Acclaim for Faculty Productivity, Graduate Excellence

Washington University in St. Louis ranks as the seventh most productive large research university as measured by the faculty’s scholarly productivity, as well as ranking in the top 10 in five broad areas and 19 specific disciplines, according to Academic Analytics’ Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index (FSP Index), a new quantitative method for ranking doctoral programs at research universities.

“It’s great to see Washington University’s strengths being recognized accurately, although our high ratings should come as no surprise,” says Robert E. Thach, dean of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. “We have always stacked up exceedingly well in performance measures such as the number of papers and books published by our faculty, the numbers of citations of these works by other scholars, and so forth.

“What makes this new study so unusual is that it relies entirely on objective data available in the public domain,” Thach continues.

He adds, “Reputations, which are commonly distorted by a variety of biases and which take decades to build, are not considered. This enables recent improvements in unfamiliar institutions to be fully appreciated.”

In “individual discipline rankings”—within the broad field categories—WUSTL ranks in the top 10 in 19 disciplines.

The Chronicle of Higher Education provided a list of top-10 institutions in six aggregated fields in its January 12, 2007, cover story on Academic Analytics’ annual index. In those rankings, Arts & Sciences was especially well recognized. The areas of political science and of ecology and evolutionary biology were both ranked No. 1, and political science’s ranking was prominently displayed on the cover.

Academic Analytics’ FSP Index is based on a set of statistical algorithms developed by Lawrence Martin, chief scientific consultant to Academic Analytics—a collaboration between faculty and researchers at the Stony Brook University and Educational Directories Unlimited. Martin is dean of the graduate school, associate provost for analysis and planning, and professor of anthropology at Stony Brook.

The index measures the scholarly productivity of faculty based on their publications, citations, and financial and honorary awards. These numbers are aggregated to evaluate programs, and program scores are aggregated to produce rankings of whole universities.

In its second year of analysis, Academic Analytics’ data-gathering program included information from nearly 200,000 faculty members based at 354 institutions and representing 118 academic disciplines in nearly 7,300 doctoral programs nationwide.
Planning for Excellence
by Edward S. Macias
Executive Vice Chancellor, Dean of Arts & Sciences, and the
Barbara and David Thomas Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences

It’s difficult to believe that a couple of months ago, 15,000
jubilant family and friends gathered in the Brookings Quad-
rangle to celebrate the accomplishments of this year’s graduates
in Washington University’s annual commencement exercise.
The 2006–07 year brought much recognition to Arts & Sciences
students, faculty, staff, and programs. As dean, I am especially proud of these achievements
and glad that this issue of the newsletter highlights some of that hard work.

Most would agree that we are enjoying a period of unqualified success and operating
from a position of strength. Certainly, the caliber of Arts & Sciences students is excellent;
the faculty are committed to educating tomorrow’s leaders; and the beauty of the Danforth
Campus allows us to live, work, and learn in an idyllic setting. To accelerate our continued
ascent, Chancellor Wrighton recently initiated a University-wide strategic planning process
to chart our collective course for the next decade.

Arts & Sciences spent the last year meeting with various internal constituencies in an
effort to brainstorm areas for growth. We met with students via the Undergraduate Council;
faculty, including the Academic Planning Committee as well as department chairs and pro-
gram directors; staff in the Arts & Sciences administrative units; and alumni through the
Arts & Sciences National Council and the Dean’s Advisory Board. We are in the midst of
drafting a document to guide our strategic planning.

Not surprisingly, our goals in the future will center on our traditional strengths: teaching
undergraduates, preparing graduate students, and recruiting and retaining the best faculty.
We also are exploring issues of civic engagement and leadership. More specific aspirations
will be articulated in the months to come in this newsletter and through other channels of
communication.

We expect to have the next iteration of our plan this coming fall, and I am anxious to
share it with any alumni, parents, or friends who are interested in seeing it. In the meantime,
if you have specific ideas for areas that Arts & Sciences should consider in this process,
please e-mail me at macias@wustl.edu.

Redesigned Web Site Features “Possibilities”

Arts & Sciences has launched a new
Web site that boasts more relevant
content, better navigation, and graphics
that are part of a new Arts & Sciences
visual identity.

The home page includes “Possibility”
stories about students, faculty, and alumni
who share opportunities and experiences
available to them in Arts & Sciences.
Other elements are news and events;
access to Web mail; links to newspa-
papers such as The New York Times and
International Herald Tribune; and links
to all areas of study, including depart-
ments, programs, and centers.

Teams also are redesigning sites for the
College of Arts & Sciences, the Graduate
School of Arts & Sciences, and University
College. Expected to be launched this
fall, these sites will reflect a familial look
easily recognized and identified as part of
Arts & Sciences.

Certain elements of these core sites
will extend to the 45 departments, pro-
grams, and centers. Design templates will
be provided for this purpose, enabling
each entity to claim its relationship to
Arts & Sciences, yet show its individuali-
ty. Arts & Sciences Computing will assist
Web site administrators who are incorpo-
rating these elements into their sites.

“Redesigning a site is much more than
new graphics and colors,” says Gayle
Kohmetscher, director of communications
for Arts & Sciences. “The most important
part of a redesign is the information and
how it’s organized. We want sites to be
designed with users in mind; they should
have useful content, and it should be
organized in an intuitive way.”

Tell us what you think of the new Arts
& Sciences site at www.artsci.wustl.edu;
you can use the “Contact Us” form located
in the footer to share your comments.
Ramanath Cowsik, professor of physics in Arts & Sciences, has been named director of the McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences effective July 1. He succeeds Roger J. Phillips, professor of earth and planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences, who is stepping down after seven years as director and who is retiring at the end of 2007.

