WUSTL program in national spotlight

By Rachel Schulman

Washington University is in the spotlight for its pivotal role in the Genomics Education Partnership (GEP), a collaborative effort to provide research experience in genomics to undergraduate classrooms across the country. Genomics, the study of an organism's entire genome, is an exciting area in which students get involved in research.

The GEP consists of more than 40 faculty members from a variety of colleges and universities, including historically black and Hispanic-serving institutions and schools with a high proportion of first-generation college students. By making it easy for under-graduate institutions to incorporate research into their regular, academic-year curricula, the GEP can reach underserved students who otherwise have limited opportunities to learn about science.

At the helm of this mission is Sarah C.R. Elgin, Ph.D., the Viktor Hamburger Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences and professor of biology and of education in Arts & Sciences as well as professor of biochemistry and molecular biology and of genetics in the School of Medicine.

In 2001, Elgin was one of 20 professors awarded $1 million from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) to bring research into the undergraduate classroom. Over the next four years, Elgin and her colleagues developed and implemented a research-based genomics course for juniors and seniors at WUSTL to publish and interpret their own portion of raw DNA sequence.

The course, "Research Explorations in Genomics," is a collaborative effort. Elgin co-teaches with Elaine Mburu, Ph.D., an associate professor of genetics and co-director of the Genome Sequencing Center, and Jeremy Buhler, Ph.D., an associate professor of computer science and engineering. Several See GEP, Page 5

Danforth Foundation donates $10 million for neurodegenerative research

By Michael C. Purdy

The Danforth Foundation has granted the Hope Center for Neurological Disorders at the School of Medicine a $10 million endowed gift for research into a range of conditions that cause injury and impairment to the brain and central nervous system.

The funds will be used to support innovative and groundbreaking new ideas for research with clear potential to improve diagnosis and treatment of patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Parkinson’s disease, stroke, Huntington’s disease, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy and other disorders. The endowment created by the gift will be named in honor of the late Donald Danforth Jr., a 1955 graduate of Washington University in St. Louis.

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Other ailments can affect survival of head and neck cancer

By Gwen Erickson

Current estimates for head and neck cancer survival are largely inaccurate because they widely disregard many of the most common diseases such patients have in addition to their primary cancer, said Jay Piccirillo, M.D., a head and neck specialist at the School of Medicine, the Siteman Cancer Center and Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

This highlights a broader problem with cancer survival statistics, which generally don’t take into account the effect of coexisting conditions and comorbidities, Piccirillo said.

In a recent study, Piccirillo, professor of otolaryngology and a director of the Clinical Outcomes Research at the School of Medicine, showed that the risk of death increased up to sevenfold when patients with head and neck cancer developed new or severe coexisting ailments such as heart problems, diabetes or lung disorders after cancer diagnosis.

The study, published in the October issue of the Archives of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery, is one of the first to look at how comorbidities in head and neck cancer patients in the period following diagnosis.

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"For decades, we have used a cancer system based on name size, lymph node involvement and whether cancer has spread to other parts of the body when estimating a patient’s survival. While it is known how many patients are at risk for recurrence or relapse.

While patients often have more concurrent health problems. Survival estimates have an impact on the care of cancer patients such as selection of initial treatment and evaluation of treatment efficacy. Piccirillo also noted that accurate cancer survival data offer valuable information to healthcare providers.

In the United States, an estimated 35,310 new cases of oral cavity and oropharynx cancer are expected in 2008. People with head and neck cancer have nearly the highest rate of comorbidities — only lung and colorectal cancer patients have more concurrent health problems.

See Cancer, Page 6

Board names Brauer chair

New members appointed at winter meeting

The Board of Trustees named Stephen F. Brauer chair of the Board, effective July 1, 2009, and elected six new trustees, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton announced at the Board’s winter meeting Dec. 5.

Wrighton said that the Board in 1991, and has been the chair of the School of Engineering & Applied Science’s national council. He is regarded as the goal of accelerating Washington University’s ascent among the world’s premier universities and building a leading engineering school. In late October ground was broken for the Stephen F. R. Sutera has served WUSTL for 40 years — and counting According to Wrighton, the new trustees “are leaders in their respective fields and are committed to the future of the University.”

