11-8-2007

Washington University Record, November 8, 2007

Medical News: $2 million grant to help train pulmonary scientists 3

Blonde Ambition: Kemper exhibit explores cultural icon 4

Washington People: Koong-Nah Chung provides support, caring to medical students 8

Record

Nov. 8, 2007

record.wustl.edu

Washington University in St. Louis

'Major obstacle' overcome in diabetes research

Cross-species transplant in rhesus macaques is step toward diabetes cure for humans

By Caroline Arbanas

With an eye on curing diabetes, School of Medicine scientists have successfully transplanted embryonic pig pancreatic cells destined to produce insulin into diabetic macaque monkeys — all without the need for risky immune suppression drugs that prevent rejection.

The transplanted cells, known as primordia, are in the earliest stages of developing into pancreatic tissues. Within several weeks of the transplants, the cells became engrafted, or established, within the three rhesus macaque monkeys that received them. The cells also released pig insulin in response to rising blood glucose levels, as would be expected in healthy animals and humans.

"The approach reduced the animals' need for insulin injections and has promise for curing diabetes in humans," said senior investigator Marc Hammerman, M.D., the Chromalloy Professor of Renal Diseases in Medicine. "The transplants worked without a need for immune suppression, and that is a major obstacle we have overcome."

Hammerman

The researchers' results appear online and are published in the journal Xenotransplantation's November issue.

Although the transplants fell short of producing sufficient insulin to cure the macaques' diabetes, Hammerman predicts that with additional research, including the transplantation of additional embryonic pig cells into the animals, he will be able to reduce the macaques' need for insulin injections entirely.

The new research follows on the heels of reports by Hammerman and his colleagues demonstrating that transplanted pig pancreatic primordia can cure both type 1 and type 2 diabetes in rats without using immune suppression drugs. Other scientists have tried different types of pancreatic cell transplants — in animals and humans — as a steppingstone to curing diabetes, but they all require anti-rejection drugs. These drugs must be taken daily to stave off rejection and have adverse effects that limit the success of the transplants.

As a treatment for diabetes in people, pig insulin typically works as well as the human form. Before recombinant DNA technology enabled pharmaceutical companies to manufacture human insulin in the 1980s, pig and cow insulin were routinely given to diabetic patients.

The primates in the current study had type 1 diabetes, the form that occurs when islet cells in the pancreas stop producing insulin altogether. The WUSTL researchers transplanted 19 embryonic pig pancreatic primordia into each diabetic monkey. Each primordium is smaller than the diameter of a period that ends a sentence and is transplanted into a membrane that envelops the intestines and other digestive organs.

The transplanted cells were retrieved from the pig embryos early in their development, which is believed to render them "invisible" to the primates' immune system or induce a state of tolerance, either of which eliminates the need for immune suppression.

The researchers determined by multiple methods that the transplanted cells became established within the primates. And as the

See **Diabetes**, Page 6

Webber named executive vice chancellor for administration

Henry S. Webber, vice president for community and government affairs at the University of Chicago, will become Washington University's executive vice chancellor for administration, announced Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. Webber's appointment will be effective March 1, 2008.

"We are very fortunate to have someone with Hank's level of experience join the senior leadership team at Washington University," Wrighton said. "Hank has been an impressive leader for more than two decades at the University of Chicago, one of America's premier research institutions. He brings a wealth of knowledge to our community — knowledge about managing a great university, and also knowledge about how great universities can have a positive impact in their local communities. I look forward to working with Hank in the era that lies ahead."

Webber

Webber will be the University's chief administrative officer and oversee facilities, campus planning, capital projects, campus security and off-campus real-estate acquisition and development. Webber also will coordinate the work of his areas with those who work in community relations.

"I am delighted to have the opportunity to serve a great University in an exciting city," Webber said. "To get to know Washington University, as I have in the past few months, is to be very impressed. And the opportunity to work with Chancellor Wrighton is not to be missed."

Along with the University's other executive vice chancellors — David T. Blasingame; Michael R. Cannon, J.D.; Edward S. Macias, Ph.D.; and Larry J. Shapiro, M.D. — Webber will work with Wrighton on the University's management committee. Webber also will serve as a member of the University Council, a group composed of the academic leaders and managers of vital administrative areas of the University that meets to discuss significant University issues and decisions.

Webber brings significant teaching and research experience from the University of Chicago. "I am looking forward to Hank's contributions to our academic enterprise here at Washington University," Wrighton said.

Webber has worked at the University of Chicago for the past 21 years. During his time there, he has been responsible for the university's offices of human resources, labor relations, university police, off-campus real estate and community and government affairs, among others.

Most recently, Webber has worked as the University of Chicago's vice president for community and government affairs. Before holding that position, he was vice president for community affairs from 1997-2001.

Since taking responsibility for the University of Chicago's community affairs efforts, Webber's work has improved the lives of many of those living, learning and working around the University of Chicago and in the city itself.

While under his guidance, the University of Chicago's community affairs program was recognized in a national study as among the dozen strongest university-civic programs in the United States.

One of Webber's most notable achievements was to promote the revitalization of the North Kenwood/Oakland and Woodlawn neighborhoods on Chicago's South Side, which was accomplished by collaborating and forging relationships with the area's community, religious, civic and political leaders.

Webber also played a leading

See **Webber**, Page 2

MARY BUTKUS

Remembering Sept. 11 **Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton and Joe Daniels, a 1994 graduate in Arts & Sciences and president of the National September 11 Memorial and Museum, look at signatures on a beam that will become part of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York City when it is completed around 2009. Visitors were able to sign the beam as part of the traveling National September 11 Memorial & Museum Tribute Exhibition, which stopped at the Danforth Campus Nov. 3-4. The exhibit featured photos, a film and artifacts from Sept. 11.**

Here comes the sun

WUSTL scientists analyze solar wind samples from Genesis mission

By Jeanne Erdmann

As reservoirs of valuable information go, nothing beats the sun. This sphere of heat and energy holds 99.9 percent of the solar system, saved in all original proportions after planets and meteorites formed. Analyzing the mix of hydrogen, oxygen and noble gases found in the sun can answer one of the biggest questions of the universe: How did our solar system evolve?

WUSTL scientists and a large team of colleagues marked the beginnings of that odyssey by examining samples of solar wind for neon and argon, two abundant noble gases. The work was published in the Oct. 19, 2007, issue of Science.

These samples came from NASA's Genesis mission, which launched in 2001 and orbited the sun for more than two years, collecting samples of solar wind. In 2004, the soft landing planned for the craft went wrong, and Genesis smashed into the Utah mud, splintering into more than 10,000 pieces. Fortunately, these fragments were large enough to yield highly precise data for neon and argon.

Alex Meshik, Ph.D., lead author and research professor of physics in Arts & Sciences, credits mission planners for preparing for every outcome long before launch. At the time, decisions to craft solar wind collection arrays in different thickness in case they were broken on landing likely saved all data.

"The arrays are made of super-pure metals and diamonds deposited on sapphire," Meshik said. "There was no way to mark them otherwise. Now we can take a piece and know which array it came from."

Genesis collected samples by deploying different arrays during three types, or flow regimes, of solar wind: low-speed, high-speed and the spectacular coronal mass ejections. Because solar wind streams at

See **Mission**, Page 6

Each One Teach One program expands

BY NEIL SCHOENHERR

Now in its seventh year, the Each One Teach One (EOTO) program, which connects WUSTL tutors with area school children in need of support, is expanding it services.

Founded in 2000 and coordinated by the Community Service Office, Each One Teach One supports more than 100 tutors through two programs: EOTO Jump Start and EOTO College Bound.

This January, the Jump Start program, which currently operates at Hamilton Elementary School in St. Louis, will be expanding to Ford Elementary School.

Jump Start is a partnership with the St. Louis Public Schools to assist elementary-school students and support the district's mission to improve the achievement of students in every classroom and in every school.

"We're thrilled to be expanding our services to reach more students in need," said Stephanie Kurtzman, director of the Community Service Office and associate director of the Richard A. Gephardt Institute for Public Service. "The Jump Start program has been highly successful and is a great way for students to give back to the St. Louis community."

Participants in the Jump Start program volunteer to tutor between 3:30-6 p.m. one day per week, Monday through Thursday. Bus transportation is provided from Mallinckrodt Student Center.

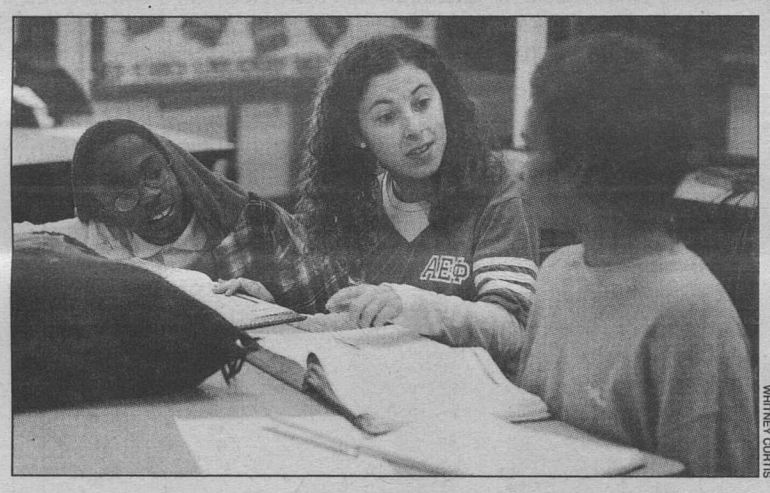
EOTO College Bound is a partnership with College Bound, a local nonprofit organization that aims to give promising, motivated, underresourced high-school students the academic capacity, social support and life skills necessary to succeed at a four-year college.

Volunteers with this program tutor between 2-4 p.m. on Sundays in Lopata House on the Danforth Campus.

"Each One Teach One started with mainly undergraduate interest and support," Kurtzman said. "But these programs are open to anyone. Graduate and professional students, staff and faculty are also welcome and encouraged to volunteer as tutors, especially as we widen the program to include Ford Elementary."