Cowsik becomes only the third director of the center since it was established in 1975 by a gift from aerospace pioneer James S. McDonnell. The late Robert M. Walker, the McDonnell Professor of Physics, was its inaugural director.

The center is a consortium of Washington University faculty, research staff, and students, primarily from Arts & Sciences and the School of Engineering, who work on the cutting edge of space research.

Considered one of the world’s pre-eminent astrophysicists, Cowsik has made several seminal and lasting contributions to neutrino physics, gravitation, and high-energy astrophysics.

His relationship with WUSTL began in 1975 when Walker invited him to serve as a distinguished visiting professor at the McDonnell Center. Cowsik then joined the physics faculty in 2002 as a professor.

He earned his bachelor’s degree in physics, chemistry, and mathematics, with minors in English and Sanskrit, at the University of Mysore in India in 1958. He earned a master’s degree in physics at India’s Karnatak University in 1960 and then a doctorate in physics in 1968 from the University of Bombay.

Cowsik taught and did research for more than 40 years at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, where he served as director of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) for 11 years. As IIA director, he was instrumental in building the world’s highest ground-based observatory in the Himalayas.

Inducted into the National Academy of Sciences in 2004, Cowsik has received numerous other awards and honors, including India’s Padma Shri Award, equivalent to the National Medal of Science.

One of the world’s pre-eminent astrophysicists, Professor Ramanath Cowsik now directs Washington University’s McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences.

Quotables

“It was sometimes kind of tedious. But it was really cool to remember that it was Mars, and when you actually thought about that and looked at the image and you realize that you’re looking at rocks on Mars, it’s kind of humbling.”

Lauren Barry, a freshman who was part of a University team assisting NASA with the Phoenix mission to Mars. Ray Arvidson, the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and chair of earth and planetary sciences, leads the Landing Site Working Group.

“I came away from my Washington University experience with a great appreciation for deep research, deep scholarship, and deep thinking. That, along with my own interest in newspapers and my Southern childhood, all contributed to this book and what others have declared a success.”

Hank Klibanoff, AB ’71 in English, who was awarded the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for history with co-author Gene Roberts for their book, The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation (Knopf, 2006)

“Students were involved in roofing, framing, shingling, and painting, among other projects. It was an amazing experience.”

David Desruisseau, a senior majoring in biology who was part of a group from the WUSTL chapter of Habitat for Humanity that spent spring break constructing homes in a low-income area of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.
Department of English Leads Successful “Big Read”

The challenge of taking literature into the community through a program known as “The Big Read” was an opportunity David Lawton, professor and chair of English, and his colleagues welcomed. One of only 72 organizations across the country to receive a Big Read grant, the Department of English was the only university department in the country selected to spearhead a Big Read.

The program is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) designed to restore reading to the center of American culture by presenting people with opportunities to read and discuss a single book through organized book discussions, lectures, art exhibitions, and theatrical and musical performances in their community.

Ray Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451, a futuristic tale of society gone awry, in which firemen burn books and the state suppresses learning, was selected for the Big Read in St. Louis because it raises the question of the utility of books.

“Coming together to discuss literature leads to exchanging ideas,” comments Lawton, “which is one of the primary purposes of an English department. Reading teaches us that there are more than two sides to every question. Gathering the community together to examine those questions and discuss their many answers in a variety of venues helps people disagree productively, not to achieve consensus.

“After all,” he adds, “the ideas that come about when discussing literature are the glue that holds our society together.”

“The power of so many people working together toward a common goal was energizing,” says Cheryl Adelstein, Washington University’s director of community relations and local governmental affairs. “We hope to expand on the partnerships and the collaboration built through The Big Read so that we can offer similar programs in the future that bring University resources into the community and that encourage the greater St. Louis community to attend events and programs on the Danforth Campus.”

Not only did the Department of English partner with numerous campus organizations, including Edison Theatre, the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, the Washington University Libraries, the Assembly Series, and the Center for the Humanities, but also with local governments, library districts, school districts, television station KTVI-Fox 2, and other arts and literacy organizations. The NEA presented The Big Read in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest.

“We look forward to further community collaborations of this kind,” says Lawton.

Edison Theatre hosted a matinee performance of 1984 for four St. Louis high schools participating in The Big Read. After the play, a Metro Academic and Classical High School teacher (center) and students discussed themes linking 1984 and Fahrenheit 451 with Marina Mackay, assistant professor of English.

The Big Read Highlights

- 50 public events attended by about 12,500 people
- 36 book groups attended by about 500 people
- 28 educational activities impacting about 1,600 students grades 6–12
- 30 community partners, including 5 libraries/library districts, 4 museums, and 7 schools
- Department of English provided lecturers, book group facilitators, and other resources to support more than 75 events in the St. Louis area
- 15,000 reader’s guides, 75 teacher’s guides, and 750 audio guides distributed
- Approximately 5 million media impressions from January 1–March 30, 2007
2006 Select Faculty Books

Guinn Batten, associate professor of English, *The Cambridge History of Irish Literature*

John Bowen, Dunbar-Van Cleve Professor in Arts & Sciences, *Why the French Don’t Like Headscarves: Islam, the State, and Public Space*

Lingchei Letty Chen, assistant professor of modern Chinese language and literature, *Writing Chinese: Reshaping Chinese Cultural Identity*


Tili Boon Cuillé, assistant professor of French, *Narrative Interludes: Musical Tableaux in Eighteenth-Century French Texts*

