Teach For America founder Kopp to deliver Commencement address

Wendy Kopp, founder and chief executive officer of Teach For America — the national corps of outstanding college graduates who commit to teach for at least two years in some of the country's highest-need schools — has been selected to give the 2009 Commencement address, according to Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

The University's 148th Commencement will begin at 8:30 a.m. May 15 in Brookings Quadrangle on the Danforth Campus. Wendy Kopp is an inspiring person who represents not only our school but ourselves. She has the ability and creativity to make a positive difference in the world,” Wrighton said. "Advancing education in the United States is an important imperative, and we are very well rewarded that the founder of Teach For America has agreed to be our commencement speaker.”

Kopp, who gave an Assembly Series talk at WUSTL in March 2006, will receive an honorary doctorate of humanities degree during the ceremony.

Kopp proposed the creation of Teach For America in her Princeton University undergraduate thesis.

She was convinced that in her generation were in a unique position to assume a significant responsibility that would make a real difference in the world and help top college students would choose teaching over more lucrative opportunities if a prominent teacher corps existed.

As a 21-year-old, Kopp raised $2.5 million of start-up funding, hired a skeleton staff and launched a grass-roots recruitment campaign. During Teach For America's first year in 1990, 500 men and women, selected from 2,500 applicants, began teaching in six low-income communities across the country. Since then, 20,000 individuals have participated in Teach For America, impacting the lives of approximately 5 million students.

Teach For America trains more teachers for low-income communities than any other organization or institution in the nation, and it has been recognized for building a pipeline of leaders committed to educational equity and excellence.

Teach For America recruits outstanding college seniors and recent graduates of all majors and career interests as well as working professionals. It invests in the training and professional development necessary to ensure their success as teachers in the country's highest-need urban and rural communities.

During the 2008-09 school year, more than 6,200 corps members taught in 1,600 schools in 29 states that are profoundly affected by the academic achievement gap, reaching approximately 400,000 students. Teach For America received more than 35,000 applications for the 2009 teaching corps — a 42 percent increase over last year's record numbers.

More than 14,000 Teach For America alumni continue working from inside and outside the field of education to level the playing field for children and families in communities.

Nearly two-thirds of Teach For America alumni remain in education, almost half of them as classroom teachers.

In addition, more than 340 alumni school leaders reach more than 330,000 students each year, while 21 alumni have founded and continue to lead some of our country's most innovative nonprofits.

Kopp also serves as chief executive officer of Teach For All, which supports the development of Teach For America's model in other countries.

WUSTL students are applying in increasing numbers to Teach For America; applications from seniors are up. Five hundred percent.
Campus community to donate hair for good cause
By Neil Schoenborn
Washington University Locks of Love will join forces with St. Louis’ D-Zine Hair & Art Studio on April 11 for a haircut event supporting children affected by disease-related hair loss.
The event will take place from 1 to 7 p.m. in the Danforth University Center.
Locks of Love is a national organization that makes wigs for children who have cancer or other incurable diseases. For those wishing to donate 10 inches of hair or more, the cuts are free. All other haircuts will be $20.

LGBT leadership honor named for Holobaugh
By Neil Schoenborn
In 2007, he received the gold award from Royal Aeronautical Society of United Kingdom, among the Five awards in the world. In 2018, he received AIAA Awards from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) — the highest national technical award given in aeronady. He also received the William Littlewood Award — a joint award from AIAA and the Society of Automotive Engineers.

By Felicia Chaves

Depression
Giving people tools to reorient thinking — from Page 1

"People with depression often suffer from cognitive distortions," Sheline said. "This is the thinking that leads from the idea of 'I'm sad' to the conclusion 'I am a bad person.' Cog- nitive behavior therapy gets people to fight against that kind of thinking and reorient themselves. It's a way to help them fight against depression."

As she continues this re- search, Sheline is looking at the brains of depressed people following treatment with antidepressant drugs. Preliminary results suggest that their default network function improved.

Rachelle Sheline

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The enclosing of the BJC Institute of Health at Washington University in brick, limestone and glass is under way and should be completed this month. The concrete has been poured for what will be the Institute’s plaza and streetscape. The School of Medicine laboratory facilities are being designed to be open to facilitate teamwork and cooperation. A two-story lobby with a glass entryway will lead into the building. The Barnes-Jewish Hospital floors will be left as flexible shell space for the hospital to develop in the future. The concrete has been poured for what will become a scenic plaza for medical center staff and patients and the general community to enjoy. Crows are putting the finishing touches on the service road, which will feed from Taylor Avenue to the underground loading docks. For the remainder of 2009, work will shift to finishing the interior as well as to building the plaza and streetscape. The School of Medicine laboratories are designed to be open to facilitate teamwork and cooperation. A two-story lobby with a glass entryway will lead into the building. The Barnes-Jewish Hospital floors will be left as flexible shell space for the hospital to develop in the future.