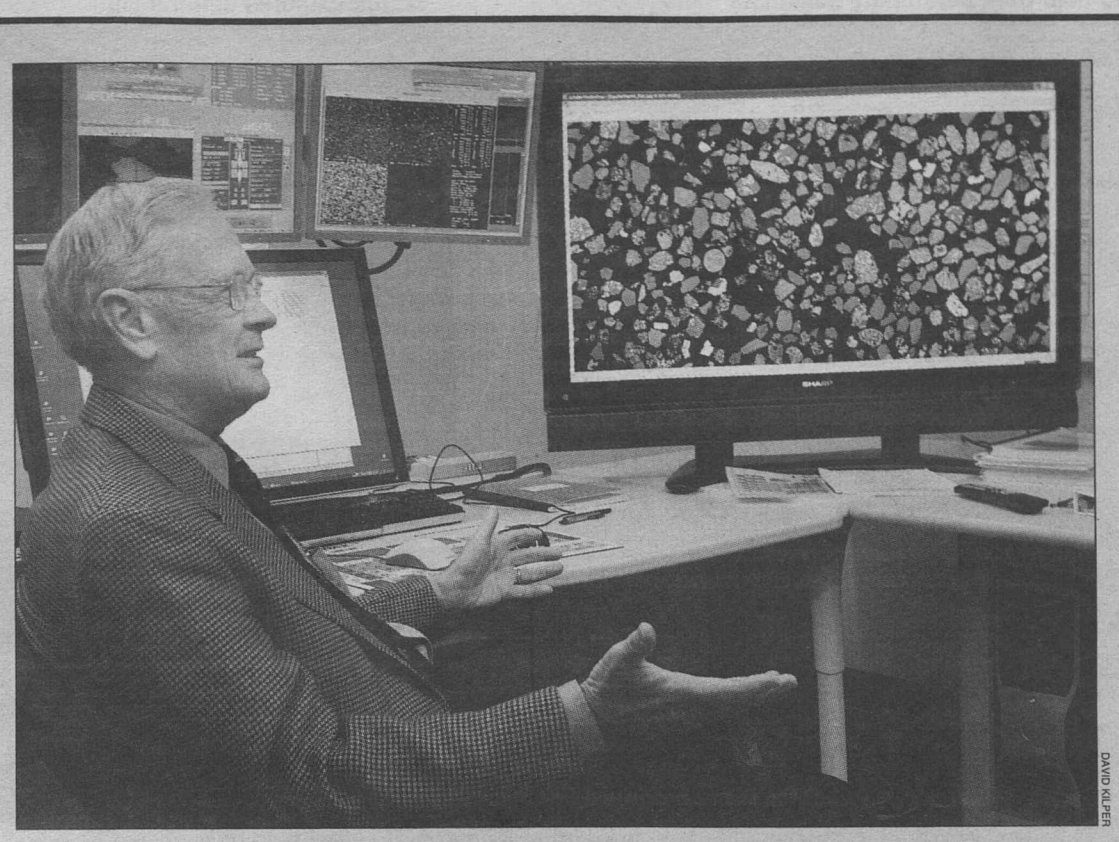
Each One Teach One provides orientation and training to tutors. Special events also are organized each semester to promote mentoring and new experiences. Tutors are expected to make a weekly commitment and to serve as positive role models.

For more information, visit communityservice.wustl.edu/eoto or call Kurtzman at 935-5066.

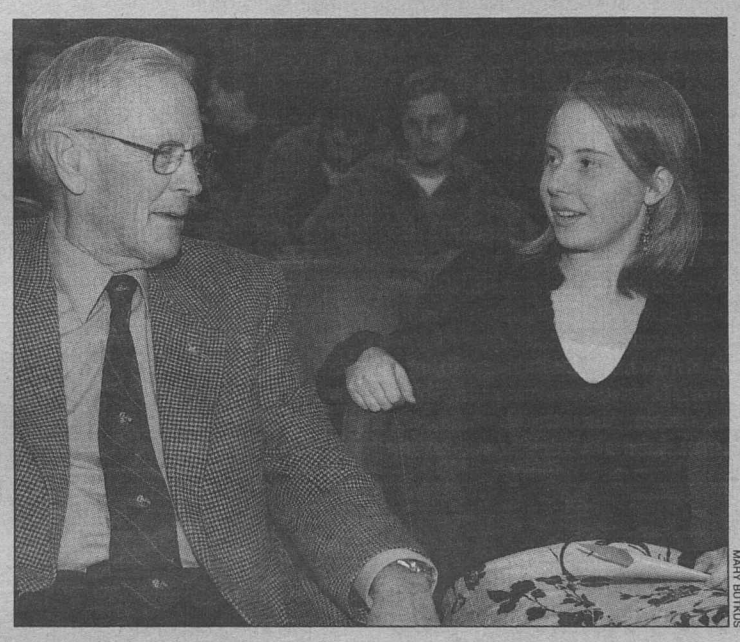


WHITNEY CURTIS

Sophomore Alex Friedman (center) tutors seventh graders Lonzo Steward (left) and Chris McKay Oct. 30 at Hamilton Elementary in St. Louis. Friedman is a volunteer through Each One Teach One Jump Start, a program that connects WUSTL tutors with school children in need of support.



DAVID KILPER



MARY BUTKUS

Historic visit On Nov. 1, Apollo 16 astronaut Charlie Duke spent time with researchers and students in the new electron microprobe lab, located in the Earth and Planetary Sciences Building. Displayed on the large monitor is a "back-scattered electron" image of small rock fragments from soil Duke collected and brought back to Earth in April 1972. Duke described the experience of doing field geology and collecting these samples when he was on the Moon. Later in the day, Duke chatted with Arts & Sciences senior Lonia Friedlander in Brookings Hall, Room 300, before presenting her with a $10,000 scholarship from the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation.

'Inside Brown' a new tool for School of Social Work

BY JESSICA MARTIN

The George Warren Brown School of Social Work's desire to build community extends even into the virtual world. Using their new intranet, Inside Brown, Social Work's students, faculty and staff can discuss research or current events, post general information or just get to know each other better.

Everyone at the Brown school has a MySite, a social networking profile that can contain photos, blog entries and other information.

Although Inside Brown is still in its infancy, it has been put to use by many.

Peter Hovmand, Ph.D., assistant professor of social work, uses Inside Brown for communicating with his classes and research team. He uses the new intranet to share documents, create workgroups, maintain lists of resources for students and colleagues and participate in discussions.

"No communications tool has worked as easily as Inside Brown," Hovmand said. "A big advantage is that it's easily accessible inside and outside the school and is very flexible. The ability to create workgroups on the fly is invaluable because it encourages people to work together. This is a capability that you can easily get used to."

Doctoral candidate and instructor Henrika McCoy agrees.

"It feels like people are more aware of what is going on around the school," McCoy said. "The MySite photos make it much easier to get to know who people are."

McCoy uses Inside Brown to keep in contact with students in her weekend Human Diversity class and to present new information about research in the areas of mental health and juvenile delinquency to the school.

"Inside Brown helps me keep my students aware of current issues," she said. "It's much easier than e-mail. My students also use the site to conduct surveys for their class projects."

The Brown School's student leadership also has taken to the intranet. The elections for this year's Student Coordinating Council (SCC) were held on Inside Brown.

"It was exciting to move the elections online," said SCC member Sherrill Wayland. "For the first time, social work students who were off campus were able to vote.

"As people become more familiar with Inside Brown's capabilities, hopefully it will foster increased community engagement," Wayland said.

Inside Brown, which launched in August, is part of a multiphase initiative to effectively use the Web to share information with internal and external audiences. One goal is to provide students, faculty and staff with access to online tools and resources to assist in day-to-day work.

Webber

Brings teaching and research experience

– from Page 1

role in the establishment of the Urban Education Initiative, a University of Chicago effort that develops charter schools, offers teacher training and supports basic and applied research on educational issues.

He is the founding and current chair of the Governing Board of the University of Chicago Charter School Corp., which operates four public lottery admission charter schools on the south side of Chicago with an enrollment of more than 1,000 students. He also is the chair of the Administrative Oversight Board of the Consortium on Chicago School Research.

His other accomplishments include supervising changes in police policies that facilitated a 40 percent reduction in crime in the University of Chicago neighborhood over an eight-year period and leading the public affairs components of a successful campaign to retain a five-year, $2.5 billion contract with the U.S. Department of Energy to manage the Argonne National Laboratory, one of the department's largest research centers.

As a lecturer and senior lecturer at the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration, Webber has taught courses on topics such as community development, health policy, strategic management and social welfare policy.

His research has centered around community development, mixed-income housing, the role of anchor institutions in urban development, Medicaid policy and urban hospital financial distress.

Webber has held a number of other positions at the University of Chicago: associate vice president for administration (1994-97); assistant vice president for human resources (1989-1994); and deputy director of financial budget and planning (1986-89).

Before joining the University of Chicago, Webber worked from 1984-86 as a policy and budget analyst for the Massachusetts Executive Office for Administration and Finance.

Webber graduated with honors from Brown University in 1980 with a bachelor of arts degree in environmental studies. In 1984, he earned a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Webber and his wife, Christine K. Jacobs, M.D., have two children, Robert, 18, and Hannah, 16.

Record

Volume 32, Number 14

Founded in 1905 • Washington University in St. Louis community news

Associate Vice Chancellor Steven J. Givens
Executive Editor Susan Killenberg McGinn
Editor Leslie Gibson McCarthy
Associate Editor Neil Schoenherr
Assistant Editor Jessica Daues
Medical News Editor Beth Miller
Calendar Coordinator Angela Hall
Print Production Carl Jacobs
Online Production Chris Soer

News & Comments
(314) 935-5293
Campus Box 1070
record@wustl.edu

Medical News
(314) 286-0119
Campus Box 8508
millerbe@wustl.edu

Calendar Submissions
Fax: (314) 935-4259
Campus Box 1070
recordcalendar@wustl.edu

Record (USPS 600-430; ISSN 1043-0520), Published for the faculty, staff and friends of Washington University. Produced weekly during the school year, except school holidays, and monthly during June, July and August by the Office of Public Affairs, Washington University, Campus Box 1070, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130. Periodicals postage paid at St. Louis, MO.

Where to send address changes

Postmaster and nonemployees: Record, Washington University, Campus Box 1070, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130.

Employees: Office of Human Resources, Washington University, Campus Box 1184, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130.

Washington University in St. Louis

School of Medicine Update

Epilepsy-induced brain cell damage prevented in lab

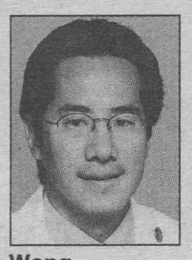
BY MICHAEL C. PURDY

For some epilepsy patients, the side effects of epilepsy can be as troubling as the seizures. One pressing concern is the cognitive impairment seizures often inflict, which potentially includes memory loss, slowed reactions and reduced attention spans.

Now School of Medicine scientists have directly observed seizure-induced structural changes in brain cells in laboratory animals. They report in The Journal of Neuroscience that the insights they gained allowed them to use a drug to block those changes in the brain.

"Assuming that these structural changes are linked to cognitive impairment — and there's a lot of data to suggest that's true — then this could provide us with a path to therapies that reduce cognitive problems in epilepsy," said senior author Michael Wong, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of neurology, of anatomy and neurobiology and of pediatrics.

About 1 percent to 2 percent of the general population suffers from some form of epilepsy. Severe or prolonged seizures can cause brain cell death, leading to anatomic damage visible on brain scans. But in some cases the cognitive impairments caused by seizures cannot be linked to discernible brain damage.


Wong

Prior studies have suggested that seizures may damage dendrites, tree-like branches that extend from a nerve cell to receive signals. In studies of human tissue, researchers noted the loss of spines, small bumps on the exterior of the dendrite. Spines are known to be important for the formation of synapses, junctions where two nerve cells communicate across a small gap.

"Previous studies were helpful in suggesting that dendrite structure was being damaged, but they couldn't prove cause and effect and provided only limited information on the timing and mechanisms of the processes that led to damage," Wong said.

Led by postdoctoral fellows Ling-hui Zeng, M.D., Ph.D., and Lin Xu, Ph.D., a team of researchers in Wong's laboratory applied an approach known as multiphoton imaging to track brain-cell changes during seizures. They used a drug to induce seizures in mice and imaged brain cells before, during and after seizures.

"Within minutes, we found changes were happening quite rapidly in the dendrites," Wong said.

"They would become swollen and the spines would disappear," Wong said. "After the seizure, the swelling would go down but the spines did not return. That continued to be the case for at least 24 hours."

Scientists think spines may be linked to long-term potentiation, a phenomenon that makes it easier for messages to pass between nerve cells and may be essential for the encoding of memories. This could mean loss of spines in seizures impairs learning.

When researchers probed the mechanisms behind the spine loss, they found seizures were causing the breakdown of actin, a molecule widely used in cell structures. When they gave the mice a drug, FK506, prior to inducing seizures, they were able to block that breakdown.

"To follow-up, we're going to be looking at whether we can tie these changes in dendrite structure to behavioral changes in the mice," Wong said.