Kathryn Davis, Hurst Senior Writer-in-Residence, *The Thin Place*

William H. Gass, David May Distinguished University Professor Emeritus in the Humanities, *A Temple of Texts*

Nathan M. Jensen, assistant professor of political science, *Nation-States and the Multinational Corporation: A Political Economy of Foreign Direct Investment*

Emma Kafalenos, senior lecturer in comparative literature, *Narrative Causalities Theory and Interpretation of Narrative Series*

Catherine Keane, assistant professor of classics, *Figuring Genre in Roman Satire*

Fatemeh Keshavarz, professor of Persian language and literature, *Recite in the Name of the Red Rose*


Larry May, professor of philosophy, *War Crimes and Just Wars*

Erin McGlothlin, assistant professor of German, *Second Generation Holocaust Literature: Legacies of Survival and Perpetration*

Steven Miles, assistant professor of history, *The Sea of Learning: Mobility and Identity in Nineteenth-Century Guangzhou*

Thomas Oltmanns, Edgar James Swift Professor in Arts & Sciences, *Case Studies in Abnormal Psychology* (7th ed.)

Frank Podosek, professor of earth and planetary sciences, *Noble Gas Geochemistry*

Henry L. Roediger, III, James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and dean of academic planning in Arts & Sciences, *Critical Thinking in Psychology*

Ignacio M. Sánchez Prado, assistant professor of Spanish and of international and area studies, *América Latina en la literatura mundial and América Latinagiro óptico*


Alan Templeton, Charles Rebstock Professor of Biology, *Population Genetics and Microevolutionary Theory*

Kellie Wells, writer-in-residence, *Skin: A Novel*

Gerhild Scholz Williams, Barbara Schaps Thomas and David M. Thomas Professor in the Humanities, *Ways of Knowing in Early Modern Germany and On the Inconstancy of Witches*

Carol Camp Yeakey, professor of education, of American culture studies, of international and area studies, and of urban studies, *Suffer the Little Children: National and International Dimensions of Child Poverty and Public Policy* 😊

Look for 2007 books in Arts & Sciences’ next periodical.
Ten Faculty Members Honored with Endowed Professorships

“Endowed professorships are reserved for the most distinguished faculty; they are the highest honors faculty members can receive,” says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. “They enable us to recognize faculty who create great works of art, conduct breakthrough research, write great books, teach inspired classes, and attract superb students. They exist in perpetuity. They are a lasting tribute to the donor or the person the donor wishes to honor. And the outstanding faculty who hold them—and their successors—will continue to provide great benefit to society for generations to come.”

In recognition of their distinguished body of work, Arts & Sciences has held installation ceremonies recently for 10 professors.

Costas Azariadis
Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor in Arts & Sciences
The inaugural director of the Center for Dynamic Economics, Costas Azariadis works on multiple equilibria and stabilization policy, the dynamics of economic development, and the role of imperfect financial markets in dynamic general equilibrium. His current research attempts to devise a unified framework for macroeconomics that describes the core behavioral relations of that field as a simple stochastic dynamical system. Azariadis has received 10 research grants from domestic and international sources.

Widely published in the leading peer-reviewed professional journals, he is also the author of *Intertemporal Macroeconomics*, a graduate-level textbook; roughly 40 journal articles; and 14 book chapters. He has supervised more than 40 doctoral dissertations. Known for his dynamism and collegiality, the professor teaches courses in monetary economics, macroeconomics, and asset pricing.

Azariadis earned a chemical engineering degree from the National Technical University in Athens, Greece, and his MBA and PhD, both in economics, from Carnegie Mellon University. Before joining Washington University, he was a faculty member at Brown University; the University of Pennsylvania; and the University of California, Los Angeles.

The Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professorships honor Edward Mallinckrodt and his son, Edward Mallinckrodt, Jr., successful chemists, prominent businessmen, and philanthropists who generously supported Washington University.

John Baugh
Margaret Bush Wilson Professor in Arts & Sciences
John Baugh focuses his interdisciplinary research on linguistic understanding of African-American language. He has written influential books on this topic, including *Black Street Speech: Its History, Structure, and Survival; Out of the Mouths of Slaves; and Beyond Ebonics: Linguistic Pride and Racial Prejudice*. He coined the phrase “linguistic profiling” to describe the process where a speaker’s race is identified through various voice characteristics. Implications from this line of research include illegal housing discrimination. His research has attracted support from the Ford Foundation and accolades from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. In addition to his research, Baugh is often recognized for his teaching excellence.

He received his bachelor’s degree in speech/rhetoric from Temple University, and then master’s and doctoral degrees in linguistics from the University of Pennsylvania. Baugh has held faculty positions at Swarthmore College, University of Texas–Austin, and Stanford University. At Washington University, he holds appointments in psychology, African & African American studies, anthropology, education, and English.

The endowed professorship Baugh holds honors prominent civil rights attorney Margaret Bush Wilson. The first woman to chair NAACP’s board of directors, she is also an emerita trustee of Washington University and a current member of the Arts & Sciences National Council.
State University, where he was chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

His named professorship honors the legacy of horse racing enthusiast Lucille Parker Markey, who wanted to help close the gap between the basic and clinical sciences.

**William E. Buhro**

**George E. Pake Professor in Arts & Sciences**

Associate director of the Center for Materials Innovation, William Buhro is a distinguished researcher and teacher in the field of nanoscience and materials chemistry. His interests range from synthetic inorganic and materials chemistry to metallic nanoparticles, nanoware and nanotube growth mechanisms, and nanocrystalline/nanocomposite structural materials. More than 90 of his papers have been published in refereed journals. The National Science Foundation, Monsanto, Eastman Kodak, Emerson, and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research have funded his research. Earning consistent praise from students and faculty, he has been presented with two teaching awards by Arts & Sciences students.

