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University in St. Louis.”
Imagine a future where scientists could block the growth of cancer cells; imagine the extraordinary impact that would have on society. Our distinguished faculty, including pioneering researcher Gary Patti, associate professor of chemistry (pictured on the cover), aspire to such a future — one built on a new era of scientific breakthroughs. To help turn such aspirations into reality, the university determined, after conducting a two-year benchmarking study, that the university must develop modern facilities and acquire more advanced equipment that are crucial to do research that can have significant impact. Parts of our current science infrastructure are just not suitable for today’s research demands. Consequently, in May, we launched Driving Discovery, an ambitious, multiyear initiative in Arts & Sciences, whereby we will invest over the long term in building an ecosystem of dynamic, interconnected faculty, outstanding students and world-class facilities to foster a new age of discovery (see pp. 12–17).

A new era is underway in other parts of the university as well. At the start of the academic year, we welcomed five new leaders to key executive positions: Mary McKernan McKay, a leading scholar in the fields of social work and public health and former director of the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University, became the new dean of the Brown School. Philosophy Professor Mark Rollins, who has served the university in many leadership capacities, including the former chair of philosophy and performing arts, became the dean of University College. Mark Taylor, a scholar of global business and finance and dean of the University of Warwick’s business school in Coventry, England, was named the dean of the Olin Business School. Monica Allen, a distinguished alumna of the university became vice chancellor and general counsel after many years in the Office of the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel. And Ronné Patrick Turner, former associate vice president of enrollment and dean of admission at Northeastern University in Boston, became the vice provost for admissions. Turner is known for her expertise in recruiting top students as well as in helping them flourish during their college years and beyond. (See pp. 4–5.)

The Gary M. Sumers Recreation Center opened this fall to much acclaim. The new center, to be dedicated Oct. 28, 2016, adds more than 60,000 square feet to the Athletics Complex and provides us with the opportunity to reimagine how recreation and wellness can engage students and the entire university community. Look for more on the center in our next print issue.

Until then, we are excited to be transforming the Athletics Complex for the second presidential debate, scheduled for Oct. 9, 2016. Once again, the Commission on Presidential Debates selected Washington University as a host, which reflects on our dynamic and engaged university community, as well as the importance of the St. Louis region. (For more on the university’s long history of hosting debates, see pp. 8–9.)

One unit that stays permanently engaged in the national political conversation is the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics. As public rhetoric around the intersection of religion and politics often divides us, the Danforth Center seeks to foster rigorous scholarship that helps build bridges and broaden understanding of some of our country’s most contentious issues (see pp. 18–25).

As always, I hope you enjoy this issue. I invite you to visit our digital information center, The Source, source.wustl.edu, for more news of today’s discoveries and activities at Washington University. We welcome your comments and ideas; please email the editor at wustlmageditor@wustl.edu.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Wrighton
Chancellor
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Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Wrighton
Chancellor
New leadership on campus

WashU’s new head of admissions

Ronné Patrick Turner, previously associate vice president of enrollment and dean of admission at Northeastern University, is the new vice provost for admissions at WashU. In addition to directing the recruitment of undergraduates, Turner will implement strategies to increase the strength and diversity of the student body.

Turner, who started July 1, is taking over from John Berg, who stepped down as vice chancellor for admissions after more than 20 years in that role and 30 years at the university.

“We could not be more pleased that our national search for the next leader in undergraduate admissions led us to Ronné Turner,” says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

Fast facts:

- Turner earned her bachelor’s degree in social and behavioral science from Johns Hopkins University, where she eventually became assistant director of admissions.

- She worked at Northeastern for nearly 15 years before coming to WashU.

- At Northeastern, Turner served on the university’s Enrollment Strategy Committee, which focused on scholarships and financial aid and oversaw the Opportunity Scholarship unit, which focused on attracting first-generation college students.

Taking the reins at the Brown School

On June 30, 2016, Edward Lawlor, the William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor, stepped down as dean of the Brown School after overseeing more than a decade of unprecedented growth. Taking over as dean of the Brown School is Mary McKernan McKay, formerly the McSilver Professor of Poverty Studies and director of the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University’s Silver School of Social Work.

“This is a major coup for us,” says Provost Holden Thorp.

“No only have we recruited one of the leading scholars in the fields of social work and public health, but we also are gaining an outstanding leader who … will bring great enthusiasm to the role and inspire our students and faculty to continue to reach great heights.”

Fast facts:

- The McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research that McKay directed focused on child mental health services, HIV prevention and care, and social service delivery to poverty-impacted youth and families.

- McKay has a diverse background. Before NYU, she was head of the Division of Mental Health Services Research at Mount Sinai School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry.

- She has published more than 150 peer-reviewed articles, co-authored two books and received numerous awards and honors throughout her career.

In her own words:

“... team and to contribute to the university’s continued enrollment success. I look forward to working with the entire university … to attract outstanding students from diverse backgrounds.”

In her own words:

“I look forward to working side by side with faculty, students and administrators as we continue the school’s long and proud tradition of creating new knowledge to address serious social and health challenges locally, nationally and globally.”
New leadership at University College in Arts & Sciences

In 2015, Robert Wiltenburg retired as dean of University College in Arts & Sciences after nearly 20 years. Steve Ehrlich, associate dean for academics in University College, served as interim dean until July 1, 2016, when Mark Rollins, professor of philosophy and chair of the Performing Arts Department at WashU, took over the role.

“Mark is the right person to lead University College, and I am thankful he will continue his many years of service … through this new role,” says Provost Holden Thorp.

University College enrolls more than 1,270 students in certificate and degree programs.

As dean, Rollins will also oversee the Lifelong Learning Institute, with 650 participants a year, and Summer School, which offers 16 programs to more than 800 students.

In his own words:
“University College … epitomizes our commitment to diversity by providing knowledge, skills and degrees to a wide range of students, connecting the university to the larger community.”

Fast facts:
• Rollins has been at the university for nearly three decades, serving as chair of many academic committees and serving as associate dean in both University College and Arts & Sciences.
• He helped create the Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology program more than 20 years ago and is a professor in the program.
• Rollins’ academic interests include the intersection of aesthetics and cognitive science, such as theories of picture perception, the role of attention in aesthetic experience and a cognitive psychology of artistic style.

International finance expert is new dean for business

To find someone to fill the vacancy in Olin Business School, the university had to look across the pond. Mark Taylor, dean of Warwick Business School and professor of international finance at the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom, will start Dec. 1.

Taylor is replacing Dean Mahendra Gupta, the Geraldine J. and Robert L. Virgin Professor of Accounting and Management at Olin, who concluded his deanship after 11 years of building outstanding academic programs around the world. Taylor brings his own international expertise, having formed alliances with Warwick Peking University, the Indian Institute of Management and University of Cape Town in South Africa.

In his own words:
“A strong foundation has been created by my predecessor and his team, and I intend to build on that to bring further success to the school as we enter Olin’s second century.”

Fast facts:
• As dean at Warwick, Taylor oversaw a dramatic rise in the school’s rankings and research performance, the opening in 2014 of the school’s new London base in the city’s tallest and most iconic building, and a multimillion-dollar extension of the main campus building.
• He is one of the most highly cited economists in the world.
• Taylor graduated from Oxford University with degrees in philosophy, politics and economics. And in addition to a PhD in economics, he holds a master’s degree in English literature.
Designing affordable solar living

A group of undergraduate and graduate students will be designing the homes of the future for the next two years because WashU was one of 16 collegiate teams selected by the U.S. Department of Energy for the Solar Decathlon 2017 competition.

The competition gives teams two years to design, construct and test solar-powered houses. The houses are then reassembled in Orange County, California, the competition site, and judged in 10 different contests for their ability to blend affordability, consumer appeal and design excellence with energy efficiency.

For the first time ever, the Solar Decathlon teams are competing for $2 million in prize money.

Leading the Washington University team are Pabo Moyano, senior lecturer in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, and Hongxi Yin, I-CARES associate professor in advanced building systems and architectural design, who was site operation manager for Solar Decathlon China in 2013.

Cyborg insects become biorobotic sensing machines

A team of engineers from Washington University is looking to capitalize on the sense of smell in locusts to create a new biorobotic sensing system that could be used in homeland security applications.

Baranidharan Raman, associate professor of biomedical engineering in the School of Engineering & Applied Science, has received a three-year, $750,000 grant from the Office of Naval Research to use the highly sensitive locust olfactory system as the basis to develop a biohybrid nose.

Locusts have powerful olfactory sensors that pick up on neural activity in their brains. By attaching sensors to the insects that pick up on neural activity, Raman can harness that power. The locusts are also equipped with a small pack, which transmits those brain signals to an LED receiver that lights up red if there are certain smells present (such as those found in explosives) and green if there aren’t.

“Why not take advantage of the biological solution?” Raman says. “That is the philosophy here. Even the state-of-the-art miniaturized chemical sensing devices have a handful of sensors. By contrast, if you look at insect antennae, where their chemical sensors are located, there are several hundreds of thousands of sensors and a variety of types.”

Srikanth Singamaneni, associate professor of materials science, and Shantanu Chakrabarty, professor of computer science and engineering, are also working on the project.

Exploring Ferguson’s fault lines


The book, Ferguson’s Fault Lines: The Race Quake That Rocked a Nation, includes contributions from lawyers, professors, social scientists and journalists. It examines the impact that poverty, inadequate and segregated housing, crime, poor health outcomes and access to care, and Ferguson policing had on the death of unarmed teen Michael Brown and the tensions that erupted in the wake of his shooting by a police officer.
A chance at change

By Rosalind Early

When she was 17, Shawntelle Fisher was convicted of nine felony counts of writing bad checks. She would go on to spend the next 20 years in and out of prison. Now Fisher is an Olin Fellow and enrolled in the social work and divinity (MSW/MDiv) program at the Brown School and Eden Theological Seminary, but her journey to Washington University was not an easy one.

During her seventh stint in prison, Fisher decided she would get her associates degree — she had earlier earned a high school diploma. She called St. Louis Community College (STLCC) – Florissant Valley and was encouraged to enroll after she was released.

Fisher excelled at school and in 2013, after earning her associates, was awarded a full scholarship to the University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL), where she studied education and media studies, and minored in social work. During this time, she also founded her nonprofit SoulFisher Ministries, which offers tutoring to children of incarcerated parents as well as re-entry services for former felons.

After graduating, Fisher knew she wanted to do more with social work, which led her to Washington University. Here, she talks about how she changed the course of her life.

What led you to have your first encounter with the law?
I became a mom when I was 15. Starting off, I had a lot of support, so I did really well. But as I got a little older, I started getting pulled by people who were making wrong decisions. That entailed writing bad checks around town. Eventually, it led to my being arrested when I was 17. I was old enough then to go into the adult prison system. So that’s what happened. And I didn’t just get one felony conviction; they gave me a conviction for each check. So here I am, a 17-year-old girl with nine felony convictions. That changed the destiny of my life completely.

What made you want to change?
I come home from the penitentiary, I’m like 20 now, having trouble finding jobs. So I do what I learned to do, and that’s break the law. Of course, that leads back to prison, in and out, for a total of seven trips. But July 31, 2005, I was in a really bad car accident where my spine was completely crushed. I have a cage in my back that literally supports my spine, and doctors had to take my 10th rib out to put in my back. At that time, I was a courier. But now I can’t drive because I’ve been injured, and so I’m back in the same position that I was in, cannot find a job. So what do I do? I start dipping and dabbing into what I know best. I wound up getting locked up again. That was my seventh time. And the day that I got locked up, I was just like: “This is it! Enough is enough.” I had never been raised in church or anything like that, but I did always believe that God existed. So I just cried out to him, and I said: “You know, I’m sick of my life. I’m sick of me. I’m really just sick of everything and everybody. So if you can do something with my life, it’s yours, because I don’t want it anymore.”

And what happened?
When I get back to prison, they’re expecting to see this same person that fought all the time, and they didn’t see that. So the [prison administration] was like, “There’s something different about Fisher.” They began to treat me like the woman of God that I had become, and so I had favor in the prison. Once I left the state prison, I had to go to the federal prison in Waseca, Minnesota, and there I worked in education. I did all the tutor training. No one could even get hired in the education department if they didn’t go through my training. I’m not knowing that God is using me to do this because he’s training me to do something when I come home. I never thought I would come home and start a nonprofit. I just knew that when I came home, I was never going back to prison.