Health Happening wellness fair to be held April 9 and 10

School of Medicine employees can take advantage of a variety of screenings and information at Health Happening 09 at the Eric P. Newman Education Center.

The event will be held Thursday, April 9, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday, April 10, from 7 a.m. to noon.

Employees will have the opportunity to get blood pressure, blood glucose and glaucoma screenings; a foot and shoe assessment; breast and skin cancer screening; and mammogram appointments.

Representatives from the School of Medicine will be available to answer questions about their plans, and representatives from fitness centers will be on site with free samples and information.

Other services will include: WUSTL health-care professionals will be on site to answer employees’ health questions. WUSTL employees will have the opportunity to get blood pressure, blood glucose and glaucoma screenings; a foot and shoe assessment; breast and skin cancer screening; and mammogram appointments.

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Other services will include: WUSTL health-care professionals will be on site to answer employees’ health questions.
Two WUSTL a cappella groups featured on Ben Folds album
BY NEIL SCHOENHERR
Two WUSTL a cappella singing groups have been selected for an upcoming album recording by pop music singer and pianist Ben Folds.

Folds, who has been putting together a group of musicians and students to record songs for his new album, decided to go through with this project after receiving an e-mail from Folds saying the project would go on, even though many of the students who sang on the 2006 Ben Folds Project album had graduated but came back to WUSTL at Folds' request to record the song alongside current members of the groups.

Both groups recorded with Folds in December at the University of Missouri's Music Building. Miller said Folds was looking for a raw sound for the recording and used various microphones and equipment.

Foils is best known as the leader of the pop trio Ben Folds Five but also has a significant career as a solo artist. "This album is not a novelty," he said on his Web site. "I consider this my new record. I'm incredibly proud of this. If this were Ben Folds, this would be my greatest hits album."

The album will be available for preorder on Amazon.com. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the Mosaic Foundation.
Lehman to speak for Writing Program Reading Series

Poet David Lehman, Ph.D., editor of The Best American Poetry series, will read from his new book at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 2, for The Writing Program in Arts & Sciences.

The talk — part of The Writing Program Reading Series — is free and open to the public and will take place in Dunham Hall, Room 201, Hart-Long Lounge. A reception and book signing will immediately follow.

Lehman's collection of poems include "The Last Avant-Garde: The Making of the New York School of Poets" (1998), which was named a "Book of the Month" by the New York Public Library; "The Big Question" (1995); "The Line Formed" (1992); and "Signs of the Times: Deconstruction and the New Paul de Man" (1991). His study of detective novels, "The Perfect Murder" (1988), was nominated for an Edgar Award from the Mystery Writers of America.

Born in New York City in 1940, Lehman graduated from Columbia University and attended Cambridge University in England as a Kellett Fellow before earning a doctorate in English from Columbia University. He is associate professor of writing and poetry at the New School.

For more information, e-mail David Schuman at dschuman@wustl.edu or call 935-7130.

Martin to deliver Biggs Lecture for Assembly Series

Richard Martin, Ph.D., the 2009 John and Elporta Biggs Resi- dent in the Classics, will deliver the inaugural John H. Biggs, M.D., Lecture at 4 p.m. April 9 in Steinberg Auditorium.

His talk will center on his approach to Homeric poetry and how he conceptualizes it as written text — as opposed to the way that we conceive it as an oral tradition.

Martin will present an overview of current Homeric research, then discuss his own field work in ancient Greek poetry with modern and classical philology.

Martin is a senior fellow at the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington, D.C., and a member of the American Philosophical Association. Among his numerous publications are "Myths of the Early Greeks" (2003), "The Language of Heroes: Speech and Performance in the Iliad" (1999), "Healing, Sacrifice, and Battle: Amaranth" (1983) and "Related Concepts in Early Greek Poetry" (1983).

Martin also edited a colloquium titled "Apollo the Player" at 4:15 p.m. Monday, April 6, in the Women's Building Formal Lounge.

All events are free and open to the public.

For more information, call 935-5123 or visit assemblyseries.wustl.edu.

Sports

Postseason honors for men's basketball

After leading the men's basketball team to its second consecutive NCAA Division III national title, head coach Mark Edwards has been named the National Association of Basketball Coaches' (NABC) and Molten/DII News Division III National Coach of the Year.

Edwards will receive his NABC award Sunday, April 5, in Detroit in an awards show to be televised on the CBS College Sports Network Monday, April 6, at 6 p.m.

He will receive the coveted Molten Gold Trophy to recognize his DII News Coach of the Year honors at a later date.

