December degrees James E. McLeod, vice chancellor for students and dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, congratulated William L. Brown at a Dec. 2 reception in the Mallinckrodt Teaching Center following the December Degree Candidate Recognition Ceremony in Graham Chapel. Brown, an economics major, is a bachelor of arts degree candidate from the College of Arts & Sciences. An Enterprise Rent-A-Car Scholar and an Ervin Scholar, she is among 740 students who are December degree candidates. Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton and Jeffrey P. Bonner, president and chief executive officer of the Saint Louis Zoo, delivered remarks during the ceremony. McLeod and Robert E. Thach, Ph.D., dean of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, assisted Wrighton in recognizing the degree candidates on stage.

Cervical cancer patients receive new follow-up: post-treatment PET scans

BY GWEN ERICSON

Whole-body PET (positron emission tomography) scans done three months after completion of cervical cancer therapy can ensure that patients are disease-free or warn that further interventions are needed, according to a School of Medicine study. “This is the first time we can say that we have a reliable test to follow cervical cancer patients after therapy,” said Julie K. Schwarz, M.D., Ph.D., a Barnes-Jewish Hospital resident in the Department of Radiation Oncology. “We ask them to come back for a follow-up visit about three months after treatment is finished, and we perform a PET scan. If the scan shows a complete response to treatment, we can say with confidence that they are going to do extremely well. That’s really powerful,” Schwarz said. Her study has been published in the Nov. 21, 2007, issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA).

Without a test like PET, it can be difficult to tell whether treatment has eliminated cervical tumors, Schwarz said. That’s because small tumors are hard to detect with pelvic exams, and overt symptoms, such as leg swelling, don’t occur until tumors grow quite large. Furthermore, CT and MRI scans often don’t differentiate tumor tissue from surrounding tissues. Pap tests can be inaccurate because of tissue changes induced by radiation therapy, and no blood test exists to detect the presence of cervical cancer.

Cancerous tumors glow brightly in the PET scans used in the study, called FDG-PET scans, which detect emissions from radiotracers tagged with glucose or other sugars. Tumor tissue traps more radioactivity, making tumors more visible.

“The combination of beer, wastewater, microbes, fuel cells, high-school students and teachers sounds like a witches’ brew for an old-fashioned, 19th-century beach party,” said Lars Angenent, Ph.D., assistant professor of environmental and chemical engineering, has received a $400,000 Career Grant from the National Science Foundation to develop microbial fuel cell (MFC) kits and an accompanying book of physics, chemistry and biology lessons. Eventually, he hopes to make them available to high-school science teachers as an exciting, visual, hands-on way to teach science.

As part of the grant, he will be working with Victoria L. May, assistant dean for Science Outreach in Arts & Sciences and director of the University’s Science Outreach program. Using MFC technology, Angenent is treating wastewater donated by local brewery Anheuser-Busch Cos. Inc. and creating electricity in a six-liter device a bit bigger than a thermos. He uses a mixed medium containing thousands of organisms and oxygen-producing bacteria that produce electricity as they use sugars. See Fuel cells, Page 2
Habitat holiday Junior Audrey Ye (right) helps a child build a gingerbread house Dec. 2 during the WUSTL chapter of Habitat for Humanity holiday party at Mudt House. The party was hosted entirely by students, and the attendees were house buyers and families with whom the WUSTL group has helped over the past year. Below, sophomores Carlyt Kadlec helps children decorate Christmas tree ornaments during the party.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization whose goal is to eliminate poverty housing worldwide. Habitat brings families and communities in need together with volunteers to build decent, affordable housing. The WUSTL chapter encourages students to make a positive difference in the St. Louis community. Its main focus is to raise funds for building Habitat homes, raise awareness about the need for affordable housing and to actually build alongside future Habitat homeowners at Habitat construction sites.

Fuel cells work with Hazelwood district — from Page 1

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Malaria drug may prevent or delay atherosclerosis

By Jim Drayer

School of Medicine researchers want to see whether it’s possible to reduce the progression of atherosclerosis in healthy people by giving low doses of the malaria drug chloroquine. They are seeking volunteers who are slightly overweight or who have elevated blood pressure.