About Shawntelle Fisher
> At STLCC, she was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, became president of the organization’s global classroom and went to Italy.
> In 2013, Gov. Jay Nixon named her to the All-Missouri Academic Team, an honor bestowed on the state’s top community college students.
> At UMSL, Fisher earned a place in the Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

See the “Three Questions” video at source.wustl.edu/2016/06/fisher.
The gold standard

By Rosalind Early

On Oct. 2, 1992, President George H.W. Bush’s and Gov. Bill Clinton’s campaigns finally reached an agreement about the debate schedule. But the first debate would be Oct. 11, and there was no venue. Janet Brown, executive director of the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD), called then-Missouri Sen. Jack Danforth. (She had once been his press secretary.)

“I was told … that if we could raise half a million dollars in a couple of hours, we could get the first debate in St. Louis,” Danforth later told the Chicago Tribune. “It was Friday afternoon, and I knew that I was on a very tight time schedule.” He called August A. Busch III, chairman and president of Anheuser-Busch, and within half an hour had secured the half million dollars. He also called his brother, William H. Danforth, then chancellor at WashU, and told him that the CPD would be looking for a site in St. Louis.

The commission visited Oct. 4 and told Washington University that afternoon that it would host the debate in seven days. Through a coordinated and herculean effort, WashU transformed its Athletic Complex into a TV studio and accommodated the needs of every major TV studio and thousands of journalists, aides, campaign staffers and volunteers. It went so well that when the CPD picks debate sites, Washington University is usually on the short list. We were selected as a debate site in 1996 (canceled at the last minute), 2000, 2004, 2008 (vice presidential debate) and now again in 2016.

“This campus is the gold standard for debates,” Janet Brown said back in 2004. And Washington University just keeps raising the bar.

To find debate information and celebrate with WashU, visit debate.wustl.edu.

WashU will host a debate for the fifth time this October. Here, we look back at our past debates.

Debate Did You Know?

- WashU debate with the most viewers
  69.9 million viewers | 2008 vice presidential debate between Democrat Joe Biden and Republican Sarah Palin

- WashU debate with the fewest viewers
  37.7 million viewers | 2004 presidential debate between Republican George W. Bush and Democrat John Kerry

- Air-conditioning played a key role
  One of the requirements for a debate site is that the room can be cooled to at least 70 degrees to mitigate the heat from all the lights. When the debate commission came in fall 1992, the air-conditioning in the Athletic Complex had already been shut off but was quickly flipped back on. For the curious, the Field House is usually a chilly 65 degrees for the debate.

- We had to clean up after a party
  The debate commission visit in 1992 was the day after the university’s homecoming, which included a parade, tailgate party, football game and dance. William Wiley, manager of maintenance, spiffed up the grounds in time for the 11:30 a.m. visit.
You can keep your eyes peeled for candidates
In 1992, Gov. Bill Clinton jogged from his hotel to Forest Park along Forsyth Blvd. Maybe if he returns with his wife and Democratic presidential nominee, Hillary Clinton, in October, there could be a second spotting.

Students meet the future president
Every debate, the president of Student Union gets to present both candidates with WashU swag and welcome the audience to the debate. The chancellor also says a few words as well as a faculty member and someone from the CPD.

That stage doesn’t just look the same
From debate to debate, the stage remains the same. It is then taken down and shipped to the subsequent venues.

Excluded candidates still get the floor
In 2000, when Ralph Nader was running with the Green Party, the CPD excluded him from the debates, but he spoke at 5 p.m. at Northmoor Park the day of the debates anyway.

Debate prep has changed
> In 1992, the university installed 12,500 phone lines — now primarily mobile cell phone towers are used.
> In 1992, the university turned showers into photo-developing and -transmitting facilities and had student volunteers running film from the debate hall to the labs — now it’s all digital.
> Students made a shirt in 1992 for the top 10 reasons they missed the debate. Reason No. 3 was, “babysitting Murphy Brown’s baby” — a reference lost on today’s students.
> Previously, placards were hung around campus with debate updates — now people just visit debate.wustl.edu.
Spot bad arguments

“I would say a common flaw in arguments is that people skip steps. So one argument that the debate team had recently is that we should get rid of all nuclear weapons. The other team said if we get all the nuclear weapons together, and we ship them off to space, no one will have them, and we won’t be able to use them. But people miss prior steps, and that’s where I really think the argument should be focused. How are we going to get all the nuclear weapons together? How are we going to get people to agree on this? How are we going to even get someone to propose this diplomatically? It sounds like a good idea, but a lot of times in debate, people miss those little real-world steps.”

— Caroline Moore, Arts & Sciences Class of 2018, is a member of the university’s debate team. In high school, she was part of her school’s first all-female debate team, which was ranked the sixth-best team in Ohio for policy debate.

Recognize other influences

“Frequently, the person who seems to have made the strongest arguments isn’t seen as the winner. The arguments are just the cognitive side of the debate. There’s also an emotional side. Who seems to look and behave like a leader? Who is confident and who seems unsure? These kinds of impressions make a difference, the most famous example being the 1960 debate between Kennedy and Nixon. Those who listened to the debate on the radio thought that Nixon had won. But those who had seen it on television thought that Kennedy had won. Nixon probably won on debater’s points, but he was perspiring, looked unsure, and was feeling a little under the weather, whereas Kennedy looked cool and collected. It helped Kennedy’s cause greatly.”

— Steven S. Smith is the Kate M. Gregg Distinguished Professor of Social Science, professor of political science and director of the Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy. He has also worked on Capitol Hill and at the Brookings Institution.
Experts across campus provide insight into what to look out for while watching the debates this fall, including the second debate scheduled to be at Washington University Sunday, Oct. 9. Check out debate.wustl.edu for more information.

3 Know the pros and the cons

“Suppose there are a bunch of really good reasons someone comes up with for some conclusion or some course of action. It’s always a good idea to ask yourself if there are better reasons for the opposite. If you haven’t looked at both the pros and the cons, you’re always risking missing something; because no matter how good your reasons are, the reasons on the other side might be even stronger.”

— Julia Staffel, assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy, studies formal and traditional epistemology, or the nature of rational and irrational beliefs.

4 Spot bad arguments

“I would say a common flaw in arguments is that people skip steps. So one argument that the debate team had recently is that we should get rid of all nuclear weapons. The other team said if we get all the nuclear weapons together, and we ship them off to space, no one will have them, and we won’t be able to use them. But people miss prior steps, and that’s where I really think the argument should be focused. How are we going to get all the nuclear weapons together? How are we going to get people to agree on this? How are we going to even get someone to propose this diplomatically? It sounds like a good idea, but a lot of times in debate, people miss those little real-world steps.”

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5 Know your biases

“People are much more likely to scrutinize an argument very closely if it argues for a position that they disagree with. In one study, people were asked, ‘Do these findings support that gun control makes a city safer?’ When people agreed with the conclusion, they did a worse job at actually figuring out how the data was supposed to support the conclusion, whereas if they disagreed with it, they picked apart the evidence very carefully. Often we have incredibly good arguments for why everyone else is wrong, but then we never really scrutinize how good the arguments are for why we are right.”

— Julia Staffel

6 The benefit of the debates

“The research on the effect of debates suggests that in terms of moving votes, it’s not all that effective. If you look at polls right before a debate and right after a debate, you don’t tend to see all that much difference. But the debates, the conventions, the town halls, they’re part of the story of American politics. It’s part of the country’s tapestry. They’re powerful images, and they help us frame and figure out and digest what happened and why.”

— Andrew Reeves is an associate professor of political science and a research fellow at the Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy. He co-authored the book The Particularist President: Executive Branch Policy and Political Inequality, which challenges the notion that the president represents the interests of all Americans. He teaches about American elections and voting behavior, the American presidency and executive branch politics.
Driving Discovery

A transformative plan for the future of the natural sciences will foster a collaborative ecosystem of faculty, students and facilities and usher in a new era of scientific discovery.
The transformation, which began in summer 2016, is undergoing a long-term, major renovation of the Danforth Campus science facilities - that fosters innovation and collaboration, says Barbara A. Schaal, dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences and the Mary-Dell Chilton Distinguished Professor in the Department of Biology in Arts & Sciences. “This ambitious effort will empower research across disciplinary boundaries - not just among all the natural sciences, but also some social sciences like anthropology and psychology, as well as exciting new collaborations with the School of Engineering & Applied Science and the School of Medicine,” Schaal says. “Today, we face a new imperative - to pursue solutions to complex challenges through interdisciplinary collaboration,” she continues. “We’re hopeful that this initiative will lead to a new era of discovery.”

“The scientific enterprise at Washington University is among the world’s most fruitful,” adds Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. “For this rich tradition of inventive, insightful research to continue at an unbroken pace, we must maintain and expand our leadership in basic science. The benefits of this initiative will extend far beyond our campus, creating a brighter future for all.”

A history of excellence in basic research
At Washington University, we are proud to have a long history of scientific achievement and innovation. Our distinguished faculty have conducted Nobel Prize-winning research, created groundbreaking interdisciplinary programs and inspired new generations of scientific leaders.

Funds are acquired to build a “superior telescope.” The 6-inch refactor is still in service, providing accessible astronomical viewing to the St. Louis community.

Anna Isabel Mulford becomes the first student to earn a doctorate from Washington University, in botany. All earlier doctorates were awarded to faculty.

Arthur Holly Compton, then chair of the Department of Physics, carries out X-ray scattering experiments that confirm both quantum mechanics and relativity, elucidating what became known as the Compton Effect. Recognizing this work, he is awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1927.

Joseph Kennedy, former head of the Chemistry and Metallurgy Division for the Manhattan Project, becomes chair of the Department of Chemistry. He recruits five renowned colleagues from his team at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, establishing one of the nation's top research and graduate programs in chemistry.

Rita Levi-Montalcini joins the Department of Biology and remains until her retirement. In the 1950s, Levi-Montalcini and biochemist Stanley Cohen identify the nerve-growth factor, for which they receive the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1986.

The Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences, comprising six preclinical departments of the medical school and the biology department, is established under the direction of P. Roy Vagelos, head of the biological chemistry department.

Samuel Weissman, a Manhattan Project scientist and esteemed member of the Department of Chemistry faculty since 1946, retires. At Washington University, Weissman became a pioneer in the development of electron spin resonance (ESR) as a tool for exploring chemistry. The annual Weissman Lecture Series was created in his honor.

With support from the U.S. Department of Energy, Washington University launches the Photosynthetic Antenna Research Center (PARC), led by Robert Blankenship and Dewey Holton of the departments of biology and chemistry. PARC focuses on the scientific groundwork required to meet the global need for abundant, clean and economical energy.

The university establishes the Institute of Materials Science and Engineering. It comprises more than 30 research groups from Arts & Sciences, the School of Engineering & Applied Science and the School of Medicine. Kenneth Kelton is named as the first director.

At this moment in history, our world faces unprecedented challenges — feeding a growing global population, developing new sources of energy, dealing with climate change, creating a sustainable environment and managing emerging infectious diseases, to name a few. Through Driving Discovery, a multiphase project in Arts & Sciences, the university plans to transform basic science research and advance the frontiers of science.

“The Driving Discovery project will create an ecosystem — an interconnected community of scientists and students working in state-of-the-art facilities — that fosters innovation and collaboration,” says Barbara A. Schaal, dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences and the Mary-Dell Chilton Distinguished Professor in the Department of Biology in Arts & Sciences.

“This ambitious effort will empower research across disciplinary boundaries — not just among all the natural sciences, but also some social sciences like anthropology and psychology, as well as exciting new collaborations with the School of Engineering & Applied Science and the School of Medicine,” Schaal says. “Today, we face a new imperative — to pursue solutions to complex challenges through interdisciplinary collaboration,” she continues. “We’re hopeful that this initiative will lead to a new era of discovery.”

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CONCEPTUAL VIEW: The north end of the Danforth Campus is undergoing a long-term, major transformation, which began in summer 2016. The university will be renovating outdated science facilities and replacing them with state-of-the-art laboratories.