Camilla T. Brauer Hall, which will house the Department of Energy, Environmental and Chemical Engineering and the Center for Advanced Renewable Energy & Sustainability (CARES). He currently serves as chairman of the Board.

Brauer, former U.S. ambassador to Belgium, is chairman of Hunter Engineering Co., a leading manufacturer of computer-based, automotive service equipment for the global market and headquartered in St. Louis. Wrighton recognised and
RECORD

Xia becomes first McKelvey Professor

McDonnell gift honors former engineering dean

By Barbara Rea

Younan Xia, Ph.D., professor of biomolecular engineering, was installed as the inaugural James M. McKelvey Professor in the School of Engineering & Applied Science in a Sept. 2 ceremony in Uncas A. White Hall.

The McKelvey professorship is named in honor of the school's dean from 1964-1991 and is one of three professorships established in 2003 by a gift from John F. McDonnell to support the Center for Materials Innovation (CMI).

CMI is a community of Washington University scholars whose work extends beyond discipline boundaries to enhance intellectual opportunities and research efforts. It operates as a catalyst to bring together students and faculty in the College of Arts & Sciences, the School of Engineering & Applied Science and the School of Medicine.

"Washington University is fortunate to have an abundance of great friends, and among the most notable of them is John McDonnell," Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton said. "His support for excellence in research, graduate and undergraduate education, faculty and student development, and community engagement is invaluable. His support of the CMI is just the latest in a long list of contributions that have had a lasting impact on the university and its mission. His generosity is truly inspiring, and it is a privilege to honor his commitment to excellence in education and research by naming this professorship after him."

Xia is an associate editor of Nano Letters. Xia and his research group are pursuing cutting-edge research in nanotechnology, materials chemistry and biomaterials. More specifically, they are working on the development of a new class of materials with sizes greater than 100 nanometers to create innovative technologies, with the ultimate goal of building a scientific base for large-scale production of nanoparticles. These nanomaterials will have major applications in areas such as electronics, sensors, catalysts, information storage, optical sensing and biological research.

Xia joined the WUSTL faculty in 2007 with a home appointment in biomedical engineering. Additional appointments are in energy, environmental and chemical engineering in the School of Engineering & Applied Science; chemistry in Arts & Sciences; and biochemistry and molecular biophysics and radiology in the School of Medicine. He also has an appointment in the Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences.

"This new professorship will provide the Center for Materials Innovation with another great opportunity to bring together world-renowned scientists to push the boundaries of materials research at Washington University," said S. Wrighton.

Widely recognized as one of the world's preeminent material scientists, Xia has authored more than 300 scholarly articles and holds 10 patents. Among his most distinguished awards are fellowships from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the NSF Director's Pioneer Award in 2003. He serves on the editorial boards of Nano Letters, Nature, Langmuir, Perspective in Chemical Physics and the Journal of Materials Chemistry. Xia has been named an IEEE Fellow, a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the National Academy of Sciences and National Academy of Engineering. He holds 10 patents. Among his most notable achievements are his research in biomedical engineering, including the development of a new class of materials with sizes greater than 100 nanometers to create innovative technologies, with the ultimate goal of building a scientific base for large-scale production of nanoparticles.

Officially retired since 1999 after 39 years of service, McKelvey continued teaching in the chemical engineering department through the 2007-08 academic year. Under his leadership, the school rose to national prominence in engineering education. McKelvey was responsible for many innovations, including the Engineers' Scholarship Program, the Dual Degree Program and the Cooperative Education Program. In addition, he is known for being an early pioneer in the field of polymer processing.

McDonnell II is the retired chairman of McDonnell Douglas Corp. After retiring, he served as chairman of the board of trustees of Southern Methodist University and the University of Virginia, as well as the National Research Council. He and his wife, Anne, are Life Members of the William Greenhaw Eliot Society and Sustaining Charter Members of the Society of Danforth Circle. They also established a fund to support the University's development of a new engineering school.