Three players picked up postseason honors as well. Junior guard Aaron Thompson, senior forward Tyler Nadling and senior point guard Sean Wallis all were named to DII News All-America teams. Thompson picked up first-team honors, Nadling was named to the fourth team, and Wallis earned honorable mention.

WUSTL to host WBCA All-America Game

The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) High School All-America Game will take place at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 11, at the WU Field House.

The game takes place in conjunc- tion with the WBCA National Convention and the WBCA Women's Final Four in St. Louis April 9 and 7.

Tickets for the event are $15 and can be purchased at ticketweb.com.

Celebration of champions April 15

The Department of Athletics will hold a Celebration of Champions at 7 p.m. April 15 in the WU Field House.

The University's national championship basketball team will be recognized, along with the second-place women's basketball team. WUSTL will also be honoring junior swimmer Alex Bey, who won the NCAA Division III national championship in the 400 IM, other members of the swimming team and sophomore Ben Harmon of the men's indoor track and field team.

Tickets will be included in the price of admission to the national championship trophy and another event.

Music

Thursday, April 2


Wednesday, April 1

8 p.m. in Kemper Presents Concert Series. Slipknot. Kemper Arena. 903-4353.

Thursday, April 2

8 p.m. Jazz at Women. Joe Shapiro Quartet. Darlington University Center, Formal Lounge. 903-5968.

Friday, April 10

8 p.m. in Kemper Presents Concert Series. FRO DOG. Kemper Arena. 903-4353.

Saturday, April 11

7 p.m. Senior Voice Recital. Jay O'Brien. Wash U Field House. 903-5066.

And More

Thursday, April 2

4 p.m. Department of Public Service Posters Session & Ceremony. "Year of Hope," a student poster exhibit. Richardson Art & Architecture Center, Hancher Auditorium.

Friday, April 3

Note: 4 p.m. Medics in Medicine Symposium. Open to the public. Posters viewing. Farley Learning & Teaching Center, Farrell Lounge.

Monday, April 6

8 a.m.-9 p.m. School of Engineering and Applied Science Expo. Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Center for Research and Innovation.

11 a.m.-7 p.m. Locals of Love. Charity fundraiser benefiting the University's Center for Rare Diseases, Barnum Hall. For more information, see kgarcia-wustl.wustl.edu.

Saturday, April 11

10 a.m. WU's Women's Tennis vs. Chicago. Taub Tennis Center. 903-4755.

5:30 p.m. Women's Tennis vs. Carthage College. Taub Tennis Center. 903-4755.

Monday, April 13

3 p.m. Coaches vs. Cancer Basketball Game. Taub Tennis Center.

Tuesday, April 14

12 p.m. Women's Tennis vs. St. Louis. Taub Tennis Center. 903-4755.

Wednesday, April 15

4 p.m. softball vs. Maryville. Taub Tennis Center. 903-4755.
Crain installed as Rutledge Professor

BY JESSICA MARTIN

Marion G. Crain, J.D., was installed as the Wiley B. Rutledge Professor of Law March 30 in the Bryan Cave moot courtroom in Anheuser-Busch Hall.

Crain serves on the editorial board of the Employee Rights and Employment Policy Journal, a peer-reviewed journal focusing on labor and employment law.

Prior to joining the law faculty in 2008, Crain was the Paul Eaton Research Professor of Law and director of the Center on Poverty, Work & Opportunity at the University of North Carolina.

Crain holds faculty positions at West Virginia University and University of California, Los Angeles.

Crain earned her first degree in social work at Cornell University and a law degree at the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law.

Marion G. Crain, J.D., at her installation in the Bryan Cave Moot Courtroom as the Wiley B. Rutledge Professor of Law March 30.
Igor Marjanovic receives national education award

By LAM OTTEN

The Basilica di Santa Maria del Fiore, popularly known as the Duomo, is an icon of Florence and one of Europe’s largest churches, famous for the massive dome roof designed by Filippo Brunelleschi. Yet, perhaps surprisingly, the structure — built between 1296 and 1436 — also boasts several attributes that today are associated with sustainable architectural design.

Last week, the class earned Marjanovic a national Education Honor Award from the American Institute of Architects. One of five grantees for 2009, the award was given March 27 during the annual meeting of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) in Portland, Ore.

“Contemporary issues always have a historical trajectory,” Marjanovic said. “Many Renaissance buildings were built with careful consideration of criticism and building layout in order to conserve energy and maximum ventilation. Today, one can see many parallels. Thus, our contemporary concerns for sustainability can have a longer history.”

It was 1936, the year of the Berlin Olympics. Fans of the work of Brunelleschi’s generation of designers were coming to see the modern architecture of the buildings. In the United States, the ideas of the Italian architect were seen as more relevant than ever. Marjanovic agreed.