Barbara A. Schaal, Dean, Faculty of Arts & Sciences
CREATING COLLABORATIVE SPACES

The initial focus of Driving Discovery will be renovating outdated science facilities and replacing them, in an efficient and sustainable way, with state-of-the-art laboratories, teaching areas and flexible spaces that foster collaboration and meet the needs of today’s scientists.

To successfully recruit and retain talented faculty and students, the university must provide infrastructure that can support modern research technology.

“Currently, departments are physically removed from each other, severely limiting the degree of spontaneous interaction,” Dean Schaal says. “As the nature of research questions changes, we need to have core facilities where large multiuser instruments will be housed to provide state-of-the-art, shared instrumentation in computation, imaging, molecular structure and genomics.”

A phased, incremental plan by architectural firm Ayers Saint Gross will repurpose older buildings starting with Bryan Hall, which was built in 1965 and, until recently, housed departments for the School of Engineering & Applied Science. Located on Throop Drive on the north side of the Danforth Campus, Bryan Hall will become the new face of the Department of Chemistry in Arts & Sciences. The comprehensive renovation of the five-story, 59,000-square-foot building began in summer 2016, with completion scheduled for May 2018. (See illustration pg. 12.)

The renovation will add more than 25,000 square feet of new research space for chemistry and include state-of-the-art spaces for three existing research groups and room for seven additional groups to be recruited over the next several years.

A new connection between Bryan Hall and the existing chemistry facilities in McMillen Laboratory will also be built on levels four and five.

Bryan Hall’s north-facing façade will be updated and, eventually, the façades of several other existing buildings on the university’s Throop Drive will also be updated to provide a cohesive look and a new, welcoming entrance to the Danforth Campus from Forest Park Parkway.

In conjunction with the Bryan Hall renovation, the university will replace the pedestrian bridge over Forest Park Parkway with one that will improve pedestrian access and enable safe bicycle and handicapped access to communities and services north of the Danforth Campus. The bridge, an important leg of the Centennial Greenway, will have a wider corridor with separate bicycle and pedestrian paths.

The bridge design complements the Driving Discovery building enhancements and is a key component to the re-envisioned north “gateway” to the Danforth Campus. (See pp. 12 & 16.)

Enhancements began this summer to the bridge’s south end over Throop Drive as well as to Millstone Plaza, which is south of Bryan Hall and McMillen Laboratory and leads up to the planned new north entrance to Olin Library. Construction on the northern part of the bridge over Forest Park Parkway is scheduled for summer 2017.

“In designing a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge and a façade for Bryan Hall along Throop,” says Henry S. Webber, executive vice chancellor for administration, “the architects created a design that seamlessly and safely connects the inner campus across Forest Park Parkway, creating a convenient and attractive connection that will set the tone for future projects.”

Interdisciplinary research among scientists in Arts & Sciences, medicine and engineering is at the heart of Driving Discovery. Modern, world-class research facilities will support faculty growth and renewal and graduate student recruitment, as well as opportunities for exceptional undergraduates to learn from leading faculty and participate in challenging research.
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“As the nature of research questions changes, we need to have core facilities where large multiuser instruments will be housed to provide state-of-the-art, shared instrumentation in computation, imaging, molecular structure and genomics.”

—Barbara A. Schaal
Dean Schaal says that Driving Discovery is a long-term plan that includes recruiting and retaining a diverse faculty that combines cutting-edge research with a passion for teaching; increasing resources for graduate fellowships and undergraduate scholarships; and creating new research opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students.

“Great faculty members attract exceptional students,” Schaal says. “Driving Discovery will support faculty growth in the sciences. Today’s scientists are trained in sophisticated methodologies and modes of inquiry. They need the resources and infrastructure that support world-class education and discovery.” (See sidebar on pg. 17 for one example of a faculty member pushing the boundaries of discovery.)

A generous commitment to support endowed professorships in the sciences will further the goal of attracting and retaining world-class scholars.

Mike and Tana Powell, who have been actively engaged at Washington University since their daughter Landis enrolled in the Class of 2016, recently committed $8 million to match gifts for endowed professorships in the Department of Chemistry and other critical disciplines in Arts & Sciences.

“Endowed professorships include resources that make it possible for faculty to establish research programs that attract talented graduate students and other leading scholars to our campus,” Schaal says. “Income from these permanently invested funds ultimately enable faculty to pursue studies that can have a lasting impact on society. We are grateful to the Powells for their support toward that endeavor.” (See pg. 49 for more on the Powells.)

Planning for this new integrated science initiative began in 2011 after a two-year benchmarking study, requested by Chancellor Wrighton and conducted by the Faculty of Arts & Sciences. The study — “Arts & Sciences, Strategy for Excellence in Sciences” — concluded that modern facilities and advanced equipment are crucial to conduct research that can have significant impact and that the school’s current science infrastructure is not suitable for today’s research demands.

“Universities are the greatest engines for opportunity and by far the best environments for bringing together the people and ideas needed to solve the world’s most urgent problems,” says Holden Thorp, provost and the Rita Levi-Montalcini Distinguished University Professor in Chemistry and Medicine. “We provide basic research that forms the foundation for tomorrow, and Driving Discovery will enable Washington University to remain at the forefront of this essential work.”

Excerpted from Sue Killenberg McGinn’s article on Driving Discovery that appeared on The Source. Visit source.wustl.edu and drivingdiscovery.wustl.edu for more.
Increasing probability for discovery

Every Friday evening, you stop at the corner convenience store on your way home from work and purchase your weekly allotment of lottery tickets, one, for the Saturday evening drawing. You figure, why not? Even though your chances are around 1 in 292 million, your investment is low and you still have a chance to win. Right?

Now imagine if you pooled your money with 99 single-ticket buyers each week. Your odds to win would still be long, but you’d have increased them nonetheless.

Gary Patti, associate professor of chemistry, uses the lottery-pool analogy to explain his innovative approach to conducting research.

Historically, researchers have used the scientific method, where you start with a specific question, develop a hypothesis for that question, and then design an experiment to test that hypothesis. If the experiment holds, then you progress; if not, you have to redesign your hypothesis.

In Patti’s lab, however, they flip this paradigm on its head, running massive numbers of experiments, reviewing enormous amounts of data, and then trying to construct a hypothesis from the results.

“In some sense, it’s an evolution of how we drive discovery. Historically, we’d test one thing and would do one experiment; it was like buying one single lottery ticket,” Patti says. “But now, because of advances in instruments and computers, we can test thousands of things at once, much like having thousands of lottery tickets, and this increases our probability of finding something really exciting.”

To conduct this type of research, Patti says, you need advanced equipment that, instead of measuring one or two compounds per experiment, can measure 40,000 in 1/1,000th of the time. Further, you need extremely fast computers to search for patterns — these complex experiments exceed our capacity to mine all the data manually — and algorithms to determine correlations between signals.

That’s why Patti is eager for his new lab, where he will have more instrumentation, more technology, more trainees and more space for collaborators — hence a much larger probability for scientific discovery.

Today’s researchers and students must have diverse skill sets as well. “The nature of science, and this gets to one of our themes of Driving Discovery, is interdisciplinary,” Patti says. “Here, we’re not limited only to chemistry students. In my lab, we have students from computer science, molecular biology, genetics and engineering. And those students are pushing the chemistry students to do more computational stuff and genetics, while the chemistry students are pushing them to think more about where the electrons are in a specific biochemical reaction. This creates a really great educational experience for everyone, including me.”

In this synergistic environment, Patti, a pioneer in metabolomics — the study of metabolites present within an organism, tissue or cell — researches how the complexities of metabolism influence health and disease. One new focus of his lab is developing advanced therapies to disrupt the growth of cancer cells. Just imagine the impact such a breakthrough would have on society — a longshot perhaps, but definitely a chance worth investing in.

— Terri Nappier is editor of this magazine.

See drivingdiscovery.wustl.edu to learn more about Arts & Sciences’ strategic vision for the future of the natural sciences at Washington University and the collaborative and impactful work of our faculty and students.
To Elevate and Enlighten

As public rhetoric inflames and divides, the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics cultivates rigorous scholarship to build bridges and broaden understanding of America’s most contentious issues.

BY JEANNETTE COOPERMAN

Why is the relationship between religion and politics so fraught here, in this country that prides itself on dividing church and state? When does religious freedom grant us the right to discriminate? What role is Christianity playing in the 2016 presidential election? Is the growing minority of Americans who claim not to be religiously affiliated making the country more divided or less? Just how polarized are we as a nation? Is any consensus emerging?

Six years ago, when the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics was founded, its mission seemed almost impossible: “To serve as an open venue, fostering rigorous scholarship and informing broad academic and public communities about the intersections of religion and U.S. politics” — two of the controversial topics we’ve all been taught to avoid in polite conversation.

Today, public conversations about religion and politics are plentiful and seldom remain polite. We’re living through a fractured, angry period in which political rhetoric and public opinion are equally prone to vehemence, extremism and rigidity. So the Danforth Center’s mission has become perhaps even more imperative, serving as a place that encourages dialogue between diverse and even conflicting points of view.

ABOVE: R. Marie Griffith is the John C. Danforth Distinguished Professor in the Humanities and director of the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics.
BACKGROUNDING AN ELECTION YEAR

“It’s been a surprising year,” R. Marie Griffith says dryly. As the John C. Danforth Distinguished Professor in the Humanities and director of the Danforth Center, it’s Griffith’s job to remain coolly nonpartisan. That’s second nature to her when it comes to the tangle of religious freedom and sexuality issues clogging the courts; her areas of expertise include evangelical Protestantism and gender in 20th-century America. But when reporters call to ask why Donald Trump is slamming Pope Francis or calling himself Christianity’s politically incorrect protector, Griffith and her colleagues work hard to decipher the role religion is assuming in the current political landscape.

In an election year that’s breaking precedent left and right, Danforth Center faculty have been called on to analyze issues of immigration, gender and sexuality, religious freedom, racial justice (or injustice), attitudes toward Muslim Americans, and the platforms and behavior of presidential candidates eager to appeal to religious voters in ways that were sometimes formulaic, sometimes wildly unpredictable.

Since spring 2012, the center has published an online journal, Religion & Politics, that shares recent scholarship (from the center and around the world) about these fraught topics. And with the university scheduled to host a presidential debate Oct. 9, 2016, the center hopes to raise its profile and influence.

On Oct. 8, the day before the debate, Krista Tippett — host of the Peabody Award–winning public radio conversation and podcast, On Being — will moderate a new experiment at the center called the Danforth Dialogues: intense discussions between public intellectuals about how religion and politics might intersect in the future. Between the debate and the election, Jon Meacham, former Newsweek editor, contributing editor to Time and Pulitzer Prize winner, who gave the center’s inaugural address six years ago, is scheduled to speak. His anticipated talk is titled “Faith and Power: Religion and the American Presidency From the Founding to Trump v. Clinton.”

“Looking ahead, we want to become more involved in Washington, D.C.,” Griffith explains, “to connect the conversations we are having here — the knowledge we are creating — more directly to policymakers and others who set the national agenda.”

EXPERTISE RUNS DEEP AND WIDE

Five years ago, when Griffith became the center’s director, she and Leigh Eric Schmidt — an acclaimed historian of religion who happens to be Griffith’s husband — were the only faculty.

Schmidt, the Edward C. Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor in the Humanities, is a prolific scholar. His work has examined topics from mysticism to the New Atheism, and it includes a religious history of American neuroscience and a book about the commercialization of holidays in the U.S.

Griffith, by contrast, takes a contemporary, anthropological tack. Diving into issues ranging from women’s roles in American evangelicalism to the regulation of the body’s appetites in Christianity, she has written about religious conceptions of gender, sexuality and contraception, as well as fasting, dieting and abstinence.

Husband and wife disagree regularly and cheerfully, and they’ve sorted out the power issues: “When we were at Princeton, he was the department chair,” Griffith says. “At Harvard, we both held chaired professorships. Then we came here, and I’m the director. We can manage any dynamic!”

Today, Griffith and Schmidt have four colleagues at the center whose curricula vitae are dotted with impressive doctoral, divinity and law degrees, and whose fields include the history, diversity, changing landscape and unique role of religion in American public life.