"We're also going to be searching for drugs that can reverse this effect after a seizure happens," Wong said. "We would like to avoid putting epilepsy patients on a new drug all the time and hope instead to find something that can be given immediately after a seizure to prevent cognitive impairment."


ROBERT BOSTON

Fresh discoveries More than 115 junior faculty, fellows, postdoctoral researchers and students from a variety of School of Medicine training and research programs presented posters of their basic, clinical and translational research at the Research Training Symposium and Poster Session Oct. 25 in the Farrell Learning and Teaching Center.

Lung disease genomics, genetics research training offered in pediatrics

BY BETH MILLER

F. Sessions Cole, M.D., the Park J. White, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics and assistant vice chancellor for children's health, has been awarded a nearly $2 million, five-year grant to establish a career development program in the genetics and genomics of lung disease.

The grant is one of three K12 career development awards made by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) this year. The money will go for the creation of a multidisciplinary program to educate young pulmonary scientists in methods of genetics and genomics research. The scientists can then become independent investigators and assume leadership roles in the genetics and genomics of pulmonary diseases. Program participants will focus on inflammatory airway disease, including asthma, cystic fibrosis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.


Cole

Cole is program director, and Michael R. DeBaun, M.D., professor of pediatrics, of neurology and of biostatistics, is co-director. Also involved in the program's leadership are D.C. Rao, Ph.D., professor and director of the Division of Biostatistics; Michael J. Holtzman, M.D., the Selma and Herman Seldin Professor of Medicine; Richard Wilson, Ph.D., professor of genetics; and Susan K. Dutcher, Ph.D., professor and interim head of the Department of Genetics.

> **"This grant provides us an opportunity to harness for education the power of genomics and genetics and really focus that education on lung diseases."**
> F. SESSIONS COLE

"This grant provides us an opportunity to harness for education the power of genomics and genetics here and really focus that education on lung diseases," said Cole, also director of St. Louis Children's Hospital's Division of Newborn Medicine. "The grant harmonizes well with the Children's Discovery Institute, which is also linked to the strong genetics and genomics environment here at the School of Medicine. The NHLBI has affirmed its faith in us as an institutional environment where cutting-edge genetics and genomics can be applied to the most complex diseases that occur in lungs."

Scholars in the program will study in the yearlong Genetic Epidemiology Masters of Science (GEMS) Training Program sponsored by the Division of Biostatistics and conduct research with more than 30 School of Medicine faculty from a variety of disciplines. Faculty also will assist the scholars in preparing independent research grants.

"I am very enthusiastic about building this training program around GEMS and could not be more pleased," said Rao, GEMS program director. "It is a remarkable coincidence that as we were creating a clinical track in the GEMS program to train physician-scientists, Dr. Cole was applying for the K12 grant. It's very gratifying that our goals were successfully converged."

The funding provides for three scholars per year. Each scholar will have three "educational immersion experiences" during which they will work in labs and then select one area on which to focus and to write a thesis.

Cole said he expects to begin recruiting potential scholars Jan. 1 for the program, which will begin June 1.

For more information or to apply, contact Cole at fcole@wustl.edu.

Progesterone gel may improve infant outcomes in high-risk pregnancies

BY DIANE DUKE WILLIAMS

Researchers at the School of Medicine and elsewhere have shown that babies born to women with high-risk pregnancies treated with a vaginal progesterone gel appear to be less likely to need intensive care than babies born to mothers treated with a placebo.

The study, led by Emily DeFranco, D.O., clinical fellow of maternal-fetal medicine in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, is the first associated with statistically significant improvements in clinically important measures of infant outcomes. It was published in the October issue of Ultrasound in Obstetrics & Gynecology.

> **"The number of admissions and days spent in the neonatal intensive care unit for babies whose moms were given vaginal progesterone gel were significantly lower than for those whose moms received a placebo. We're excited about promising clinical implications, especially if confirmed in a larger study."**
> EMILY DEFRANCO

Researchers conducted an analysis of data from the largest single-child preterm birth prevention study with progesterone by looking at a group of 46 women with high-risk pregnancies because they had a short cervix (less than 2.8 centimeters). They found that only one out of six newborns, or 16 percent, of mothers treated with vaginal progesterone gel, Prochieve 8 percent, needed to be admitted to a neonatal intensive care unit compared with 52 percent newborns of mothers treated with a placebo. In addition, they found that infants born to mothers treated with vaginal progesterone gel who were admitted to intensive care units spent an average of one day in intensive care compared with more than two weeks for those babies of mothers who received a placebo.

Additional studies are being planned to repeat this finding.

Progesterone is a natural hormone found in all women, though levels of progesterone increase during pregnancy. The gel often is used to help sustain pregnancy in the first trimester.

The study also showed that treatment with vaginal progesterone gel may reduce early preterm birth among women with a short cervix. A normal pregnancy is about 40 weeks. Preterm birth before 37 weeks gestation, a leading cause of infant and neonatal death, continues to rise and occurs in more than 12 percent of pregnancies in the United States.

"When looking at a sample of 46 women with a short cervix of less than 2.8 centimeters, none of those who were started on vaginal progesterone gel between 18-22 weeks of gestational age delivered prior to 32 weeks of gestation, while almost one-third of women with a shortened cervix given a placebo delivered prior to 32 weeks of gestation," DeFranco said.

"Additionally, the number of admissions and days spent in the neonatal intensive care unit for babies whose moms were given vaginal progesterone gel were significantly lower than for those whose moms received a placebo," she said.

"We're excited about these promising clinical implications, especially if confirmed in a larger study," DeFranco said.

University Events

Exhibition to investigate the blonde in contemporary art

'Beauty and the Blonde: An Exploration of American Art and Popular Culture' to be displayed at Kemper

BY LIAM OTTEN

The blonde has been an iconic and highly influential ideal of feminine beauty in American culture since the mid-20th century. Yet beginning with American pop art in the early 1960s, the blonde also has become a touchstone for artistic representation and critical inquiry.

This month, the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum will present "Beauty and the Blonde: An Exploration of American Art and Popular Culture," the first museum show to investigate the strategic use of the blonde in contemporary art. The show starts Nov. 16 and runs through Jan. 28, 2008.

Organized by Catharina Manchanda, Ph.D., curator of the Kemper Art Museum, "Beauty and the Blonde" will survey how artists have interpreted the blonde in a wide range of visual media, from prints, painting and sculpture to collage, film, video, photography and interactive Web projects.

Also featured will be a selection of advertisements, magazines, cartoons, film posters, album covers, Barbie imagery and other materials — mainly from the 1950s and '60s — that have helped to shape popular notions about the blonde.

"Iconic Blonde," the first of three thematic sections, traces the recurring yet often ambiguous or ironic depiction of the blonde in American Pop Art, as well as her ability to function as a critique of traditional artistic genres such as portraiture and the nude. Andy Warhol's famous silkscreens of Marilyn Monroe, which he began creating shortly after the star's suicide in 1962, epitomize the artist's lifelong fascination with the double bind of celebrity and death.

Robert Rauschenberg's series "Reels (B + C)" (1968), which appropriates frames from the 1967 film "Bonnie and Clyde" starring Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty, explores the blonde rebel through the depiction of violence in individual film stills. Roy Lichtenstein engages images of the blonde in comics while Duane Hanson, Tom Wesselmann and Mel Ramos emphasize the commercialization of sexuality.

"Deconstructing the Blonde," the second section, surveys the ways in which artists of the 1970s and '80s, informed by feminist thought and new conceptual approaches, began a more sharply critical investigation of the blonde ideal and its representation in popular media.

Martha Rosler's photomontage "Bowl of Fruit" (1966-72) questions two market-driven formulas — the blonde-as-pinup and the blonde-as-homemaker — while Laurie Simmons' "Pushing Lipstick (Full Profile)" (1979) upends depictions of the nonerotic housewife by showing a toy doll inclining towards a gigantic phallic lipstick.

Works by John Baldessari and William Wegman analyze how light and perspective can be complicit in bolstering blonde stereotypes. Dara Birnbaum's video "Kiss the Girls: Make Them Cry" (1979) manipulates footage from the game show "Hollywood Squares" to explore the banal and sometimes bizarre gestures of male and female self-presentation.

Meanwhile performance artists such as Lynn Hershman Leeson and Pat Oleszko intervene in everyday life through fictitious characters and alter egos that question and satirize perceptions of the blonde. Performance strategies also underlie Cindy Sherman's "Untitled Film Stills" (1977-80), in which the artist adopts the guise of a hypothetical film actress while duplicating various cinematic poses and practices.

COURTESY IMAGE

A lithograph of Roy Lichtenstein's "Crying Girl" (1963) is an "Iconic Blonde" that can be viewed at the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum through Jan. 28, 2008.

Sherman also explores the vulnerabilities of blonde beauty in "Untitled #188" (1989), a staged photograph of an inflatable blonde doll lying prone on a pile of debris.

The final section, "Transforming the Blonde," looks at how artists of different racial and cultural backgrounds interpret the image of the blonde. The video "Free, White, and 21" (1980), by the African-American artist Howardena Pindell, shows her conversing with a blonde white woman (actually Pindell in makeup and blonde wig) about questions of discrimination.

For the photographic suite "Untitled (Facial Cosmetic Variations)" (1972/1997), the late Cuban-American artist Ana Mendieta employed wigs, makeup, shampoo and nylon stockings to distort her own visage and create hybrids that elude racial expectations.

Millie Wilson's "White Girl" (1995) consists of a seven-foot-tall mass of synthetic blonde hair decked-out with Native American tourist trinkets. Ellen Gallagher's printed objects in "Deluxe" (2004-05) rework images and advertisements from mid-20th-century African-American magazines, underscoring the constant challenge to define oneself amidst the cultural force field of positive and negative imagery as well as the wealth of visual references that accumulate over time.

Conversely, Nikki S. Lee's "The Ohio Project" and "The Hip Hop Project" — in which the artist, of Korean descent, adopts Hip Hop style and dress — plays both with and against established norms, collapsing familiar boundaries and expectations.

"Beauty and the Blonde: An Exploration of American Art and Popular Culture" will open with a panel discussion in Steinberg Hall Auditorium at 6 p.m. Nov. 16.

The panel will feature Manchanda as well as feminist scholar Maria Elena Buszek and artist Lynn Hershmann Leeson. A reception will follow at 7 p.m. in the Kemper Art Museum.

The panel discussion, reception and exhibition all are free and open to the public. Regular hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Fridays; and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. The museum is closed Tuesdays.

For more information, call 935-4523 or visit kemperartmuseum.wustl.edu.

Modern Graphics History • Global Warming • Beethoven

"University Events" lists a portion of the activities taking place Nov. 8-22 at Washington University. Visit the Web for expanded calendars for the Danforth Campus (webevent.wustl.edu) *and the School of Medicine* (medschool.wustl.edu/calendars.html).

Exhibits

"Beauty and the Blonde: An Exploration of American Art and Popular Culture." Nov. 16 through Jan. 28. Kemper Art Museum. 935-4523.

"Carmon Colangelo: Prints." A body of work by Carmen Colangelo, dean of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts and the E. Desmond Lee Professor for Collaboration in the Arts. Through January. Farrell Learning and Teaching Center, 520 S. Euclid Ave., Lvl. 2. 747-3284.

"Ephemeral Beauty: Al Parker & The Women's Magazine, 1940-60." Nov. 16 through Jan. 28. Kemper Art Museum. 935-4523.

Lectures

Thursday, Nov. 8

Noon. Genetics Seminar. "A Family of Mechanosensitive Ion Channels in Arabidopsis." Elizabeth Haswell, asst. prof. of biology. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 823. 362-2139.