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Architecture graduate student wins design prizes

By Liam Otten

A M. Lang, a master's student in architecture in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, was part of a team that recently took on a project to earn a graduate degree and secure a teaching position in the School of Engineering & Applied Science.

The project, "Reconnecting the Community: A New Community Design Center," was one of the three winners of the 2007-08 National Council of Schools of Architecture Design Competition (NCA) 2007 Annual Green Building Design Competition. The project featured judging in three categories: "Best Greenhouse Gas Reduction Projects in Three Subcategories," "Best Residential Design," and "Best Commercial Design." The project was judged based on a number of criteria, including "innovative design, budget, environmental sustainability, educational experience, and the ability to inspire change." The project was designed to reconnect the community through the creation of a new community design center, which would serve as a hub for community engagement and education.

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Mark S. Wrighton said, “Dr. Manary Washington University and colleague.”

The effects of anesthesia on human infants and young children have been debated among neuroscientists, but growing evidence suggests exposure to anesthetic drugs during brain development may contribute to behavioral and developmental delays.

The researchers previously had reported that when young animals were exposed to alcohol, anesthetics or anticonvulsants, the number of newborn neurons decreased and the connections between neurons were disrupted. “Further, he is an outstanding teacher in the Division of Neurology and Pediatrics,” Dr. Harriet B. Spoehrer, professor and head of department of pediatrics at Children’s Hospital.

“Mrs. Roberson’s contributions to this profound health issue,” Manary named the Helene B. Roberson Professor of Pediatrics.

BY BETH MILLER

Mark, Manary, M.D., has been named the Helene B. Roberson Professor of Pediatrics at the School of Medicine.

“Mark is an internationally recognized expert and advocate for severely malnourished children and has contributed significantly to the understanding of the effects of nutrition on brain development,” said Alan L. Schwartz, Ph.D., M.D., the Harrist B. Stocker Professor and head of pediatrics at Children’s Hospital, “and is an outstanding clinician, educator, citizen of Washington University and colleague.”

“Mark Manary is an outstanding clinical investigator, researcher and teacher,” Dr. M. Rohan Roberson, chancellor professor of pediatrics, “and has made significant contributions to understanding the mechanisms that can prevent disease in children.”

“The Wa...
Civil rights classic 'To Kill a Mockingbird' at Edison Jan. 9-18

By LAYT OTTEN

Since its publication in 1960, "To Kill a Mockingbird" has become the best-selling novel of all time and was famously adapted into a widely read book exploring race in the United States.

In January, Edison Theatre will join forces with Metro Theater Company, St. Louis' foremost professional troupe for young people, to stage an all-ages theatrical production of the civil rights classic.

"As we anticipate our new national leadership and cope with difficult local issues, 'To Kill a Mockingbird' strikes home with renewed relevance," says Charles E. Robin, executive director of Edison Theatre. "It is a story that resonates with ever deeper meaning and strength. Seeing it brought to life on the stage will unlock nuances in a way that only theatre can."

Performances, which take place at Edison Theatre Jan. 9-18, will be held in conjunction with the Big Read, a national program sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts designed to encourage and promote reading and discussion of a single book.

Set in 1935 in fictional Maycomb, Ala., "To Kill a Mockingbird" is a coming-of-age tale centering on Jean Louise "Scout" Finch; her older brother, Jem; and their father, Atticus.

Under the watchful eye of Georgia-born, Alabama-raised American housekeeper, the two young boys delve deeply into the conflicting theories about Boo Radley, a mysterious neighbor. But when Scout's father, the widowed lawyer Atticus Finch, is called to defend a black man falsely accused of raping a white woman, the bonds of family, and even civil society and Scout learns the true meaning of dignity and tolerance.

Nicholas Kryh as Atticus and Emily Jackoway as Scout in "To Kill a Mockingbird." (Photo credit: Michelle K. Albert)

"Harper Lee called her book a 'story of a strange, small town,'" said Bradley McDevitt, Artistic Director Card North, who directs the cast of 19. "It is that and much, much more. The enduring power of 'To Kill a Mockingbird' is its ability to touch the heart as well as awaken the conscience of readers. "For me, it's a call to action," North said. "We need only look at our own community to see how social inequality, racism and fear of the 'other,' continues to divide us. I'm so grateful for the partnership with Edison Theatre that makes it possible for Metro Theater Company to bring this powerful story to the stage for St. Louis."

