Washington University School of Medicine Digital Commons@Becker

Washington University Record

Washington University Publications

11-29-2007

Washington University Record, November 29, 2007

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.wustl.edu/record

Recommended Citation

"Washington University Record, November 29, 2007" (2007). *Washington University Record*. Book 1127. http://digitalcommons.wustl.edu/record/1127

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Washington University Publications at Digital Commons@Becker. It has been accepted for inclusion in Washington University Record by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Becker. For more information, please contact engeszer@wustl.edu.



National political spotlight to shine again on WUSTL 2008 vice presidential debate Oct. 2 marks fifth selection by CPD

Galling it "one of the great traditions of Washington University," Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton announced during a news conference Nov. 19 that the University will host the 2008 vice presidential debate, scheduled for 8 p.m. Oct. 2.

This is the fifth consecutive time the University has been selected by the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) to host a debate. Washington University is the only institution to host more than two debates.

In 1992, the University hosted the first three-candidate presidential debate in CPD history, was selected to host a presidential debate in 1996 that eventually was canceled, hosted the third and last presidential debate of the 2000 campaign season and the second of three presidential debates before the 2004 election.

"It is a privilege to once again play an important role in the American electoral process and to be chosen from among 19 applicants to be one of the hosts and the site of the only vice presidential debate for the 2008 election season," Wrighton said during the news conference at the Field House, which by next October will be transformed into a debate site.

The debate will focus on both domestic and foreign policy and will be administered by a single moderator.

"These one-of-a-kind events are great experiences for our students, they contribute to a national understanding of important issues, and they allow us to bring national and international attention to our great community," Wrighton said.

All tickets to attend the debate are assigned by the CPD. As was done in 1992, 2000 and 2004, any debate tickets that may be assigned to the University will be distributed only to full-time students, who will be selected in a University-wide lottery, Wrighton said.

Students also will have the opportunity to volunteer to become involved with the debate as well

Washington University in St. Louis

COMMISSION (

PRESID

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton announces the University's selection as the site for the Oct. 2, 2008, vice presidential debate. With him in the Field House of the Athletic Complex — where the debate will be held — are Jennifer Sisto, speaker of the Congress of the South 40, and Neil Patel, Student Union president.

as take part in the political conversations that surround such an event.

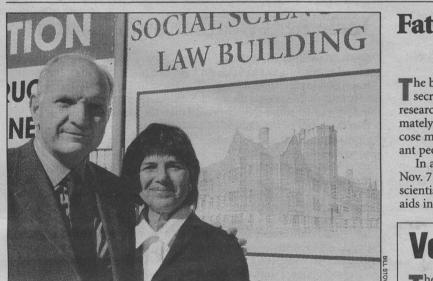
The debate "is going to be a part of the campus culture," said Jennifer Sisto, a sophomore bioengineering major and speaker of the Congress of the South 40. "Students will become more involved in discussions outside of the debate itself, and clearly after the debate there will be a lot of reaction around campus." Neil Patel, a senior in Arts & Sciences and Student Union pre

Sciences and Student Union president, remembers the impact the 2004 debate had on both him and the campus. That fall, Patel, then a freshman, decided he would major in political science rather than business.

"The current events at the time and the debate just brought out an interest that I didn't have before," he said. "The debate is just one day, but the debate arena, the hype around it, lasts for weeks. It's in the paper. On your way to class, you see public figures.

"Living in St. Louis, it's more difficult to get involved in national politics than it would be living in D.C.," he said. "Having the debate here is like dropping D.C. in the middle of St. Louis." Both Sisto and Patel participated in the news conference.

The University again is offering the same facilities that were made available for the 1992, 1996, See **Debate**. Page 6



Fat cells send message that aids insulin secretion

By Gwen Ericson

The body's fat cells help the pancreas do its job of secreting insulin, according to School of Medicine research. This previously unrecognized process ultimately could lead to new methods to improve glucose metabolism in type 2 diabetic or insulin-resistant people.

In a study using laboratory mice, published in the Nov. 7 issue of Cell Metabolism, School of Medicine scientists report that fat cells release a protein that aids insulin secretion from pancreatic beta cells, which are the sole source of insulin. The protein is an enzyme that the pancreatic cells themselves produce in only minimal amounts. The enzyme works to enhance glucose-stimulated insulin secretion from pancreatic beta cells.

Insulin helps the body process blood sugar (glucose), and those with type 2 diabetes have a deficiency of insulin or a resistance to its effects. More than 7 million people in the United States are living with a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes, and many more are undiagnosed.

See Cells, Page 6

Volleyball team wins ninth national title

The WUSTL volleyball team defeated the University

Harry and Susan Seigle visited campus last month and surveyed the progress of the building that will bear their names.

Seigles provide major commitment for social sciences/law building Seigle Hall to be dedicated in fall 2008

BY BARBARA REA

A \$10 million commitment has University by alumnus and philanthropist Harry Seigle and his wife, Susan, according to Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. It is the lead gift for the building currently under construction on the western end of the Danforth Campus that will serve academic functions for the three social science departments in Arts & Sciences and for the School of Law.

The Boston-based architectural firm Kallmann McKinnell & Wood designed the Collegiate Gothic facility. It will occupy 145,736 square feet and contain 14 classrooms, the most of any Danforth Campus building. When it opens for the fall 2008

When it opens for the fall 2008 semester, it will be known as

Harry and Susan Seigle Hall. The name is significant, for it represents the first academic building on the Danforth Campus to be named for an alumnus living outside of St. Louis.

"When considered alone, Harry and Susan Seigle's commitment for our new building is a significant contribution to the future of this University," Wrighton said. "When considered as the most recent of a series of major gifts to this institution, it is an extraordinary show of support. We are incredibly fortunate to receive their generous gifts."

Wrighton is referring to the large number of gifts supporting programs, scholarships, facilities and, in 2005, a professorship in Arts & Sciences that have been given over the years by the Seigles. See Seigles, Page 6 ■ of Wisconsin-Whitewater, 3-2, to win the NCAA Div. III Championship in Bloomington, Ill., Nov. 17. The title is the team's NCAA-best ninth and its first since the 2003 season.

Head coach Rich Luenemann, who won his 900th match as a collegiate head coach earlier in the NCAA tournament, won the second NCAA title of his career. Afterward, the team celebrated on the court along with fans who made the 3-hour drive to Bloomington, including Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

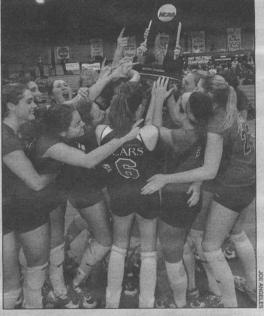
Senior outside hitter Haleigh Spencer and junior setter Audra Janak were named to the NCAA All-Tournament Team. Junior outside hitter Alli Alberts earned NCAA Championship MVP honors.

En route to the championship, the Bears defeated five teams ranked in the American Volleyball Coaches Association top 15 and in each of the final three rounds defeated a team they have lost to earlier in the year. The Bears defeated University Athletic Association (UAA) rival No. 3 Emory University, 3-1, in the quarterfinal Nov. 15 and top-ranked and previously unbeaten Wittenberg University, 3-1, in the semifinal Nov. 16.

The Bears ended the season on a six-match winning streak, with their last loss coming to Emory, 3-2, in the UAA championship Nov. 3.

What made the title all the sweeter is that the team had a rough start, beginning the season with a 7-4 record. However, the Bears would lose only one more match — against Emory in the UAA championship en route to the title.

"You have to understand how proud I am of this team," Luenemann said. "This group has worked



The Bears hoist the championship trophy.

harder than any team that I have ever coached. We were not a strong team at the beginning of the year, but we came into practice, worked hard at getting better and fought through it. If any team is deserving of winning a national championship, it is this group."

For a slide show of the celebration go to record.wustl.edu/news/page/normal/10615.html.

3 2201 20348 7109

University exceeds United Way goal \$571,064 raised as of Nov. 19

"Our success as an

institution in raising

money for the needs

of St. Louis speaks to

the truly generous

spirit of the

community."

MARK S. WRIGHTON

By JESSICA DAUES

housands in the St. Louis community will benefit from the generosity of Washington University's faculty, staff and retirees.

The University has raised \$571,064 in its United Way of Greater St. Louis campaign, surpassing its stated goal of \$555,000.

"Our success as an institution in raising money for the needs of

St. Louis speaks to the truly generous spirit of the Washington University communi-ty," said Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. "I am grateful to all of those in our community who chose to make a contribution during this year's United Way campaign.' The Universi-

ty's campaign kicked off in September and

reached its targeted dollar amount in early November, just as the United Way of Greater St. Louis celebrated its recordbreaking, \$68.8 million drive.

"Every year, the University community steps up its efforts to support United Way-funded agencies, and 2007 has been no exception," said Ann Prenatt, vice chancellor for human resources

"The United Way and the Uni-

versity are grateful to faculty, staff and retirees who opened their hearts and wallets to help others these past few months," she said.

"I also would like to thank the campaign leaders and volunteers for their hard work and support of this campaign," Prenatt said.

Although the University has reached its goal, it will continue to accept pledges throughout the year. Faculty and staff members who would like a pledge card should contact Lisa Caress at

935-6087 or caresslisa@ wustl.edu. Last year's WUSTL drive raised more than \$550,000, exceeding the stated goal of \$540,000, and helped the United Way of Greater St. Louis raise \$66 million Washington University in 2006.

Ninety percent of contributions to the United Way of Greater St. Louis - one of the country's

highest assistance rates - go directly to more than 200 organizations that provide services for people living in 16 Missouri and Illinois counties.

Such services include job counseling and job training, affordable child care, disaster relief, violence prevention and more.

For more information on the United Way of Greater St. Louis, visit stl.unitedway.org.