Buhro earned his bachelor’s degree from Hope College and his doctorate from the University of California, Los Angeles. Before joining Washington University, he held a research fellowship at Indiana University.

This professorship is one of three established by the JSM Charitable Trust and John F. McDonnell, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees, to support materials innovation. It is named in honor of one of the University’s most influential leaders, George Pake, a physics professor and later provost.

**Robert E. Blankenship**

**Lucille P. Markey Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences**

With appointments in both biology and chemistry, Robert Blankenship fits well with Washington University’s commitment to interdisciplinary study. He focuses his research primarily on elucidating the mechanism of energy-storing processes in photosynthetic organisms, including energy storage in antenna and reaction center complexes, the origin and evolution of photosynthesis, photosynthesis in extreme environments, and genomics of photosynthetic prokaryotes.

His book, *Molecular Mechanisms of Photosynthesis*, is regarded as the standard introductory exploration of photosynthesis. His publications number more than 200, and he has a long record of grant support from the National Science Foundation, United States Department of Energy, NASA, and the United States Department of Agriculture. Throughout his career, Blankenship has been committed to teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. He regularly mentors undergraduates, graduates, and postdoctoral fellows.

The professor received his bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Nebraska Wesleyan University and his doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley. Blankenship came to Washington University from Arizona State University, he held a research fellowship at Indiana University.

This professorship is one of three established by the JSM Charitable Trust and John F. McDonnell, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees, to support materials innovation. It is named in honor of one of the University’s most influential leaders, George Pake, a physics professor and later provost.

**Sarah C.R. Elgin**

**Viktor Hamburger Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences**

The recipient of numerous accolades, including “Outstanding St. Louis Scientist” and the Missouri Governor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, Sarah Elgin holds appointments in biology, education, biochemistry and molecular biophysics, and genetics. Her research examines the role of chromatic structure in fruit fly (*Drosophila melanogaster*) gene regulation. Her laboratory has developed several approaches that contribute to our understanding of how DNA is packaged in the nucleus. The National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, American Cancer Society, and Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) have funded her research.

Elgin is instrumental in directing Washington University’s HHMI-funded Undergraduate Biological Sciences
Robert E. Hegel  
**Liselotte Dieckmann Professor of Comparative Literature in Arts & Sciences**

A leading scholar in traditional Chinese fiction, Robert Hegel studies early modern China from 1300 to 1900, specifically the fiction of the middle Ming and Qing period, as well as theater. His interests extend to the interactions between illustrations and text in the act of reading, and to ideological formulations and structuring schemes in fictional and nonfictional narratives of the Qing. In addition to *Reading Illustrated Fiction in Late Imperial China* and *The Novel in Seventeenth-Century China*, he has written many essays, several translations of literary works and theoretical articles, and a scholarly handbook.

Hegel’s named professorship is a gift of the late William Matheson, a professor of comparative literature. Matheson made the bequest to honor his mentor and the person responsible for his joining Washington University’s faculty, Liselotte Dieckmann. This distinguished scholar of German and French literature was one of the first woman full professors and one of the first female department chairs at Washington University.

He and his team of researchers obtained the first complete proof of a 50-year-old hypothesis explaining how liquid metals resist turning into solids.

Hegel has taught a variety of courses and received special recognition for his teaching and mentoring.

David K. Levine  
**John H. Biggs Distinguished Professor of Economics in Arts & Sciences**

An economist noted for innovation and collaboration, David Levine studies intellectual property and endogenous growth in dynamic general equilibrium models. He also is researching the endogenous formation of preferences, social norms, learning in games, and the application of game theory to experimental economics. Levine’s research has been presented in seminars around the world. It is supported by grants from the National Science Foundation.

Published widely, Levine is co-author of *Learning in Games* and edits several conference volumes. He also has published more than 80 journal articles in every major professional economics journal.

He earned his bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Arkansas Polytechnic College and his master’s degree in physics from the University of Tennessee, the professor received another master’s degree and a doctorate in applied physics from Harvard University.

John F. McDonnell, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees, and the JSM Charitable Trust endowed Kelton’s professorship for an academic and research leader in materials science. This professorship honors the legacy of Nobel laureate Arthur Holly Compton, the professor and chair of physics who later became chancellor of Washington University.

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Mabel Moraña
William H. Gass Professor in Arts & Sciences

Highly regarded in the Americas and Europe for her scholarship, Mabel Moraña specializes in Latin American colonial literature and culture, Latin American cultural criticism, and Hispanism and Latin Americanism as academic and political fields. She has authored, co-authored, or edited 21 books, and produced more than 50 book chapters and journal articles. A French translation of her book, Viaje al silencio. Exploraciones del discurso barroco, recently was published.

Moraña’s students applaud her commitment to teaching and her accessibility. She also is known as an outstanding mentor to graduate students and junior faculty.

She earned her bachelor’s degree from Uruguay’s Instituto Dámaso A. Larrañaga, the degrees of Professor of Literature and Professor of Philosophy at Uruguay’s Instituto de Profesores Artigas, a master’s degree from Venezuela’s Universidad Simón Bolívar, and a doctorate in Hispanic literature from the University of Minnesota.

Moraña joined Washington University from the University of Pittsburgh, having previously held faculty positions at the Universities of Washington and Southern California. She is the inaugural holder of the Gass professorship, named for faculty member William Gass, a philosopher and award-winning writer. Gass also founded the International Writers Center, now the Center for the Humanities, at Washington University.