The cast is led by Nicholas Kryh as Atticus and Bobbie Williams as Calpurnia. Double cast in the roles of the children are Berkley Going and Emily Jackoway as Scout; Hal Matthews and Jimmy McEvoy as Jem; and Parker Donovan and Trew Redington as Dill.

"With its appealing evocation of childhood and thoughtful call for tolerance and social justice, Harper Lee's 'To Kill a Mockingbird' is the rare American novel that can be discovered in adolescence yet continues to reach adult readers," says McDevitt.

In January, the book will serve as centerpiece of a National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read program. Modeled on successful "city read" programs, the Big Read is designed to encourage literary reading by helping communities come together to read and discuss a single book.

The purpose of The Big Read is "to put all the weight of literature into practice," said NEA Chair Dana Gioia. "Not necessarily an easy pleasure, but a deliciously rich and complex one. A good book combines enlightened with enchantment, awareness of our situation and enlarges our humanity."

"To Kill a Mockingbird"—coordinated by WUSTL in partnership with several local organizations—will feature dozens of readers, readings, art exhibits, theatrical productions, book discussions, film festivals and other events exploring the themes of Lee's novel. More than 20 sponsors and partner organizations, ranging from local government, bookstores, and cultural organizations to museums, bookstores and arts, literary and educational associations, will participate in the event.

Tickets to the show are $16, or $12 for children, students and seniors. Groups of 10 or more can purchase blocks of tickets at $8 each.

For more information, visit metrópolistheatre.com or eduentswift.sead bi.edu or call 935-6043.

Freedom From Smoking • First Glass • Neuronal Migration

Exhibits


Film

Thursday, Dec. 11

Lectures

Thursday, Dec. 11

University Events

Record hiatus

This is the final issue of the Record calendar year. We will resume publication Jan. 15, 2009. The Record staff wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

Wednesday, Jan. 14

Thursday, Jan. 15
8 p.m. Student Center Center Stage. Science Seminar Series. "Examination of the Alters: C. E. Matson. P. Neuman Education Center. 360-7450.

Monday, Jan. 18
4 p.m. Women's Science Seminar Series. "Neuronal Degeneration in Glaucoma. From Brain to Retina." David J. Calkins, assoc. prof, of ophthalmology and visual sciences, Vanderbilt Medical Center, Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-3315.

Tuesday, Dec. 16
11 a.m. Diatom & Environmental Systems Engineering Colloquium. "Visual Analysis in Perception and Simulation Applied to the Monkey," Lawrence Tychsen, prof, of Biological Sciences, Vanderbilt Medical Center. Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-3315.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

Thursday, Dec. 18

Thursday, Jan. 15
8 p.m. Student Center Center Stage. Science Seminar Series. "Examination of the Alters: C. E. Matson. P. Neuman Education Center. 360-7450.

Friday, Dec. 12
4 p.m. Student Center Center Stage. "New Questions in the Genetics of Development", Eric L. Hughes, assoc. prof, of molecular biology, Medial School, St. Louis. MDU. 935-6543.

On Stage

Friday, Jan. 9
7:30 p.m. Entertaining Events. "To Kill a Mockingbird." (Also 7:30 p.m. Jan. 10. 16, 17, 31.) Edison Theatre. 935-6543. For tickets, call 935-4407.

Sports

Saturday, Dec. 13
5 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. Fort Lewis. Wool Center. 362-7450.

Wednesday, Dec. 17
4 p.m. Men's Swimming and Diving vs. Lindenwood. U. of St. Louis. 935-6543.

Music Thursday, Dec. 11
8 p.m. Concert Hall. Guitar Gala. Graham Chapel. 935-6543.

And More

Saturday, Dec. 13
5:30-8 p.m. Student Center Center Stage. "Stamping, Shouting and Singing Home" at the Missouri History Museum. B. To R.S.V.P.: jilledwards@wustl.edu.