Laurie F. Maffly-Kipp, the Archer Alexander Distinguished Professor, is a past president of the American Society of Church History and the Mormon History Association. Her academic interests move fluidly among African-American religions, Mormonism (she’ll soon publish a survey of Mormonism in American life), religion on the Pacific borderlands of the Americas and issues of intercultural contact. Grounded in 19th-century religious expression in the United States, she’s ranged freely across its many forms, writing about sacred texts, race histories, Chinese immigrants, Protestant practice and women’s work.

Mark Valeri, the Reverend Priscilla Wood Neaves Distinguished Professor of Religion and Politics, studies the interweaving of religion, social thought and economics. He wrote an acclaimed study of the shift from a Puritan disregard for personal profit to a celebration of it. And though he is deeply informed about the country’s foundational ideas, he has no problems transitioning to the present: He co-edited Global Neighbors: Christian Faith and Moral Obligation in Today’s Economy.

Armed with a master’s degree in divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and a doctorate in religious history and culture from Emory University, Lerone A. Martin arrived...
as a postdoctoral fellow and is now assistant professor of religion and politics. Martin was a research consultant for continuing education and recidivism at New York’s Sing Sing State Prison. He currently chairs the American Academy of Religion Committee on Teaching and Learning.

John Inazu was recently named the inaugural Sally D. Danforth Distinguished Professor of Law and Religion, a joint appointment in the center and the law school. Inazu’s scholarship focuses on the First Amendment freedoms of speech, assembly and religion. His most recent book, *Confident Pluralism: Surviving and Thriving Through Deep Difference*, argues that we must pursue a common existence in spite of our deeply held differences. (See sidebar on the opposing page for more on *Confident Pluralism.*)

“**The great mission of America is to hold together as one people a diverse country. Religion can be very divisive; it’s often used as a sword. Yet at the same time, the meaning of the word is ‘to bind together.’**”

— John C. Danforth

The center also includes two visiting scholars and several affiliated faculty members with appointments in other departments but a strong academic interest in American religion. The strength of this faculty has made robust course offerings possible. (See sidebar on pg. 25 for a description of Abram Van Engen’s course “City on a Hill.”) The center also has a strong postdoctoral fellowship program and a public lecture series so lively it often fills Graham Chapel.

Lectures can be uber-specific — one described Christian drug rehabilitation programs in Guatemala — or as broad as religion scholar Stephen Prothero’s sweeping analysis of America’s five culture wars. But they never shy away from controversy and regularly pull in audiences beyond the university community.

**CHURCH AND STATE**

When Jack Danforth says the intersection of religion and politics has long been an interest of his, it’s an understatement. The former U.S. senator and ambassador to the United Nations is also an ordained Episcopal priest, and his first book was titled *Faith and Politics: How the “Moral Values” Debate Divides America and How to Move Forward Together*. His second, *The Relevance of Religion*, looks at the way religious values — sacrifice, selflessness, commitment to the greater good — could be used to close that divide, healing the fractured, angry state that is U.S. politics today.

The center was born in a long and animated conversation between Danforth and Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. Soon after, Wrighton made a proposal, the Danforth Foundation responded with a $30 million grant, and the university gave the center Danforth’s name and hoped for his continued involvement. He’s given it gladly, even teaming up with his former colleague in the Senate, Joe Lieberman, to give a talk about the lost art of compromise and the escalation of partisanship.

Danforth’s interest in this tense juncture of ideas is “more than idiosyncratic,” he says. “All you have to do is pick up the paper, and most days you’ll find something on religion and politics — and it tends to be something that’s both of consequence and controversial.”

So is there something unusual about the way religion and politics intersect in America? “De Tocqueville thought so, and I do too,” Danforth says. “We tend to be more religious than many other parts of the world, but we are also more heterogeneous. The great mission of America is to hold together as one people a diverse country. Religion can be very divisive; it’s often used as a sword. Yet at the same time, the meaning of the word is ‘to bind together.’”

Maffly-Kipp thinks it’s hard even to know how polarized individual Americans really are. As a historian, she’s well aware of other times when xenophobia and even violence tainted religious issues. With today’s social media and 24/7 news cycle, though, “conflict is thrown in our faces a lot more than it used to be,” she says. “Signs of commonality don’t make the news.”

“The TV media need ratings,” Griffith adds, “and the ratings go up when there is conflict, and that has a polarizing effect.” The cure, she’s convinced, is personal interaction — getting out from behind electronic screens and talking to people. “That’s why religious congregations and universities are great spaces for coming together.
from extremely different backgrounds,” Griffith says. “More and more, people consume only the news media that match their beliefs, which leads to isolation. If we are to hold together as a nation, we must move beyond that.”

In the future, the center plans to hold more dialogues, bringing in people who will vigorously debate the issues without anger or insult. Single lecturers often wind up preaching to a choir: “When we had [conservative columnist] George Will, we had a very conservative audience. Then we had [attorney and women’s rights activist] Sandra Fluke, and we got a completely different audience,” Griffith says. “Even at our events, the polarization of our nation has been visible.”

The more viewpoints brought to a single event, though, the more chance for tension. “When you reach those points, you really find out what people care about — and what they have been taught not to talk about,” Maffly-Kipp explains. “One reason the center exists, though, is to model respectful discourse that doesn’t just lapse into argument.”

Valeri thinks that one way to foster respectful debate is to encourage people to ponder the moral or philosophical issues behind policy or legal disagreements. “Help them articulate the sources of their judgments and listen to the perspectives of others,” Valeri says. “Prompt them to ponder the deep historical backgrounds, which can make our positions, so often cherished with zeal, appear less absolutely necessary.”

We should clearly delineate between heartfelt belief and informed opinion, Danforth says. “If you invest political ideas with religious commitment, then your thinking becomes ‘my way or the highway,’ because then your way is God’s way.”

HEAT AND LIGHT

Asked if there’s any consensus emerging on religious issues in the political arena, Schmidt replies: “How can you create a collegial conversation out of rancorous debate? That’s what we are trying to do at the center. But consensus is so remote on so many issues that I’d have to say it is all but out of reach.”

Griffith, however, sees a “remarkable consensus around same-sex marriage, something no one would have expected.” And she pays attention to such topics: Her books include God’s Daughters: Evangelical Women and the Power of Submission; Born Again Bodies: Flesh and Spirit in American Christianity; and the forthcoming Moral Combat: How Sex Divided American Christians and Fractured

A Plea for Confident Pluralism

Can’t we all just get along?

Even a cursory glance at today’s political headlines suggests that the possibilities look bleak.

But is there another way?

John Inazu, the Sally D. Danforth Distinguished Professor of Law and Religion (with a joint appointment in the School of Law and the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics), thinks there is.

“Confident pluralism is a political solution to a practical problem,” Inazu says. “It’s a way of dealing with our deep and real differences through both constitutional law and civic commitments.”


The book argues that we can and must live together peacefully in spite of deep and sometimes irresolvable differences over politics, religion, sexuality and other important matters. We can do so in two significant ways: 1. by insisting on constitutional commitments that honor and protect difference; and 2. by embodying tolerance, humility and patience in our speech, our collective action (protests, strikes and boycotts) and our relationships across difference.

“This project grew out of my first book around the right of assembly,” Inazu says. “It led me into questions of pluralism and difference and the ways in which we are living in a society where everyone doesn’t agree about everything, and yet we are required to coexist and protect each other’s differences.

“In order to make our society work, it’s going to take attentiveness both to law and to our own civic practices,” Inazu continues. “We can’t individually change the law, but we can be aware of its deficiencies and how it needs to be changed.”

When it comes to civic responsibilities, Inazu proposes that we all take more responsibility by getting out of the “Twitter wars” and into conversations, exercising patience and learning to listen to each other.

— Excerpted from an article by Neil Schoenherr, senior news director in Public Affairs. For more, visit The Source, source.wustl.edu.
American Politics (fall 2017), in which Griffith analyzes the gender and sexuality debates of the past century and explains why these issues have played such a powerful and divisive role in American Christianity.

Regarding the issue of abortion, however, Griffith says, “That’s as divisive as ever.” And she expects it will remain that way for some time, as will issues of racial justice. “The events in Ferguson resonated with all of us,” Griffith says. “It’s been amazing to see that many of the people involved in trying to heal the wounds exposed by those events have been clergy.”

The Danforth Center hosted a gathering in fall 2014, inviting religious leaders from various communities. Maffly-Kipp remembers sitting in the audience, listening and thinking: “This

“Religious leaders and communities must speak out more on these issues. Obviously, murder of any kind should be a concern to religious people, so the matter of guns and violence in our time must be addressed.”

— R. Marie Griffith

is exactly the kind of conversation we should be encouraging. We were dealing with something very immediate and very fraught, and we needed to allow people to discover their commonalities and talk about their differences in reasonable ways.”

Maffly-Kipp says that another issue to watch is economics and inequality. And to Griffith, what looms largest is “our problem with guns. The unwillingness of many to accept even the smallest safeguards is hugely problematic, and people are dying at alarming rates,” she says. “Religious leaders and communities must speak out more on these issues. Obviously, murder of any kind should be a concern to religious people, so the matter of guns and violence in our time must be addressed.”

Martin adds questions on Islam and on the appropriate balance between security and privacy to the watch list. “I’ve been doing some historical work on the FBI,” he says, “and I think religion and domestic security will continue to loom large.”

Valeri cites foreign affairs: “Intervention in Syria or not, advocacy for persecuted religious minorities overseas, domestic security. On what notions of American national identity, purpose and mandate ought we to address such questions?”

Asked for the hottest issue of the moment, the center’s faculty reach their own consensus: religious freedom — how it’s defined, how it intersects with notions of equality and equal treatment, and what its boundaries are and how they can be negotiated.

This semester, Valeri is team-teaching a course with Inazu. The two are exploring “what religious freedom meant in popular culture, what it meant in law and the courts, and how meanings changed over time,” Valeri says, to frame the current situation, in which “religious freedom issues often focus on the freedom from government’s interference in religious practice.”

In a 2016 media interview, Schmidt pointed out that at the country’s founding, “religious liberty” meant protecting citizens from “the tyrannies and coercions of religious establishments.” Today, the principle is invoked in arguments about employee health insurance. Would a devout Jehovah’s Witness be allowed to refuse his employees coverage for blood transfusions? In that case, Schmidt maintains, religious liberty would grant the freedom to refuse the transfusion for oneself, not the freedom to use employee benefits to urge the same decision on others.

“Religious freedom always needs to be defined,” Schmidt says, “because it’s continually being negotiated.” Some people think the category has become so muddled that we’d be better served talking about other principles, like fairness or equality, but Schmidt thinks it’s too important an idea to set aside altogether.

“The religious freedom ideal is now being used to say that a baker or florist should have a religious right not to serve a gay couple, so liberals are becoming more skittish about the principle in general,” he says. “But religious freedom is a very important American value and has been for a long time. What we have to work on are the ways in which the ideal fails and address those concerns.”

Nowhere else would the question be as fraught, he adds. In England, where there’s still an established church, “they wouldn’t spend as much time puzzling over all this. Here, we are
preoccupied with disentangling the two realms — with sorting out and monitoring that boundary.”

Griffith says the paradoxes — and ironies — abound, because while America has a long history of church–state separation, many people also say that America is one of the most religious nations on Earth. According to Griffith, “Religion has affected every aspect of our law. We are a nation that separates religion from politics in a very different way, yet at the same time, our law feels far more religiously influenced than it is in a lot of European countries.”

So is our emphasis on church–state separation mere hypocrisy?

“No, I don’t think it is,” Griffith says. “I think it’s very difficult to draw boundaries around religion. Catholics who deeply believe that abortion is the taking of a precious life are not going to see this as just a religious issue. They are going to see it as murder and, therefore, a matter of law. It’s just truly difficult to separate religion from politics.”

There was a time when people assumed that without a state church, a country would lose all morality, Maffly-Kipp observes. In fact, it was just the opposite. “A certain zest for religious expression exists here,” she says. “Now, how that plays into politics is an ongoing question. It’s always been a question, because there are no models for us.”

How do we negotiate the relationship between the deeply held religious beliefs, which are plural and diverse, and the need for a united government? “As the nation becomes more diverse, we’re facing the true test,” Maffly-Kipp continues.
AND THEN THERE WERE ‘NONE’S’

Despite (or maybe because of) all the entanglements of American religion into civic life, more and more people are checking “none” on the “religious affiliation” box.