Karen L. Wooley
James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor in Arts & Sciences

Known for her innovative approaches to the design and preparation of well-defined polymer materials, Karen Wooley created nanometer-scale synthetic polymer particles and hollowed nanocages. She continues to investigate these materials to develop their potential as vessels for medical diagnostics and delivery agents. With a number of collaborators, Wooley recently received a $12-million National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute grant to establish a Program of Excellence in Nanotechnology, with the goal of studying nanoscale agents that can be used to diagnose and treat acute pulmonary and cardiovascular injury. In a different direction of research, she has produced novel materials engineered to exhibit marine antifouling behaviors that outperform commercial products.

Wooley has received numerous honors for her research, teaching, and mentorship.

She earned her bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Oregon State University and her doctorate in polymer and organic chemistry from Cornell University. This professorship honors the late James S. McDonnell, aviation pioneer and founder of McDonnell Aircraft Corp. McDonnell served as trustee and chairman of the Board of Trustees for many years. His sons, John F. McDonnell and James S. McDonnell III, have followed their father in their careers and in their service to higher education.

Technology. Before joining Washington University, Levine spent most of his academic career at UCLA, where he chaired the economics department several times.

Levine’s professorship is named through the generosity of John Biggs, a former vice chancellor and longtime supporter of Washington University; former chairman and chief executive officer of TIAA-CREF, a financial services organization; and now an executive-in-residence at New York University’s Stern School of Business and member of the Arts & Sciences National Council.
Select Faculty Honors

Raymond Arvidson, James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and chair of earth and planetary sciences, and Ramanath Cowsik, professor of physics: Inducted as 2007 Fellows of the Academy of Science of St. Louis

Carl Bender, professor of physics: Washington University 2007 Arthur Holly Compton Faculty Achievement Award

David Browman, professor of anthropology; Erin McGlothlin, assistant professor of German; and Karen Wooley, James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor: Washington University Graduate Student Senate 2007 Outstanding Faculty Mentor Awards

Gerald L. Early, Merle Kling Professor of Modern Letters and director of the Center for the Humanities: 2006 Phi Beta Kappa Award for Distinguished Service to the Humanities

William H. Gass, the David May Distinguished University Professor Emeritus in the Humanities: 2007 Truman Capote Award for Literary Criticism in Memory of Newton Arvin for A Temple of Texts

Paul Michael Lützeler, Rosa May Distinguished University Professor in the Humanities: Austrian Great Medal of Merit

William B. McKinnon, professor of earth and planetary sciences: Named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

Annelise Mertz, professor emerita of performing arts: Gateway Older Women’s League 2006 Lifetime Achievement Award


Patty Jo Watson, Distinguished University Professor Emerita, Archaeology: Archaeological Institute of America’s 2007 Pomerance Award for Scientific Contributions to Archaeology

Clifford M. Will, James S. McDonnell Professor of Physics: Elected to the National Academy of Sciences

Rafia Zafar, professor of English, of African & African American studies, and of American culture studies: Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture as the Walt Whitman Chair at Utrecht University in the Netherlands during the 2007 spring semester

Erin Finneran (standing), postdoctoral lecturer in English, led a discussion with a sixth-grade class from Flynn Park Elementary School after the class viewed the play Hana’s Suitcase, which intertwines the story of a young Czech Jew in 1939 with present-day Japanese children who discover Hana’s story. All sixth graders in University City public schools participated in the Washington University–University City Literacy Project. In addition to viewing the play, each child received a copy of the book, attended a lecture by author Karen Levine, and participated in a docent-led tour of the Holocaust Museum and Learning Center in St. Louis. Eight performances of Hana’s Suitcase, produced by the Metro Theater Company in partnership with Edison Theatre, brought in more than 5,000 area students for both the play and post-play workshops on diversity and other topics.
The Dred Scott Case Revisited

To commemorate the sesquicentennial of an infamous decision by the Supreme Court of the United States, Washington University hosted a national symposium on “The Dred Scott Case and Its Legacy: Race, Law, and the Struggle for Equality” March 1–3.

Examining the impact and legacy of the case, the symposium brought to campus nationally renowned historians, legal scholars, and judges; a Scott descendant; and rare documents pertaining to the case in Missouri, where the 11-year legal battle began.

The Supreme Court’s landmark decision, issued in 1857, upheld a Missouri appellate court ruling that denied the Scotts their freedom. It declared that blacks were not citizens and, therefore, could not sue in federal court. Further, the court ruled that the federal government did not have the power to prohibit slavery in its territories. The decision contributed to rising tensions between the North and South just before the Civil War.

“Although a bloody Civil War produced three Constitutional amendments to reverse that decision, the achievement of full racial, religious, and ethnic equality in this country remains an unfinished project,” says David T. Konig, a symposium organizer; professor of history, of African & African American Studies, both in Arts & Sciences; and professor of law. “This symposium asked why and how this is so 150 years later and how it might be changed. It sought to study and resume the struggle that the Scotts began in St. Louis and to be the focal point for reflection and recommitment to racial equality.”

The symposium, which was free and open to the public, opened with a keynote address by Chief Justice Michael A. Wolff of the Supreme Court of Missouri. He discussed “Race, Law, and the Struggle for Equality: Missouri Law, Politics, and the Dred Scott Case.”

Panel discussions then examined the case and its legacy from the Civil War to the present. Panel moderators included leading scholars on race and the law. Among the panelists was Jack Greenberg, a Columbia Law School professor who argued for the NAACP before the Supreme Court in the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education case, which declared “separate but equal” unconstitutional.