Thursday, Dec. 18

Wednesday, Dec. 17
9:30 a.m. Women's Faculty Reception. Eric L. Hughes, assoc. prof, of molecular biology, Medial School, St. Louis. MDU. 935-6543.
The Bears fell to tournament host Whitworth University, 73-68, Dec. 5 and then lost to Whitman College, 72-66, Dec. 6. Senior guard Halley Ward led WUSTL in the first loss with a season-high 17 points and tied her career-high with four three-point baskets. In the second game, junior Zoe Unruh led the team with a season-high 17 points and was named to the all-tournament team.
The Bears (4-3) return to action at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at the WU Field House, hosting Fontbonne University, then travel to Hanover, Ind., Dec. 19-20 to play in the Hanover College Blazer-Moyer Classic before the break. Their season resumes at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 5 against Webster University.

Swim teams have productive meet
A total of five school records were broken as the WUSTL men’s and women’s swim teams both grabbed a second-place finish at the Wheaton Invitational Dec. 5-6 in Wheaton, Ill. Junior Alex Beyer was the star for the men’s team, breaking three school records, setting three automatic NCAA qualifying times and four provisional marks. Freshman Karina Stridh broke a pair of school records for the women’s team, also making three NCAA “A” cuts and four provisional marks.
Beyer broke the WUSTL record in the 500-yard freestyle (4:28.73), the 200-yard freestyle (1:38.08) and the 400-yard individual medley (3:20.79).
Stridh’s school-record-breaking performances came in the 100-yard freestyle (1:19.18) and the 50-yard freestyle (23.56). She also set an automatic NCAA time of 57.32 in the 100-yard back stroke.
The final NCAA qualifying tally for the weekend was six automatic times and 30 provisional cuts. Both the men’s and women’s teams had three automatic qualifying times, with the men posting 16 NCAA “A” cuts and the women submitting three NCAA “A” cuts and four provisional marks.

The Wheaton Invitational was the last competition for the fall semester. Both teams return to the pool Jan. 5 against Webster University.

Women’s basketball drops two on road
The top-ranked sisters basketball team won the 25th Annual Loppata Classic with two victories last weekend at home. The Bears have now won 20 straight Loppata Classic games and 15 overall tournament titles.
Five Bears scored double figures to lead the team to an 86-57 victory over Hamline College in the first game Dec. 5. Senior Tyler Nading recorded his second double-double of the season with 16 points and 10 rebounds and moved into third place on the all-time steals list with 135. Freshman Dylan Richter pumped in a career-high 11 points, while sophomore Caleb Koepfer also added 11 off the bench. Senior Sean Wallis added 10 points, while freshman Alex Thiel had career-best 10 points.
In the second game Dec. 6, Nading had a game-high 20 points and added nine rebounds as WUSTL posted a 93-86 victory over No. 8 Illinois Wesleyan University.
Nading was 7-of-13 from the field and 5-of-7 from the free throw line, moving past Jim Barton (1954-57) into 11th on the all-time scoring list with 1,223 career points. Junior Aaron Thrush added a career-high 10 assists, while Richter also scored in double figures with a career-high 15 points.
WUSTL shot 56.7 percent (34-60) from the field for the game and 11-of-13 (84.6 percent) from three-point range. The Bears outrebounded the Titans, 33-29, and hit 47.8 percent (11-23) from behind the three with the starting five scoring 86 of the team’s points.

Danforth Campus

Brauer Hall
The building has been a LEED green building. Monthly LEED meetings will be held.
Busch Hall renovation
Work continues on the rough-ins, plumbing, fire protection and the HVAC.

South 40 Umbrath Hall replacement
The reconfiguration of the project scope and budget has been concluded. The trench drain was installed for a final project panel. Workers will start building panels in mid-December.

South 40 utilities
The contractor has completed the excavation of the chiller site and is cutting in footings. The north and west side footing excavation was completed in November. Final plans for the chiller plant must now be finalized for the bid to subcontractors. New boilers are in operation to provide heat to the South 40 residence halls.