Valeri wonders: “Are they disengaged from all forms of religion or merely from traditional institutions? Can they be ‘spiritual but not religious’ in meaningful ways?” And is the loss of deep religious, spiritual or metaphysical thinking one reason we’ve grown shallow and so polarized in our discussions?

Granted, “some of those ‘nones’ are reading the Bible or other spiritual literature as well as praying and meditating,” Martin says. “Some are practicing forms of spirituality through the marketplace by, for example, purchasing the products of televangelists or buying Oprah’s chai tea at Starbucks and her self-help magazine as a way to meditate and pursue spiritual enlightenment.”

Isn’t a fusion of capitalism with spirituality a little paradoxical? “Both possibilities and limits exist,” acknowledges Martin, who wrote Preaching on Wax: The Phonograph and the Making of Modern African American Religion to explore the selling of recorded sermons in the 1920s. The possibilities, he points out, are that people can engage in the spiritual practice of their choice. Instead of stratified and sometimes combative religious sects, many people find community with others in simply being spiritual. “One limit,” he concedes, “is that it does allow for capitalism to have a significant influence upon the kinds of spiritual messages we hear.”

Center faculty have had lively discussions about the meaning of the secular, Valeri says. “Is it a way of coming to public opinion — and, therefore, might include religious perspectives — or is it a denial of the value of religion in the public?”

This is Schmidt’s forte. He has long been fascinated by the religion and secularism debates. One of his earlier books was Restless Souls: The Making of American Spirituality, and it surveyed the colorful, sometimes eccentric search for enlightenment in America. Just last year, he and Valeri taught a class that asked what difference it would make if you imagined the U.S. a Christian nation versus a secular republic. And this fall, Schmidt’s highly anticipated new book is being released: Village Atheists: How America’s Unbelievers Made Their Way in a Godly Nation.

“There has been a modest improvement over time in the way Americans think about atheists,” Schmidt says, “if you take a very long view and start in the 17th century, where it was blasphemous and potentially a capital offense. However, even though legal neutrality now exists, most Americans, when they are polled, are still quite suspicious of atheists and agnostics.”

Yet, surely that’s changing, with all these “nones” tilting the scale toward secularism?

Schmidt points out that though “nones” are a growing minority, they still make up only 20 to 25 percent of the population, which leaves a majority of people who feel strongly about religion. “Also, they become mutually reinforcing,” Schmidt adds. “The more the religious folks, often evangelical Christians, are anxious about growing disaffection, the more intensely they try to combat that.” Conversely, he continues, the more the “nones” think religion is oppressive, the more they flee it.

Maffly-Kipp has seen this play out time and again: “A lot of younger people are just not convinced they need organized religion, particularly after decades of growing intolerance among religious groups.”

However, she points out that with immigration — especially people coming from parts of the world where there are very devout believers — it’s unlikely that the country as a whole is becoming less religious. There just may be increasing divisions between people who are religious and those who aren’t, making dialogue more important than ever.

Chancellor Wrighton states that these issues make the mission of the center more important than ever as well. “Times like these,” Wrighton says, “when it feels as if there’s a lot of polarization, can also open opportunities for new conversations — ones that move us all forward, and in ways that allow us to live together, perhaps not in agreement, but in understanding.”

Jeannette Cooperman holds a doctorate in American studies. As staff writer for St. Louis Magazine, she did a Q&A with Marie Griffith when Griffith arrived at Washington University and has watched the center’s growth with interest.
The Dream of America
A new class teaches students to think critically about America’s place in the world.

What makes America, well, America?

This is a question that Abram Van Engen, associate professor of English in Arts & Sciences and affiliated faculty member with the Danforth Center on Religion and Politics, sets out to answer in his course “City on a Hill: The Concept and Culture of American Exceptionalism.”

The course looks at the history of American exceptionalism, which is the idea that America is specially chosen or has a unique mission in the world. It may seem like a narrow focus, but analyzing American exceptionalism touches on how we tell our historical narratives, how we define American identity and how we shape our politics and policy.

Van Engen developed the idea for the course after finishing his first book, Sympathetic Puritans: Calvinist Fellow Feeling in Early New England, which included a chapter about John Winthrop’s lay sermon “A Model of Christian Charity,” often considered the urtext of American exceptionalism. Supposedly given onboard the Arabela in 1630, Winthrop exhorts his fellow passengers to be exemplary Christians as they work together to build what would become the Massachusetts Bay Colony: “Wee must Consider that wee shall be as a Citty upon a Hill, the eies of all people are upon us.”

“I found a lot of interesting details about the sermon and the way it worked its way into American consciousness and American exceptionalism,” Van Engen says.

Politicians like John F. Kennedy, Michael Dukakis, Bill Clinton and Ronald Reagan have all directly quoted “A Model of Christian Charity.” The class reads those speeches and other political texts, such as George W. Bush’s speech about 9/11 (Sept. 20, 2001) and Newt Gingrich’s A Nation Like No Other (2011).

But beyond speeches and sermons, the class also examines how American exceptionalism more broadly works its way into our historical narrative. “Exceptionalism is not just a comparative claim about America’s relation to other countries in the world,” Van Engen says, “but also a historical claim about the way America came into being.” An American history that starts with the Puritans, for example, may claim that America began with the pursuit of religious freedoms, which made it exceptional. One that starts with Native Americans, however, might be an anti-exceptionalist history about America’s brutal land grab.

(Anti-exceptionalism claims either that America is not exceptional compared to other countries or that it is exceptionally bad.)

Seth Akakpo-Lapo, Arts & Sciences Class of 2019 (psychology), was interested in a different aspect of American exceptionalism. “My family is from West Africa, and we moved here when I was 9 years old,” Akakpo-Lapo says. “So I have a desire to learn about American idealism, from its past roots to its current effects on national and international dynamics in order to help inform my identity as a new American.” Students look at texts like the preface to Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass (1855), Frederick Douglass’ What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July? (1852) and Michael Walzer’s What Does It Mean to Be an ‘American’ (1990) in order to see how even American identity can be shaped by exceptionalism.

One key idea of the course is that American exceptionalism has changed over time, and it will change again. The overarching idea that America has a mission in the world remains the same, but it’s “fairly without content,” Van Engen says. “What makes America special, what it is that [people are] supposed to be delivering as Americans, can shift from one era to another.”

Taylor Reynolds, Arts & Sciences Class of 2017 (history), entered the class “ambivalent” about exceptionalism and left with a more nuanced understanding of the concept’s power. “To some extent, every nation has to believe it’s exceptional in order to do great things,” he says. “But is it a fantasy or a grasping of reality? That is, by believing in your exceptionalism, to what extent do you make it true?” — Rosalind Early, AB ’03, is associate editor of this magazine.
How Do You Build a Tech Giant?

Ask David Karandish and Chris Sims, two entrepreneurial alumni who have parlayed a love of computer science into a flourishing corporation.

BY BEN WESTHOFF

David Karandish and Chris Sims met in high school in St. Charles County, Missouri. At Washington University, they both majored in computer science and minored in entrepreneurship.

Graduating in 2005, they soon founded the tech giant now known as Answers, which was acquired by a private equity company in 2014 for around $900 million.

Karandish is a former Mensa member who starred in The Apprentice. He and Sims are celebrated for building one of the most innovative, diversified companies currently running. But you won’t find them hobnobbing with the elite at fancy Silicon Valley parties. Around lunchtime, you’re more likely to find Karandish walking through The Loop, seemingly in a trance with his laptop open, on his way back from Zippy Burger.

That’s where I encountered him shortly before our meeting at Answers’ headquarters on Delmar Blvd., just upstairs from Seoul Taco and Club Fitness. Answers Corp. employs about 550 people around the world — from Mountain View, California, to Tel Aviv — but home base is University City, Missouri. Their offices have the feel of a startup, with an image of a gorilla pumping his fist at the end of a hallway and the Wi-Fi password written on a whiteboard wall in a conference room. There’s also an office Segway, a ping-pong table and a room full of Legos.
David Karandish (left), BSCS ’05, is CEO of Answers, and Chris Sims, BSCS ’05, is chief strategy officer.
“I love St. Louis,” says Karandish, who serves as Answers’ CEO. “I think it’s underrated in many respects. The talent pool here is phenomenal. You don’t have the competitive situation of Silicon Valley or New York, where people hop from company to company all the time.”

The average Internet user is probably familiar with Answers.com as a question-and-answer site, at which users pose queries like, “Why are fries called French fries?” and someone else answers. (Because “a long thin cut is called a ‘French cut,’” it turns out.) But the company goes much, much deeper than that, generating about half its revenue from advertising and about half from something called Software as a Service (or SaaS). This involves selling brands’ “advanced content” to websites of major retailers.

“For Hasbro, we have a 360 demonstration for Mr. Potato Head, where you can put the nose on him, and the ears, and spin him around,” explains Karandish, adding that the content appears on the sites of companies selling toys.

Answers is also a leader in the realm of customer satisfaction surveys, compiling feedback to help companies, including Bass Pro Shops, Disney Stores and Victoria’s Secret, improve their customer experience. Shoppers can vent if they feel a site loads too slowly, or if the selection is too small, for example.

Answers employs a dizzying array of algorithms, metrics and Web technologies to accomplish these tasks, but everything stems from Karandish and Sims’ vision of helping customers make better decisions and helping companies understand what customers want. It’s sparked by strong chemistry between the co-founders. “We rarely ever argue with each other,” says Sims, the company’s genial, accessible chief strategy officer. They regularly logged 100-hour workweeks when they first went into business together, and they still maintain a remarkable work ethic.

“They’ve always had a great sense of trust with each other,” says their former entrepreneurship professor, Bart Hamilton, the Robert Brokings Smith Distinguished Professor of Entrepreneurship at Olin Business School. “It was almost as if they were one person back then. That’s really unusual to see, especially at that young age.”

As teenagers, they bonded in physics class at Francis Howell Central High School in St. Charles over their love of coding. Karandish was working on a social media program that was something like a Facebook predecessor, while Sims was immersed in low-tech computer games. “I was into text-based bulletin-board video games — like Legend of the Red Dragon,” he says. “David liked to make fun of me.”

They started their first company during this time, building Web pages. “In the late ’90s, if you could build a Web page for someone, you were somewhere between a wizard and a warlock in terms of your magical powers,” Karandish says. Other early enterprises included an online fashion blog and a plug-in for AOL Instant Messenger, which converted typed text into spoken speech.

In college, they were roommates, living in a “roach-y” apartment north of The Loop and then in a house in Maplewood. “It was something like a frat house, except with no beer and no women,” Sims quips. Instead, they spent almost all their free time working. Their internships with Monster-Commerce — which specialized in SaaS and built shopping-cart software — led to jobs there, with the guys working six to eight hours per day, even beyond their demanding college course work. They spun off a “comparison-shopping-engine” business, to aid consumers in finding the best buys for thousands of items, and also developed a financial “lead-generation company” to help, say, people who wanted to refinance their houses get the best rates. The latter company was generating a half million dollars in revenue when they sold it. Keep in mind, they were still in college.

“I think I learned more from them than they learned from me, to be honest!” Professor Hamilton says with a laugh when asked about the skills the two students acquired in his entrepreneurship class. Still, Karandish gives a lot of credit to his time at Washington University. “It was good to learn how to buy a company, how to capitalize a company, those sorts of things,”

“College is a playground for experiential learning in the real world.”
— David Karandish
he says. “College is a playground for experiential learning in the real world.” Indeed, Washington University boasts a long list of successful startups that were founded on campus through school programs, including Varsity Tutors (Karandish and Sims led Series A round for Varsity Tutors), Cofactor Genomics, Fresh Prints and Epharmix.

Owing to their great ambition, Karandish’s and Sims’ careers were already in motion well before graduation. In fact, in early 2005 after finishing his previous semester finals, Karandish hopped on a plane to New York to star in The Apprentice, the season it was hosted by Martha Stewart. Though he was cut in week six (“Martha Deletes Computer Geek” read the TVGuide.com headline), he enjoyed the experience, and the following year he and Sims kicked off the company that would become their legacy.

They dreamed big, envisioning creating what they called “the ultimate Internet company,” a goal that sounds almost naïve in an era of hyper-specialization in the tech sector. But they didn’t see it that way. “I think the Internet then, even today, is in its infancy, so there’s an opportunity to stake out some land,” Karandish says.

