated with the courts," said Judge Katherine Perry, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri. "These are among the most important in our democratic system.

"In a democracy, the courts serve as a backup to the legislature and the executive branch, and thus need to be protected from all outside influences, especially political," Perry said. "I believe the recent Supreme Court decisions are an attack on judicial independence."

Constitution Day observance Monday was held in the Rawles Group Room in Harney-Bush Hall.

"I am honored to be asked to talk about Judicial independence and the essential separation of power," Perry, J.D., a 1980 graduate of the WUSTL law school, believes those constitutional concepts are frequently misunderstood, and they are among the most important in our democratic system.

"Decision topics planned for the event include: the reasons for judicial independence; the separation of powers doctrine; historical responses of presidents to Supreme Court decisions; recent constitutional efforts to disrupt perceived judicial independence; and the election of state court judges.

Titled "A Conversation on the Constitution: Judicial Independence," the video was produced by the Annenberg Foundation Trust at Stanford and the Washington Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania as part of an ongoing civic education effort in support of the Constitution Day observance.

"Our participation in a national conversation on the subject of judicial independence following the recent Supreme Court decisions is an attack on judicial independence."

The video and its simulcast at American law schools was a project jointly promoted by the WUSTL School of Law, the Cornell Law School, the University of Arizona Law School and the American Bar Association.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

Conor Killen, 8, whose leukemia is now in remission, takes the podium while his mom looks on. Conor is the son of Dirk Killen, Ph.D., assistant dean in the College of Arts & Sciences and academic integrity officer, and Kristin Daly (above).

The statistics show that one in three people in the bi-state region is aided by a United Way-funded program at some point in his or her life.

In the 2010-11 campaign, 16 million dollars was raised.

"What does charity really mean? It means love — it's what brings people and communities together," said Kristin Daly.

And with it, E&PS is getting closer to earth, teaching applications heretofore only imagined to help people. "We want people to look at this year as the single most important campaign ever. Because it is — until next year — our only chance to help, but they need to be asked. That's just human nature.

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Drug combination knocks out previously resistant cervical cancer

BY GLENN ERICSON

W ith commonly available treatment strategies, 90 percent of women with recurrent cervical cancer die within five years, leaving physicians eager to uncover more effective drug therapies.

School of Medicine researchers have obtained encouraging results by combining a traditional cell-killing agent with Avastin, a recently developed inhibitor of blood-vessel growth.

Patients involved in testing the new combination therapy suffered from advanced cervical cancer that had spread to multiple sites in the body. Several prior rounds of standard chemotherapy and/or radiation had failed to stop their cancers, leaving the six patients in this preliminary study without viable options for treatment — in one case, a patient's tumors completely disappeared completely while she was on the drug combination.

"This was a remarkable, dramatic response," said first author Jason D. Wright, M.D., instructor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Siteman Cancer Center. "Another patient’s tumor responded to the therapy — in that patient’s case, the patient’s tumors completely disappeared while she was on the drug combination."

Avastin has been used with success in clinical trials for colon, renal and ovarian cancer — but it has never before been studied as a treatment for cervical cancer. Trials of Avastin in ovarian and endometrial cancer are also under way at the School of Medicine.

"When Avastin became available about five years ago, it was initially used alone to treat cancer," Wright said. "More recent research has shown that it can be more effective when it’s combined with a chemotherapeutic drug."

Exactly how Avastin affects tumors more is not yet certain. In addition to interfering with the growth of new blood vessels, some evidence suggests Avastin restores normal structure to the poorly functioning blood vessels within tumors. Done so may prevent delivery of chemotherapeutic drugs to the tumor interior. Scientists also propose the drug blocks repair of blood vessels that become damaged by chemotherapy, thus sparing the tumor’s nutrient supply.

Wright’s study paired Avastin with 5-Fluorouracil, a long-established anticancer agent. The patients suffered relatively few side effects from the therapy. These included anemia, mild hair loss, malaise, pain and pressure in the urine, as well as kidney problems.

The researchers have subsequently treated additional patients with the combination therapy and have seen impressive response rates. "At this early stage, we don’t yet know how long Avastin to cervical cancer patients or whether it will be more effective for them alone or in combination with chemotherapy," he said. "Our initial results are helping us to further develop clinical trials."