The human study follows a mouse study that found chloroquine could blunt the progression of plaque buildup in mice that had a genetic predisposition to atherosclerosis.

“Vascular events such as heart attack and stroke are the biggest health-risk factor facing Americans today,” said Janet B. McCuller, M.D., associate professor of medicine in the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Lipid Research. “Healthy adults with modest elevations in blood pressure or cholesterol or with an additional health risk factor such as obesity or a family history of heart disease are at higher risk for the silent buildup of atherosclerotic plaque in their arteries. That’s an indicator of higher risk for vascular events in the future.”

McCuller is looking for healthy adults between 18 and 70 years old with some of those risk factors to participate in a National Institutes of Health-funded clinical trial.

The new study is based on a hypothesis that chloroquine or an inactive placebo will prevent atherosclerosis in mice. At the end of the study and again after drug therapy, McCuller and her colleagues will conduct an ultrasound test on the carotid blood vessels and MRI to examine the thickness of the vessels.

“In people who risk, we expect to see a very slight thickening of the carotid arteries,” said McCuller, who is an associate professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, and Shirley Silbert, M.D. (right), a fellow in the School of Medicine’s Medical Scientist Training Program, with the David F. Silbert Outstanding Teaching Award Nov. 28. The award is given to a teaching assistant in a medical school course in recognition of a commitment to teaching and was established in memory of David F. Silbert, M.D., a former professor of biochemistry and molecular biology at the School of Medicine. Among first-, second- and third-year students were recognized with awards at the Student Awards luncheon at the Eric P. Newman Education Center.

School of Medicine Update

Wireless network being installed at School of Medicine, BJC HealthCare

By Beth Miller

The School of Medicine and BJC HealthCare are going wireless to allow students, faculty, staff, patients and visitors to connect online from just about any location on campus.

The implementation of the joint wireless network, called MedFi, is a way to take advantage of new technology and offering services at the medical centers, said John Newseal, MedFi project manager for Central Information Technology Services at the School of Medicine. The network is being rolled out to augment, not to replace, the existing wired networks at the School of Medicine and BJC, said John Rice, manager of wire services in Central Information Technology Services.

“MedFi will be accessible using a wireless laptop, personal digital assistant or smartphone,” said Newseal. The wireless network should connect to Central Information Technology Services or go online to mscitsproj.eprojects.wustl.edu.

The School of Medicine work will continue in four stages with each stage taking about three months.

Stage 1, which includes the Bernard Becker Medical Library, the South Medical, McDonnell, St. Mary’s and North Tower, Wohl Clinic and Hospital and the Northwest Tower, is expected to be completed in January. The service is already available to students.

Stage 2 includes the McDonnell Pediatric Research Building, Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, Wohl Hospital and Barnes-Jewish West Tower. It is scheduled to begin this month and be completed in March.

Stage 3, which includes the Eric P. Newman Education Center (EPNEC), Farrell Learning and Teaching Center, and the North Medical, Maternity, McMillan, and West buildings, is on track to begin in late 2007.

Stage 4, to begin in June 2008, will include the research, South Medical, McDonnell Medical Sciences, East, East-Imaging and buildings and the Biotechnol- ogy Center.

Work on 14 BJC buildings will be done in three stages to be completed by next July. Some stairways and elevators may not be covered initially in some locations.

“We recognize that the level of technology available in our facility, staff and students is moving more quickly,” said Michael Ca- puto, assistant dean and chief infor- mation officer for the School of Medicine. “The new infrastructure will improve wireless access throughout the medical center and provide us the oppor- tunity to stay connected to our home network as they move between the medical center and the rest of the medical center.”

MedFi will directly ben- efit those at EPNEC for learning and research, said Sonia H. Gasser, M.D., the Herbert S. Menkovich, M.D., the Herbert S. Menkovich Professor and chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Lipid Research. "We want to learn whether chloroquine can slow that thickening.”