Originally called AFCV Holdings, their company was founded with the help of investor Tom Hillman, AB ’78, a university trustee who also served as a mentor to them. It was a conglomeration of many separate Internet businesses, offering information in areas such as health, travel and neighborhood services. Competing with sites like Yelp and Angie’s List, their pages were search-engine optimized so that when you searched for, say, the best plumber in your area, theirs popped up.

But Google began encroaching on their territory, and the two decided they needed to “produce their own content,” Karandish says. Realizing the popularity of the question-and-answer format, in 2011 they purchased Answers.com for $127 million. The site — originally an Internet Explorer plugin that allowed you to find out a word’s definition by right clicking on it — had become a Web-based Q&A enterprise with a huge user base, which Karandish and Sims quickly tapped into.

Since then, Answers.com’s readership and engagement has increased by leaps and bounds, and Answers Corp. has acquired numerous other organizations. In 2015, Forbes ranked it the 11th most promising company in the country. Their annual revenue is north of $200 million.

On the day I visited Answers’ offices, Sims had walked to work and Karandish had driven his Tesla. But the pair remain as close as ever. They both live in Clayton with their growing broods: Karandish has three children, and Sims two.

“St. Louis is a great place to start a family,” says Karandish, adding that they have also remained connected to their alma mater, taking on students as interns and hiring alumni employees.

Reflecting on their longtime working relationship, Sims concludes, “David’s a great CEO. I’d be happy to work for him the rest of my life.”

Ben Westhoff, AB ’99, author of The Untold Story of Dr. Dre, Eazy-E, Ice Cube, Tupac Shakur, and the Birth of West Coast Rap, is a freelance writer based in St. Louis.
We want to hear about recent promotions, honors, appointments, travels, marriages (please report marriages after the fact) and births, so we can keep your classmates informed about important changes in your lives.

Entries may take up to three issues after submission to appear in the magazine; they are published in the order in which they are received.

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30s

Joseph Oppenheimer, LA 48, recently observed the 25th anniversary of his retirement as a senior vice president at Standard & Poor’s Corporation in New York City and his relocation to San Diego. During his 26-year tenure with S&P, he served as editor of The Outlook and was the first publisher of the MarketScope online financial service. He is married to Sima Jacobson Oppenheimer.

40s

Burton S. Resnic, LA 50, participated in 65th Reunion activities last year and, in full alumni regalia, surprised his granddaughter, Carly S. Lippman, LA 15, by presenting her with her diploma. Carly’s dad, Neil A. Lippman, LA 87, and mom, Joanne Resnic Lippman, LA 87, had arranged for the special presentation. Resnic is still an active practicing lawyer in western Massachusetts.

Harry “Hal” Gieseking, LA 54, published Midnight Ghosts, a mystery novel that revolves around the unsuccessful attempt of two Frenchmen to fly nonstop from New York to Paris before Charles Lindbergh’s successful 1927 transatlantic flight.

Ronald Goldberg, LA 56, GR 56, retired from Eastern Michigan University, where he was dean of the graduate school and vice president for research. Now a resident of Richmond, Va., Goldberg is active in the Coast Guard Auxiliary and serves as operations officer.

Kathleen Peradotto-Bode, NU 56, who recently turned 80, is still working in nursing as a teacher and, she says, is still learning and enjoying “this wonderful profession.”

David W. Matula, EN 59, was appointed to the Cruse C. and Marjorie F. Calahan Centennial Chair in Engineering at Southern Methodist University and is a professor of computer science and engineering. Matula served as assistant and associate professor of applied mathematics and computer science at WashU from 1966 to 1974.

Eugene Markowski, FA 60, recently accepted the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor on behalf of Frederick Hartt, chairman of WashU’s art history department, at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. The medal was given to The National Gallery of Art. Separately, six of Markowski’s paintings were placed and sold in the Greenberg art collection.

Marydel (Harrison) Neumann, BU 60, recently moved to St. Andrews Estates retirement community in Boca Raton, Fla.

Glen E. Stuckel, EN 60, was named one of the 100 most influential leaders in Louisville, Ky. Stuckel is the 17th District metro councilman and a home building and remodeling contractor.

Michael Kearney, EN 62, had his book, Once Upon A Time, which relates the history of Clinton, Iowa, published by the Clinton Herald.

Kurt Stutd, LA 63, DE 66, has made plans to attend the Reunion of WashU’s former dental school Sept. 16–17, 2016. The school, which closed in 1991, was founded 150 years ago. The weekend’s activities will include a cocktail party at Alumni House, a dental continuing education course at the Chase Hotel and an awards banquet in the hotel’s Starlight Room.

George L. “Butch” Welsch, EN 63, and Carol (Hilbert) Welsch, LA 64, are president and vice president, respectively, of Welsch Heating and Cooling in St. Louis. The company was named Residential Contractor of the Year by the Air Conditioning Contractors of America in recognition of its culture of service and its 120-year contribution to the industry.

Henry Glass, GR 65, was honored by the St. Louis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists for being a member of the organization for 60 years. Glass serves on the select committee for membership of the international organists guild and is the director of music/organist for Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church on Sanibel Island, Fla.

Joel D’Alba, LA 66, was chair of the American Bar Association Section of Labor and Employment Law from 2013 to 2014.

Richard Chapman, LA 67, was awarded an honorary degree from Francis Marion University, in Florence, S.C. Chapman, who has been FMU’s provost for 16 years, was also the commencement speaker. Earlier, he was chair of the university’s Department of History. Chapman’s research and writing focuses on U.S. political and economic history.

Charles “Chuck” Ortner, LA 67, was listed by The Hollywood Reporter as one of entertainment’s 2016 Top 100 Power Lawyers. Ortner’s late wife, Jane Gold Ortner, LA 67, was recently honored at the Grammy Museum’s Jane Ortner Music Education Luncheon. Jane was a public school teacher in New York City and Scarsdale, N.Y. Their daughter, Amy Ortner Mandell, LA 94, is also a WashU alumn.

John Liebson, GR 68, is a teacher and coach at a college prep school. He founded the Crested Butte, Colo., Fire Protection District, which he served as the first volunteer fire chief and then as the first career fire chief. Liebson earlier founded the Eldorado Fire and Rescue.
Elinda Fishman Kiss, LA 69, received the Distinguished Teaching Award from the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland. Kiss, who teaches banking and corporate finance, has been a professor in the Department of Finance since 2003.

John O’Connor, GR 71, is retired and serves as a volunteer Spanish interpreter with the county court. During his 38-year career with the federal government, he served as a Spanish language instructor, a criminal investigator with the Drug Enforcement Administration and an intelligence analyst with the National Counterterrorism Center. O’Connor is married to Clarice Toetcher, GR 70, who taught piano and directed choir before her retirement.

Lilian Dede Fox Ducharme, LA 72, has written a children’s novel, The Treasure in the Tiny Blue Tin (TCU Press); nonfiction articles in Highlights; and two poetry books, Confessions of a Jewish Texan and Postcards Home. Her poetry also has been published in the Austin International Poetry Festival’s di-vèrse-city Anthology, The Enigmatist and other publications.

Larry Mathis, HA 72, former president and CEO of the Methodist Hospital System of Houston, was inducted into Modern Healthcare’s Health Care Hall of Fame. Mathis led a major expansion of the system, which at his retirement comprised 16 member corporations and 37 affiliated hospitals. He is the author of the health-care industry book, The Mathis Maxims: Lessons in Leadership.

Norman Rose, LA 72, GR 72, is the author of The Design of Life: Human Development From a Natural Perspective, a monograph on natural human development as it parallels universal truths in mathematics and geometry. His Wordpress blog is at https://phitalk.wordpress.com/.

Wayne Koff, LA 74, was appointed president and CEO of the Human Vaccines Project (www.humanvaccinesproject.org), a global, not-for-profit public-private partnership dedicated to accelerating the development of vaccines and immunotherapies for major infectious diseases and cancers by decoding the human immune system.

Melvin L. Oliver, GR 74, GR 77, was named president of Pitzer College in Los Angeles. A noted expert on racial and urban inequality, Oliver was previously executive dean of the College of Letters and Science at the University of California, Santa Barbara, the SAGE Sara Miller McCune Dean of Social Sciences and a professor of sociology.

Michael L. Millenson, LA 75, was named an adjunct associate professor of medicine at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine. He continues to consult in the field and write on a variety of topics.

Kenneth F. Berg, LA 76, an attorney with Ulmer & Berne, was named to the 2016 Super Lawyers list.

Gary Gladieux, LA 76, a pediatrician, writes that he loves working with children.

Jonathan Markowitz, LA 76, Ruth (Wenger) Markowitz, LA 78, and Douglas Fish, EN 85, GB 85, participated in a ride with wounded veterans in Israel on the first annual Friends of the Israel Defense Forces bicycle tour. As they took in the views and visited the new home for Washington magazine online, plus it offers university news and the Record — all in one location that’s engaging and mobile-friendly.
military bases, the three developed great respect and admiration for veterans. Visit https://vimeo.com/149382289 for more.

Abdulaziz Al-Jabir, EN 79, retired in 2014 but serves as a member of the board of several financial institutions. During his career, he worked as a deputy general manager at Kuwait Financial House, participated on the World Bank’s Kuwait Economic Reform Project and was with Kuwait Oil Company.

Sheryl Eisenberg Michalowski, LA 79, is a deaf-rights liaison and co-director of the Eisenberg and Baum Law Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, which she co-founded in 2011. She works to ensure that deaf or hard of hearing clients have clear and visual information about legal procedures. Michalowski and her husband, David, have three children: Alexandra, 25; Shayna, 20; and Aaron, 15.

Marlys E. Schuh, MD 79, was named to the 2016 class of Women of Achievement for her work in women’s health. Founded in 1955, the award is the oldest ongoing program in the St. Louis area that honors and recognizes the volunteer service and volunteer leadership of women.

80s

Steven Beer, LA 81, LA 81, an entertainment attorney, is listed annually as one of the nation’s Super Lawyers in his field. He published his first book, Your Child’s Career in Music and Entertainment: The Prudent Parent’s Guide (Allworth Press), drawing on his experiences as a lawyer for noted young entertainers, such as Britney Spears and Lady Gaga, and as a stage father to his actor son, Max.

Kathleen (Fenner) Laird, LA 82, GR 89, GR 07, and Doug Laird, EN 81, SI 83, are enjoying the cherry blossoms in Washington, D.C. Kathleen is director of research for Shoreland, a provider of international travel, health and safety information; and Doug is a transportation engineer at the Department of Transportation. Their daughter will study at the London School of Economics.

John Rovison, EN 82, LA 82, leads research and application development for chemical processes and applications and for active oxygen products at PeroxyChem, LLC. He has eight patents as a primary or co-inventor.


David D. Levine, LA 83, had his short story, Damage, nominated for a Nebula Award. Nebula Awards recognize the best works of science fiction and fantasy published in the United States.

Dana Rockey, DE 84, opened a wellness-based dental office in Newport Beach, Calif. The practice treats patients from a whole-body perspective, focusing on preventive health rather than treating symptoms and diseases.

Peter Baroth, LA 85, wrote Lost Autographs (Moonstone Press), a collection of poetry with an autobiographical theme. Baroth serves on the editorial staff of Philadelphia Stories magazine.

Douglas Fish, EN 85, GB 85, Jonathan Markowitz, LA 76, and Ruth (Wenger) Markowitz, LA 78, participated in a ride with wounded veterans in Israel on the first annual Friends of the Israel Defense Forces bicycle tour. As they took in the views and visited military bases, the three developed great respect and admiration for the veterans. A video is available at https://vimeo.com/149382289.

Daniel S. Blain, BU 87, SW 89, marked his third anniversary as vice president of advancement at the Northeast Ohio Medical University in Rootstown, Ohio. In addition, he serves as president of the Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) Foundation. Blain lives with his wife, Miriam, and their two children, Max and Ruby, in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

Douglas William Edgren, LA 87, returned to Cheyenne, Wy., where he completed his family medicine residency and joined Babson & Associates Primary Care, an independent medical practice that provides full-spectrum community medical care.

Chuenhsie Chen, SI 88, is proud to report that his two daughters — Shin, 10, and Yan, 6 — are already thinking about attending WashU.