Lynne Madison Jackson, the great-great-granddaughter of Dred and Harriet Scott, also participated in the symposium. A session devoted to the theme of “From Scholarship to Citizenship” featured St. Louis public school teachers interacting with panelists on how scholarship can be integrated into school curricula.

A judicial roundtable—featuring Wolff and others from the Supreme Court of Missouri—took up the issues raised by the case and the lessons to be learned about the entry of politics into the judicial process.

The symposium concluded with a reception where documents from the Missouri State Archives’ Dred Scott case collection were displayed. The exhibition included the original petition to sue for freedom filed by Dred Scott April 6, 1846, in the St. Louis County Circuit Court.

Dred and Harriet Scott’s great-great granddaughter Lynne Jackson (center) and her father John Madison (left), the Scotts’ great-grandson, attended a symposium reception at the Old Courthouse in St. Louis where their ancestors (seen in the print on the wall) sued for freedom from slavery in 1847. With them are (from left) John Baugh, the Margaret Bush Wilson Professor in Arts & Sciences; David T. Konig, professor of history, of African & African American studies, and of law; and Christopher A. Bracey, professor of law and of African & African American studies.
As the weather grows warmer, the steps in front of Ridgley Hall and Holmes Lounge are a popular place for students to meet and review notes from class.

The softball team finished second in the national championship — the highest finish in WUSTL history. Seven team members were Arts & Sciences students.

The campus’ Gothic architecture provides ideal places for students to catch up between classes.

Thurtene Carnival is the University’s oldest tradition, dating back to 1904. Proceeds from this year’s carnival supported the George Washington Carver House.
Ridgley Hall marks the west side of the Brookings Quadrangle, which is viewed as the heart of campus.

The Danforth Campus is sprinkled with color in the spring, thanks to the blossoming trees.

Holding class beneath the campus’ oak trees is popular during the mild spring weather.

Whispers Café is a popular place to study any time of the year.

Many students bike to class year-round.

Arts & Sciences
Springs Forward
A collaborative lecture program between Washington University and the University of London's Institute for the Study of the Americas has been revived after a three-year hiatus. A lecture exchange between the two schools, the T.S. Eliot Lecture Program, was rekindled May 25, 2007, in a London lecture by Steven S. Smith, the Kate M. Gregg Professor of Social Sciences and director of the Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy. His lecture, “The Next Turn in American Politics: Congressional Politics in a Presidential Age,” examined the causes and consequences of the polarization in the American public, parties, and political institutions. Smith concluded, “Polarization is nothing new to American politics, but polarization combined with divided party control of the major political institutions has produced a policy deadlock that is costly to the American people.”

Shelley Milligan, assistant dean of Arts & Sciences, coordinates the T.S. Eliot Lecture: “It’s a wonderful partnership, especially as the University as a whole focuses more on international partnerships. This is a great example...”

Scholarships

Astronaut Scholarship Foundation Scholarship: Junior Andrew B. Newman, mathematics and physics. A team of 60 NASA astronauts selected 18 students from across the country, based on exceptional performance in a science or engineering field.

Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships: Junior Kevin Mercurio, physics; junior Eric Wofsey, mathematics; and sophomore Dafang Zhang, chemistry and philosophy. This scholarship is considered one of the most prestigious awards for undergraduates planning careers in science, engineering, or math. It provides up to $7,500 annually for tuition, fees, and books during junior or senior year.

Marshall Scholarship: Jeffrey J. Marlow, AB ’07, earth and planetary sciences, chemistry, and geobiology. This scholarship provides full support for two or three years of study at any British university. It rewards leadership in school, government, and community endeavors; excellence in scholarship; and personal achievements.

Harry S. Truman Scholarships: Junior Paul Moinester, political science and environmental studies; A.J. Singletary, earth and planetary sciences with minors in environmental studies and ballet. Scholars, who receive $30,000 toward two or three years of graduate study, are selected based on leadership potential, intellectual ability, and the likelihood of making a difference.

Morris K. Udall Scholarships: Juniors Paul Moinester, political science and environmental studies; A.J. Singletary, earth and planetary sciences with minors in environmental studies and ballet; and Emily Dangremond, environmental science. Recipients have demonstrated a commitment to fields related to the environment, or are Native American or native Alaskan students in fields related to health care and tribal public policy. Scholarships cover tuition, fees, books, and room and board up to $5,000 each year.
of the intellectual synergy that we can build together.”

Washington University, in its turn, will host a lecturer from London in spring 2008.

The idea for the T.S. Eliot Lecture Program is based on the intellectual spirit and geographical path of T. S. Eliot. The poet, who was the grandson of Washington University co-founder William Greenleaf Eliot, was born in St. Louis in 1888 and died in his adopted home of London in 1965. Although he departed St. Louis in 1905, the city’s influence loomed large in Eliot’s life:

“His rhythm was present in the nursery bedroom
In the rank ailanthus of the April dooryard
In the smell of grapes on the autumn table
And the evening circle in the winter gaslight.”

Other Honors

Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society inaugural 2007 inductees from Washington University: Bertin Louis, Jr., graduate anthropology student; Marshall Thompson, graduate political science student; and Kenya Powell, postdoctoral research associate in chemistry. The society recognizes outstanding scholarly achievement while promoting diversity and excellence in doctoral education and the professoriate.