Semenkovich and colleagues at St. Jude Hospital for Children in Memphis, Tenn., found that in small dose of chloroquine at mice reduced cholesterol, decreased hardening and narrowing of the arteries and improved glu- cose tolerance. It had also been genetically engineered with- out chloroquine remained called ATM (ataxia telangiectasia mutated). Children without the gene develop a serious disorder called ataxia telangiectasia. In ad- dition to many other problems, children with AT develop an un- usual type of diabetes.

Tests without ATM develop atherosclerosis, but when Se- menkovich and his colleagues at St. Jude treated the mice with chloroquine, they no longer got atherosclerosis.

“Is this an early proof-of-con- cett stury” she said. “If the con- cept works, we can figure out what the best doses of chloroquine and somehow conduct a long-term study where we don’t just use ul- trasounds to look at the thickness of blood vessels but actually follow people to see whether they have less heart attack and strokes fol- lowing chloroquine therapy.”

The study, called the Atherosclerotic Risk in Children study in the Metabolic Syndrome (ARCH- MS) study will screen healthy adults to find those with mildly el- evated blood glucose, blood pres- sure or triglycerides. In addition to ultrasound and BMI tests, some blood tests will be performed, and those who complete the one-year study will receive a $200 check. When all the study is complete, eligible adults will be eligible for up to $1,000 in compenstaion. Tests and study re- sults are confidential and free of charge.

For more information about the study, call 362-8861 or contact study coordinator Stacy Hurst at 747-3294 or shurst@im.wusd.edu.

Volunteers needed for Parkinson’s disease studies

By Jim Drayer

School of Medicine researchers are seeking volunteers with Parkinson’s disease for two studies. One is investigating the effects of two antidepressants, called melperone to treat psychotic symptoms.

The study will monitor depression in otherwise healthy subjects have received or whether volunteers will know which drug they have been given a placebo in syrup. Neither the in- vestigators nor the participants will know whether an individual will receive melperone syrup or a placebo in syrup. Neither the in- vestigators nor the participants will know whether an individual will receive melperone syrup or a placebo in syrup.

“Doctors frequently prescribe a class of drugs called selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors for these patients. But we don’t really know how well these drugs work in this popu- lation,” said Dr. Kevin J. Black. The study will monitor depres- sion levels in participants who re- ceive one of the drugs for 12 weeks. Investigators also will monitor motor function for the researchers nor the study vol- unteers will know which drug subjects have received or whether they have been given a placebo until the end of the study.

“There have been concerns that this class of drugs, known as SSRIs, might affect motor func- tion,” Black said.

“They are known to alleviate depression and other symptoms, but because the drugs in- teract with some of the same brain structures affected by Parkinson’s disease, it is impor- tant for us to consider look at their effects in this population to ensure that in attempting to alle- viate depression, we aren’t creat- ing other problems,” Black said. The study will use a support motor function by Ovation Pharmaceuticals, is testing varying doses of a drug called melperone to treat psy- chosis in patients with Parkinson’s disease. Currently, there are no drugs approved specifically for the treatment of psychosis in pa- tients with Parkinson’s. Typical antipsychotic drugs often cannot be used because they can exacer- bate Parkinsonian symptoms, such as stiffness and tremors.

“Because melperone seems to work through different mecha- nisms than other antipsychotic drugs, we want to see whether it can alleviate symptoms of psy- chosis without exacerbating motor problems” Black said.

Patients in the 10-week study will receive melperone syrup or a placebo in syrup. Neither the in- vestigators nor the participants will know whether an individual receives an active drug or a placebo be until the study’s completion. The study will require in-person visits during a 10-week period.

Certain health problems may exclude some people from partic- ipating. All screening tests, study medications and research-related procedures for these studies are free of charge.

For more information, contact Mary Creech at 362-7651 or mcreech@njr.wustl.edu.

Kingshighway bridge to be demolished for new I-64 work

Demolition of the old Kings- way Bridge over Interstate 44 in St. Loui Dec. 7-10 and Dec. 14-17 will require closures of the bridge.