4 p.m. History Colloquium. "Women's Identity, Women's Politics: Some Reflections on Twentieth Century U.S. Feminism." Linda Nicholson, prof. of women's studies. (Reception follows.) Duncker Hall, Rm. 201, Hurst Lounge. 935-5450.

4 p.m. Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Seminar Series. "Shuttling G Protein Signaling Regulators in the Nervous System." Kendall J. Blumer, prof. of cell biology & physiology. Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-3315.

4:15 p.m. Earth & Planetary Sciences Colloquium. "Geology and Mineralogy of Gusey and Meridiani From the Mars Exploration Rover Pancam Investigation." James F. Bell, assoc. prof. of astronomy, Cornell U. Earth & Planetary Sciences Bldg., Rm. 203. 935-5610.

8 p.m. The Writing Program Fall Reading Series. Thomas Sayers Ellis, author, will read from his poetry. Duncker Hall, Rm. 201, Hurst Lounge. 935-7130.

Friday, Nov. 9

9:15 a.m. Pediatric Grand Rounds The Ninth Julio V. Santiago, M.D. Memorial Lecture. "Discovery of Nitric Oxide and Cyclic GMP Signaling and Role in Drug Discovery and Development" Ferid Murad, director emeritus, Institute of Molecular Medicine. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 454-6006

11 a.m. Computer Science & Engineering Colloquium. "To Spelunk or Not To Spelunk: Does Immersive and Virtual Reality Help Science?" David Laidlaw, asst. prof. of computer science, Brown U. Cupples II Hall, Rm. 217. 935-6160.

11 a.m. Energy, Environmental & Chemical Engineering Seminar Series. "From Bench to Community: Translating Mechanistic Science to Public Health Prevention." John Groopman, prof. & chairman of environmental health sciences; Johns Hopkins U. Lopata Hall, Rm. 101. 935-5548.

Noon. Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar. "Afunctional Genomics Approach to Identify MPK-1 ERK Substrates that Control C. elegans Germline Development." Tim B. Schedl, prof. of genetics. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 426. 362-6630.

3 p.m. Romance Languages & Literatures Lecture. "The French Slave Trade: Image, Literature and Memory." Christopher Miller, prof. of French & African American studies, Yale U. (Reception follows.) Brookings Hall, Rm. 300. 935-5175.

4 p.m. Dept. of Music Lecture Series. "Beethoven's New Idea: Some Innovations and Complications in the 'Spring' Sonata." Bruce Durazzi, asst. prof. of music. Music Classroom Bldg., Rm. 102. 935-4841.

Monday, Nov. 12

Noon. Molecular Biology & Pharmacology Seminar. "From Feast to Famine: Regulation of Metabolism by Nuclear Receptor-FGF Cascades." Steven Kliewer, prof. of molecular biology & pharmacology, The U. of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. South Bldg., Rm. 3907, Philip Needleman Library. 747-3339.

4 p.m. Breast Cancer Research Group Seminar. "LRP6 and DKK1 in Breast Cancer." Guojun Bu, prof. of pediatrics, cell biology and physiology. Center for Advanced Medicine, Farrell Conference Room 2. 454-8981.

4 p.m. Immunology Seminar. "Phosphoinositide Metabolism, Surface Charge and Signal Transduction During Phagocytosis." Sergio Grinstein, prof., U. of Toronto Hospital for Sick Children. Farrell Learning and Teaching Center, Connor Auditorium. 362-2763.

4 p.m. Psychology Colloquium. "Physical Reasoning in Infancy." Renee Baillargeon, prof. of psychology, U. of Ill. McDonnell Hall, Rm. 162. 935-6592.

5:30 p.m. Cardiac Bioelectricity & Arrhythmia Center Seminar. "QT Interval Dynamics: Is It Possible to Apply Electrical Restitution Theory to Clinical Electrocardiographic Data?" Mari Watanabe, adjunct asst. research prof., Saint Louis U. (5 p.m. reception.) Whitaker Hall, Rm. 218. 935-7887.

6:30 p.m. Sam Fox School Architecture Lecture Series. Max Risselada, Technical U., Delft, Netherlands. (6 p.m. reception, Givens Hall.) Steinberg Aud. 935-9300.

Tuesday, Nov. 13

Noon. Molecular Microbiology & Microbial Pathogenesis Seminar Series. "Cell-Cell Signaling Through Regulated Proteolysis." David Rudner, assist. prof. of microbiology & molecular genetics, Harvard U. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 747-1029.

Wednesday, Nov. 14

10 a.m. Whitney R. Harris Institute for Global Legal Studies Lecture. "Law, Order and Justice: Dispute Resolution in China's Transitional Political Economy." Susan Whiting, assoc. prof. of political science, U. of Wash. Co-sponsored by the School of Law and East Asian Studies. Anheuser-Busch Hall, Rm. 310. 935-7988.

4 p.m. Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics Seminar. "The ABC's of Structure-Based Function Elucidation." John Hunt, assoc. prof. of biological sciences, Columbia U. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-4152.

4 p.m. Physics Colloquium. "Statistical Physics of Sports." Eli Ben-Naim, Los Alamos National Laboratory. (3:30 p.m. coffee, Compton Hall, Rm. 245.) Crow Hall, Rm. 204. 935-6276.

5:30 p.m. Kemper Art Museum Gallery Talk. "Spotlight: Corot." Noelle Bradley, graduate student. Kemper Art Museum. 935-4523.

5:30 p.m. Neurology Dinner Meeting. Multiple Sclerosis Update for Neurologists and Primary Care Physicians. Cost: $25. The Zodiac Room at Neiman Marcus, Plaza Frontenac, 1701 S. Lindbergh Blvd. 362-6891.

7 p.m. Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts Visiting Artist Lecture Series. Rod Slemmons, dir. of Museum of Contemporary Photography, Columbia College. Steinberg Aud. 935-9300.

8 p.m. The Writing Program Fall Reading Series. Brock Clarke, author, will read from his work. Duncker Hall, Rm. 201, Hurst Lounge. 935-7130.

Thursday, Nov. 15

Noon. Barnes-Jewish Hospital Ethics Committee Lunch and Learn Brown Bag Forum. "BODY WORLDS, Ethical Questions." Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 747-5361.

Noon. Genetics Seminar. "The Genetics of Vitiligo-Associated Multiple Autoimmune Disease." Richard A. Spritz, prof. & director of genetics, U. of Colo. at Denver and Health Sciences Center. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 823. 362-2139.

3 p.m. Siteman Cancer Center Basic Science Seminar Series. Daniel G. Tenen, prof. of medicine, Harvard Medical School. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 454-7029.

4 p.m. Assembly Series. "Charles Darwin and the Economy of Nature: Money, Metaphor and Adaptive Capital." E. Janet Browne, author. Lab Sciences Bldg., Aud. 935-5285.

4 p.m. Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Seminar Series. "Assessing Impact of Research: Bibliometric Indices." Mae E. Gordon, prof. of ophthalmology & biostatistics. Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-3315.

Friday, Nov. 16

9:15 a.m. Pediatric Grand Rounds. "Beta-Adrenergic Receptors, Cardiac Growth and Regeneration or What's a Develop-

'Arsonist's Guide' author Clarke to speak for Writing Program

BY LIAM OTTEN

Novelist Brock Clarke, Ph.D., author of "An Arsonist's Guide to Writers' Homes in New England" (2007), will read from his work at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, for the Writing Program in Arts & Sciences.

"An Arsonist's Guide" tells the darkly comic story of Sam Pulsifer, a literary bumbler who, at the age of 18, accidentally burns down the Emily Dickinson House in Amherst, Mass. Released after 10 years in prison, Sam tries to put the past behind him but soon finds himself the No. 1 suspect as the homes of Robert Frost, Edith Wharton, Herman Melville and Nathaniel Hawthorne go up in smoke.


Clarke

" 'An Arsonist's Guide' contains sentences and images that could stand beside the works of the former owners of the literary residences put to flame," noted The New York Times. "There is a single sentence of dialogue that ... will paralyze any Willa Cather scholar. There is a lone paragraph describing a woman's head aflame ... that could compel Stephen King to increase the fire insurance on his own New England house. Hell, Clarke himself had better buy a fire extinguisher or two from Home Depot. Who knows how many crazy firebug readers this book will goad?"

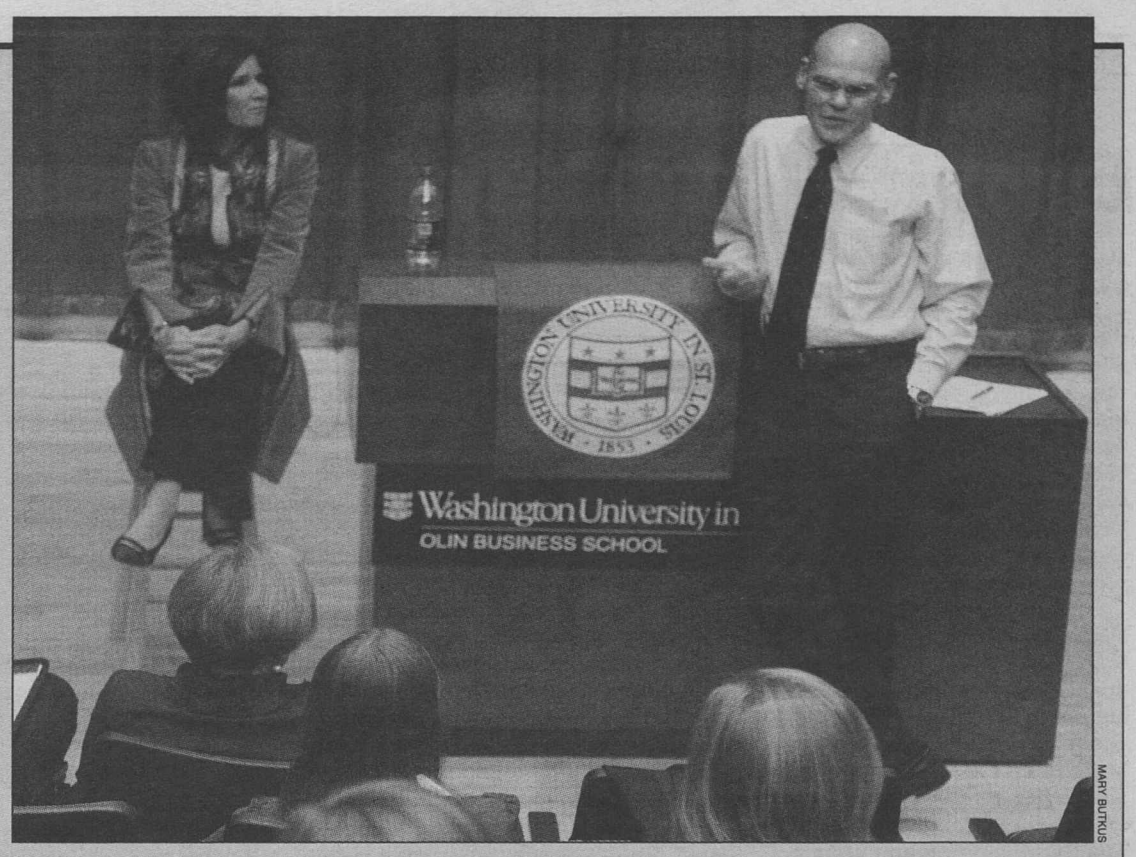
Clarke also is the author of the novel "The Ordinary White Boy" (2001), as well as two short story collections, "What We Won't Do" (2002) and "Carrying the Torch" (2005).