Jonathan Hoffschneider, AR 88, was promoted to principal at SmithGroupJJR, a 1,000-employee architecture, engineering and planning firm with 10 locations in the U.S. and China. Hoffschneider, who works at the firm’s Washington, D.C., office, has spent more than 28 years in architecture, primarily in the health-care sector.

Alexander Iden, LW 88, was elected to an eight-year term as a circuit court judge of the 26th Judicial Court by the Virginia General Assembly.

Melinda (Ascher) Michel, LA 88, was promoted to vice president of women’s philanthropy at The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore. She and Keith Michel, a senior global brand manager at Walden University, were married in August 2015.

David Brown, BU 89, chief financial officer and executive vice president at Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield, was selected by the Des Moines Business Record as the 2015 Deloitte CFO of the Year.

Frederic J. Frommer, LA 89, launched and heads the Sports Business Practice at the Dewey Square Group, a public affairs firm in Washington, D.C. Frommer has written several books on sports.

90s


Bill Rebholz, GB 90, a graduate of De Smet Jesuit High School in St. Louis, was named vice president of advancement at the school. He previously was CEO of Southern Illinois Medical Development Corporation.

Ken Bradford Cooper, PT 91, won the Race Across America (two-person division bicycle race), qualified for the Hawaii Ironman World Championship (by over 25 minutes) and qualified for the Boston Marathon (two weeks after the Ironman, also by over 25 minutes) — all within a five-month period in 2015. Cooper is CEO of US Corporate Wellness in Littleton, Colo.

Jennifer Gladsky, LA 91, has taught middle-school language arts for the past two years at The Village School, an independent Montessori school in Waldwick, N.J. Her teenage daughters, Julia and Cameron, are her pride and joy.

Melissa A. Hensley, LA 91, SW 92, SW 10, was promoted to associate professor with tenure in the Department of Social Work at Augsburg College, Minneapolis, Minn. She has been president of the Hennepin County affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness since 2014.
PROFILE  Laura Meckler, AB ’90

From campus news to the halls of power

An undergraduate love affair changed Laura Meckler’s life. Working on Washington University’s campus newspaper Student Life, Meckler, AB ’90, “fell in love with journalism” — a passion that endures now as she covers the 2016 presidential race for The Wall Street Journal as a staff reporter.

“I love doing this work,” Meckler says. “It’s important. The stakes are high: Who is going to end up leading this country for the next four years? And, personally, I think politics itself is fascinating, the craft of it and the policy pieces. I was a policy reporter for a long time before I covered politics, and I care a lot about it.”

Meckler spent years covering health and social policy before moving to politics and, in 2009, to the White House beat. Now she is covering the presidential races, where she follows the Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump campaigns around the country, returning to her home base of Washington, D.C., to dig deeper into stories.

“You are in love with it, you have to be,” Meckler says. “You have to love what you’re doing. You can’t do this if you’re not passionate about it.”

The challenge is to stay on top of the news of the day and feel like you know what’s happening on the campaign trail, what the candidates are saying, while also taking time to step back and write something more durable and meaningful,” Meckler says.

Part of that is holding candidates’ feet to the fire when necessary, as she did in an article on Hillary Clinton’s State Department staff blocking the release of politically sensitive documents requested under the Freedom of Information Act. In another story, she calculated that Sen. Bernie Sanders’ proposed programs would cost some $18 trillion over 10 years, the largest peace-time expansion of government in U.S. history.

“Not that everything a candidate proposes will necessarily become law,” Meckler says. “Sometimes our job is to point out when something likely won’t become law. But it says a lot about their values and priorities. I really enjoy digging into it and trying to help readers understand what candidates are proposing.”

And she’s done so with great success, according to The Wall Street Journal’s Washington bureau chief, Jerry Seib. “Three of the toughest assignments I can imagine in Washington would be covering the White House during the fight over Obamacare, immigration policy during the great debate after the 2012 election and the crazy 2016 presidential election. We’ve asked Laura to handle each one of those — and she has, expertly,” Seib says.

Meckler joined the Journal in 2005 after 10 years as a staff reporter for The Associated Press, mostly in Washington. While there, she developed her journalism chops, winning a 1999 Livingston Award for National Reporting for her coverage of organ donation and transplantation issues, and she was a 2003 Nieman fellow at Harvard University. A Cleveland native, Meckler had previously covered state government in Columbus, Ohio, as well as local news. But she got her start at Student Life.

“Political science and international development were my technical majors, but what I really majored in was Student Life,” Meckler says. “My future was cast in the campus newsroom. I loved learning how to produce the news and then seeing it read all over campus.”

Now, working for America’s most widely circulated daily newspaper, she sees her work read across the country and around the world. Still, she stays involved with Student Life, serving on its board of directors and mentoring its student journalists. Yet her ongoing passion for journalism born there comes with challenges.

“It’s very demanding. I have two young children at home, and I am on the road a lot. Even when I’m in D.C., I often work late and sometimes from home on weekends. A 6-year-old doesn’t always understand that,” she says.

But that doesn’t stop her from wanting more of the same. When discussing her professional future, she talks about different beats to cover, not a different job.

Having covered the White House and many other Washington beats, there’s not one assignment she’s pining for, Meckler says. “I’ve found that in my career, good things sort of happen next.”

— Rick Skwiot
Stephanie Bullard Lancaster, OT 91, is an assistant professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis. Lancaster lives with her husband and their two daughters in Collierville, Tenn.

Henrika McCoy, LA 91, LA 91, SW 08, an assistant professor at the Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago, was awarded a $1.5 million grant from the National Institute of Justice for a three-year project titled Understanding the Violent Victimization Experiences of Young Men of Color.

Evelyn Morel, GR 91, and her childhood sweetheart, Cyril Hanouna, live with their triplets, Kendji, Shirley and Dino, and their French poodle, Nabila. Morel wrote a cookbook, Du Poireau au la Sauce blanche (pears with white sauce).

James Cope, EN 92, was named director of innovation and entrepreneurship at the Robert C. Byrd Institute in Huntington, W.Va. He previously worked nine years as a location services coordinator at the West Virginia Film Office.

Darrick (Dl) Warfield, FA 92, recently had an exhibit, “My Boyfriend Is Black,” at the Collective One Gallery in Atlanta. The exhibit explores the stigma and racism that Warfield, who is black, encountered while growing up in St. Louis and dating a white woman, who is now his wife. Warfield’s creative agency, GOLDFINGER c.s., has worked with major brands including Nike, Sprite and Anheuser-Busch.

Ari Berkowitz, GM 93, recently published Governing Behavior: How Nerve Cell Dictatorships and Democracies Control Everything We Do (Harvard University Press, 2016). The book describes the inner workings of the nerve cells comprising the nervous system using different types of government as metaphors for various categories of neurons.

Matthew P. Brookman, LW 93, was recently sworn in as U.S. magistrate judge in Indianapolis.

Julia (Hartzog) Garcia, LA 93, LA 93, was promoted to director of pediatric social work at Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt University. She is pursuing a master’s degree in health-care management at Vanderbilt. She and her husband, Roy, GA 97, have two children, Lindsey and Sebastian, and live in Nashville, Tenn.

Allison Faith Carp, LA 94, was named assistant vice president at GEICO, where she has worked since 1994.

Nina Leigh Krueger, GB 94, was promoted from chief marketing officer to president at Nestlé Purina, U.S.

Carlos Narváez-Hasfura, GL 95, GL 97, a professor at Universidad Iberoamericana, one of the most prestigious universities in Mexico and in Latin America, received an award for his academic performance (the Estímulo al Desempeño Docente prize) in November 2015. Earlier, in October 2013, he was awarded a diploma of merit.

Paul Stewart James Stevens, LA 95, and Genevieve (Richards) Stevens, LA 96, welcomed a daughter, Catherine Nicole, in August 2015. She joined two big brothers, Bryan and Matthew, and two big sisters, Michelle and Mia. Genevieve is completing work toward a master’s degree in education, and Paul recently earned his 500th career coaching victory as a high school volleyball coach.

Holly Amatangelo, LA 96, and William J. Kissane were married in November 2015 in Chicago, with many of her WashU friends and classmates in attendance.


Emily (Esmundo) Pike, LA 96, a graduate of the College of Optometry at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, is in practice as an optometrist at Absolute Vision in Webster Groves, Mo.

Randy Kurtz, BU 97, along with Ted Nims, BU 97, and Tom Anderson, BU 96, rebranded financial technology company BetterDebt as Supernova Companies. Supernova launched its groundbreaking online securities-based lending platform in late 2015, and Kurtz now serves as chief investment officer. Jeff Prochnow, BU 97, LA 97, serves on the company’s advisory committee.

Ted Nims, BU 97, and Randy Kurtz, BU 97, along with Tom Anderson, BU 96, rebranded financial technology company BetterDebt as Supernova Companies. Supernova launched its groundbreaking online securities-based lending platform in late 2015, and Nims now serves as chief financial officer. Jeff Prochnow, BU 97, LA 97, serves on the company’s advisory committee.

Angela (Aiduck) Erickson, EN 98, and her husband, Kevin, recently welcomed their third daughter, Lauren Elizabeth. Lauren joins older sisters Morgan and Kaitlyn. The family resides in Dallas.

Qi Chen, GB 99, and his wife, Min Cai, welcomed their fourth child in September 2015. Chen is an associate professor at Texas Christian University.

Khara Coleman, LA 99, LW 03, joined the law firm of Pugh, Jones & Johnson P.C. in Chicago. She was also recently admitted to the Trial Bar for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

Marisa (Schulman) Edwards, FA 99, and Brian Edwards welcomed a daughter, Sienna Rae Edwards, in March 2015. The Edwards’ first child, Alexander, is 5. The family resides in New Rochelle, N.Y.

Arsalan Iftikhar, LA 99, LW 03, released Scapegoats: How Islamophobia Helps Our Enemies & Threatens Our Freedoms (Hot Books, 2016). Among other topics, the book examines the relationship between media coverage of Muslim terrorism and the increased prevalence of Islamophobia.

Jennifer (Jacobs) McShane, FA 99, welcomed a daughter, Madeline, in February 2014.

Von E. Nebbitt, SW 99, SW 05, released Adolescents in Public Housing: Addressing Psychological and Behavioral Health (Columbia University Press, 2015). The book initiates new paths for research into this vulnerable population and contributes preventive interventions to increase the life chances of the affected youth. Nebbitt is an associate professor at the Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Tuinh Ganguly, LA 01, LW 08, an attorney with Pepper Hamilton, LLP, was named to the Washington, D.C., Rising Stars list. Ganguly focuses his practice on intellectual property litigation, with a particular emphasis on patent litigation.

Allison (Tannenbaum) Levy, LA 01, and David Levy, FA 01, are the proud parents of Odette Louise (Etta Lou) Levy, born in October 2015.

Michael Asher, EN 03, joined international engineering firm Amec Foster Wheeler as project manager in the Power and Process Americas Division. In his role, he leads a major pharmaceutical company’s global initiative to construct...
Creating a Network

When he’s not helping design critically lauded commercial buildings, Xopher Pollard, BFA ’05, is overseeing another, equally important construction project: building bridges between Washington University and its LGBTQIA alumni.

The Chicago-based architect and activist recently became president of the Washington University Pride Alumni Network, or WUpan. The organization, now in its fourth year, hosts receptions and professional networking events for graduating students and LGBTQIA alumni across the country. It also promotes LGBT-friendly policies on campus. “Being involved with WUpan is more than just giving back to the university,” says the 33-year-old Pollard. “It’s a way to celebrate how far LGBT rights have progressed on campus and a way to continue that movement going forward.”

In a state where employers can fire employees simply for having a photo of a same-sex partner on their desk, Washington University is heralded for its inclusive environment. In addition to gender-neutral bathroom options, the university has inclusive housing, so students can choose to live together, regardless of gender. The institution also has a preferred-name initiative, which allows students to officially change their first name on all university records and communications.

Such progressive policies helped earn the school a 4.5-star (out of 5-star) rating from Campus Pride, a nonprofit organization committed to improving the quality of life for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer students. WUpan contributes to WashU’s high marks: Members work to recruit students at LGBTQIA college fairs; build a university community of LGBTQIA staff, students and alumni; and fund a yearly scholarship for current students.