Drivers will be able to access the north and southbound Dynas- way and Missouri route 104 using I-64/Interstate 44 at Kingshighway over the two weekends from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Saturday.

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Montreal's acclaimed Dynamics Théâtre Company tackles what could be the toughest of all political arenas — elementary school — in the rollicking, energetic "furious theatrical" romp "me me me." The show comes to the Edison Theatre Feb. 16 with the Campbell Brothers, grand masters of Sacred Steel, in a virtual yet little-known African-American Gospel tradition centered on the pedal steel guitar.

The series will conclude May 10 with Grammy Award-winning roots-rockers Dan Zanes & Friends.

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

For more information, call 935-5443 or e-mail Edison@wustl.edu.
Music for the season: Series of concerts on tap for December

The Department of Music in Arts & Sciences will conclude its fall season with a series of December concerts.

Events begin at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, when classical guitarist Justin Fry presents an evening length concert "Guitar Gala" in Graham Chapel. The concert will feature senior, Saturday, student Charlotte Fong will present a piano recital in the Edmond Lee Concert Hall, located in the 360 Music Center, 360 Trinity Ave. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. that day when WUSTL's Concert Choir performs a concert under the direction of John Stewart, director of vocal activities, also in Graham Chapel.

The department will host its annual sing along of George Frideric Handel's "Messiah" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, in Graham Chapel. The performance, which begins at 3 p.m., will feature the Christmas portion of "Messiah" as well as the "Hallelujah Chorus." Those who wish to participate in the sing-along may sit in special areas arranged according to voice type (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone), through those who choose not to sing also are welcome to attend.

For more information or to be available for those who do not bring their own scores.

Register to win a season PassPort to The Black Rep

In celebration of The Black Rep's 30th Season, Washington University's Diversity Initiative is partnering with the Department of Art & Art History to award University community members with a season pass to The Black Rep, a theater company based in St. Louis, Missouri. A season pass consists of five ticket vouchers redeemable at any time during the 2007-2008 season. The winner, which for the second consecutive year is sponsored by Edward J. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wrighton and the WUSTL Diversity Initiative, will receive a pass and entries must be submitted by Dec. 17. One entry per person is allowed. To enter, visit www.wustl.edu/blackrep.htm.

Katherine McCabe of the Office of Technology Management was one of last year's lucky recipients. "It was very exciting to receive the season PassPort package," she said. "The St. Louis Black Rep is a top-notch theater troupe, and all of the performances were great." The 31st season begins Jan. 2, with "Colored Girls" on the Main Stage. Other Main Stage shows this season include "Radio Gold!" "Death and the King's Horseman," "Herman Duet" and "Sarafina." For more information about the diversity initiative, visit diversity.wustl.edu.

For more information about the Black Rep, visit theblackrep.org.

Luenemann named coach of the year

Volleyball head coach Rich Luenemann was named the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Coach of the Year Nov. 26. The Bears finished the season with a 33-5 overall record and won the ninth Div. III volleyball title in school history.

It is the second time in nine seasons at WUSTL that Luenemann has earned the recognition. He also garnered AVCA Coach of the Year honors in 2003, the other year he led the Bears to the national championship.

Luenemann recorded two other milestone victories in 2007: He won his 300th match at WUSTL with a 3-0 win against New York University Oct. 14, and he won the 900th match of his career in the Bears' 3-2 win against the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in the NCAA tournament Nov. 9.

Luenemann's career record stands at 904-303 (.747) and he is 314-41 (.883) as the Bears' head coach.

The volleyball team will be recognized Saturday, Dec. 8, at halftime of the men's basketball game against Illinois Wesleyan University, which begins at 3 p.m. Festivities will include the unveiling of the championship banner and a presentation of the national championship trophy.

Men's basketball wins Lopata Classic

The No. 9 Bears captured the 24th Annual Lopata Classic championship with a 68-66 win against Baldwin

Swimming second, sixth at invitational

The Bears hosted Illinois Wesleyan University Saturday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. That day, the Department of Athletics will team up with the Sitteman Cancer Center and Coaches vs. Cancer to bring awareness to the fight against cancer.