First U.S. test for new asthma treatment seeks volunteers

BY GLENN ERICSON

S chool of Medicine researchers are seeking participants for the second U.S. study (International Research) of a novel, center clinical trial, which explores whether a new asthma treatment improves asthma care. The trial, the first test of the procedure in the United States, focuses on a procedure called bronchial thermoplasty to treat asthma. Early patient data from trials outside the United States suggest it may hold promise for moderate and severe asthmatics.

"This is an exciting trial because for the first time in the United States we are looking at a new non-pharmaceutical treatment for asthma," said Mario Castro, M.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine at the School of Medicine and associate director of the Asthma and Allergy Clinic. "Currently, if you suffer from asthma, medication is the only treatment available to you for relief, so there is the potential this clinical trial may change the way we care for millions of asthma sufferers."

Asthma is one of the most common and costly diseases in the world. It affects more than 20 million people in the United States alone, with an estimated 2 million emergency room visits and 5,000 deaths per year. The prevalence of asthma is on the rise, and there is no cure.

Asthma involves greater than normal responsiveness of airways to a variety of stimuli. This increased responsiveness can take the form of swelling of the airway wall, thereby reducing the ability of the airway walls to contract, narrowing the space in response to irritation, infection or inflammation.

The procedure has been used successfully in 16 patients with asthma who were enrolled in a safety trial at two asthma centers in Canada. Two years following their last treatment, the patients on average showed less airway narrowing during a test using a drug that causes contraction of airway smooth muscle.

During the clinical trial, physicians will treat one-third of the lungs in each treatment session for a total of three treatment sessions. The treatment will be performed as an outpatient procedure under conscious sedation. Patients will stay on their maintenance asthma medication for the duration of the study.

Castro anticipates enrolling up to 20 patients over the next 6 months as part of the 300 patient trial under way at various sites around the world.

Patients who have asthma, are between 18 and 65 years of age, take medication daily to control asthma and are non-smokers may be eligible to participate in this study. Contact Melissa Reno at 362-9044 or MReino@som.wustl.edu.

Future geneticist? Seqenyi Stevens from Beaumont High School in St. Louis presents her research on the use of the Jun B gene from her chicken egg as part of the Young Scientists Program at the School of Medicine. The annual program, sponsored by Pfizer Inc., with the St. Louis Public Schools in teaching, recruiting and mentoring students from disadvantaged backgrounds interested in science.

Epilepsy drug eases symptoms of inherited disorder

BY MICHAEL C. PODY

A new drug that has been on the market for decades can ease the symptoms of adult onset spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a disease that seriously weakens muscles, researchers at the School of Medicine have found.

"Weihl and his fellow researchers are concerned that valproate may not work as well in those patients. They wanted to make sure that re- searchers did not discard the possibility that other therapies could help older sufferers even if the trials in pediatric patients went poorly. Weihl and his fellow researchers are concerned that valproate is not effective in 16 patients with SMA behind, so there is the potential this clinical trial may change the way we care for millions of asthma sufferers."

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Colleagues, friends share recollections of Bill, Ibby

Compiled by Andy Christensen

Onetime friends and colleagues of William H. Danforth and his late wife, Elizabeth (Ibby), share their personal anecdotes and recall the couple's legacy.

Harriet K. Swisser, Ph.D., secretary to the University's Board of Trustees, 1959-1961, Maryville College, now Maryville University:

"When Bill became chancellor and I was at Maryville College, we traveled together on our private plane to a meeting of the Missouri Fund at Drury College in southern Missouri. He noticed that I was suffering from a mild case of airsickness on the way down. Driving back from the airport, I saw him ask the bus driver to stop at a pharmacy. He quietly got off the bus and returned with a box of Dramamine in hand and said, 'Harriet, I think this will help you.' It was so typical of Bill's thoughtfulness and continuing dedication as a physician.

Murray L. Welden, Ph.D., the Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor of the Arts & Sciences and honorary chair of the Welden Center for Medicine, Health, Law, Society, Government, and Public Policy:

"Bill Danforth's great generosity in devoting his time and money to Washington University is in sharp contrast to his legendary frugality in spending the University's money. On one occasion, we drove to an off-campus fund-raiser in his car. By the time we left the meeting, the lady with the free-parking stamp had gone. Bill insisted on driving herself to avoid the parking charge!