Wohl Center replacement
The reconstruction of the project scope and budget has been completed. Concrete work continues. The LEEED team is working to achieve a target silver LEED rating.

GEP

Students gain sense of ownership in research from Page 1

other members of the WUSTL community provide guest lectures to illustrate how they have used genomic approaches to answer diverse questions in their own research.

Elgin’s course was so successful that she became one of eight professors to have their original NSH grant funding renewed in 2006. With that support, she set out to make the course available to undergraduates at institutions across the country.

Elgin is a GEP faculty member at WUSTL often bring their research by spending a summer in the laboratory under the guidance of a faculty, graduate student or post-doctoral research mentor.

However, the privilege of a summer research experience is unusual at many institutions due to inadequate facilities, limited funding, high student-to-faculty ratios and a lack of experienced research-active mentors.

Elgin courses overcomes these barriers by providing students with computer-based research opportunities.

This strategy minimizes the cost of research materials because the necessary data is freely available on the Web, and most institutions already possess adequate computer facilities.

Mentoring is also economized by teaching students the same electronic tools and strategies in a group setting and by relieving other faculty from teaching assistant responsibilities (TAs).

Our GEP faculty member provide research opportunities for a much larger number of students than would be possible in traditional, one-on-one mentoring relationships. GEP faculty and TAs learn the relevant software during summer workshops at WUSTL.

Our GEP faculty is an impressive group,” Elgin said. “Each member has taken the basic format and adapted it to the requirements of their institution and the needs of their students. Their energy and enthusiasm are terrific.”

The GEP approach makes offering a research-based course a viable option for institutions of all types. Students in the program are currently working on a computer graphics problem that focuses on genes in a heterochromatic, or tightly packed, region of the DNA.

This is going to be used in the Oct. 31 issue of Science in an article recently published in Science. Elgin maintains that students can’t truly understand the scientific process until they have conducted their own research.

This assertion is supported by an article recently published in the Oct. 31 issue of Science in which Elgin and her colleagues present results from an exit survey of students who participated in GEP’s course without research experience.

The evidence suggests that the GEP provides students with a more comprehensive learning experience than traditional, lecture-based courses.

The results also reveal that the GEP course is comparable to a summer research experience in terms of its capacity to help students prepare for a career in science.

According to Elgin, the success of the GEP can be partially attributed to students’ sense of ownership in research.

“It makes a huge difference to students when you tell them, ‘You’re responsible for this. This is your project. You’re going to go in the databases. This is going to be used by different scientists. Do it right.’”

SARAH C.R. ELGIN

Construc tion Update

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

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Cancer
Alcohol, tobacco use
risk — from Page 1

The use of smoke and smoke-
less tobacco products and exces-
sive consumption of alcohol in-
creases a person’s chances of head
and neck cancer, and some studies
have shown that together the use of
alcohol and tobacco increases the
risk by more than 50%. 

Recently, head and neck cancer specialists have no-
ticed that the success of the total
and back of the throat is increasingly
linked to human papilloma virus,
the same virus responsible for
neatly all cervical cancers.

The researchers reviewed the
medical records of 185 patients
with squamous cell carcinoma of
the oral cavity, throat and larynx
who were treated in 1997 and ‘98
at Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

Comorbid ailments in these
patients included heart attack,
coronary artery disease, tumors
other than the primary tumor,
psychiatric disease, lung disease,
stroke, diabetes and alcohol abuse.
Many of these disorders can be
traced to smoking or alcohol
consumption — the same behav-
iors that may contribute to the
occurrence of head and neck

cancer, said Piccirillo.

The study showed that 33
percent of the head and
neck cancer patients developed
new comorbidities or a worsening
of existing comorbid ailments in
the time following their initial
diagnosis and treatment. Patients
with severe comorbidities during
the follow-up period on average
died with 6.7 times greater risk

of the most common comor-
bidities patients received after
diagnosis were malign-
ant tumors of the lung, head
and neck, breast or original
tumor and psychiatric illnesses.
These are the ailments patients
received, whether it was
chemotherapy, radiation therapy,
surgery or a combination of these,
made no difference in the num-
ber of comorbid ailments.