Women's basketball Ohio State games

The No. 9 women's basketball team played two road games in Ohio last week, defeating Denison University Friday and falling to Columbia University Sunday. The Bears outscored the Big Red 56-52. Junior forward Jameis McFarlin led the Bears in their win against Denison, scoring a career-high 29 points and grabbing nine rebounds. The Bears had their most efficient scoring game of the year in the win, shooting a season-best 50.9 percent from the field as a team.

A long second-half scoring drought doomed the Bears against Capital. WUSTL led the Crusaders, 33-31, at halftime and stretched the lead to 53-45, but Capital went on an 11-0 scoring run to take the lead, 56-53.

Swimming second, sixth at invitational

The Bears competed at the second-sthwatton Invitational at Wheaton, Ill., from Nov. 30-Dec. 1. The men's team placed second with 662 points, and the women's team was sixth with 408 points.

The men's team was led by junior Mike Talarico. He won his first in three freestyle events: the 50-yard freestyle (20.97), the 100-yard freestyle (46.86) and the 200-yard back (2:06.20), both "A" cut qualifying standards, which will be counted toward qualifying for the NCAA postseason.

For more information about the department, call 935-5566 or e-mail kschultz@artsci.wusd.edu.
Grants

Goal is to encourage creative projects — from Page 1

Wolff, assistant professor of architecture.

The Faculty Creative Activity Research Grants are designed to support professional and creative activities that are distinctive to architecture, design and art," said Pedersen, dean of the Sam Fox School and the E. Clay Shaw Jr. Dean for Collaboration in the Arts.

The grant supports creative projects and scholarships that assist faculty in pursuing their art of teaching," said that results in a book, a film, a building or an exhibition or an act of significant exhibition," Goelz was said.

"These grants are intended to promote faculty research and to help build a culture of support and recognition for creative activities," Pedersen said for 2007 are:

"An opportunity to talk about teaching — from Page 4

PET scan of a patient who has responded well and those that have responded poorly. The data may be very useful tools for physicians considering clinical trials of new treatments," Schwartz said.

"Scans that responded well and those that responded poorly. The data may be very useful tools for physicians considering clinical trials of new treatments," Schwartz said.

"We have a tremendous database of patients with various tumors that we can now more effectively choose additional therapies for patients who haven't responded to the initial treatment." Petersen said.

Scans

Growing database will help future patients — from Page 1

of the glucose than does normal tissue, making tumors readily discernible. Not only can post-treatment PET scans reassure those patients whose tumors responded well to therapy, they also can identify those patients whose tumors have not responded so that their physicians can explore other treatment options before the cancer advances further. These options can include surgery to remove tissue, standard chemotherapy or experimental drugs, all from Indiana University. Petersen has forged a career in academia devoted to improving the college experience for students and strengthening their connection after graduation.

For 24 years, Petersen served the University of Central Missouri as vice president for student and alumni affairs, which included responsibility for development, alumni relations, public relations, intercollegiate athletics, auxiliary enterprises and re-employment, career services and other activities. He was twice named interim vice president for university advancement. In addition to initiating many new systems and increasing its programs, under his guidance, Missouri received the largest gift in its history up to that point in 2007.

In 2004, he accepted the position of associate vice president at St. Louis University; two years later, the responsibilities for annual giving were added.

During Petersen's tenure at SLU, he served for nine months as interim vice president for university advancement and oversaw three major development department, alumni relations and marketing and communications. Petersen earned a bachelor's degree in French, a master's degree in college student personnel administration and a doctorate in higher education administration, all from Indiana University. He also received a Fulbright Scholar award.

In addition to his administrative career, Petersen has taught a variety of undergraduate- and graduate-level courses and was an associate professor of education at the University of Vermont (Burlington) and an associate professor of education at the University of Central Missouri. His professional memberships include the National College Personnel Association, the American Council on Education, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, the Missouri College Personnel Association and the Kansas City Regional Council for Higher Education. In addition, Petersen is active in community leadership and educational organizations.