Merkle Klink, Ph.D., former WUSTL professor of political science and dean of the faculty of Arts & Sciences, professor emeritus of political science:

"When my son was in the hospital, the nurse asked me how far away my house was when my wife was in the hospital in intensive care and dying, he visited her. A resident was startled and rushed out to see the university chancellor, a doc- tor, at a hospital visit. Bill's combination of being both a physician and a remarkable administrator contributed to a tremendous combination of what people could have the experience and talent to do what he would not have had the will to do what he did. He had a very significant influence on my life.

Herold T. Shapiro, Ph.D., president emeritus and professor of religion and public affairs at Princeton University:

"He had the most integrity, the most concern for others of all the presidents that I know. I must have known several hundred presidents over the years, and when I became president of the University of Michigan, Bill had been chancellor for a while and was greatly respected. He is a very modest person. He never talks loudly but he is always worth listening to. I also learned a lot from Sen. Jack Danforth. Like Bill, Jack has a lot of personal integrity and you could have confidence in him, in that you could follow this person. They have no hidden agendas. With both of them you know what their motivations are. You know you, what they say, is what they think. Both Bill and Jack Danforth are always working toward the future, and both believe that to make the future a better place in every way. They always had to take the interests of other people into account. Always both thought of the future to be of one ethical significance.

Georgia Van Cleve, friend of Bill and Ibby Danforth since the couples were college sweethearts, lifelong member of Monday morning bridge club and widow of William Van Cleve, a law partner of Jack Danforth:

"Bill and Ibby were father and mother figures for the students. Both Bill and Ibby gave all their time to understand the needs of their children.

Virginia V. Weldon, M.D., former deputy vice chancellor for medical affairs, professor of pediatrics and vice president of the Washington University Medical Center who worked with Bill:

"Bill Danforth never complained about warm weather. He lived warm weather. I remember a black-tie dinner at my home that was outdoors and the temperature was in the 90s and Ibby was seated next to Bill - I always sat next to Bill if I could - and I suggested he might take off his jacket. But he said he was comfortable. Most of the other men took off their jackets. I had weekday meetings with him in his office in Brookings Hall, and in warm weather the windows would be open because there was no air-conditioning. It got pretty hot during some of those meetings. After the announcement that he was leaving, told him we would have to have his office air-conditioned if we were ever to find a successor."

Kitty Drescher, former WUSTL administrator who helped coordinate the Olm Versions for Women in Graduates Students:

"Bill Danforth broadened my world. That is what Ibby always said about Bill too. After being president of the Washington University Women's Society, I worked for Bill for four years in the 1980s as an assistant for special proj- ects. And my little office was next to Ibby's. Ibby was an irritable traveler and very well prepared. We traveled with them and she made the trips bet- ter, not because of her laugh and her wonderful sense of humor. She was always well prepared for the trip. Bill didn't care what we did; I thought we had to find a successor with us on the trip. I miss her all the time, a lot."

Lee M. Liberman, Ph.D., chair- man emeritus of Laclede Gas Co. and a life trustee and former chairman of the Board of Trustees:

"Bill and I were in Florida and trying to figure out the odds of winning the lottery. We took a lot of time and felt we had it right. Then, it turned out that the lottery (tickets) had the odds printed on the back of the ticket. We didn't buy lottery tickets; we always knew we were not even born to even have one."

Marcie F. Gething, mother of a Children's Hospital patient when Danforth was the resident on the floor and former chair of the Alumni Board of Governors and ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees:

"A joint gift of Bill and Ibby to thousands of students over the years was their mutual enthusiasm for every aspect of University activity. Their person- al, committed devotion, faithful- ness and appreciation of one another was a model for others. In 60 years and age when accustomed to one's life is hard to keep in loyal or in the many marriages, Bill and Ibby's com- mitment to one another and their commitment to the University is a beacon."

William A. Peck, M.D., the Alm. A. and Edith L. Wolff Distinguished Professor of Medicine, director of the Center for Health Policy and former executive vice chancellor and dean of the School of Medicine:

"Bill Danforth has been and continues to be an incredible model and mentor for me. I have not in my long career been closely associated with a more effective and caring or more talented counselor. He exhibits us all an extraordinary combination, and even some who consider me a more talented counselor. He exhibits an all too rare com- bination of brilliance, wisdom, judgment, character, pres- ence, caring and humility. I benefit so much from our re- lationship. Ibby taught me a great deal as well, through her genuine personal interest in and insights into people, her thoughtful, sensitive advice and her remarkable insti- tutional dedication. Ibby and I shared this created a truly synergistic effect. The impact of these two great people exceeded the sum of their wonderful individual efforts."