William Lowell Putnam Mathematics Competition Honorable Mention: Washington University team consisting of junior Justin Gilmer, mathematics; Jon Pinyan, AB ’07, mathematics; and junior Eric Wofsey, mathematics

USA Today’s 2007 All-America College Academic First Team:
Jeffrey J. Marlow, AB ’07, earth and planetary sciences, chemistry, and geobiology

USA Today’s 2007 All-America College Academic Third Team:
Laura A. Kleinman, AB ’07, philosophy

USA Today’s 2007 All-America College Academic Honorable Mention: Jessica L. Friedman, AB ’07, earth and planetary sciences

Gerry and Bob Virgil Ethic of Service Awards: Juniors Tammy Shirley, chemistry and French, and Matt Zinter, biology

Washington University Social Change Grants: Junior Aryan Weisenfeld, biology, received the $10,000 Kathryn Wasserman Davis 100 Projects for Peace Social Change Grant; Weisenfeld plans to implement a support network to help Egyptian youth with hepatitis C. Junior Raymond Mailhot, biology and Spanish, won the $5,000 Kaldi’s Social Change Grant; he plans to identify resources for diabetes prevention and administer a yearlong intervention to prevent and control diabetes for Latino patients at St. Louis’ La Clinica. Junior Julienne Kane, political science, received the $3,000 Stern Social Change Grant; she plans to implement her Break the Chains program to promote literacy, peer communications, and creative expression among youth in juvenile detention.

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Arts & Sciences Optimizes Its Physical Spaces

by Brenda Murphy-Niederkorn

To accommodate growth in numbers of students, faculty, and research needs, Arts & Sciences is building or renovating structures on the Danforth Campus and surrounding sites. Four projects have been undertaken since 2006: the new Social Sciences/Law Building, the 560 Building, the Psychology Building addition, and the Wilson Hall renovation.

“Arts & Sciences has added truly state-of-the-art buildings to the Danforth Campus. The Departments of Economics, Education, and Political Science will soon occupy an excellent facility to match the outstanding caliber of teaching and research by our faculty and the engaged learning of our students,” says Edward S. Macias, executive vice chancellor, dean of Arts & Sciences, and the Barbara and David Thomas Distinguished Professor in Arts & Sciences.

“We want to give our people not only more space, but better space,” adds Tom Simmons, director of facilities for Arts & Sciences. “With larger, better facilities, they’ll be able to do a better job of research and teaching.”

Social Sciences/Law Building

Construction of the Social Sciences/Law Building remains on schedule for completion in July 2008, Simmons reports. This building predominantly is being built on former parking lot space. Located toward the western end of the Danforth Campus at Olympian Way near Francis Field, this 150,000-square-foot building will feature a lower level and three upper floors as well as a penthouse for mechanical and shell space. The Social Sciences/Law Building has been designed in the Collegiate Gothic architectural style to blend well with other campus buildings.

“This building is meant to be a western bookend to Brookings Hall on campus,” Simmons says. “It’s a prominent building; its very presence creates a new quadrangle.”

Arts & Sciences and the School of Law each had space needs and were conducting independent discussions with the University’s central administration office, which suggested both schools’ needs could be met by sharing this building, he continues.

“Many of the Arts & Sciences departments involved have strong relationships with the School of Law, so everyone stands to benefit by being near one another,” he adds.

For Arts & Sciences, the new building will be home to the Departments of Economics, Political Science, and Education, as well as the Murray Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy and the Center for New Institutional Social Sciences. It also will house the School of Law’s international programs, graduate programs, four research centers, and legal publications. The building’s 14 pooled classrooms – collectively offering the most total classroom seating capacity of any building on campus – will include a 122-seat tiered classroom. In addition, Arts & Sciences will have computer labs in the lower level and seminar and conference rooms on the upper floors.

The 560 Building

Washington University purchased the Community Music School of Webster University, located at 560 Trinity Avenue in University City, in November 2005 to provide additional performance,
A new study shows two centuries of development have eliminated or destroyed many caves in St. Louis County. “Caves have been discarded by developers with the same impunity as trees,” says Robert E. Criss, professor of earth and planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences and co-author of the study. “There is no law in Missouri to protect caves on private land, and we don’t seem to have any protocol as to what is acceptable.”

Criss conducted the study with collaborators Jennifer Lippmann, a graduate student in earth and planetary sciences; Everett Criss, his son; and laboratory administrator G.R. Osburn. Their study appeared in Missouri Speleology.

The researchers determined the condition of most of the county’s 127 known caves, which are a feature of karst terrain. Twenty-four caves, they found, have been lost to or modified by recent development and suburban expansion. This number includes 16 obliterated caves or entrances, three that likely have been destroyed, and five that have been turned into culvert entrances.

The team used existing data of mostly paper documents, including historic reports and maps between 20-50 years old and some from the late 19th century, to locate the caves. They visited many of the caves, refining the previously reported locations using a global positioning system, and updated the records. They entered their reports and all pre-existing reports into the electronic database of the nonprofit Missouri Speleological Survey Inc.

Along with losing the natural past, development in a karst geological system creates structural and ecological concerns. “Disregard for springs, caves and sinkholes can lead to their destruction,” the authors write, “and can result in engineering problems.”

Study Shows How Development Threatens Local Caves
Honoring Distinction and Service

Arts & Sciences takes pride in recognizing its alumni and friends through the Distinguished Alumni Awards and Dean’s Medal, awarded annually, and the Distinguished Alumni Awards and Distinguished Friend for University College, awarded biennially. These awards honor distinction in professional careers, as well as service to communities and to Washington University.