His work has appeared in the Virginia Quarterly Review, One Story, the Believer, the Georgia Review and the Southern Review; in the Pushcart Prize and New Stories from the South anthologies; and on NPR's Selected Shorts.

A 2000 winner of the Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction, Clarke has twice been a finalist for a National Magazine Award in Fiction. Other honors include awards from the Sewanee Writers' Conference, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and the New York State Writers' Institute.

A native of upstate New York, Clarke earned his doctorate in English from the University of Rochester. He teaches creative writing at the University of Cincinnati.

The talk, part of The Writing Program's fall Reading Series, is free and open to the public and takes place in Duncker Hall, Room 201, Hurst Lounge. For more information, call 935-7130 or e-mail dschuman@wustl.edu.



MARY BUTKUS

Not your typical politics class Students took advantage of a rare opportunity to discuss politics with a couple who moves in some of its highest circles. On Nov. 3, Mary Matalin and James Carville stopped by May Auditorium to meet informally with students and comment on the current state of American politics. Matalin, most recently the Republican adviser to Vice President Dick Cheney, and husband Carville, former President Bill Clinton's chief political strategist, were in town to deliver the keynote address for Washington University's Founders Day celebration later that evening. Both events were sponsored by WUSTL's Alumni Association.

Browne examines Charles Darwin

BY MARY KASTENS

British historian E. Janet Browne, Ph.D., known for her study of 19th-century biology, specializes in examining the life, times and work of Charles Darwin. She will present the Thomas Hall Lecture "Charles Darwin and the Economy of Nature: Money, Metaphor and Adaptive Capital" at 4 p.m. Nov. 15 in the Laboratory Sciences Building auditorium.

Browne won critical acclaim for her two-volume biography of Darwin, "Charles Darwin: Voyaging" (1995) and "Charles Darwin: The Power of Place" (2002).

Browne's biographies have been widely read by a general audience and acclaimed by reviewers with words such as "monumental" and "definitive."

Beyond the scope of Darwin's personal life, professional relationships and influence, her biography also has been described as a "collective biography" of the social, intellectual and political network of the Victorian scientific community. She helps readers understand how Darwin's evolutionary idea was created and propagated in scientific circles and to the public.

Browne developed her expertise on Darwin by analyzing more than 14,000 letters while working as associate editor of the early volumes of "The Correspondence of Charles Darwin," a continuing multivolume series, published since 1985 by Cambridge University Press. She is collaborating on a book on the gorilla as an object of scientific and cultural concern since the late 1800s.

Browne is the Aramont Professor of the History of Science at Harvard University. She earned a bachelor's degree in natural sciences in 1972 from Trinity College in Dublin and a master's degree and doctorate in the history of science from Imperial College in London in 1973 and 1978, respectively.

Among other positions, she lectured in the history of science at the Wellcome Institute and University College in London from 1983 to 1996 and then became a reader in the history of biology from 1996 to 2002.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 935-4620 or visit assembly series.wustl.edu.

GrooveLily brings holiday jazz-rock musical to Edison

BY LIAM OTTEN

Rock band? Musical theatre? Indie-pop trio GrooveLily combines the best of both worlds with "Striking 12," a refreshingly alternative holiday show based on Hans Christian Andersen's fairytale "The Little Match Girl."

Combining old-fashioned uplift with a healthy dose of 21st-century skepticism, "Striking 12" will be performed at 8 p.m. Nov. 16 and 17 at Edison Theatre. It tells the story of The Man Who's Had Enough, a grumpy, overworked New Yorker who resolves to spend New Years' Eve alone in his apartment. Ignoring a friend's last-minute party invitation, he breaks out a copy of "The Little Match Girl" but is soon interrupted by a kooky, effervescent Salesgirl selling "special full-spectrum holiday light bulbs" to combat seasonal affective disorder.

The original score spans rock, jazz, folk, pop, showtunes and more. Songs range from the plaintive country-blues of "Matches for Sale" and "Can't Go Home" to the Salesgirl's fast-paced "Sales Pitch" and the comically buoyant character analysis of "Screwed-up People Make Great Art."

The Los Angeles Times said that "in the quest for an ideal holiday entertainment for adults, 'Striking 12' strikes gold." The New York Times praised the show as "Thoroughly winning! More artfully crafted and engaging than virtually all the standard-mold musicals these days. Alive with wit and humor."

GrooveLily consists of Valerie Vigoda, who plays the Salesgirl and performs on a six-string electric violin. Keyboardist Brendan Milburn (Vigoda's husband) plays The Man Who's Had Enough. Drummer Gene Lewin is The Man's party-going friend.

"Striking 12" is written by Milburn and Vigoda (book, music and lyrics) along with Rachel Sheinken (book and lyrics), a 2005 Tony Award-winner for "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Circle in the Square)." Directing the show is Ted Sperling, a 2005 Tony Award-winner for his orchestration of "The Light in the Piazza."

Vigoda, who founded GrooveLily (originally The Valerie Vigoda Band) in 1994, is a classically trained musician, honors graduate of Princeton University and former Army lieutenant. She has toured the world with Cyndi Lauper (opening for Tina Turner and Cher), Joe Jackson and the Trans-Siberian Orchestra.

Milburn is a graduate of New York University's prestigious Tisch School of the Arts Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program. Lewin, also a Princeton graduate, earned a master's degree from the Manhattan School of Music and toured and/or recorded with Audra McDonald, George Coleman, John Patitucci and many others.

"Striking 12" premiered at the Prince Theatre in Philadelphia in 2002 and then was reworked as part of TheatreWorks' New Works Festival in Palo Alto, Calif., before playing the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego in 2003. In 2004, the show made its New York debut at the Melting Pot Theatre Company while the PS Classics label released a live cast recording.

In 2005 it enjoyed a sold-out run at New York's Ars Nova and in 2006 played for eight weeks at Off-Broadway's Daryl Roth Theatre.

In addition to "Striking 12," GrooveLily has released seven studio recordings, most recently "A Little Midsummer Night's Music" (2007), which collects songs written and performed for director Tina Landau's 2006 musical version of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Other albums include "Are We There Yet?" (2003), "Just The Three of Us" (2002) and "Little Light" (2000).

"Striking 12" is part of the Edison Theatre OVATIONS! Series. Tickets — $18 for students and children; $25 for seniors, faculty and staff; and $30 to the public — are available at the Edison Theatre Box Office and through all MetroTix outlets. For more information, call 935-6543 or visit edisontheatre.wustl.edu.

mentalist Doing with Stem Cells in the Adult Heart" James Padbury, prof. of pediatrics, Brown U. School of Medicine. Clopton Aud. 454-6006

11 a.m. Energy, Environmental & Chemical Engineering Seminar Series. "Global Warming and Earth's Energy Balance." Dan Steinmeyer, retired distinguished fellow, Monsanto Co. Lopata Hall, Rm. 101. 935-5548.

Noon. Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar. "New Aspects of Wnt Signaling: Lessons From Osteogenic Cells." Fanxin Long, asst. prof. of medicine. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 426. 362-6630.

4 p.m. Hematology Lecture. Annual Carl V. Moore Memorial Lecture. "Protein Folding and Misfolding in the Cell." Arthur Horwich, prof. of genetics, Yale School of Medicine. Moore Aud., 660 S. Euclid Ave. 362-8806.

6 p.m. Kemper Art Museum Panel Discussion. "Beauty and the Blonde: An Exploration of American Art and Popular Culture." Steinberg Hall Aud. 935-4523.

Saturday, Nov. 17

9:30 a.m. Olin Library Symposium. "Modern Graphics History Library Periodical Illustration and American Visual Culture." Steinberg Hall Aud. 935-5495.

Monday, Nov. 19

Noon. Work, Families and Public Policy Brown Bag Seminar Series. "Caste, Kinship and Sex-Ratios in India." Sokkoo Kim, assoc. prof. of economics and Tanika Chakraborty, dissertation fellow in economics. Eliot Hall, Rm. 300. 935-4918.

3 p.m. Siteman Cancer Center Seminar. "Where Do Brain Tumors Come From?" Richard J. Gilbertson, assoc. member, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. South Bldg., Rm. 3907, Philip Needleman Library. 454-8981.

4 p.m. Immunology Seminar. "Leukocyte Trafficking During Infection and Inflammation." Mark Miller, prof. of pathology & immunology. Farrell Learning and Teaching Center, Connor Auditorium. 362-2763.

4 p.m. Psychology Colloquium. "Psychometrically-Identified Schizotypy: Lessons Learned and Further Potential." Diane C. Gooding, prof. of psychology, U. of Wis.-Madison. McDonnell Hall, Rm. 162. 935-6592.

4 p.m. Siteman Cancer Center Seminar. "Using Survivor Stories to Help Eliminate Breast Cancer Disparities Affecting African American Women." Matt Kreuter, dir., Health Communication Research Laboratory. Center for Advanced Medicine, Farrell Conference Rm. 2. 454-8981.

5:30 p.m. Cardiac Bioelectricity & Arrhythmia Center Seminar. "Biomechanics of Early Heart Development." Larry A. Taber, prof. of biomedical engineering. (5 p.m. reception.) Whitaker Hall, Rm. 218. 935-7887.

Tuesday, Nov. 20

Noon. Molecular Microbiology & Microbial Pathogenesis Seminar Series. "Versatility of Shigella as a Mucosal Invader." Chihiro Sasakawa, head of the dept. of microbiology & immunology, U. of Tokyo. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-2772.

Noon. Program in Physical Therapy Research Seminar. "How Does Restricted AROM at Various Upper Extremity Segments Affect Hand Function?" Marghuretta Bland, predoctoral trainee. 4444 Forest Park Blvd., Lower Lvl., Rm. B108. 286-1404.

And More

Friday, Nov. 16

5:30 p.m. "Modern Graphic History" Library Launch Event. Olin Library, Lvl. 1, Ginkgo Rm. & Special Collections. 935-5495.

Music

Thursday, Nov. 8

8 p.m. Jazz at Holmes. Wolfgang Seligo, piano. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

Tuesday, Nov. 13

8 p.m. Student Recital. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

Thursday, Nov. 15

8 p.m. Jazz at Holmes. Dave Stone, saxophone. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

Saturday, Nov. 17

8 p.m. Concert. Seth Carlin, piano. E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall, 560 Trinity Ave. 935-4841.

Sunday, Nov. 18

3 p.m. Symphony Orchestra. E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall, 560 Trinity Ave. 935-4841.

On Stage

Friday, Nov. 9

8 p.m. Performing Arts Dept. Presentation. "Measure for Measure." (Also 8 p.m. Nov. 10, 16 & 17; 2 p.m. Nov. 11 & 18.) Mallinckrodt Student Center, A.E. Hotchner Studio Theatre. 935-6543.

Saturday, Nov. 10

8 p.m. American Indian Repertory Theatre. "Weaving the Rain." (Also 2 p.m. Nov. 11.) Cost $10, $8 for WUSTL students, $12 at the door. The Village Black Box Theater. 935-6288.

Friday, Nov. 16

8 p.m. OVATIONS! Series. "Striking 12." (Also 8 p.m. Nov. 17.) Cost: $30, $25 for seniors, WUSTL faculty & staff, $18 for students & children. Edison Theatre. 935-6543.

Sports

Tuesday, Nov. 20

6 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. Blackburn College. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Economist Ploberger named Eliot professor

BY BARBARA REA

Werner Ploberger, Ph.D., was installed as the first Thomas H. Eliot Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences Oct. 30 in Holmes Lounge.