Obituaries

Sparks, professor, 78

Robert Sparks, Ph.D., professor, biomolecular research and international education, died March 21, 2009, of acute leukemia. He was 78.

Born in Marshall, Mo., Sparks grew up in Independence, Mo., and earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

He served at the Army Chemical Center in Edgewood, Md., during the Korean War and in 1960, graduated from Johns Hopkins University where he was named a research professor in engineering.

After three years working for Exxon, he joined the faculty at Case Western Reserve University. In 1972, he became director of the Biological Transport Laboratory at Washington University.

He left Washington University in 1994 and founded Particle and Biological Transport Laboratory at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research interests include the design and synthesis of novel compounds, structure and function of proteins, and design, medicinal chemistry and biopharmaceuticals.

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Champion of the heart

Lawton committed to promoting awareness of heart disease in women

Jennifer S. Lawton

Joined the WUSTL faculty in: August 2001

Research funding: American Heart Association Beginning Grant-in-Aid; and the Thoracic Surgery Foundation for Research and Education New Star Breast and Cardiac Development Award, a prestigious national award for promoting female cardiac surgeons

Awards: The Caring Spirit Award in 2005 from St. Louis Pitchfork, the Missouri Nurses Foundation's 2007 Nurses of the Year Award, and the Missouri Nurses Association's 2009 National Nurses Week Adelphi Award

Jennifer S. Lawton, M.D., talks with Nader Moazami, M.D., in the intensive care unit about a patient's progress. "Jennifer has established herself as a champion for women with cardiovascular disease," says Michael K. Pasque, M.D. "She has the knowledge, the credentials and the energy to take this fight to the appropriate public forums. These are our mothers, our wives, our sisters and our daughters. It is the noblest of causes, and she is the most able and dedicated of advocates on the behalf of women."

Lawton, 47, came to St. Louis from Pennsylvania in 2001 to join the department of cardiothoracic surgery, "One of the leading cardiac surgeons in the world," and to work with Ralph J. Damiano Jr., M.D., the John M. Shoenberg Professor of Surgery and professor of surgery in the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery. "Women are two times more likely than men to die from heart surgery, and, every year, heart disease kills more women than all cancers combined," although Lawton is committed to lessening the impact of heart disease on both women and men, she is especially concerned by differences in heart care between women and men. "There are so many disparities with women who have heart disease," Lawton says. "It starts when women come to the hospital with a heart attack. It takes longer for them to be admitted and longer to be diagnosed. And they are less likely to get the treatment they need."

Lawton serves on the volunteer board of the American Heart Association in St. Louis and is part of its speakers bureau. She grants interviews and gives lectures around the St. Louis area to teach people about heart disease in women.

"Jennifer has established herself as a champion for women with cardiovascular disease," says colleague Michael K. Pasque, M.D., professor of cardiovascular surgery. "She has the knowledge, the credentials and the energy to take this fight to the appropriate public forums. These are our mothers, our wives, our sisters and our daughters. It is the noblest of causes, and she is the most able and dedicated of advocates on the behalf of women."

"And she has a truly extra-ordinary work ethic that stands out even in a division that is already populated with work ethic," he says.

Heart studies

Lawton also runs a research laboratory. The research team is studying isolated heart cells to find out how to better protect the heart from stress during surgery. By exposing individual heart cells to stress levels that are associated with salt conditions, researchers can determine what happens to cell function under abnormal conditions.

Lawton has found that under stress conditions heart cells swell and lose some of their ability to contract. This also happens after heart surgery and is known as postoperative stunning. In isolated heart cells, swelling and contraction problems also occur when the cells are exposed to stress. To stop Nader Moazami, M.D., associate professor of surgery and chief of cardiac transplantation and the total artificial heart program at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, "we believed that the best way to stop the heart or to the solution used to preserve hearts, "Lawton says. "The drugs might even improve the outcome for people suffering a heart attack."

The logical choice

Lawton attended medical school at Hahnemann University in Philadelphia. A class in human anatomy opened her eyes to her future career. "I loved the gross anatomy class," she says. "And then when I first did surgery, I felt like I belonged there."

"Lawton was attracted to heart surgery because the physiology of the heart appealed to her. Basically, the heart is a pump, and it works by some fairly simple principles, she says.

"With the heart, there are problems that you can think through with logic," she says.

After medical school, Lawton went to the Medical College of Virginia for her general surgery residency and became assistant fellow in Damiano's laboratory. She and Damiano later gathered again at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, where Lawton did her high thoracic-fellowship.

"After law school, I came to see what you can do with the heart as a discipline," she says.

During her fellowship, Lawton was attracted to heart surgery because the physiology of the heart appealed to her. "With the heart, there are problems that you can think through with logic," she says.

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