In a May 19, 2006, ceremony, Arts & Sciences Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented to Alan R. Bender, AB ’76, telecommunications executive; Barbara Levy Landes, AB ’71, Public Broadcasting Services’ senior vice president and chief financial officer; Sanford C. Loewentheil, AB ’76, real estate leader, philanthropist, and member of the Arts & Sciences National Council; Kate Hilliker Murashige, AB ’56, partner at Morrison & Foerster LLP in San Diego; and Jill Evans Petzall, AB ’78, MA ’81, documentary filmmaker. The Dean’s Medal went to John A. Berg, the associate vice chancellor for admissions.

The May 18, 2007, ceremony recognized Mel F. Brown, AB ’57, JD ‘61, an attorney and financial executive; Alvin Rabushka, AB ’62, MA ’66, PhD ’68, professor at Stanford University and flat-tax innovator; Ronald M. Rettner, AB ’72, president of Rettner Management Corporation and director of the Morris B. Rettner Foundation; Pepper Schwartz, AB ’67, MA ’69, professor at the University of Washington and relationships expert; and William Jay Smith, AB ’39, MA ’41, a poet, translator, literary critic, and children’s author. Harriet Switzer, secretary to the Board of Trustees, received the Dean’s Medal for her 26 years of service to the University.

As part of its 75th anniversary, University College recognized the achievements of two alumni and one friend at a March 27, 2007, ceremony. Distinguished Alumni Awards went to M. Patricia Barrett, MLA ’95, a corporate communicator and community leader, and to Ronald J. Himes, BS ’78, founder and producing director of The Saint Louis Black Repertory Company. Distinguished Friend of the Lifelong Learning Institute went to Lawrence Kahn, House Staff ’51, for helping to organize this program for those 55 and older and for facilitating more than 50 study groups.

Congress Approves Tax-Free Gifts from IRAs

A new provision in the Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows individuals to make direct gifts in 2007 of up to $100,000 from a Roth or traditional individual retirement account (IRA) to Washington University or other charity—without including the distribution in income.

- Gifts from an IRA may be used only to make a direct gift to a charity.
- Gifts are limited to not more than $100,000 per taxpayer per year.
Living a Commitment to Education
by Susan C. Thomson

“We are big on education,” says Bill Morris of himself and his wife, Louise. “We think the more education you have, the better off you’ll be and the more opportunities you’ll have.”

A doctor with a demanding practice as an oncologist and a hematologist, Bill still earned a Washington University degree through the Executive MBA program in 1989. Although his degrees reflect specific programs of study, he is the first to tell you that he believes in exploring many areas of academics and not limiting yourself to one narrow field.

Louise agrees, expressing their belief in a strong liberal arts education: “The arts and sciences at Washington University educates the right brain and the left brain.”

Bill, for instance, made sure to take a healthy dose of liberal arts courses along with his pre-med requirements. “I felt strongly I should sample all the academic disciplines, not just pre-med, which would make me very narrow,” he says. “I didn’t want to be just a science nerd.”

While Bill and Louise attended other universities for their undergraduate degrees, three of their four children followed in the footsteps of two of Louise’s great-grandfathers by attending Washington University: Laura, AB ’00, who majored in English; Matt, BS ’07, who majored in managerial economics; and John, a junior this fall who is majoring in English. Their son Robert is attending Saint Louis University.

A liberal arts education, Louise says, “really brings out all of your talents. It has made our children’s lives richer.”

“Your support of the arts and sciences at Washington University is greatly appreciated by the student body, faculty, and staff. It is wonderful to have a stable, generous source of funding to support the arts and sciences here.”

Bill and Louise say that the arts and sciences are essential to the university’s mission. “We are big on education,” says Bill, “and we think the more education you have, the better off you’ll be and the more opportunities you’ll have.”

The Morrises’ generosity has extended beyond their own children. They have contributed to the University’s Annual Fund for several years and have established the Morris Family Scholarship Fund, which provides financial assistance to incoming Arts & Sciences students. The couple also underwrite the annual senior class gift of a partial four-year scholarship for incoming Arts & Sciences freshmen.

In recognition of their commitment to education, the Morrises have established the Chopin-Morris Scholarship Fund in memory of Bill’s parents; the proceeds partially support an undergraduate Arts & Sciences student for four years.

The couple now underwrites each year’s senior class gift of a partial four-year scholarship for an incoming Arts & Sciences freshman. The Morrises pledge to match dollar-for-dollar whatever amount of money the seniors raise. They call their initiative the Chopin–Morris Challenge Scholarship. Its first name honors Louise’s noted St. Louis family of origin, which, her husband jests, is “bigger box office” than his because of her great-grandmother Kate Chopin, one of the most celebrated American female fiction writers of the late 19th century.

The Morrises say the goal of their challenge is to encourage students and others to give to the University to help ensure that it remains, in his words, “a great place to study and learn.”

“Bill and Louise have a boundless amount of energy when it comes to students and Washington University,” says Shannon McAvoy Grass, associate director of development for Arts & Sciences and director of development for University College. “When people care this much about students and their success, it shows and it’s contagious.”

“Also generous with time, Bill serves on the Arts & Sciences Dean’s Advisory Board, extending his commitment to the quality learning that Washington University represents.”

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Louise Morris

For more information, contact the Planned Giving Office by phone at 314-935-5373 or 1-800-835-3503 or by e-mail at plannedgiving@wustl.edu. You can also contact your IRA administrator/trustee.

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Commencement 2007

Arts & Sciences students receiving bachelor’s degrees: 882

Arts & Sciences students receiving master’s degrees: 138

Arts & Sciences students receiving doctoral degrees: 108

Top three majors of Arts & Sciences undergraduate students:
Psychology
Biology
Anthropology