A WUSTL Thanksgiving

Because many students and faculty are not able to go home for the Thanksgiving holiday, a variety of traditional holiday dinners are held around campus throughout the break and in the time leading up to it. At right, first-year graduate student Christy Hudson helps herself to some pumpkin pie at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work Dinner held Nov. 18 in Brown Hall Lounge. In the background is Edward F. Lawlor, Ph.D., dean and the William E. Gordon Professor, who attended along with about 200 others. The dinner was the largest one yet sponsored by the School of Social Work.

Below, Olin Business School alumna Shen Zhao (MBA, 2004) goes through the buffet line Nov. 22 at the annual Olin Thanksgiving Day dinner at the Charles F. Knight Executive Education Center. The event was bursting at the seams, Olin officials said, attracting more than 400 students, faculty and alumni.





Kumon mathematics fills gap in education system

BY TONY FITZPATRICK

Parents of school-aged children might consider giving their children an enduring holiday gift this year: enrollment in a supplemental mathematics program.

While it may be costly, the results of practicing mathematics daily is rewarding to both stu-dents and parents. Children gain self-esteem and confidence; parents feel a sense of relief and pride in their children's accomplishment.

Three popular supplemental programs are Singapore, Saxon and Kumon. Many home-school reinforce what they learn. They master a learning phase at their own pace, pass a timed test and go on to another level. They do problems at home daily for 15 to 30 minutes and meet weekly with Kumon instructors for a halfhour to 45 minutes. Gradually, after much positive reinforcement, Kumon practitioners gain self-confidence and, if they stick with the program, their mathematics progress invariably improves greatly, Kimura said.

Kimura said the reason many parents are seeking supplemental help for their children in mathematics is the American method of

Kumon math. They see the goals, and they see the progress."

Kimura said that there are two stages in acquiring knowledge: thinking and knowing. For example, 3 + 2 = 5. Students trained in Kumon math or in another context, once they are in the knowing stage, know that automatically.

In contrast, he said, the way that the simple calculation is taught in schools today is to attach "3 + 2 icons," such as apples, to the numbers so that students supposedly grasp the concept.

"From the beginning, nerican students are the applications of mathematics," Kimura said. "In my humble opinion, that is not teaching mathematics, rather the applications of mathematics. The philosophy in Kumon is that you have to learn mathematics before applying it."

Inclement weather information

Should weather conditions Create potentially hazardous travel conditions, Washington University will evaluate the situation and take into consideration the safety of the University's faculty, staff and students as well as the services that must be provided despite the inclement weather.

recordcalendar@wustl.edu

In the unlikely event that and staff. the University alters the nor-The media outlets that mal work and/or class schedwould air such an announceule, an announcement will be ment are KTVI-TV Channel posted on the University's 2, KMOV-TV Channel 4, home page (wustl.edu), and a KSDK-TV Channel 5, WSIE-FM (88.7) and KMOX-AM number of media outlets also will air an announcement. (1120).Volume 32, Number 16 Founded in 1905 • Washington University in St. Louis community news Associate Vice Chancellor Steven J. Givens Record (USPS 600-430; ISSN 1043-0520), Executive Editor Susan Killenberg McGinn Published for the faculty, staff and friends Editor Leslie Gibson McCarthy of Washington University. Produced weekly Associate Editor Neil Schoenherr during the school year, except school holidays, and monthly during June, July Assistant Editor Jessica Daues and August by the Office of Public Affairs, Medical News Editor Beth Miller Washington University, Campus Box 1070, Calendar Coordinator Angela Hall One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130. **Print Production Carl Jacobs** Periodicals postage paid at St. Louis, MO. **Online Production Chris Soer News & Comments** Where to send address changes (314) 935-5293 Postmaster and nonemployees: Record, Campus Box 1070 Washington University, Campus Box 1070, record@wustl.edu One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130. **Medical News** Employees: Office of Human Resources, (314) 286-0119 Washington University, Campus Box 1184. Campus Box 8508 One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130. millerbe@wustl.edu **Calendar Submissions Reprint permission** Fax: (314) 935-4259 Articles may be reprinted with appropriate Campus Box 1070 credit to Washington University in St. Louis

Separate announcements will be made regarding the Danforth Campus (which includes all campuses other than the Medical School Campus), the Medical School Campus and evening school classes. These announcements will apply only to Washington University students, faculty

Record.

practitioners use the first two, and Kumon, which involves daily practice and some tutoring, is popular with parents who feel schools might be letting their kids down.

Dan Kimura, Ph.D., senior professor of computer science and engineering, opened the first Kumon center in St. Louis in 1984 in large part because of his disappointment in the math education his sons were getting. Mathematics is a major foundation of computer science, and Kimura, whose specialty is software programming, took action.

Begun in Kimura's hometown of Moriguchi, Japan, in 1958 by the late Toru Kumon, a math teacher who invented it to help his sons, Kumon math has more than 4 million students enrolled worldwide in 43 countries, nearly 180,000 in the United States. The method stresses repetition, speed, accuracy, individual pace, hard work and goal orientation.

Students are tested then begin at a comfortable learning level, working with paper and pencil on a series of calculations devised to

teaching and the contents taught.

"The philosophy in American schools is a bottom-up approach, where the basic assumption is that every child has the innate ability to learn, the purpose of education is to help kids grow, that the direction they take is rooted in their DNA and that cannot be altered, and that teachers and parents should facilitate this growth process," Kimura said.

There is a sense that you can't force students to learn, that it stifles creativity. The best a teacher can do is to suggest that students learn certain things, but students shouldn't be forced," Kimura said.

What's missing, Kimura said, is the concept of training.

"The Kumon method is based on training and is a top-down approach that stresses achieving goals," he said. "The process of practice and training is very painful. Top-class athletes and musicians will tell you that, too. Kids may not like it, but kids don't see the goals. They do, however, feel the satisfaction of achieving a goal. Parents are the immediate beneficiaries of

The transition to the knowing stage is speed, Kimura said, calling it perhaps the most vital tenet of the method.

'The Kumon method stresses the syntax of mathematics, not the semantics, which is opposite of the way mathematics has been taught in America for several decades," Kimura said. "In the schools today, learning revolves around student-centered curricula: the teacher creates a social environment that stresses education, citizenship and self-esteem, which are, indeed, worthy learning components. From this environment, the student is expected to construct his own body of knowledge. But this is like teaching a child to play tennis by telling him to create his own method. It de-emphasizes the concept of training."

School of Medicine Update

Increasing tumors' radiation sensitivity moves closer to reality

BY GWEN ERICSON

o make tumors more sensitive to the killing power of radiation is a key aspiration for many radiation oncologists. School of Medicine researchers have uncovered new information that leads them closer to that goal.

In an upcoming issue of the journal Molecular and Cellular Biology, the researchers report the first extensive study of an enzyme called MOF that helps control how DNA is packaged in cells. The researchers show that MOF is an essential factor for tumor development, and they say it may be possible to ma-Pandita nipulate the enzyme to make tumors more sensitive to radiation therapy.

MOF adds a tag — a special chemical group — to the spools that hold the long strands of DNA in the chromosomes. The spools, made of proteins called histones, pack the genetic material into a more condensed form. By adding a tag at a precise location on one kind of histone, MOF helps relax the tight packing of genes and thereby influences how active the genes are.

Although many enzymes are involved in controlling chromosome structure to maintain cells' genetic machinery, MOF is so essential that without it cells inevitably die.

"We think that if we can deplete MOF in tumor cells, but not in healthy cells, we will gain a therapeutic advantage," said Tej K. Pandita, Ph.D., associate professor of radiation oncology and

of genetics and a researcher with the Siteman Cancer Center. "If we affect MOF in tumor cells, they will be weakened and unable to recover after radiation exposure.'

Pandita and his research group focus on ways to increase the radiation sensitivity of cancer cells to enhance the cure rate of radiation therapy. They became interested in MOF because it was

previously found to be involved in genomic instability and defective

DNA damage repair. Other studies have suggested that loss of the histone tag created by MOF is a hallmark of cancerous cells. In this study, however, an

analysis of more than 300 tumor samples demonstrated that all tumors had either normal or increased amounts of MOF and the histone tag compared to normal samples. When the researchers caused MOF to be more abundant than usual in cells, the cells proliferated faster and showed telltale signs of cancerous transformation. When the same cells were injected into mice, tumors from cells that had an overabundance of MOF grew faster than other tumor cells.

The study also demonstrated that cells with less MOF were more sensitive to radiation exposure. Now the researchers are trying to identify inhibitors of MOF that block its ability to tag histones specifically in tumor cells.

"Our research on MOF shows that it is a component that is absolutely needed for cells to proliferate," Pandita said. "It could be

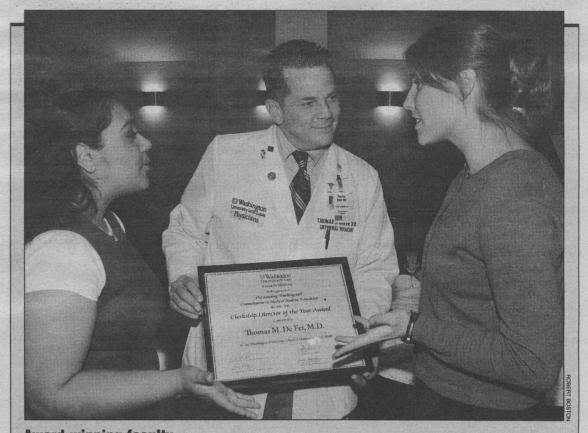
the Achilles' heel of cancerous growth."

The research group plans further studies that will clarify how MOF functions and what other cellular components it interacts with. "Using this kind of information, we can more logically approach the issue of making cancerous cells more sensitive to radiation," Pandita said.

"Our aim is to achieve a balanced therapeutic adjunct that can keep normal tissue healthy while weakening tumor cells."