I. E. Millstone, the senior WUSTL Board of Trustees member who tons 100 this year and WUSTL alumnus (B.S. '77, engi- neering):

"In this world of terrorism and disc- rimination, I never heard any of the presidents, and Bill in particular, ever impede one word of discrimination or hatred. They are the greatest advocates of prejudice. Because Bill Danforth's concern from the beginning has been to make the Uni- versity a world-class university, he always has sought to attract world-class students and teachers. This has probably been the most important thing he has contributed."

James E. McLeod, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, vice chancellor of students and academic vice chancellor:

"When I think of Elizabeth Dan- forth I think of Ibby's Garden. Ibby's Garden is a continuing testament to how much Ibby loved Washington University. Her name has been a beacon, her name has been an inspiration to us all."

Jean Davis, longtime family friend, president of The Women's Club from 1992-1993 and former assistant to the chancellor:

"While many of us may not reach this height of 'thinking of nothing but tall', the ideals set out in (his grandfa- ther's book) 'Darre, the one you whom we come to know who possessed those heights in every aspect of his life and displayed the highest virtues in every respect. I and examples is Bill Danforth. He is truly a worthy grandson of William Van Cleve. He has enhanced the name of the Danforth family by provid- ing leadership by example and by being one of the most kind, caring, considerate, gentle and humble people in this world, and my whole family, deem it an honor and a privilege to have known him and Ibby and for having received in plain- tye our love and friendship. We value this friendship as one of the greatest assets that life has given us. There are few in this world who would equal Bill Danforth as a car- ning human being."

Tedi Macian, family friend, a member of The Women's Society and wife of Edward A. (niece of former executive vice chancellor, dean of Arts & Sci- ences and the Barbara and David Thomas Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences:

"Bill and Ibby were great team. They led by example. Together they were a real interest in the Washington University — from academics to sitting on the front row at a basketball game — always giving people and asking questions that showed a sincere interest in those they came in contact with. Bill and Ibby were an active part of life on our campus and they did this with ease and with personal involvement. As I became more involved in a leadership role at Washington University, with me as his sidekick. I learned from the Danforths' ex- ample how much fun and how rewarding life on our WUSTL campus can be. Ibby was also a great model for women on campus and from her example I became comfor- table with all aspects of the University."

Robert L. Virgil, Ph.D., member of the Board of Trustees of the Donald Donaldson Plant Science & Graduate Education:

"For Gerry (Virgil's wife) and me, outside of our family, the most important people in our lives. My brother-in-law is Gerry. She was the warmest, friendliest, most sincere person ever. She purred to me to a county fair. In those days when they asked me to be the acting dean, she saw me in my role, and he gave me the chance. He was always there with ad- vice, which always was good. She always had more credit for than she did. If I did it, if was successful, however, it was be- cause I had the good fortune to have this advisor, to follow his lead, and to do what he suggested. I continue to this day to do the same. I cherish the friendship we have had with Ibby and Bill and their influence on our lives."

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS
History

Building boom follows pledges of support: image page

sets to develop a site plan, which included a large quadrangle.

As architecture firms were in-

vited to submit plans for the

campus, and Cope and Stewart-

son's which had designed build-

ings for Bryn Mawr College, the

University of Pennsylvania, and

Princeton University and favored

the Collegiate Gothic style — was

unanimously chosen.

Much needed work was to be
done before construction started.

Workers moved a million cubic

yards of soil, adding 12 feet to

the main quadrangle alone to raise it
to the proper height.

The cornerstone for Busch

Hall, the first building of the new

Hilltop Campus, was laid on Oct.

1900.

Other buildings quickly fol-

lowed: Brooking s had pledged

$200,000 for an academic build-

ing and Arthur C. Babcock, the

Adolphus Busch, board member and

founder of Anheuser-Busch

Brewing Co., for a chemistry

building; Elizabeth Liggett for a

men's dormitory; and William H.

Lindsey, president of the University

of Missouri, for what would be the

new library.

The deal gave the University

$66,000 to the University for a

name, plus a laboratory annex.