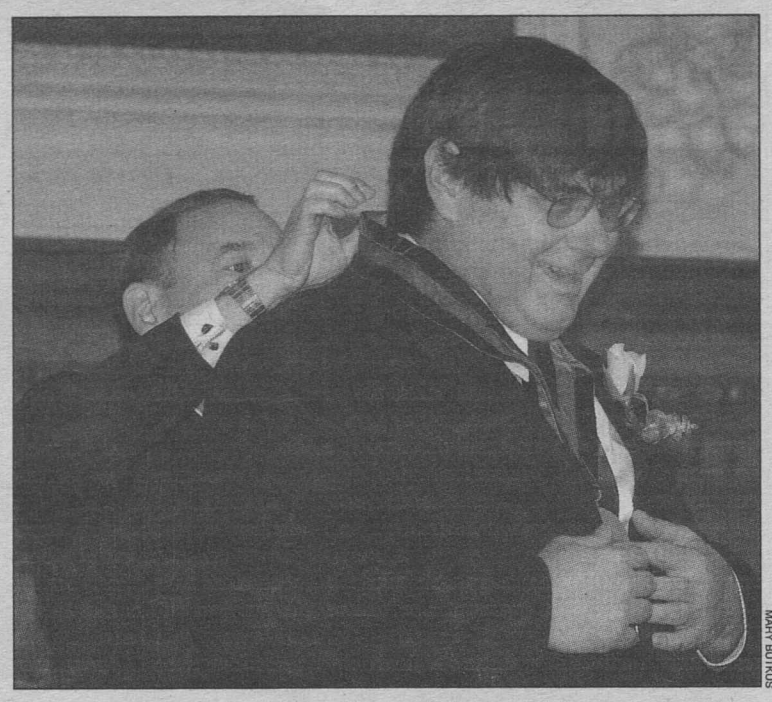
"It is a privilege to announce the creation of the Thomas H. Eliot Distinguished Professorship," Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton said. "Eliot was an important figure in Washington University's history. As its 12th chancellor, he led the institution through one of its most challenging periods and contributed to its rise to national prominence."

Ploberger, who joined the Department of Economics in Arts & Sciences last year, is internationally renowned for his contributions to the fields of econometrics and the theory of estimation. Much of his research is considered pioneering, especially on testing for structural change, and for analyzing testing procedures using a continuum of moment conditions. He helped formulate new criterion for estimating the order of models. With his colleague, Don W.K. Andrews, Ph.D., he has used concepts of modern asymptotic theory to construct optimal tests.

His research has been published in the top scholarly journals in economics, statistics and econometrics and has been included in several books. Ploberger teaches all levels and advises doctoral students.

"Werner's international reputation is well-earned, and he brings to the Department of Economics a wealth of teaching and research experience," said Edward S. Macias, Ph.D., executive vice chancellor, dean of Arts & Sciences and the Barbara and David Thomas Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences.

Ploberger's first teaching position was at the Vienna University of Technology, where he earned master's and doctoral degrees in applied mathematics. The Austrian native also has taught at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Visiting positions have included the University of Montreal, Monash University in Australia, the University of Dortmund in Germany and Yale University.



MARY BUTKUS

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton (left) and Werner Ploberger, Ph.D., at the installation ceremony Oct. 30 in Holmes Lounge. Ploberger, the newly appointed Thomas H. Eliot Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences, joined the Department of Economics last year.

Thomas Eliot was the grandson of Harvard University President Charles W. Eliot, distant cousin of the great poet T.S. Eliot and a distant descendent of Washington University co-founder and third chancellor, William Greenleaf Eliot.

The Harvard College and Harvard Law School graduate served a term in Congress in 1940, where he focused on the preservation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" programs, as well as the protection of civil liberties. He helped draft and assist in the passage of the Social Security Act.

During World War II, Eliot held a variety of government positions. Afterward, he became a partner in a Boston law firm but still continued to serve special functions for the state of Massachusetts. He also taught government courses at Harvard and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Eliot joined the WUSTL faculty in 1952 as professor and chair of the political science department. He then served as dean of the College of Liberal Arts (now Arts & Sciences) and as vice chancellor and dean of faculties before being named chancellor in 1962. He retired in 1971 and died in 1991 at age 84.

During his tenure as chancellor, Eliot led the University's transformation from a mostly commuter school to a university of national prominence and oversaw its emergence as a modern institution of higher education.

Sports

Women's soccer ends regular season 15-3

The No. 10 women's soccer team closed the regular season with a 2-1 loss at the University of Chicago Nov. 3 at Stagg Field in Chicago. Despite the loss, WUSTL finished at 15-3 overall and won the University Athletic Association title, earning its second consecutive postseason berth.

The 2007 NCAA Division III Women's Soccer Tournament begins Saturday, Nov. 10, at Francis Field, with the Bears taking on Webster University at 1:30 p.m.

Men's soccer season ends with a tie

The No. 20 men's soccer team concluded its regular season with a 0-0 tie at the University of Chicago Nov. 3 and finished with an overall record of 13-4-2.

With the draw, WUSTL finished the season in third place in the University Athletic Association. Still, the Bears were awarded an at-large bid into the 2007 NCAA Division III Men's Soccer Tournament and will open play against Carthage College Saturday, Nov. 10, in Wisconsin.

Volleyball suffers tough loss to Emory

The No. 4 volleyball team (27-5 overall, 10-1 University Athletic Association) lost a dramatic five-game match to Emory University in the UAA title match Nov. 3.

The Bears still earned an at-large berth into the 2007 NCAA Division III Volleyball Tournament and open play against Hanover College Thursday, Nov. 8, at 1 p.m. The bid is WUSTL's 21st consecutive trip to the postseason.

Football falls short in Cleveland

Case Western Reserve University scored 21 points off turnovers en route to its first outright University Athletic Association football championship with a 35-27 win over WUSTL Nov. 3 at Case Field in Cleveland. Junior quarterback Buck Smith finished 21-of-34 for 250 yards and one touchdown. The Bears are 6-3 overall and will wrap up regular season play with a road game Saturday, Nov. 10, at Greenville College.

Women's basketball ranked No. 1, too

The women's basketball team will begin the 2007-08 season ranked first in the USA Today/ESPN Coaches poll and No. 1 in the Basketball Times poll. The Bears are ranked No. 3 in the DIII News top 25 preseason poll and No. 6 in the D3Hoops.com preseason poll. The lofty ranking means both men's and women's basketball teams begin the season as the top-ranked Div. III teams in the country.

Construction Update

Construction Update is published periodically and provides information about the progress of major building and renovation projects. Information is provided by facilities management.

Social Sciences/ School of Law Building

The stone masonry on the south face of the building has topped out on three-fourths of the western wall. The stone masonry has begun on the northern half of the east elevation and is to the windowsill of Level 2. The mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems (MEP) rough-ins continue on all floors. Drywall is about 75 percent complete with taping under way on the lower levels. Installation continues on both elevators. The structure for the north stair is 50 percent complete. Construction should be finished by June 2008.

Danforth University Center

The mason is setting granite at the north and east perimeter walls. The granite at the west wall is complete. The mason is setting block as required to maintain the schedule for window installation. The structural steel is in place. The angled roof decking is 90 percent complete. Nail base is under way at the angled decking. The majority of the windows are on site, and window installation is ongoing. Framing on the first floor interior is under way with a focus on the kitchen/food areas. Stairs are being installed in the north stairway, and second floor framing is almost complete. Third floor spray fireproofing is ongoing. Installation of mechanical, electric, plumbing and fire protection systems (MEPFP) distribution is under way on all three levels. Air-handling units are to be turned on for temporary heat Dec. 1, 2007. The project is on schedule to be completed by July 2008.

Village East

Construction has begun on the Village East building at the corner of Forest Park Parkway and Throop Drive. The excavation and footings are complete. The first of three slab pours (south end) were completed August 15. The underground MEP is proceeding. The backfill has been completed on the south end of the building, and masonry work continues as well as MEP rough-ins. The projected is schedule for completion in August 2008.

Diabetes

Cells not rejected by immune system

– from Page 1

cells matured, they began to release pig insulin.

"We found using every method that the cells engraft long-term and, thus, are not rejected by the animals' immune systems," Hammerman said. "It's been more than two years since our first transplant was carried out. That particular primate doesn't produce any primate insulin but has pig insulin circulating in its bloodstream that has reduced by more than 50 percent the amount of injected insulin the animal needs compared to levels before the transplant. The animals have never received immune-suppression drugs."

Two of the macaques remain healthy. One, however, became anemic about six weeks post-transplant and was euthanized a month later after developing acute respiratory distress. The researchers could not find a link between this animal's illness and the pancreatic cell transplants. The two remaining macaques have each received two transplants of embryonic pancreatic cells. One of the animals has been followed for 23 months after his first transplant, and the amount of insulin he needs to have injected has declined by 55 percent over baseline levels. The other macaque has been followed for 10 months after his initial transplant, and his need for injected insulin continues to decline.

Hammerman and his colleague Sharon Rogers, research instructor in medicine, are leaders in the emerging field of organogenesis, which focuses on growing organs from transplanted embryonic organ precursors known as primordia. Unlike embryonic stem cells, which can become virtually any cell type, primordia are locked into becoming cells of a particular organ.

"We are encouraged by these results," Rogers said. "The absence of a need for immune suppression in diabetic rats gave us hope that we were on the right track. But many findings in rats do not hold true for species that are more closely related to humans, such as nonhuman primates. This one did."

The team will now determine how best to eliminate the need for injected insulin in the diabetic macaques that receive transplants, thus demonstrating long-term effectiveness of the technique, and establish the safety of pancreatic primordia transplants. If these experiments succeed, the researchers plan to conduct clinical trials in humans with diabetes.

"We hope to find out how to apply our findings to human type 1 and type 2 diabetics because the embryonic pig primordia would represent an unlimited source of tissue for transplantation," Hammerman said.

Mission

– from Page 1

different velocities in different regimes, on-board instruments move the arrays to collect separate data for the different regimes.

The abundances and isotopic composition of the noble gas from the regimes could in turn be used to understand how well the solar wind truly represents solar composition.

Data presented in the Science paper made one thing clear: The isotopic composition of neon and argon in all three regimes were the same. So measuring solar wind means that you are sampling the solar corona, the place at which ions stream out of the sun.

"This is good for future measurements of nitrogen and oxygen and other elements because if it's true for noble gases, it's true for other elements as well," Meshik said.

This work gives scientists who design models of how the solar system formed the actual ground truth, said Charles Hohenberg, Ph.D., professor of physics in Arts & Sciences. Differences in isotopic composition between the planets and the sun tell us about their evolutions. Also, the team's ability to measure neon and argon with high precision helps other Genesis scientists calibrate their data.

Although WUSTL scientists won't be measuring oxygen — a critical element for planetary studies — their Genesis findings will help scientists make their measurements more accurate.

"There are so many elements that other scientists would like to measure that are very, very difficult to measure because of their low abundance and high potential for contamination," Hohenberg said.

Even though WUSTL scientists were able to extract valuable data from Genesis' broken pieces, the work required the design of new equipment and refinement of existing measuring devices. Both Meshik and Hohenberg stressed the team aspect that made and continues to make this project possible.

Five of eight authors on the current Science paper come from the University. In addition to Meshik and Hohenberg, fourth-year graduate student Jennifer Mabry, whose doctoral research is based on this work; senior research scientist Olga Pravdivtseva, Ph.D.; and Yves Marrocchi, Ph.D., who is now at Nancy-Université in France, worked on all aspects of the project. Also among the co-authors is a former student of Hohenberg's, Chad Olinger, Ph,D., who is at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Next, WUSTL scientists will measure heavy noble gases from the solar wind samples — they've already redesigned two new mass spectrometers specially made for this effort. Unlike argon and neon, which are abundant enough for multiple measurements, the rarity of heavy nobles like xenon allow for perhaps only one or two attempts.