The research also demonstrated that MOF is vital for the development of embryos. It showed that primitive cells, called stem cells, in mouse embryos have high amounts of MOF, and without MOF they

stop growing. Like cancer cells, stem cells divide rapidly. "Evidence is accumulating to suggest that cancer cells could be considered aberrant stem cells," Pandita said. "MOF is a factor that is common to both embryonic stem cells and cancer cells and ensures their ability to proliferate rapidly.'



Award-winning faculty (From left) Noopur Gangopadhyay, a fourth-year medical student, talks with Thomas De Fer, M.D., associate professor of medicine, and Kari Wanat, also a fourthyear medical student, at the Distinguished Service Teaching Awards Nov. 8 at the Eric P. New man Education Center. The Class of 2008 awarded De Fer the Clerkship Director of the Year award. Among other winners were Gladys Tse, M.D., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, who was named Clinical Lecturer of the Year by the Class of 2008, and the Department of Medicine, which was named the Clinical Department of the Year.

Kemp to lead \$11 million **Gates Foundation grant**

BY BETH MILLER

James S. Kemp, M.D., professor of pediatrics, will co-lead a campaign to prevent infant death due to unsafe sleep practices with funding from an \$11 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The grant, awarded to Baltimore-based First Candle, a nonprofit organization promoting infant health, will support a national campaign called "Bedtime Ba sics for Babies." The campaign includes distributing cribs to families in need and

use this as a pilot study and eventually implement such a program nationally.

Focusing on the states of Indiana and Washington and the District of Columbia, the researchers expect to distribute about 200,000 cribs to families in need in an effort to promote safe infant sleep practices and reduce infant mortality

Babies in poor families tend to share beds, either with parents children," Kem "Some parents believe bed sharing somehow protects their baby during sleep. There is no evidence to support this theory. To the contrary, there is much evidence that shows the adult bed, as we know it in the United States, can greatly increase the risk of SIDS and other sleep-related deaths, such as from accidental suffocation."

Molecular Imaging Center gets \$10 million renewal grant

BY MICHAEL C. PURDY

The Washington University Molecular Imaging Center has received a five-year, \$10 million grant from the National Cancer Institute.

The grant will fund a second cycle of research at the innovative center, where scientists from different specialties collaborate on advanced imaging projects. Initiatives at the center include an effort to help researchers track the spread of gene therapy for cancer ts to clos nd proj monito the contributions of key genes to the start of tumors.

"We'll be looking for potential correlations with an eye to one day determine by positron emission tomography that graft-versus-host disease is starting even before clinical symptoms become apparent."

ogy and of medicine, will use a genetically engineered mouse line to study the roots of tumor formation. The mice have a mutated copy of a gene called Tax that is linked to the formation of cancers. In a research project during the Molecular Imaging Center's first five years, scientists added the genetic coding for a luminescent protein from fireflies to the mutated Tax gene. Now when the mice develop tumors linked to Tax, the tumors will glow, giving researchers the chance to study tumor development at its earliest stages. Scientists led by Helen Piwnica-Worms, Ph.D., professor of cell biology and physiology and of medicine, will probe cells' progression through the various stages of their life cycles. Helen Piwnica-Worms and her colleagues are using molecular imaging to better understand how delays in the processes of replication are created, allowing cells to inspect their own DNA for damage that could lead to cancer. Raphael Kopan, Ph.D., professor of molecular biology and pharmacology and of medicine, leads a fourth project that will examine how a protein called Notch contributes to cancer. This project will use a high-throughput screening core that allows rapid testing of compounds for desirable interactions with a target molecule. Kopan's group wants to identify potential pharmaceutical treatments that prevent Notch from helping cancers. In addition to research activities, the center's new grant includes funding for support of postdoctoral and graduate students.



educating families about the benefits of using cribs and crib safety. More than 2,500 sudden infant deaths

occur each year

in the United

Kemp

States. According to First Candle, babies who sleep in adult beds are at up to 40 times greater risk of dying than babies sleeping on their backs in a crib. In fact, in many jurisdictions, a shared sleep surface is implicated in more than 50 percent of all sudden, unexpected infant deaths.

Kemp, who returned to the University and St. Louis Children's Hospital Nov. 1, is co-principal investigator with Rachel Moon, M.D., associate professor of pediatrics at The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences and a pediatrician at the Children's National Medical Center.

Kemp said First Candle will

In the education component, researchers will show families how to assemble a crib, discuss why cribs are important and how to use them safely.

"We will be looking at the impact of making cribs available to families and encouraging them to put the babies to sleep on their backs, which should have an impact on sudden death during sleep," Kemp said. "This is one big area that needs to be better understood."

First Candle said with proof that such campaigns can save babies' lives simply by putting them to sleep in a safe crib rather than adult beds and other unsafe places, the project has the capacity to change child-care practices nationwide, possibly saving thousands of lives.

"A number of research projects from the first grant have led to



technology and approaches to imaging that we're now leveraging to answer major biological questions in this second grant," said the center's director, David

Piwnica-Worms Piwnica-

Worms, M.D., Ph.D., professor of radiology and of molecular biology and pharmacology.

Piwnica-Worms is a co-investigator on a Molecular Imaging Center project led by John F. DiPersio, M.D., Ph.D., the Lewis T. and Rosalind B. Apple Professor of Medicine. DiPersio treats difficult cases of leukemia, lymphoma and other cancers with bone-marrow transplants. The transplants sometimes lead to a potentially fatal complication called graft-versus-host disease (GVH), where the transplanted cells begin to attack the patient.

DAVID PIWNICA-WORMS

As a failsafe against this serious complication, DiPersio has developed a way of incorporating a "suicide gene" that can cause the transplanted cells to self-destruct. Scientists activate the gene by giving patients a drug.

Using radiolabeled tracers developed at the Molecular Imaging Center, scientists can now track where cells from the bone-marrow transplants go in the body through whole body imaging with positron emission tomography (PET).

"We know from mouse models that there are some different patterns of cell trafficking that seem to predict GVH," Piwnica-Worms said. "Obviously, we can't currently make human treatment decisions based on these kinds of patterns. But we'll be looking for potential correlations with an eye to one day determine by PET that GVH is starting even before clinical symptoms become apparent."

In another project, researchers led by Lee Ratner, M.D., Ph.D., professor of molecular microbiol-

University Events

Dance Theatre concert features 50 student dancers

BY LIAM OTTEN

ashington University Dance Theatre (WUDT), the annual showcase of professionally choreographed works performed by student dancers, will present its 2007 concert rEvolutions," Nov. 30-Dec. 2 in Edison Theatre.

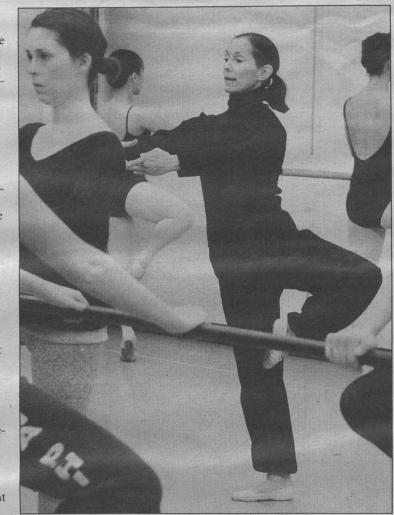
Sponsored by the Performing Arts Department in Arts & Sciences, performances begin at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2.

'rEvolutions" will feature more than 50 dancers, selected by audition, performing seven works by faculty and guest choreographers.

It's a large cast, but we have a particularly strong group of dancers in the department this year," said Cecil Slaughter, senior lecturer in dance in Arts & Sciences and director of WUDT. "For the choreographers, it meant making some hard choices because there was just so much talent in the room.

'Though some works can be grouped together thematically, they're all very different - and require different kinds of dancers. I picked dancers not just for the way they move, but for how their personalities come through on stage. Other choreographers might have been looking for more technical dancers, or dancers who can improvise and think on their feet, or dancers who are sensitive to one another and their surroundings," Slaughter said.

A highlight of the concert will be "Tensile Involvement" (1953), a signature work by the innovative ner Alwin Nikolais (1910-1993). Set by Alberto del Saz, artistic director of the Murray Louis and Nikolais Dance Company, this striking piece consists of 10 performers



Paula Weber (center) associate professor of ballet at the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Conservatory of Music, works with students during a master dance class at the Mallinckrodt dance studio. Weber was on campus earlier this month to choreograph "Sorbet," an original work for six dancers, which will be performed this weekend as part of "rEvolutions," the 2007 Washington University Dance Theatre concert.

manipulating a large grid of col-orful elastic bands, which are attached to their hands and feet. The resulting patterns and forms require extreme precision yet create an ever-changing cat's cradle

of line, space and kinetic energy. "Nikolais was a revolutionary choreographer as well as a designer and composer, but many of our students had never seen his work before," Slaughter said.

"With those elastic bands, anything can happen - you really need to be able to think on the spot.'

Earlier this month, "Tensile Involvement" was performed by Utah's acclaimed Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company as part of "Nikolais Dance Theatre," an eveninglength concert of Nikolais' choreography presented by Edison Theatre's OVATIONS! Series

'We thought it would be very interesting to have students see it performed by a professional company a few weeks before staging it themselves," Slaughter said. "And of course, having such an important historical work on the concert prompted all of the choreographers to start thinking about our own artistic processes.

In addition to "Tensile Involvement," the concert will feature new works by guest artists Diadié Bathily, executive and artistic director of the Afriky Lolo dance company, and Paula Weber, associate professor of ballet at the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Conservatory of Music.

Bathily's "Les Amazones du Bénin" tells the story of the Dahomey Amazons, an all-female regiment of the Kingdom of Dahomey (now Bénin), West Africa, through a combination of dances from the Malinké and Fon ethnic groups.

Founded in the late 17th century, the Dahomey Amazons remained active for roughly 200 years and were actually given their name by Western observers and historians due to their striking similarities to the Amazons of Greek myth.

Weber's "Sorbet" blends traditional ballet technique with a movement vocabulary drawn from jazz, modern and ethnic dances. Set to a percussive sound-

6:30 p.m. Architecture Lecture Series.