A business partner of Brooking s,

$650,000 in rent, $500,000 of

which would add $100,000, which

postponed a year from its intend-

ed start of 1903, the company
to move the law school and the

School of Fine Arts from their

earlier home for the chancellor,

Gaylord Music Library and a do-

nated $250,000 toward the

School of Commerce and Fi-

nance. In 1924, the Field

House was dedicated and con-

struction began on Rebstock

Hall, which was to house zoology

and botany.

Two new residential colleges —

the firm of Murphy and Mackey,

were put in motion. Designed by

A.H. Shepley, "we now had a stu-

dents the unique perspective of

the firm of Murphy and Mackey,

were put in motion. Designed by

A.H. Shepley, "we now had a stu-

dent dorm — since 1961. The

breaking for the $13 million busi-

ness school occurred.

Other buildings constructed —

in the 1960s and 1970s: the

past few years included Unica A.

Bryan Hall and McMillan Hall.

In 1965, physicist and Univer-
sity's art collection, on loan to

the firm of Murphy and Mackey,

were put in motion. Designed by

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A.H. Shepley, "we now had a stu-

satellite research center, at a cost

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USGA Golf Handicapping • NASA Stardust Mission • Paul Muldoon

Sports
Saturday, Sept. 16
11 a.m. Men’s Soccer vs. Wartburg, College Field. 935-4705.
1 p.m. Women’s Soccer vs. Augustana, College Field. 935-4705.
2 p.m. Women’s Soccer vs. Augustana, College Field. 935-4705.

Sunday, Sept. 17
Nov. Women’s Soccer vs. Augustana. 4:30 p.m. Augustana Field.

Wednesday, Sept. 20
7:30 p.m. Men’s Soccer vs. Fontbonne, College Field. 935-4705.

Thursday, Sept. 21
2 p.m. Women’s Soccer vs. U. of St. Thomas, Minnesota. 935-4705.

Saturday, Sept. 23
7:50 p.m. Football vs. North Central College, Eckel Field. 763-5076.

And more...
Thursday, Sept. 14
8 p.m. Writing Program Reading Series. 8 p.m. at Holmes. 935-4705.

Music
Thursday, Sept. 14

Wednesday, Sept. 27

Tuesday, Sept. 26
5:30 p.m. Festival of Voice "Grand Tour in Rome." Wendy Wassyng, prof. of music and director of the School of Music. 935-7130.

Monday, Sept. 25

Thursday, Sept. 21

Wednesday, Sept. 20
4 p.m. Biotech Alumni & Molecular Biophysics Seminar: "Data Mining in the Age of Genomics." Robert Lemanske, prof. of pediatrics and head of allergy, asthma, and immunology. 935-4918.

Tuesday, Sept. 19

Monday, Sept. 18

Thursday, Sept. 14

Wednesday, Sept. 13

Tuesday, Sept. 12

Monday, Sept. 11

Thursday, Sept. 7

Wednesday, Sept. 6

Tuesday, Sept. 5

Monday, Sept. 4

Thursday, Sept. 1

Wednesday, Sept. 6

Tuesday, Sept. 5

Monday, Sept. 4

Thursday, Sept. 1

Wednesday, Sept. 6

Tuesday, Sept. 5

Monday, Sept. 4

Thursday, Sept. 1

Wednesday, Sept. 6

Tuesday, Sept. 5

Monday, Sept. 4
David Robertson, internationally acclaimed conductor and music director of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, will give an Assembly Series talk at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28, in Graham Chapel.

Free tickets for a Thursday, Sept. 21, orchestra performance are available to students with a current WUSTL ID. Tickets are available at the Box Office in the Olin Library Gingko Room, and at student and community venues throughout the year.

Robertson has been a conductor of major orchestras worldwide and has made numerous recordings on various labels. In 1997 he received the Seaver/National Endowment for the Arts Conductor's Award, given to exceptionally gifted American conductors. Musical America named Robertson Conductor of the Year in 2000.

The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information about the Assembly Series lectures, call 935-2285 or go online to assembly@wustl.edu.

BY BARBARA REA

David Robertson is acclaimed by critics as one of the most important conductors of his generation.
Building on strength

Retired' Chancellor Danforth remains tireless champion of beloved hometown, University

Danforth could be his strongest asset as a new chancellor,' said Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. 'His hope has been to use Bill's influence to support the university and it is still the same today. We are still working on that in".

Danforth is known as the 'champion of beloved hometown, University',...