Petersen directs alumni relations

By BARBARA REA

Stephen H. Petersen, Ph.D., has been appointed assistant vice president for alumni relations, a position that has an encompassing role in the alumni community. The Faculty Creative Activity Research Grants Program.

Since the first biennial ITeach symposium in 2002, which focused on technology and exploration of new teaching techniques, several initiatives have been added increasingly more frequently to the portfolio of methods that have little or nothing to do with technology. At ITeach 2006, just 63 percent of the sessions offered will be technological.

"I teach" — An opportunity to talk about teaching — from Page 1

Writing to "Using Digital Research Materials for Teaching." Other initiatives include "Web-Based Homework in Large Courses," "Engaging Students in Large, Introductory Courses," and "Teaching Global Courses.

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Introducing new faculty members

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

Halka Ergin, Ph.D., joins the Department of Economics in Arts & Sciences as associate professor. Ergin earned a doctorate at Princeton University in 2003 and afterward joined Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s faculty as assistant pro-

Youth-Shin Jun, Ph.D., will join the Program in Engineering in January 2008 as an associate professor of energy, environmental & climate change. Jun comes from the University of California, Berkeley, where he is completing her work as a postdoctoral fellow. She brings expertise in molecule-scale experimental- systems to the Aquatic Pro-

Ian MacHillen, Ph.D., joins the Department of Political Science in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. He earned a doctorate in political science from Harvard University in 2004 and since then served for three years as an assistant dean in WUSTL’s School of Arts & Sciences. A political theorist whose pri-

Incumbent is known for her position of the American-born student work as an intern and her research interests lie in the politics of education and of religions and cultural pluralism, MacHillen’s first book, “Ethnography, Em-

Janet Newhard, Ph.D., joins the Department of Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor of Japanese. She previously served as assistant professor in the Department of Languages and Literatures at Arizona State University. She earned a master’s degree in Japanese literature from Columbia University, and a bachelor of arts degree in comparative literature from Brown University. Her research interests include the history of literature, medieval and early modern re-

Shining stars: Faculty achievement award winners

Tamara L. King, J.D., director of Student Judicial Affairs, has received an HP grant — led by Aaron Addison, University GIS coordinator; and the director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Study and of Religious Studies. The project supported by the grant — led by Aaron Addison, University GIS coordinator; and the director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Study and of Religious Studies. The project supported by the grant — led by Aaron Addison, University GIS coordinator; and the director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Study and of Religious Studies.

For the Record

Notables

HP grant supports expansion of tablet PCs into humanities, social sciences

The Teaching Center, in collabor-

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Man of the people

Peter Joy's dedication and experience benefit both students and those in need

Western Reserve University School of Law in 1977, Case Western Reserve University, J.D., professor of law and director of the Criminal Justice Clinic at the St. Louis County Public Defender's Office in Clayton, Mo. The clinic provides students an opportunity to put into practice what they are learning in the classroom. Says Emily Hughes, J.D., associate professor of law and a colleague at the Criminal Justice Clinic, Joy "is committed to helping students develop into top-notch professional, ethical attorneys." Third-year law student Sam Rodriguez (left) discusses a case with Peter Joy, J.D., professor of law and director of the Criminal Justice Clinic at the St. Louis County Public Defender's Office in Clayton, Mo. The clinic provides students an opportunity to put into practice what they are learning in the classroom. Says Emily Hughes, J.D., associate professor of law and a colleague at the Criminal Justice Clinic, Joy "is committed to helping students develop into top-notch professional, ethical attorneys." Third-year law student Sam Rodriguez (left) discusses a case with Peter Joy, J.D., professor of law and director of the Criminal Justice Clinic at the St. Louis County Public Defender's Office in Clayton, Mo. The clinic provides students an opportunity to put into practice what they are learning in the classroom. Says Emily Hughes, J.D., associate professor of law and a colleague at the Criminal Justice Clinic, Joy "is committed to helping students develop into top-notch professional, ethical attorneys."