Architecture & Urban Planning, U. of

Wash. (6 p.m. reception, Givens Hall.) Steinberg Aud. 935-9300.

Steve Badanes, Chair, College of

Noon. Program in Physical Therapy

track, this work for six dancers was created during a recent residency and consists of five distinct movements.

Other works on the program include:

· "Shifting Sightlines." Mary-Jean Cowell, associate professor of dance and coordinator of the Dance Program in Arts & Sciences, choreographs this work in collaboration with eight dancers. "The theme of this dance is shifting perceptions of ourselves and others that evolve through time and in relationships with different people and situations," Cowell said.

• "And All that Jazz." David W. Marchant, senior lecturer in dance, choreographs this work for 12 dancers, which he describes as "an homage/collage of late 20thcentury jazz dance vocabulary, composed in a 'minimalist' form."

"The Seasons." Christine Knoblauch-O'Neal, senior lecturer in dance and director of the Ballet Program, choreographs this ambitious work for 22 dancers, which "pictures the four seasons in a somewhat different light --- at times dramatic but often just playful and poetic.'

• "Grid." Slaughter choreographs this piece for 18 dancers. This work is about constructing and deconstructing boundaries such as racial, gender specific and territorial through the exchange of energy," he said. "It's based on different patterns — patterns of thought, patterns of behavior, patterns of reaction — and what happens when they intersect."

Tickets are \$15 for the public and \$9 for students, senior citizens and faculty and staff and are available through the Edison Theatre Box Office and all MetroTix outlets. For more information, call 935-6543.

Meso-American Art • Ethics and Epidemics • Modernity in China

"University Events" lists a portion of the activities taking place Nov. 29-Dec. 13 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

Noon. Genetics Seminar. "Germ Cell Specification and Regeneration in Planarians." Phillip A. Newmark, assoc. prof. of genomic biology, U. of III. at Urbana-Champaign. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 823. 362-2139.

4 p.m. Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Seminar Series. "Inventing New Ways to Control Neurons With Light." Richard Kramer, assoc. prof. of neurobiology, U. of Calif., Berkeley. Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-3315.

8 p.m. The Writing Program Reading Series. Kathleen Finneran, author, will read from her work. Duncker Hall,

How to submit **University Events**'

ubmit "University Events" items to Angela Hall of the Record staff via: e-mail - recordcalendar

@wustl.edu

Campus Box 1070 fax - 935-4259

campus mail -

Research Seminar. "Nature and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussion." Robert Fucetola, assoc. prof. of neurology. 4444 Forest Park Blvd., Lower Lvl., Rm. B108. 286-1404.

Tuesday, Dec. 4

3 p.m. East Asian Studies Lecture. "Visual

4 p.m. History Colloquium. "The Strange Career of Evolutionary Anthropology." Howard Brick, prof. of history. (Reception follows.) Duncker Hall, Rm. 201, Hurst Lounge. 935-5450.

4 p.m. Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Seminar Series. "Transcriptional Regulatory Networks Controlling Cell Fate, Proliferation and Differentiation in the Developing Vertebrate Nervous System." Kristen L. Kroll, assoc. prof. of molecular biology & pharmacology. Maternity Bldg., Rm. 725. 362-3315.

Friday, Dec. 7

Museum. 935-4523.

"Carmon Colangelo: Prints." A body of work by Carmon 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, 1940-1960." Nov. 16 through Jan. 28. Kemper Art Museum. 935-4523.

Film

Tuesday, Dec. 4

7 p.m. Iconic Blonde Film Festival. (Also 7 p.m. Dec. 5 & 6.) Tivoli Theatre, 6350 Delmar Blvd. 935-4523.

Lectures

Thursday, Nov. 29

8 a.m. Cancer Research Lecture. Rena Schechter Memorial Lecture in Cancer Research. "Genotype Based Treatment of NSCLC: 2007." Thomas Lynch, assoc. prof. of medicine, Harvard Medical School. Clopton Aud., 4950 Children's Place. 454-8981.

Rm. 201, Hurst Lounge. 935-7130

Friday, Nov. 30

7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Women's Health CME Course. Contemporary Women's Health Issues. "Providing Care for the Obese Woman: Advances in Therapy & Ongoing Challenges." Cost: \$135 for physicians, \$85 for allied health professionals. Charles F. Knight Center. To register: 362-6891.

11 a.m. Energy, Environmental & Chemical Engineering Seminar Series. Richard Flagan, prof. of chemical engineering, Calif. Inst. of Technology. Lopata Hall, Rm. 101. 935-5548.

Noon. Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar. "Rho GTPases and Leukocyte Transend-othelial Migration." Keith W.T. Burridge, prof. of cell & development biology, The U. of N.C. at Chapel Hill. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 426. 362-6630.

5 p.m. Arts Forum. "Collecting Meso-American Art and Artifacts." Matthew Robb, fellow in Pre-Columbian Art. Kemper Art Museum, Rm. 103. 935-4523.

Saturday, Dec. 1

7:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Cardiovascular Disease CME Course. "Congestive Heart Failure Update." Cost: \$75. Eric P. Newman Education Center. To register: 362-6891.

Monday, Dec. 3

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Center for the Application of Information Technology Workshop.

Upon request, forms for submitting events will be e-mailed, mailed or faxed to departments to be filled out and returned. Deadline for submissions is noon the Thursday prior to publication date.

"The Business-IT Partnership: Delivering Business Results." Cost: \$905; reduced fees available for CAIT member organizations. CAIT, 5 N. Jackson Ave. To register: 935-4444

Noon. Molecular Biology & Pharmacology Seminar. "Modulation of GABA-A Receptors by Steroid Analogues With Novel Ring Structures." Douglas Covey, prof. of molecular biology & pharmacolo-gy. South Bldg., Rm. 3907, Philip Needleman Library. 747-3339.

Noon. Work, Families and Public Policy Brown Bag Seminar Series. "Marriage, Commitment, and Investment in Human Capital." Robert A. Pollak, prof. of eco-nomics. Eliot Hall, Rm. 300. 935-4918.

4 p.m. Immunology Seminar. "Epithelialmesenchymal Interactions During Wound Healing in the Mouse Intestine." Thaddeus Stappenbeck, asst. prof. of pathology & immunology. Farrell Learning and Teaching Center, Connor Auditorium. 362-2763.

5:30 p.m. Cardiac Bioelectricity & Arrhythmia Center Seminar. "New Arrhythmias for Ablation of Cardiac Arrhythmias." Mitchell N. Faddis, asst. prof. of medicine. (5 p.m. reception.) Whitaker Hall, Rm. 218. 935-7887. Modernity in China, 1880s-1930s." Laikwan Pang, assoc. prof. of cultural studies, The Chinese U. of Hong Kong. Duncker Hall, Rm. 201, Hurst Lounge. 935-4448

5:30 p.m. Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics Biophysical Evenings Seminar. "BK Channel Inactivation: **Biophysics Provides Physiological** Insights." Christopher Lingle, prof. of anesthesiology. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-4152.

Wednesday, Dec. 5

Noon. Infectious Diseases Lecture. "Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Infection and Disease Among HIV-Infected and HIV-Uninfected Men." Peter Chin-Hong, asst. prof. of medicine, U. of Calif., San Francisco. (11:45 a.m., box lunch.) Barnes-Jewish Hosp. Bldg., East Pavilion Aud. R.S.V.P. to 454-8276.

4 p.m. Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics Seminar. "Dynamics and Conformational Changes in a Membrane Transport Protein: Applications of Site-Directed Spin Labeling." David Cafiso, prof. of chemistry, U. of Va. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-4152.

Thursday, Dec. 6

Noon. Genetics Seminar. "Maternal-Effects and the BMPs of Vertebrate Development.' Mary C. Mullins, assoc. prof. of cell & developmental biology, U. of Pa. School of Medicine. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 823. 362-2139.

11 a.m. Energy, Environmental & Chemical Engineering Seminar Series. "13C-Based Metabolic Flux Analysis of Environmental Microorganisms." Y. Tang, postdoctoral fellow, U. of Calif., Berkeley Lopata Hall, Rm. 101. 935-5548.

Noon. Cell Biology & Physiology Seminar. "Reverse Interactomics: Decoding Protein-Protein Interaction Through Combinatorial Chemistry." Dehua Pei, prof. of chemistry, The Ohio State U. McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 426. 362-6950.

Monday, Dec. 10

11 a.m. Midwest Regional Center of Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases Research Guest Lecture. "Ethics and Epidemics Matthew K. Wynia, dir., Inst. for Ethics, American Medical Association. Farrell Learning & Teaching Center, Holden Case Study Rm. 286-0432

- Noon. Molecular Biology & Pharmacology Seminar. "Role of the Gastrointestinal Microbiota in Cardiovascular Physiology." Peter Crawford, asst. prof. of medicine. South Bldg., Rm. 3907, Philip Needleman Library. 747-3339.
- 4 p.m. Immunology Seminar. "Calcium Signaling in Cells of the Immune System: Therapeutic Implications." Jean-Pierre Kinet, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Farrell Learning and Teaching Center, Connor Auditorium. 362-2763
- 4 p.m. Physics Seminar. "Simulations of Clathrate Hydrate Structure and Dynam-

Iconic Blonde Film Festival screens three Hollywood classics

BY LIAM OTTEN

he Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum will present three classic Hollywood films as part of its Iconic Blonde Film Festival Dec. 4-6.

Held in conjunction with the exhibition "Beauty and the Blonde: An Exploration of American Art and Popular Culture," the festival will feature screenings of "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" Tuesday, Dec. 4, "Vertigo" Wednesday, Dec. 5, and "Bonnie and Clyde" Dec. 6.

All screenings are free and open to the public and begin at 7 p.m. at the Tivoli Theatre, 6350 Delmar Blvd.

"Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" (1953) is directed by Howard Hawks. Based on the 1925 novel by Anita Loos, "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" stars Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell as Lorelei Lee and Dorothy Shaw, a pair of showgirls and best friends who set sail for Paris. Lorelei intends to marry Gus Esmond (Tommy Noonan), an eligible millionaire,

but soon finds herself tracked by the private detective Malone (Elliot Reid), who was hired by Gus' father (Taylor Holmes) to ascertain whether Lorelei is simply a gold-digger.

The film includes Monroe's signature song, "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend."

Vertigo" (1958) is directed by Alfred Hitchcock. Kim Novak and James Stewart star in this psychological thriller about love, obsession and illusion. Stewart plays John "Scottie" Ferguson, a San Francisco police detective who retires after a traumatic experience leaves him with a fear of heights.

Ferguson is soon hired by an old acquaintance to follow his suicidal wife, Madeline (played by Novak), but is unable to save her from falling to her death. Yet in the aftermath, Ferguson becomes fixated on another woman, Judy, who bears an eerie resemblance to Madeline.

"Bonnie and Clyde" (1967) is directed by Arthur Penn. A landmark of postwar American cine-

ma, "Bonnie and Clyde" stars Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty as the infamous outlaw couple whose exploits in the Depressionera southwest achieved mythic status

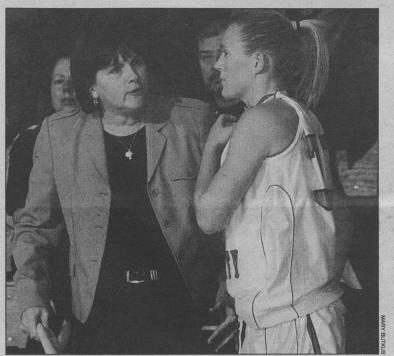
The film was both celebrated and criticized for its quick shifts in mood and tone, moving abruptly from graphic violence to screwball comedy, yet its romantic, rebellious anti-heroes became icons of 1960s counterculture and helped set the stage for Hollywood's resurgence in the following decade.

Beauty and the Blonde," the first museum show to investigate the strategic use of the blonde in contemporary art, remains on view at the Kemper Art Museum through Jan. 28. Regular hours are 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Fridays; and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. The museum is closed Tuesdays.

For more information about the film festival or the exhibition, call 935-4523 or visit kemperartmuseum.wustl.edu.



Marilyn Monroe was an icon when Andy Warhol began making screens of her image in 1962 after her death, but she was relatively unknown until 1953, the year of "Gentleman Prefer Blondes." The film is showing next week at the Tivoli Theatre as part of the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum's Iconic Blonde Film Festival.



Women's basketball coach Nancy Fahey gives junior guard Halsey Ward instructions during the Seventh Annual McWilliams Classic. In her 22nd season at WUSTL, Fahey won her 500th game Nov. 24.

ics with Applications to Hydrogen Stor-age and Carbon Dioxide Sequestration." Saman Alavi, U. of Ottawa. (3:45 p.m. coffee.) Compton Hall, Rm. 241. 935-6276

5:30 p.m. Cardiac Bioelectricity & Arrhythmia Center Seminar. "Medical Imaging: Past, Present and Future." R. Gilbert Jost, prof. of radiology. (5 p.m.

Fahey wins 500th

Sports

career game

The No. 6 women's basketball team completed a 3-0 week that was highlighted by head coach Nancy Fahey picking up the 500th win of her career Nov. 24.

Fahey's historic victory came in the Bears' 78-75 double overtime win against Kenyon College on the first day of the Seventh Annual McWilliams Classic, held in the WUSTL Field House. Fahey is just the ninth coach in Div. III history to record 500 wins, and her career-winning percentage of .854 ranks fourth in the history of NCAA women's basketball at all three divisions. The Bears are 4-1 overall this season.

Men's basketball 3-2 on the season

The men's basketball team split a pair of games at the Washington U./Webster Tournament, losing to Augusta College, 66-60, Nov. 24

E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall, 560 Trinity Ave. 935-4841.

Monday, Dec. 10

8 p.m. Concert. Flute Choir. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

Tuesday, Dec. 11

then defeating the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, 87-76.

Earlier in the week, senior Danny O'Boyle had 21 points off the bench as the Bears posted an 85-59 win at Maryville University Nov. 20. Junior guard Sean Wallis suffered an injury in the first half and will miss the rest of the season. The Bears (3-2) hosts the 24th Annual Lopata Classic this weekend at the Field House.

Women's cross country finishes third

The No. 3 women's cross country team came in third place at the NCAA Div. III Championship meet in Northfield, Minn., Nov. 17, tying the school's best alltime finish at the event. The Bears were led by three seniors - Tricia Frisella, Kate Pentak and Tyler Mulkin — each of whom garnered All-America honors. It is the first time in school history three runners earned All-America recognition.

Men's soccer falls in sectional final

The No. 20 men's soccer team advanced to the 2007 Div. III Championship sectional final but lost, 2-1, to No. 1 Trinity University at Francis Field Nov. 18.

The Bears advanced with a 1-0

win against Transylvania University Nov. 17. The men's soccer team completes its season with a 16-5-2 record, achieving the squad's highest win total since 1995.

Women's soccer loses in semifinal

The No. 10 women's soccer team dropped a 1-0 decision to No. 3 College of New Jersey in the NCAA sectional semifinal Nov. 17 in Lynchburg, Va. WUSTL ends its season with a 17-4 overall record. Senior goalkeeper Carrie Sear made four saves in the loss, her final game with the Bears.

Swimming & diving finish second

The men's and women's swimming and diving squads finished second at the four-team Thanksgiving Invitational in Millstone Pool Nov. 17-18. Sophomore Jessie Lodewyk, who won three individual events and led the women's team. Senior diver Priya Srikanth won the 1-meter and 3-meter diving events. Her score of 468.5 in the 1-meter event set a new school record. For the men's team, sophomore Alex Beyer came in first in the 500-yard freestyle, and senior Perry Bullock won the 400-yard

reception.) Whitaker Hall, Rm. 218. 935-7887.

Tuesday, Dec. 11

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Center for the **Application of Information Technology** Workshop. "The Politics of IT Project Management." Cost: \$1,210; reduced fees available for CAIT member organizations. (Also Dec. 12, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.) CAIT, 5 N. Jackson Ave. To register: 935-4444

Wednesday, Dec. 12

- 8:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Center for the **Application of Information Technology** Forum. "Taking a User-Centered Approach to Customer Self-Service." Features Carol Righi, dir. of user experience, Perficient. Eric P. Newman Education Center. To register: 935-4444.
- 4 p.m. Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics Seminar. "Force-induced DNA-ligand Interactions: From Small Molecule Binding to HIV Replication.' Mark C. Williams, assoc. prof. of physics, Northeastern U. Cori Aud., 4565 McKinley Ave. 362-4152
- 5:30 p.m. Kemper Art Museum Gallery Talk. "Spotlight: Eliasson." Meredith Malone, asst. curator. Kemper Art Museum, Rm. 104. 935-4523.

Thursday, Dec. 13

Noon. Genetics Seminar. "Genomic Analysis of Transcription Factors and cis Regulatory Elements: Regulatory Codes in DNA." Martha L. Bulyk, asst. prof. of

Music

Thursday, Nov. 29

7 p.m. Concert. Jazz Combo. Recital Hall, 560 Trinity Ave. 935-4841.

medicine, Harvard Medical School.

McDonnell Medical Sciences Bldg., Rm. 823. 362-2139.

3 p.m. Siteman Cancer Center Basic

Science Seminar Series. Joe E. Gray, Division Dir., Life Sciences, Lawrence

Berkeley National Laboratory. Eric P. Newman Education Center. 454-7029.

Saturday, Dec. 1

4 p.m. Concert. Chamber Winds. Recital Hall, 560 Trinity Ave. 935-4841.

Wednesday, Dec. 5

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

Thursday, Dec. 6

8 p.m. Concert. Guitar Gala. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

8 p.m. Jazz at Holmes. Kim Portnoy, piano. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

Saturday, Dec. 8

3 p.m. Concert. Charlotte Fong, piano. E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall, 560 Trinity Ave. 935-4841.

7:30 p.m. Concert. Concert Choir. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

Sunday, Dec. 9

3 p.m. Concert. Messiah Sing-Along. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

8 p.m. Faculty Recital. Bill Lenihan, guitar.

8 p.m. Concert. Chamber Ensembles. Graham Chapel. 935-4841.

Wednesday, Dec. 12 8 p.m. Concert. Jazz Band. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

Thursday, Dec. 13

8 p.m. Jazz at Holmes. Tom Byrne, guitar. Ridgley Hall, Holmes Lounge. 935-4841.

On Stage

Friday, Nov. 30

8 p.m. Performing Arts Dept. Presentation. "rEvolutions." (Also 8 p.m. Dec. 1; 2 p.m. Dec. 2.) Edison Theatre. 935-6543.

Sports

Friday, Nov. 30

8 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. Earlham **College.** Lopata Classic. (Also 6 p.m. Dec. 1.) Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

Saturday, Dec. 8 3 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. III. Wesleyan U. Athletic Complex. 935-4705.

WUSTL alumna Finneran to read from 'Tender Land'

BY LIAM OTTEN

Washington University alumna Kathleen Finneran, author of the memoir "The Tender Land: A Family Love Story" (2003), will read from her work at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29, in Duncker Hall, Room 201, Hurst Lounge.

The talk, part of The Writing Program in Arts & Sciences' fall Reading Series, is free and open to the public.

A love story unlike any other, "The Tender Land" recounts Finneran's painful coming of age as well as her family's tragic history. Despite a recurring strain of depressive mental illness, the Finnerans — parents and five children — are a seemingly ordinary suburban clan, yet their lives are forever altered by the suicide of Finneran's 15-year-old brother, Sean.

"'The Tender Land' reminds us of how complicated, unique and fragile an organism the family is," notes the Boston Globe, while the St. Louis Post-Dispatch praises the book as "beautifully written ... Like life itself, this memoir evokes both sadness and joy."