The Genesis mission was the first since the Apollo era to bring extraterrestrial material back to Earth, so the team wants the best measurement possible of the sun's xenon and krypton. Therefore, these measurements have been delayed while measurement techniques are optimized.

"If you look at meteorites, the argon that you measure is very close to what you see in the sun. That's not the case for xenon and krypton, and that's not the case for the atmosphere. Understanding how those things all fit together is important. Nobody really knows yet," Hohenberg said.

Notables

Introducing new faculty members

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

Ellen Damschen, Ph.D., joined the Department of Biology in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. She earned a doctorate in zoology from North Carolina State University and completed postdoctoral studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, as a National Science Foundation Biological Informatics Postdoctoral Fellow. Damschen's research centers on how and when space matters for the diversity and composition of communities, especially with the ever-increasing impact of humans on the globe. Her research not only tests ecological theory but also has applied relevance for conservation.

Todd Decker, Ph.D., joins the Department of Music in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor, with a joint appointment in American Culture Studies. Decker earned a master of music degree in harpsichord performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and earned his doctorate in musicology from the University of Michigan in 2007. He was visiting lecturer in musicology at the University of California, Los Angeles, during the 2006-07 academic year. Decker's current research centers on the American musical stage and screen in the 20th century, with a particular interest in interracial performance. He is working on a book connecting Fred Astaire, popular song, musical film and jazz from the 1930s to the 1960s.

Clarissa Rile Hayward, Ph.D., joins the Department of Political Science in Arts & Sciences as associate professor. A political theorist, Hayward's research and teaching focus on political theories of power, justice, identity and democracy. She earned a bachelor of arts degree from Princeton University and a doctorate from Yale University. Before joining WUSTL, she was associate professor of political science at Ohio State University. Hayward's publications include "De-Facing Power" (Cambridge University Press, 2000), as well as articles in various volumes and journals. She is completing a second book that focuses on the ways democratic state actors shape political identities through institutions that racialize and privatize urban space.

Simine Vazire, Ph.D., joins the Department of Psychology in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. She earned a doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin in 2006 and conducts research on the accuracy of self- and other-perceptions of personality. Her current work examines differences between how people see themselves, how others see them, and how they behave. The overall goal is to understand the limits and function of self-knowledge and how feedback affects self-knowledge and personality. She also is interested in methodological issues involved with measuring behavior, self-reports and peer reports.

Goldwasser takes helm of Civil Justice Clinic

Katherine Goldwasser, J.D., professor of law and a longtime teacher in the School of Law's Clinical Education Program, has been named acting director of the Civil Justice Clinic.

Goldwasser, an expert in criminal procedure and evidence, previously served as associate dean of student affairs at the law school from 1998-2004 and brings a wealth of administrative expertise to the position.

"I look forward to serving in an advisory role to this clinic, which brings important legal services to the community while allowing students to learn firsthand the challenges, responsibilities and privileges of representing clients, especially those who have little or no other access to legal services," Goldwasser said. "The work students do in the clinic gives them an opportunity to see what a difference they can make in both the lives of their clients and the betterment of their communities."

As the law school's oldest clinic, the Civil Justice Clinic has for nearly 35 years enabled students to assist low-income clients in the greater St. Louis area with a variety of legal matters. Clinic students have represented victims of domestic violence, petitioners for clemency, the homeless, poor tenants and low-income homeowners who have been exploited by fraudulent mortgage finance companies.

Goldwasser, who joined the law faculty in 1990, previously served as a federal judicial law clerk, was an Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois and was on the law faculty at the University of Cincinnati.

For the Record

Speaking of

The Kilo Diabetes & Vascular Research Foundation held its 35th Annual Kilo Diabetes Symposium Nov. 2-3 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in St. Louis. More than 400 health-care professionals attended the symposium, designed to present current management and clinical research results by experts in the field of diabetes, endocrine disease and cardiovascular disease. Among the speakers were School of Medicine faculty, including **Kenneth Polonsky**, M.D., the Adolphus Busch Professor and head of the John Milliken Department of Medicine; **Samuel Klein**, M.D., the Danforth Professor of Medicine and Nutritional Science and director of the Center for Human Nutrition; **Clay Semenkovich**, M.D., the Herbert S. Gasser Professor of Medicine and chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism & Lipid Research; and **Emil R. Unanue**, M.D., the Paul and Ellen Lacy Professor of Pathology and Immunology. In addition, James R. Gavin III, M.D., Ph.D., former associate professor of medicine at the School of Medicine and currently clinical professor of medicine and senior health adviser on health affairs at Emory University School of Medicine, was also a speaker.

Of note

Four employees of the Bernard Becker Medical Library and one faculty member were honored in the library's fourth annual Peer Recognition program. **Bob Hamilton**, library associate, and **Cathy Sarli**, librarian, each received an Outstanding Performance award; **Kristi Holmes**, bioinformaticist, and **Martha Riley**, librarian, each received a Bright Idea Award. **Rosalie Uchanski**, Ph.D., research assistant professor of otolaryngology, received the Community Spirit Award. …

Candice C. Morey, Ph.D., postdoctoral research scholar in psychology in Arts & Sciences, has received a three-year, $141,318 grant from the National Institutes of Health for research titled "Domain-General WM and Cognitive Control in the Prefrontal Cortex."

Obituaries

Canaan, assistant professor emeritus, 85

Samuel A. Canaan Jr., M.D., assistant professor emeritus of clinical ophthalmology and visual sciences, died Friday, Oct. 19, of congestive heart failure at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. He was 85.

Canaan was an ophthalmologist for more than 50 years and was the nation's first African-American retinal surgeon.

He came to the School of Medicine for a fellowship in retinal surgery from 1959-1963, after which he went into private practice.

He was chief of ophthalmology at the St. Louis VA Medical Center-John Cochran Division and held hospital appointments at many area hospitals, including Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

He is survived by his wife, Earciel; daughters Donzella and Samantha; two grandchildren and many cousins.

A memorial service was held Oct. 27 at Antioch Baptist Church in St. Louis. Memorial contributions may be made to the Dr. Samuel A. Canaan Jr. Memorial Fund by making a check payable to the Department of Ophthalmology, Washington University School of Medicine, and marking "In memory of Dr. Samuel A. Canaan Jr." on the memo line, then sending to Washington University School of Medicine, Department of Ophthalmology, Attn: Michael A. Kass, M.D., 660 S. Euclid Ave., Campus Box 8096, St. Louis, MO 63110.

Kornberg, Nobel Prize winner, 89

Arthur Kornberg, M.D., former chair of microbiology at the School of Medicine and a Nobel Prize winner, died Friday, Oct. 26, in Stanford, Calif., of respiratory failure. He was 89.

In 1947, Kornberg was research investigator in the Department of Biological Chemistry at the School of Medicine with professors Carl Cori, M.D., and Gerty Cori, M.D., who won the Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine that year for their discovery of the course of the catalytic conversion of glycogen.

Kornberg chaired the Department of Microbiology from 1952-59 and shared the 1959 Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine with former School of Medicine colleague Severo Ochoa, M.D., for their work in the discovery of the mechanisms in the biological synthesis of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and ribonucleic acid (RNA). Kornberg is credited for discovering the chemical mechanism by which the amount of DNA that comprises a chromosome gets constructed in the cell.

Kornberg left WUSTL in 1959 for Stanford University, where he finished his career and ran a lab until his recent hospitalization.

"He was an extraordinary intellect and defined for me what a scientist should be," said Larry J. Shapiro, M.D., executive vice chancellor for medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine. "Arthur was a very generous person who influenced many and he will surely be missed and remembered."

Kornberg is survived by his wife Carolyn Frey Dixon Kornberg; sons Roger, Thomas and Kenneth; and eight grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice or to The Dr. Arthur Kornberg Memorial Fund, Stanford University Office of Medical Development, 2700 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

Morgan, 74

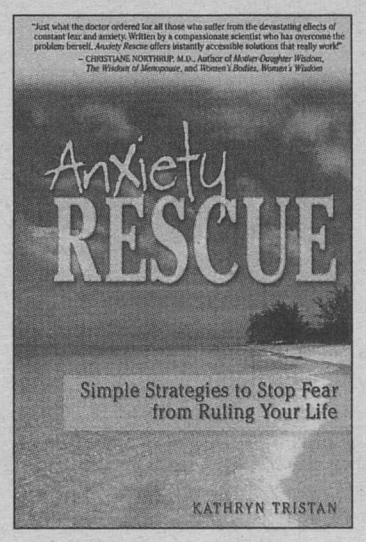
Donna J. Morgan, secretary III at the School of Medicine from 1984-1994, died Sunday, Nov. 4. She was 74.

Campus Authors

Kathryn (Tristan) Liszewski, research scientist in the Department of Medicine

Anxiety Rescue: Simple Strategies to Stop Fear from Ruling Your Life

Dancing Eagle Press (2007)



Kathryn Liszewski, research scientist in the Department of Medicine, spent most of her adult life in the grip of anxiety. She was often worried, anxious and had panic attacks. At one point, she only wanted to be able to go to the grocery store without being afraid or panicked.

However, Liszewski has overcome her anxiety and panic attacks and is sharing her experience and tips in a new book called "Anxiety Rescue: Simple Strategies to Stop Fear from Ruling Your Life," written under the pen name Kathryn Tristan.

Liszewski said one in six Americans deals with excessive fear or anxiety.

"We are overstressed, overworried and overwhelmed by work, home and relationships," she said. "We are on the go and trying to keep all of our responsibilities up in the air at once, like balls in a juggling act. When you couple this with feeling underfulfilled, underrested and underhappy, then you can have an inner meltdown that is called an anxiety attack.

"I wrote this book as part of a commitment that if I could ever overcome my own fears, I'd use my writing and mentoring skills to help others," she said. "The book helped me put into words how I actually overcame this."

Liszewski said she conquered anxiety by using four insights she calls "CORE Concepts": Choice, Outlook, Risking and Exploring.

"Choice means that how you react to any situation, event or experience is something you choose," Liszewski said. "Outlook means that how you think about anything determines how you experience everything. You can choose to change your outlook to create safety and inner power. Risk means that taking small steps gradually empowers you. As confidence builds, you begin to free yourself from the prison of anxiety. Exploring means reconnecting with your inner spirit, your highest part that helps you turn your pain into an opportunity for growth and healing."

The book contains features including the trademarked WorryWart Quiz, 10 Instant Stress Busters and other strategies to help readers tackle their own fears.