The added risk of comorbid
ailments is very important to
the 11 million U.S. residents
who have been treated for cancer
d and have survived.

"When getting better at
cancer care, we see an
exponential increase in the
number of cancer survivors," said
Puccio.

"Survivors have begun
to realize that the medical profession has not paid
towards recovering from
cancer of cancer and cancer
treatment.

GIFT
Bed-to-bench research model ‘best hope’
— from Page 1

As a physician, William Danforth knows what an impor-
tant front these terrible conditions present in the battle for improved
health and longevity," said Larry I. Shapiro, M.D., executive vice
chancellor of medical affairs and
dean of the School of Medicine.
The Danforth Foundation’s gen-
eral new gift to increase the
bench-to-bench research model
will speed cancer research, Shapiro
said. The foundation is the largest
funder of cancer research through its
Biomed 21 program as one of the best
ways to help prevent and cure
diseases.

"This gift in honor of my
brother, Don, means a lot to the
Danforth family and the Danforth
Institute of Medical Research," who is a member of the founda-
tion board. "We all have great hope for this wonderful scientific leaders of the Hope Center will help halt and
prevent ALS and similar devastat-
ing diseases."

The Hope Center helps sup-
port the studies of more than
50 faculty and 500 scientists with
shared research facilities and
annual distribution of seed grants.
Obituary

Barry, first-year student in Arts & Sciences, 19

Elizabeth K. Barry, a first-year student in Arts & Sciences, died Dec. 8 in her room in Rebholz-House residence hall, Barry, of Homewood, Ill., van 19.

The St. Louis County Medical Examiner's report said that examinations performed Dec. 9 revealed that Barry said there were no signs of foul play and no signs of meningitis or other illnesses. Further tests will be performed, and it may take six weeks for a final determination.

Barry, a 2009 graduate of Homewood-Flossmoor Community High School, was a member of the University student body and had participated in Leadership Through Service, a program that involves community service, leadership training and work-study projects. She recently signed up for evening classes in the University’s Artesian Park and was planning to major in political science.

The University extends its condolences to her family, friends and classmates. said James E. Lord, vice chancellor for students and dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. “The death of a member of the University community is a tragic loss, and the University is offering counseling to those affected by her passing.”

For assistance, students may contact their resident advisor or make a call to the Center for Health and Wellness Center during this difficult time. (See location on campus map.)

Visitation for Barry will be from 3 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Ryan Funeral Home, 1822 Dixie Highway, Flossmoor, Ill., 60439. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at St. Joseph Church, 1795 Dixie Highway, in Flossmoor.

We extend our sympathy to the family, friends and classmates, said Lord, “Barry was a bright young woman who was making the most of her college experience.”
Sutera's leadership lifts engineering to new levels

Salvatore P. Sutera, Ph.D., interim dean of the School of Engineering & Applied Science and senior professor of biomedical engineering, talks with senior biomedical engineering major Lora Cordova.

Sutera, who has been at WUSTL for 40 years, says his life as a dean is challenging and exhilarating, and he that "enjoying getting to know so many distinguished and interesting people, colleagues, alumni and, of course, so many talented students and their parents."

"When I find out that he was going to be the dean of engineer- ing, my heart sang within me," Peters says. "I know that he would be the perfect one to take our school onto new levels. He is that perfect knight."

Italian Francophile

Sutera's wife, Celia, met at Cal Tech and have three daughters: Martina, 32; Clodagh, 27; and Fionnuala, 24.

"Celia and I are enjoying getting to know so many distinguished people, colleagues, alumni and, of course, so many talented students and their parents," Sutera says.

"Washington University was very attractive to me because of its fine medical school. It wasn't long after arriving here that I was part of joint grants with professors in chemical engineering and radi- otherapy surgery. Later on, I found great satisfaction in the field of hematology, internal medicine and pathology.

"I enjoyed a really good, long, 25-year run in research funded mostly by the National Institutes of Health," he says. "Most of my collaborators are now retired from research, so I just love that I'm keeping active as an administra- tor."