Finneran, a writer-in-residence in the Department of English in Arts & Sciences, has published essays in the anthologies "The Place That Holds Our History," "Seeking St Louis: Voices From a River City" and "The 'M' Word: Writers Writing on Same-Sex Marriage."

She is the recipient of a Missouri Arts Council Writers' Biennial Award, a Whiting Writers' Award in nonfiction and a Guggenheim Fellowship.

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

Famed novelist Joyce Carol Oates to speak at sixth annual 'Celebrating Our Books' colloquium

BY LIAM OTTEN

Joyce Carol Oates, one of America's most distinguished authors — three times nominated for the Nobel Prize in literature — will deliver the keynote address, "The Writer's (Secret) Life: Woundedness, Rejection, and Inspiration," as part of Washington University's sixth annual faculty book colloquium "Celebrating Our Books,

Recognizing Our Authors.'

The event is sponsored by the Center for the Humanities in Arts & Sciences and University Libraries and begins at 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3, in Holmes Lounge. "Celebrating Our Books" honors

the work of scholars from across

the Arts & Sciences disciplines. Two WUSTL faculty members will make presentations, including

Ahmet T. Karamustafa, Ph.D., professor of history, of religious studies and of Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern studies, all in Arts & Sciences, who will speak on his book, "Sufism: The Formative Period" (2007); and Marina MacKay, Ph.D., assistant professor of English in Arts & Sciences, who will speak on her book, "Modernism and World War II" (2007).

book, "Modernism and World War II" (2007). In conjunction with "Celebrating Our Books," the Campus Store will display volumes by colloquium participants that will be available for purchase. After the readings that night, authors will be available in the Campus Store to sign their works.

Oates began her prolific career in 1963 with the novel "By the North Gate." In the years since, she has authored more than three dozen books, ranging from novels and short-story collections to plays, poetry, literary criticism and the book-length essay "On Boxing." Author and literary commentator John Gardner has called her "one of the greatest writers of our time."

Karamustafa's "Sufism: The Formative Period" is a comprehensive historical overview of the formative period of Sufism, the major mystical tradition in Islam, from the ninth-12th centuries. Based on a fresh reading of primary sources and the integration of findings of recent scholarship on the subject, Karamustafa presents a unified narrative of Sufism's historical development within an innovative analytical framework.

MacKay's "Modernism and World War II" reconstructs the political and aesthetic contexts of midcentury writing by Virginia Woolf, T. S. Eliot, Rebecca West, Henry Green and Evelyn Waugh in order to describe how the war transformed literary modernism in England. In recovering how the writings of these major authors engaged other texts of their time political discourses, mass and middlebrow culture this study reveals how World War II brought to the surface the underlying politics of modernism's aesthetic practices.

The colloquium is free and open to the public. For more information, call 935-5576 or e-mail cenhum@artsci.wustl.edu.

Free vehicle inspections offered to WUSTL community

The Washington University Police Department and Parking Services, in partnership with Hartmann's Towing, will sponsor a free vehicle inspection service to students, faculty and staff Saturday, Dec. 1.

Persons anticipating traveling by car for winter break can bring their vehicle to the parking lot outside the Police Department office on the South 40 between noon-3 p.m. for a free inspection. The staff will check tire pressure, fluid levels, wipers and head- and taillights.

Local businesses have donated oil, windshield washer fluid and other vehicle fluids to allow WUSTL drivers to top off these

fluids before traveling. "Too often we all neglect to check our vehicles before taking off on a trip," Chief of University Police Don Strom said.

"This is a great, quick and easy

opportunity for members of our campus community to get their vehicles inspected and help ensure they have a safe trip over the upcoming break," he said.

The WUPD Bear Patrol will assist the police and parking staff.

For more information, contact Mark Glenn in the WUPD Crime Prevention Office at 935-5084 or by e-mail at mark_glenn@wustl.edu.

Register to vote Dec. 4 at Student Center, Campus Y

By Jessica Martin

The WU Votes committee, led by the Gephardt Institute for Public Service, has invited the League of Women Voters to conduct a voter registration drive Tuesday, Dec. 4. Registration tables will be set up in Mallinckrodt Student Center from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and at the Campus Y from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Individuals will be able to register to vote or change their registration address if they have moved in the past year. Registrants must be residents of Missouri and not registered to vote elsewhere.

The registration deadline for those wishing to vote in the Feb. 5 primary election is Jan. 9, 2008.

The registration drive is cosponsored by the Campus Y, College Democrats, College Republicans, the Community Service Office, the Office of Greek Life, the

"This building will allow, for the

first time, faculty and students to

located near their collaborators in

both beautiful and strategically

"The interdisciplinary space is

have state-of-the-art facilities

law and business."

Office of Student Activities, Pride Alliance and the Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy.

WU Votes is a Universitywide committee of students, faculty and staff that seeks to coordinate and promote programs across campus related to voting and the election year.

For more information, or to get involved, contact the Gephardt Institute at 935-8628 or gephardtinstitute@wustl.edu.

& Sciences. Wang and his colleagues will occupy Seigle Hall's third floor.

Seigle earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University in 1968. After earning a law degree from Northwestern University, he practiced law until joining the family lumber business in 1974. At that time it was known as the Elgin Lumber Co. but later renamed Seigle's Building Centers Inc. Under his direction as chair and president, the firm flourished, growing into the largest building material supplier to Chicago-area homebuilders. After Seigle's company was sold in 2005, he established The Elgin Co., a private real-estate acquisition and investment firm for which he serves as principal. Seigle Hall is being constructed by St. Louis-based Tarlton Corp. Continuing the University's commitment to environmental sustainability, Seigle Hall will be designed as a green structure, thus eligible for LEED certification. LEED, an acronym for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a nationally accepted rating system for the design, construction and operation of buildings that use methods for achieving environmental sustainability. All WUSTL buildings being constructed currently and in the future will be built according to LEED specifications.

Debate The 'gold standard' for debate sites - from Page 1

2000 and 2004 debates, which include the Field House, Francis Gymnasium and other areas of the Athletic Complex. Francis Gym and Francis Field were the sites of the 1904 World Olympic Games, the first Olympics played in the Western Hemisphere.

Earlier on Nov. 19, Paul G. Kirk Jr. and Frank J. Fahrenkopf Jr., co-chairmen of the CPD, announced the sites of the three presidential and one vice presidential debate for the 2008 general election.

The presidential debates will be held at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Miss., Sept. 26; at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 7; and Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y., Oct. 15.

The CPD, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization established in 1987, is responsible for selecting the venues and producing the presidential debates.

The Field House was the site of the first nationally televised threecandidate presidential debate in 1992, featuring President George Bush, Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton and Reform Party candidate Ross Perot. That year, the University had just seven days to transform the hardwood-floor gymnasium of the Field House into a red-carpeted debate hall.

In 2000, the University hosted a "town-hall meeting" debate between Texas Gov. George W. Bush

Cells

Protein modulates pancreatic function – from Page 1

The researchers assert that the enzyme secreted by fat cells, called Nampt, is an important component of the in-

sulin-secretion pathway.

"We think this secretion process allows fat cells to communicate with the pancreas and aid its function,"

said senior au-

thor Shin-ichiro Imai, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of medicine and of molecular biology and pharmacology. "I suspect this process could be critical for compensating pancreatic beta cell function in the face of increasing and Vice President Al Gore, during which candidates took questions from an audience of 140 undecided St. Louis-area voters selected by the Gallup organization.

The town-hall format again was used when President George W. Bush squared off against Sen. John Kerry during the 2004 debate at Washington University. ABC News' Charles Gibson served as moderator.

Sitting on stools surrounded by the 140 town-hall participants — a group of undecided St. Louis-area voters selected by the Gallup organization — Bush and Kerry discussed topics such as the war in Iraq, jobs, health care and abortion.

Besides the town-hall participants, an estimated 900 people including media, dignitaries, invited guests and more than 200 WUSTL students — viewed the 90-minute debate from the Field House. Millions more worldwide watched on television.

In her introduction of the 2004 debate, CPD executive director Janet Brown praised Washington University as being the "gold standard" for debate sites.

According to the CPD, worldwide television viewership of the vice presidential debate is comparable to the presidential debates, with the exception of the first presidential debate, which always commands the highest viewing numbers.

For more information about debate site selection or debate formats, please visit the CPD's website, debates.org. For photos, a video or more information about presidential debates hosted by the University, please visit debate.wustl.edu.

bloodstream, and when that compound reaches the pancreas, it stimulates insulin secretion. This is a surprising mechanism by which a circulating metabolite modulates pancreatic function."

Imai said he believes it's possible that the compound produced by Nampt, called NMN for short, could be used to raise insulin secretion from pancreatic cells and thus improve the way the body handles sugar. Imai and his group are collaborating with clinical researchers at WUSTL to find out how much NMN is in the blood of normal and diabetic or obese patients. They also hope to initiate clinical trials to test NMN as a therapeutic agent in patients with type 2 diabetes or insulin resistance.

Nampt is actually a widespread enzyme and catalyzes such a fundamental process that most cells of the body have an internal form of it. But, studying mice, the researchers saw that Nampt could be secreted from cells - but only from fat cells. And because Nampt levels are low in pancreatic cells the pancreas depends on the enzyme secreted from fat and its "Our work marks product, NMN, in a conceptual the blood. When pancrebreakthrough." atic beta cells absorb enough SHIN-ICHIRO IMAI NMN, it stimulates them to secrete insulin. In the bloodstreams of laboratory mice, NMN was measured at a concentration shown to be sufficient to enhance insulin secretion from pancreatic beta cells. No one had previously known that NMN circulated in the bloodstream. Mice engineered to have just one instead of two copies of the Nampt gene had a mildly impaired ability to metabolize glucose and had a defect in insulin secretion. The researchers showed that-giving these mice NMN restored normal insulin secretion. In conjunction with the Office of Technology Management at the University, Imai has patented the use of Nampt and NMN for the prevention and treatment of metabolic complications, such as type 2 diabetes.