As a research scientist in rheumatology, Liszewski has written or co-authored more than 120 articles in health publications and has spoken and made presentations at international conferences. She also has written freelance articles for publications such as Parade Magazine and Genetic Engineering News. She is a member of the Anxiety Disorders Association of America, the American Association of Immunologists and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

— Beth Miller

Washington People

Nurturing students' dreams

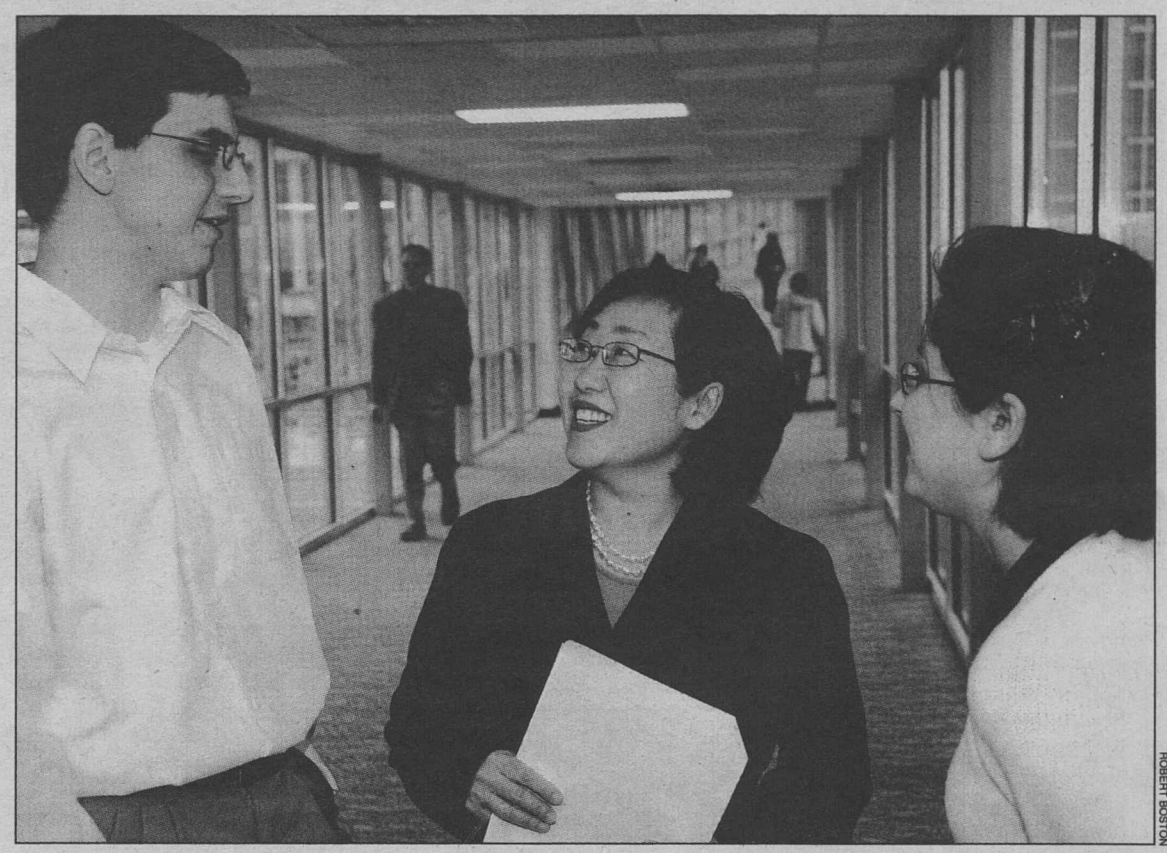
Koong-Nah Chung offers good ears, broad shoulders to students

BY DIANE DUKE WILLIAMS

"There's a tendency for academic advisers to plan an awkward yearly meeting over bad pizza, and it's glaringly clear they don't want to be there," says Adam Greenbaum, a third-year M.D./Ph.D. student. "In contrast, Dean Chung invites us over to her house for dinner several times a year, engages us in really humorous conversations and then gives us bags of leftover food at the end of the night. I've learned that finding a leftover piece of steak in my refrigerator the next day does far more to make me happy than any advice possibly could."

Greenbaum is among the many colleagues and students who describe Koong-Nah Chung, Ph.D., assistant dean for medical admissions and student affairs, as a nurturing, enthusiastic advisor who's a wonderful ambassador for the School of Medicine.

"She, it seems, is everywhere," says Leslie Kahl, M.D., associate dean for student affairs in medicine. "She attends student functions, often with one of her children in tow, offering good ears, broad shoulders and wise counsel to students in need. She is always ready to contribute to whatever project is under way and is a critically important member of our team."



ROBERT BOSTON

Koong-Nah Chung, Ph.D., (center) talks with Eric Millican (left) and Ana Kadkhodayan, both second-year medical students, during a recent research poster session. "Koong-Nah's most distinctive characteristic is her genuine caring about the students individually and the support that she provides as she helps them explore their options, identify their goals and pursue their dreams," says W. Edwin Dodson, M.D., associate vice chancellor and associate dean in medicine for admissions and continuing medical education. "The students love her, and it's easy to see why."

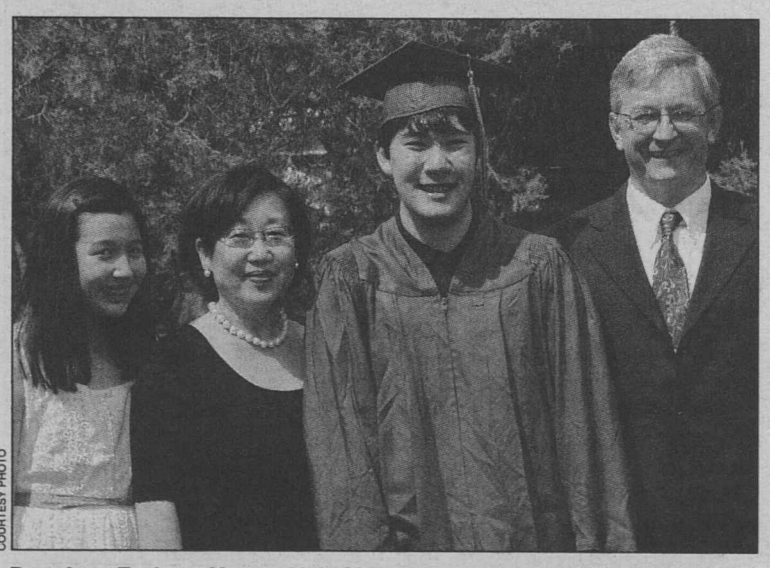
Chung also directs the medical student summer research program, which has tripled in size under her supervision, chairs the Southern admissions committee and oversees the selective program for first-year students.

Alvin S. Wenneker, M.D., a retired clinical professor of medicine who has served on the admissions committee with Chung for more than three years, says she is able to evaluate medical school applicants because she has a great understanding of people and their motivations. "I've found her to be intuitive, very intelligent, compassionate and a wonderful facilitator," Wenneker says. "Working with her has been a highlight of my medical career."

A unique history

When Chung was 6, her father, a physician, left their native South Korea to pursue a doctorate in microbiology at Michigan State University. A year later, her mother and two of her three sisters followed him to East Lansing. Chung and her remaining sister lived in the family home in Seoul with their grandmothers, cousins, two aunts and two uncles for the next three years.

"It wasn't terribly difficult for me to be away from my parents," Chung says. "I just remember it as being fun with all of my relatives. My grandmothers were wonderful role models — gracious, generous, kind, independent women."



COURTESY PHOTO

Daughter Eudora, Koong-Nah Chung, son Percy and husband John Olsen, Ph.D., at Percy's graduation from Clayton High School last spring.

In 1967, Chung and her sister joined her family in East Lansing, where they lived for a year before moving to Ann Arbor, where her father had taken a job at the University of Michigan. Although she spoke no English when she arrived in the United States, Chung thrived in an integrated public school system in Ann Arbor. Her family also lived in graduate housing with many other international students.

"We were so fortunate to go into a university setting," she says. "Our house was overflowing with newcomers all the time."

She and her family, which soon had five daughters, often spent weekends with other Koreans, picnicking and picking gossari, a fern used in many Korean dishes, in a nearby forest.

In Hershey, Pa., where Chung attended high school, she was elected the first female student government president, a monumental feat in the 1970s. "I ran on the platform of the first girl and a Coke machine," Chung says with a laugh. "We got a Coke machine."

She returned to Ann Arbor to attend the University of Michigan as an undergraduate. She dabbled in art, psychology and women's studies before declaring biology as a major during her junior year.

"And that was only because I ended up washing dishes in the laboratory of Dr. Harry Douthit," she says. "My parents really wanted me to go to medical school, but I had zero interest in medicine."

Chung conducted some experiments with Douthit, who studied bacterial spore germination, and decided during her senior year that becoming a scientist was a perfect career choice. She set up a cot in his lab, where she didn't mind taking samples at different times throughout the night.

"I just loved it," she says. "I like interacting with people, but I also like to have quiet time."

Douthit told Chung she should go to graduate school and encouraged her to look at Washington University School of Medicine. When she visited, she was impressed that she could pick her own lab and that other scientists were extremely welcoming.

Chung chose biochemistry because she enjoyed organic chemistry and biochemistry in college. "I thought the pathways were beautiful," she says. "I think it's fascinating how they fit together and you come up with an answer at the end."

Her graduate school mentor, Philip D. Stahl, Ph.D., the Edward Mallinckrodt Jr. Professor and head of Cell Biology and Physiology, says Chung is a talented scientist who has great balance in her personal and professional life. "I have the greatest respect for Koong-Nah, and I think she's highly suited to work with students as an advisor and role model," he says.

After completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, Berkeley, and a senior staff fellowship at the National Cancer Institute, Chung joined the WUSTL faculty as a research assistant professor in cell biology in 1996.

Her research focused on protein trafficking, including the role of cell membrane structures called caveolae in cholesterol trafficking, and, in 1995, she received the Young Investigator Award from the Society of Biomedical Research.

She was named instructor of cell biology and physiology in 1999, a title she retains, in addition to being named assistant dean for admissions and student affairs the same year.

Chung says she sometimes misses research — working with her hands and the highs of discovery — but she always enjoyed mentoring students in the laboratory.

"The best part of my job now is interacting with the students," she says. "I had wonderful role models who believed in me, and I believe in our talented and idealistic students. Their potential is boundless."

The family's importance

In her free time, Chung enjoys exercising at a gym, yoga and meditation. She is married to John Olsen, Ph.D., whom she met during orientation in graduate school. He is an investment adviser.

Chung and her husband have two children, Percy, a freshman at WUSTL, and Eudora, a seventh grader at Wydown Middle School in Clayton. Chung is grateful to her parents, whom she says dedicated their lives to their children's education. She also emphasizes to her children the importance of education, service and finding careers that they're passionate about.

She "drags" her two children to a national park each summer. "We make them go on hikes, and we hear a lot of complaining," Chung says. "And we threaten to never bring them to another national park. But I think it's important to see our parks, and I hope they appreciate these trips someday."

Sunday evenings, her family often has "cousin dinner" with their other St. Louis relatives — her parents and two sisters and their families.

When the week begins, Chung is motivated to come to work because she feels a great sense of pride in WUSTL. "I admire everyone I work with," she says. "Washington University sort of draws you in, and you become very loyal. We all know we have a good thing going."

And W. Edwin Dodson, M.D., associate vice chancellor and associate dean for admissions and continuing medical education, says he considers Chung a treasure.

"Koong-Nah's most distinctive characteristic is her genuine caring about the students individually and the support that she provides as she helps them explore their options, identify their goals and pursue their dreams," he says. "The students love her, and it's easy to see why. She's also one of the best medical school admissions professionals anywhere."

Koong-Nah Chung

Education: B.S., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 1980; Ph.D., molecular biology and biochemistry, Washington University School of Medicine, 1986

Family: Husband, John Olsen, Ph.D.; son, Percy, a freshman at Washington University; daughter, Eudora, a seventh grader at Wydown Middle School

Hobbies: Yoga, meditation, spending time with family, visiting national parks

Pet: Dog, Jack. "He's so loyal," Chung says. "He's my first pet, and I now understand why people love their pets so much."

Entertaining: Has Medical Scientist Training Program and M.D. students over to her house four or five times a year. "I serve them steaks and salmon, the two things that I can cook OK," she says. "I make sure I don't serve them pizza."