Seigles Family's dedication to WUSTL is widespread



"Most important, Susan and Harry are exemplary citizens of Washington University, and their dedication takes many forms," Wrighton said.

- from Page 1

The Seigles find the time to attend and support numerous University events. Harry Seigle has served in several official capacities, including as a member of the Board of Trustees, a member of the Arts & Sciences National Council and a founding chair of the Chicago Regional Cabinet.

Both Edward S. Macias, Ph.D., and Kent D. Syverud, J.D., deans of Arts & Sciences and of Law, respectively, are delighted at the prospect of increased collaboration among the departments of Economics, Political Science and Education and the School of Law. Both stressed the importance of creating a physical space to foster new kinds of interaction required by interdisciplinary scholarship.

"Today, the social sciences are poised at the threshold of a new era of dynamic growth and discovery," said Macias, executive vice chancellor and the Barbara and David Thomas Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences. important," said Syverud, also the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor in the School of Law. "Harry and Susan Seigle Hall will wonderfully cement our strong ties here between the law school and the social sciences."

For Harry Seigle, who has had a lifelong interest in political science and law, the connection with this building was natural. Exceptional generosity toward civic, educational and cultural institutions also comes naturally, especially for his alma mater.

His emotional ties here must have influenced the two sons who also claim Washington University's Arts & Sciences as their alma mater: Joe graduated in 2005, and Max in 2000. Harry's brother Michael also is an alumnus.

The range of gifts over the years demonstrates Harry Seigle's true commitment to enhancing many areas of academic and residential life. In addition to Seigle Hall, there is Seigle Commons in the Village, the Seigle Family Scholarships in Arts & Sciences and the Seigle Family Professorship, recently given to Ping Wang, Ph.D., who also chairs the Department of Economics in Arts insulin resistance."

The association of type 2 diabetes and insulin resistance with obesity suggests there may be limits to the ability of the process to enhance pancreatic function, according to Imai.

"It may be that in some obese individuals a threshold has been reached so that this mechanism no longer provides adequate compensation," he said. "But there may be ways to overcome this threshold."

Interestingly, in 2004 Nampt provoked excitement in the scientific community because it was reported to be a newly discovered fat-derived hormone that worked very much like insulin. The scientists who made this assertion have since retracted their claim.

In the new study, WUSTL researchers contend that Nampt is not an insulin-like hormone but an enzyme that modulates pancreatic function.

"Our work marks a conceptual breakthrough," Imai said. "Nampt synthesizes a compound in the

Notables

Introducing new faculty members

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

Jeff Gill, Ph.D., joins the Department of Political Science and the Center for Applied Statistics, both in Arts & Sciences, as professor. He earned a bachelor of arts degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, a master's degree in business administration from Georgetown University and a doctorate from American University. He served as a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University. His major areas of research include political methodology, American politics, statistical computing, research methods and public administration. Gill's current research is focused on projects such as Bayesian hierarchical models, Markov chain Monte Carlo theory, bureaucratic behavior in national security agencies and issues in political epidemiology. He serves as director of WUSTL's Center for Applied Statistics and is vice president of the Society for Political Methodology

Caitlin Kelleher, Ph.D., joins the School of Engineering as assistant professor of computer science and engineering. She recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship and earned her doctorate in computer science at Carnegie Mellon University. Her research is in the area of human-computer interaction, and her work focuses on the design, development and evaluation of a programming system for middle-school girls called "Storytelling Alice." This program includes high-level animations that enables users to program social interactions and features a gallery of characters and scenery designed to spark story ideas and a storybased tutorial.

Peter Schmelz, Ph.D., joins the Department of Music in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. Peter earned a bachelor of arts degree from The George Washington University in 1995 and a master's degree and doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1997 and 2002, respectively. For the past four years, he served as assistant professor of musicology at the University at Buffalo, Stat University of New York. His primary area of interest is 20th-century music (especially music after 1945), with a focus on the music produced in Russia and the Soviet Union, including that by Dmitri Shostakovich and Alfred Schnittke. His secondary areas of research include popular music and popular culture (both American and Russian), music and the Cold War, and music and politics more broadly.

National ranking for architecture graduate school

BY LIAM OTTEN

Washington University's Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design, part of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, has been ranked fifth in the nation by Architect magazine in its first annual education survey.

The survey, published in the November issue, examined 117 programs recognized by the National Architectural Accrediting Board. WUSTL tied for fifth with Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) in Blacksburg, Va., and was ranked first in the Midwest.

"This ranking reflects the strong contributions that our graduates are making to the practice of architecture," said Bruce Lindsey, dean of the Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design and the E. Desmond Lee Professor for Community Collaboration. "The survey asks a crosssection of employers about which recent graduates have had the most significant influence on their work. It's a powerful testament to the impact of our young alumni."

The survey polled directors of design, managing principals and human resource directors from hundreds of leading U.S. architecture firms about which programs had produced the most professional, best-prepared graduates over the past five years. It also queried participants — as well as deans and current students — about how programs rated in various skill sets, including design, sustainability, analysis and planning, construction methods and materials, research and theory, communication skills and computer applications.

"A long-standing complaint a cliché, really — about architectural education is that the typical curriculum places insufficient emphasis on the pragmatics of professional practice," wrote Architect editor Ned Cramer in his forward to the issue.

"Yet the academy seems to be gaining ground on the marketplace," he wrote.

"While many green-minded firms, for instance, still struggle to adopt the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification process and get buy-in from clients, the survey results suggest that universities are proving more nimble: 57 percent of firms surveyed say that they get new ideas about sustainability from their straight-out-of-school employees."

The magazine's rankings are excerpted from an annual booklength report titled America's Best Architecture & Design Schools, published by the journal Design-Intelligence.

The survey, which was launched in 2000, is conducted for DesignIntelligence by Greenway Communications and the Design Futures Council.

Last year, Washington University was ranked sixth in the nation by DesignIntelligence.

2007 Olin Cup Competition finalists announced

By Shula Neuman

rom home-delivered soup to house calls, the finalists for the 2007 Olin Cup Competition were announced Nov. 8. Six teams, including four student-owned or student-supported ventures, remain in the annual business formation contest organized by the Skandalaris Center for Entrepreneurial Studies.

This year's finalists were selected from a field of 12 teams. Ultimately, two teams will win up to \$70,000 in seed investment capital and a student-owned or -supported team will win a \$5,000 cash prize. Two new Olin Cup sponsors, RubinBrown and Senniger Powers, will provide additional awards of in-kind services, bringing the total awards up to nearly \$100,000.

This year's finalists (* indi-

cates student-owned or student-



supported venture): • Human Equity*, an online equity market that invests in students and their education;

• IsThatOneGood*, a Web site that draws on users' opinions to generate relevant and accurate product recommendations and meaningful discussion;

• Magnetic Connection Technologies*, which is developing a technology to change the way consumers plug in cords and screw in light bulbs;

 Medi-bite*, a disposable physical therapy device aimed at restoring jaw function to people afflicted with jaw-joint injury;
Personal Pediatrics, a retainer-based house call practice method that provides HIPAAcompliant, boutique, patient-focused health care;

• Soup Says It All, which packages chicken noodle soup in a mug with a cloth napkin and metal spoon as a "thinking of you" gift they will ship anywhere in the United States.

A description of the proposals can be found on ideabounce .com. The finalists will submit business plans and make final presentations to judges in January. Winners of the 2007 Olin Cup will be announced at a public event Feb. 7.

"The number of student submissions increased this year, and we were pleased with the quality in this year's competition," said Ken Harrington, Managing Director of the Skandalaris Center. "Programs like IdeaBounce and Coffee With The Experts seem to be really helping the region's ideastage entrepreneurs. Olin Cup progress signals the continued growth of the entrepreneurial environment on campus."

The Olin Cup competition was founded in 1988 as part of The Hatchery entrepreneurship course at the Olin School of Business. The competition began awarding up to \$70,000 in seed funding in 2001 with the support of the Skandalaris family. In 2005 the competition began awarding the best student teams a \$5,000 prize.

In 2003, the Kauffman Foundation selected WUSTL as one of eight U.S. universities to share \$25 million in grants through a program designed to make entrepreneurship education available across campuses and transform the way entrepreneurship is viewed, taught and experienced. WUSTL received a \$3 million grant and now has 37 course offerings spanning all degree types and levels.

Wu cited for 'very best' Chinese language course

By Gerry Everding

engtao Wu, a senior lecturer in Chinese in Arts & Sciences, offers one of the nation's "very best" university courses in Chinese, according to a recent College Board Advanced Placement World Languages Best Practices Course Study.

Conducted by the Eugene, Ore.-based Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC), the College Board study identified Wu's thirdlevel "Modern Chinese II" course as one of the nation's top 10 "best practice" courses in Chinese. basis of exemplary teaching practices will be used as models for the redesign of the College Board's equivalent college-

level Advanced Placement course in Chinese. Wu earned a master's degree from Indiana University Bloomington in 1987 and taught there before joining the Department of Asian and Near Eastern and advanced levels as well as calligraphy, for about 25 years.

Wu has taught advanced courses in the summer immersion program of Indiana University and has been lead teacher for the past nine years for Level IV language instruction at the Chinese Summer Intensive Program at Middlebury College.

Wu also served several times as language director for a joint Washington University-Duke University study program in China. He has published a set of textbooks for beginners and intermediate students and is working on a book about Chinese grammar.

Roya Beheshti Zavareh,

Ph.D., joins the Department of Mathematics in Arts & Sciences as assistant professor. She earned a bachelor's degree from Sharif University of Technology in Iran in 1999 and a doctorate from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2003. After completing her doctorate, she did postdoctoral research at Max-Planck Institute in Germany, Queen's University in Canada and the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute in Berkeley, Calif. Her main area of research is algebraic geometry.

Wu's course and others selected on the

Languages and Literatures in Arts & Sciences. He has been teaching

Chinese, including elementary, intermediate

For the Record

Of note

Jose L. Bermudez, Ph.D., professor of philosophy, has received a one-year, \$28,100 grant from the National Science Foundation to fund a U.S.-China workshop in Beijing on the theme "Memory and Language: Interdisciplinary Perspectives." ...

Christina L. Fales, Ph.D., postdoctoral research associate in psychology in Arts & Sciences, has received a two-year, \$60,000 grant from the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression for research titled "Reactive Cognitive Control and Emotion Dysregulation in Generalized Anxiety Disorder." ...

Robert H. Koff, Ph.D., director of the Educational Skills Initiative and the Center for Advanced Learning, and **Christine Duden Street**, assistant director of Disability Resources, have received an 18-month, \$100,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for research titled "RDE-DEI: Developing and Evaluating a Peer Led Team Learning Curriculum in Calculus and Chemistry For Undergraduate Students with Learning and Attention Disabilities."...

Anna MacKay, graduate student of psychology, has received a \$5,000 Elderhostel K. Patricia Cross Doctoral Research Grant from Elderhostel, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing extraordinary learning adventures for people 55 and over. The grant honors the work of K. Patricia Cross, Ph.D., a former Elderhostel board member, and aids doctoral students researching topics relevant to aging and later-life learning. The grant will be used for research titled "Training Attention Control in Older Adulthood."...

Rohit Pappu, Ph.D., associate professor of biomedical engineering, has received a two-year, \$300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for research titled "Conformational Equilibria of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins."...

Joshua S. Reece, graduate assistant in biology in Arts & Sciences, has received a \$4,000 Young Explorers Award from the National Geographic Society for research titled "Conserving Biodiversity in Coral-Reef Fish: Moray Eels as Indicator Species."...

Amy Q. Shen, Ph.D., assistant professor of mechanical engineering, and **William F. Pickard**,

Ph.D., senior professor of electrical and systems engineering, have received a three-year, \$240,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for research titled "Interplay of Biosensing and Locomotion in Confined Microfluidic Environments."

Obituary

Blumenthal, 94

Herman T. Blumenthal, Ph.D., M.D., research professor of gerontology in psychology in Arts & Sciences from 1971-1996, died of cardiac arrest Monday, Nov. 5, at St. Mary's Health Center in Richmond Heights, Mo. He was 94. 8 record.wustl.edu

BY JIM DRYDEN

Nov. 29, 2007

Washington People

dults often advise young people to pick a career with growth potential. Nobody ever set out to be the last medieval armor fabricator, dodo bird veterinarian or dirigible mechanic. But unfortunately, when it comes to eating disorders and obesity research, there's no danger the field will go extinct any time soon.

In 1976, almost half of all American adults were overweight and about 15 percent had medically significant obesity. Today, the percentage overweight is almost two-thirds, and more than 30 percent of adults are obese. It's a growing problem in kids, too. While the obesity rate has doubled in adults during the last 30 years, it has tripled in children.

When it comes to eating disorders, between 5 million and 10 million Americans suffer from anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa or binge eating disorder. Anorexia rates have remained pretty much constant for the past century, but bulimia and binge eating disorder seem to be increasing at roughly the same rates as obesity.

Fortunately, Denise É. Wilfley, Ph.D., director of the Weight Management and Eating Disorders Program at the School of



Denise E. Wilfley, Ph.D. (left), discusses research projects with Meghan Sinton, Ph.D., a postdoctoral research scholar. "My program of research indicates that interpersonal factors play a significant role in binge eating disorder among obese people," Wilfley says. "That's also true for other eating disorders and with childhood overweight. So if we're going to develop more effective treatments for eating disorders or for adults and children with obesity, we need to address both individual behavior and the social context in which the problem occurs."

Looking to trim down obesity

Denise Wilfley tackles one of the country's biggest health problems

Medicine, enjoys the challenge of finding effective treatments for significant public health problems such as obesity and eating disorders.

"I have aimed throughout my career to study the causes, characteristics and treatment of obesity and eating disorders," says Wilfley, professor of psychiatry, medicine and pediatrics at the School of Medicine and professor of psychology in Arts & Sciences. "And since an important risk factor for the development of eating disorders is being overweight in childhood, I believe it's important to study the whole range of problems with eating — from anorexia nervosa to obesity - across all age ranges — from childhood throughout life."

She's also passionate about training the next generation of clinicians and researchers in her field, and her laboratory is bustling with graduate students, fellows and junior faculty. She says her personal and professional relationships help the research to move forward, and she has found that relationships also are important to the individuals whose off more effectively if they also participate in a maintenance-targeted treatment program. A particularly promising maintenance approach is called social facilitation maintenance (SFM), which presumes that children need to be in a social environment that supports continued weight control. The SFM treatment guides parents to encourage their kids to be friends with physically active peers and to ensure that play dates with existing friends involve physical activity and healthful eating.

Wilfley is particularly interested in finding effective, long-term treatments for obese and overweight children because if the condition appears in childhood, the complications of obesity from heart disease to diabetes, certain cancers, stroke, sleep apnea and high blood pressure could begin to appear earlier in life. So instead of developing serious problems in their 50s and 60s, children who grow up obese may find themselves having heart attacks, experiencing diabetes-related vision loss or requiring treatment for colon cancer when they're in their 30s or 40s. "In addition, overweight children are also at risk for eating disorders because they tend to have a negative body image and more weight concerns," she says. "If we leave kids to their own devices, they may think they should lose weight by skipping meals or eliminating certain types of food, and those unhealthy approaches can backfire and contribute to problems down the road. So we try to get families involved in positive exercise habits and food choices to improve the health of everyone in the home."

Award in Patient-Oriented Research from the National Institute of Mental Health.

Her laboratory spans the spectrum of eating and weight disturbances, from helping overweight children maintain weight loss to studying psychological treatments for those who struggle with binge eating disorder to studies of family therapy and antidepressant medication in the treatment of anorexia nervosa.

Much of her research focuses on developing novel treatment. and prevention approaches. For example, her team is working with an Internet-based intervention called Student Bodies that helps college-aged women with weight and shape concerns develop better emotional regulation and an improved body image. The idea is that an improved body image and better mood regulation skills should reduce the risk of eating disorders and related problems, such as depression, binge drinking and substance abuse.

"Denise brings tremendous experience and innovation to her studies of eating disorders and childhood obesity. Her work is at the leading edge of the field in terms of diagnosis, prevention and treatment," says Charles F. Zorumski, M.D., the Samuel B. Guze Professor and head of the Department of Psychiatry and professor of anatomy and neurobiology. "Obesity represents a major contributor to health-care costs in our country and, along with depression, nicotine dependence and alcohol abuse, is one of the primary areas where behavioral and psychiatric interventions can have a large impact on public health."

obesity and eating disorders researcher.

"We started seriously considering it when our son, Wil, was about a year-and-a-half old," Wilfley recalls. "We wanted him to be closer to my family. I really loved the ocean, but my husband reminded me that the beach would be there forever, but my parents wouldn't."

That statement took on deeper significance when Wilfley's father, Donald, passed away several months ago. But Wilfley's mother, Arlene, is doing well, still living near Fulton, along with all four of Wilfley's siblings, who settled within 10 minutes of Arlene.

"My little boy has a lot of cousins to play with," she says.

At 7 years old, he also has two new sisters to play with, Ella and Emma, both seven months old. It's a good time for Wil because seven is his favorite number, and for a few weeks, everybody has that number in their age.

That number also would seem to be just about the number of minutes of rest that Wilfley and Welch get as they raise a young family and pursue their research. But she does find time to run with friends in Forest Park, take the kids hiking at Castlewood State Park and the river area of Grafton where they often go for

problems she studies and treats.

"My program of research indicates that interpersonal factors play a significant role in binge eating disorder among obese peo-

ple," she says. "That's also true for other eating disorders and with childhood overweight. So if we're going to develop more effective treatments for eating disorders or for adults and children with obesity, we need to address both individual behavior and the social context in which the problem occurs.

Wilfley and her colleagues recently published a study in the Journal of the American Medical Association where she found that when overweight children lose weight, they keep it

Ongoing projects

Wilfley is a principal investigator on several large, National Institutes of Health-funded research projects. The research program provides training for undergraduate and graduate students, fellows and junior faculty members. The projects also provide much-needed treatment and prevention services to the people who take part in the studies. Not long ago, Wilfley was recognized for her laboratory's productivity with a Midcareer Investigator

Returning home

A native St. Louisan, Wilfley returned to the area in 2002 from San Diego where she was director of the Center for Eating and Weight Disorders. After spending her early years in St. Louis, Wilfley's family moved to Fulton in central Missouri. After earning her degrees, she spent her career on both the East and West Coasts, at Stanford University, Yale University and the University of California, San Diego/San Diego State University Joint Doctoral Program.

She decided to return to the Midwest at the suggestion of her husband, Robinson Welch, Ph.D., also a psychologist, assistant professor of psychiatry and fellow family bike rides.

"We've even had the twins out in a bike trailer, and they seem to like it," she says.

They also spend time at places like The Muny, the Saint Louis Zoo and at youth soccer games. And they haven't had to give up the ocean completely. With inlaws in San Diego, body surfing and boogie boards are never too far away.

Denise E. Wilfley

Born: June 29, 1960, St. Louis, Mo. Education: Bachelor of science with honors, psychology, 1982, Central Missouri State University; master's degree, counseling psychology, 1984, and doctorate in counseling psychology with an emphasis in health psychology, 1989, University of Missouri-Columbia

Postdoctoral training: Fellowship, 1990, Stanford University

Family: Son Wil Welch, 7; daughters Emma and Ella Welch, 7 months; husband Robinson Welch, Ph.D.; mother Arlene Wilfley



Denise E. Wilfley and her children at a pumpkin patch: Wil and twins Emma (left) and Ella.