Volunteering to improve the lives of others is nothing new for Pollard. At WashU, he had a “very diverse and involved group” of friends. “I always tell people, architectural school made me an architect, but WashU made me a citizen,” he says. As an undergraduate, he served as president of Spectrum Alliance (now Pride Alliance), and these days, he contributes to causes as diverse as ALS Association; National Public Radio; and Polished Pebbles, a mentoring program for African-American girls.

It is Pollard’s relentless commitment to social change that convinced WUpan’s steering committee to elect him as president, says Lars Etkorn, AB ’87, one of the group’s founders.

In his day job, Pollard also tries to improve the world through beautiful and environmentally friendly design as an architect for Heitman Architects. When he joined the firm in 2014, one of his first projects was helping design the Method soap factory. The trailblazing building is outfitted with a 230-foot wind turbine, sun-tracking solar panels and the world’s largest rooftop garden, all of which helped it become the first-ever industrial building to earn a LEED Platinum rating.

Today, Pollard is leading the design team for the renovation of the AAR corporate headquarters, an eight-phase undertaking that includes a lobby sculpture Pollard designed by adapting the company’s logo. He credits the knowledge he gained from his undergraduate studies in sculpture and film for his contributions to the project’s space planning, branding and furniture design.

“I’ve always been interested in how people relate to spaces and to one another,” he says. “My senior project [at WashU] explored how furniture works as a stand-in for the human body.” This provided him a framework for his later studies. After graduating, Pollard went on to earn three degrees in interior and architectural design.

In addition to an education, the university offered Pollard a safe haven for coming out as an undergraduate. “I didn’t know I wasn’t straight until I was at WashU,” he says. “I grew up in a suburb of Dallas, and being gay there just wasn’t a possibility. It wasn’t an issue of hostility; it was more of an issue of visibility. Gays were simply invisible.” Part of his involvement in WUpan is wanting to create a supportive atmosphere and community for other students like him.

“I have four degrees from three schools,” Pollard says, “but the only place that felt like home was WashU. . . . In architecture and with WUpan, my goal is to make spaces for others to feel at home too.”

— Laura Slavik Fortin
three vaccine manufacturing facilities. Asher lives in Philadelphia with his fiancée, Stephanie.

Ryan Dykal, LA 03, is an attorney with Shook Hardy & Bacon in the firm’s intellectual property litigation group. His practice focuses on patent and copyright litigation involving telecommunication, semiconductors, medical devices and various software fields.

Alicia (McDonald) Martinovich, LA 03, LW 09, and Paul Martinovich were married in October 2015 in Washington, D.C. Alicia currently lives in D.C., where she is counsel to the chief financial officer at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. She will relocate temporarily to Canberra, Australia, to join her husband in late 2016.

Lori (Apfel) Cardeli, AR 04, and Seth Leventhal Cardeli, LA 04, welcomed a daughter, Dylan Zoe, in March 2016. She joins big brother Oliver, age 3. The family resides in Rockville, Md., where Lori is an architect and Seth is an attorney.

Paul Hime, LA 04, was awarded the Blue Waters Graduate Fellowship for the 2016–17 academic year by the NSF-funded National Center for Supercomputing Applications. The award will allow Hime to advance his doctoral research into deep amphibian relationships at the University of Kentucky.

Maria Heliana Ramirez, SW 04, a program manager at the Veterans Administration’s Palo Alto Health Care System, Menlo Park Division, was among the 2015 winners of the Secretary’s Fifth Annual Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Award. The award recognized Ramirez’s outstanding public service in communicating the needs and the strengths of the LGBT community as veterans and as employees in the Veterans Administration, in the military and on college campuses around the nation.

Bridget Shea Westfall, SW 04, and her husband, Rick Westfall, welcomed a son, Jameson Alexander, in February 2014. Bridget was promoted to supervisory grants management specialist at the Administration for Children and Families in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The couple continues to restore a historic house in Alexandria, Va.


Pooja K. Agarwal, LA 05, GR 09, GR 11, recently launched RetrievalPractice.org, a hub of information for educators and students on retrieval practice, a tool for increasing long-term learning. Much of the research featured on RetrievalPractice.org was conducted by Agarwal and her colleagues at WashU.

Jongwoon Willie Choi, BU 05, was named one of Poets & Quants’ Top 40 under 40 Business Professors for 2016. Choi is an assistant professor of business administration at the University of Pittsburgh.

Carolyn Kras, LA 05, read her new play, The Subject, at Upstairs at the Arts in London as part of a U.N. Orange Day Reading featuring Alfred Enoch (How to Get Away With Murder). The reading was a culmination of her Fulbright LUSK Award as Playwright-in-Residence at Sell a Door Theatre Company.

Kory Postma, EN 05, SI 05, who works at the U.S. Geological Survey/NASA, is creating a video game called Squard.

Shannon Puopolo, LA 05, was elected a stockholder in the law firm Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A. Puopolo practices law in the area of commercial litigation.

Nora Ames, AR 06, is a licensed architect in Illinois, working at Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture. In October 2015, she received the Buckminster Fuller Honor Award for Social Good from AIA Illinois for Field Notes for a project bringing students and architects together to explore the societal roles of architects (fieldnotesdialogue.com).

Ann (Helmering) Hart, PMBA 06, was selected to the board of directors of Habitat for Humanity Saint Louis. Hart is vice president of human resources at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Sara Krenski, UC 06, is the founding head of the Montessori Middle School in St. Louis, which opened in August 2016. Krenski previously was director of communications and marketing at Pedal the Cause.

Katelyn (Swindle) Reilly, SI 06, SI 08, and Matt Reilly, SI 08, accepted faculty positions at The Ohio State University and have relocated to Columbus. Katelyn is tenure-track faculty in biomedical engineering and chemical and biomolecular engineering. Matt is tenure-track faculty in biomedical engineering. Their son, Seth Michael, celebrated his second birthday in August.

Judge Gardner III, EN 07, was promoted to operations supervisor at AGL Resources– Nicor Gas. He is pursuing a master’s degree in business administration at Loyola University’s Quinlan School of Business. He and his wife, Dominique, welcomed their first child, Isabella Rose, in March.

Melissa Kaplan, LA 07, was promoted to senior manager for resolution planning and incentive compensation risk management at Discover Financial Services. She also passed the project management professional exam, earning certification.

Rachel Saak, GA 07, joined HOK as an architect in the firm’s St. Louis office. Saak and her team members are working on the Campus Renewal Project, a partnership of Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis Children’s Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine. Previously, she worked at Bates Architects in St. Louis.

Danya (Cheskis-Gold) Shults, LA 07, and Andrew Shults were married in October 2015 in Brooklyn, N.Y. She recently started a company, Pop-Up Shabbat, a pop-up restaurant that helps people connect to Jewish life and culture.

Kyle Walton, GB 07, is founder and president of Classic Lake Consulting and Investments. He launched the firm to serve organizations that generate positive economic and environmental impacts for the communities they serve, including groups working in low-income areas.

Grant Williams, EN 07, EN 07, SI 09, earned an MBA from Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management in 2015. He is an associate investment banker at Lincoln International in Chicago, where he works on electronics and health-care deals. Grant misses St. Louis and always roots for the Cardinals.

Clifford Goldkind, BU 09, helped found Higher Ground Produce, which is building large-scale hydroponic greenhouses to grow leafy green vegetables in urban areas through sustainable farming methods.

Madalyn (Rothman) Sidrova, LA 09, and Aaron Sidrova, FA 09, welcomed a future WashU Bear, Caleb Gray, in April 2015.

Amy Cohen, LA 10, and her husband, Aaron Vinson, welcomed a daughter, Eleanor Poppy Cohen Vinson, in October 2015.

Nicholas Gilham, PMBA 10, joined Luxottica Retail as social
Amelia Boone, AB ’06

True Grit

A melia Boone, AB ’06, is something of a superhero. By day, the 32-year-old works as a corporate lawyer for Apple in San Jose, California. But in her free time, she is an obstacle-course racing icon.

Boone came to prominence in 2012, when she won the World’s Toughest Mudder, a five-mile obstacle course that competitors run for 24 hours. Boone was the top female finisher and the second-place finisher overall.

“The male winner only beat me by like eight minutes,” Boone says. “Usually, you don’t see that. It caught a lot of people’s attention.”

She’s gone on to win the World’s Toughest Mudder two more times. She was also the Spartan Race (another obstacle-course race) World Champion in 2013. That win earned her a Reebok sponsorship and a place on the Spartan Race elite running team, where she’s paid to race.

In addition to Reebok, Boone has other endorsement deals, has appeared in commercials, has provided obstacle-course race commentary for ESPN, and has graced the cover of Runner’s World. She also stars in Spartan Race on NBC Sports, which follows the Spartan Race elite runners as they compete on grueling courses.

Growing up, Boone was an avid athlete and played soccer, basketball and softball on competitive traveling teams. She stopped playing these sports though as she got older.

“When I came to Washington University, I was happy to put the athletic part of [my life] behind me, because I think I kind of burned myself out after a while,” she says. She still ran for exercise, but instead of sports, she joined Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, sang in the Greenleafs a cappella group and was an RA. She also double-majored in political science and anthropology.

After graduation in 2006, Boone enrolled in law school at the University of Washington in Seattle and eventually landed a job at a corporate law firm in Chicago. There, co-workers convinced her to sign up for her first Tough Mudder.

Today, obstacle-course racing is the fastest-growing sport in America, but in 2011, when Boone signed up for her first race, it was just starting. Boone remembers that the race, held at the appropriately named Devil’s Head, Wisconsin, was tough, but she enjoyed it.

“I didn’t realize [there were going to be] monkey bars, and I hadn’t done any strength training or upper-body training, and I was like, ‘These are really hard. We used to do these all the time as kids — why can’t I do monkey bars anymore?’ It was just a challenge for me, and I liked that,” she says.

After the race, Boone got an email that said she qualified for the first-ever World’s Toughest Mudder, a 24-hour race. “I’d never run that far. I’d never competed in a 24-hour event. I had no reason to think I would be decent at it,” Boone says, “but something just possessed me.” She signed up.

The race took place in Englishtown, New Jersey, in the middle of December. Temperatures were below freezing, and for some of the water obstacles, competitors had to hack through ice before they could wade in.

“About 1,000 people started the race,” Boone says, “and the next morning, there were only 11 finishers. I was one of two women.”

She came in second but knew she wanted to try again. In 2012, she won.

Boone has become a legend in the field for doing things like competing in a World’s Toughest Mudder just eight weeks after knee surgery — and winning. Or competing with a broken tailbone — and winning. She thrives when others would capitulate.

“You figure out that there are things you can work through,” Boone says. “And in those low points, you learn how much you’re capable of.”

For Boone, the discipline and mental toughness she needs to win at obstacle-course racing began at WashU. “That is what got me through WashU and why I excelled at WashU, I think,” she says. “It was really that drive, that focus, that motivation that has carried [over] into my athletic career.”

— Rosalind Early, AB ’03
media manager for LensCrafters. Gilham and his husband, Jeremy, relocated to Ohio.

Alison Leipsiger, SW 10, received the 2016 Emerging Leader of the Year award from the Illinois Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. The award recognizes exceptional social workers who promote social justice and social change. Leipsiger is director of public policy and advocacy at Forefront, the Illinois regional association of grantmakers and council for nonprofits.

Dustin Palmer, LA 11, was awarded a Luce Scholarship by the Henry Luce Foundation. Luce scholars gain cultural insights on their host countries through living and working experiences in Asia. Palmer’s professional placement focuses on justice system issues.

Adam Rowley, LW 11, is a prosecutor in Maricopa County, Mesa, Ariz.

Lorlei Williams, LW 11, was appointed director of the Immigration Project at Staten Island Legal Services after practicing four years as an immigration staff attorney at the poverty law office.

Elyse (Knoop) Propis, LA 12, and Samuel Phillip Propis, EN 12, were married in October 2015, with a large contingent of other WashU alumni in attendance. The couple relocated to San Francisco, where Elyse works as a special projects manager at Uber and Sam is a technical consultant at LinkedIn.

Laura Sexton, LA 13, was promoted to senior associate consultant at Mars & Co, a global management consulting firm specializing in business strategy and operational improvement for major corporations. Sexton joined the firm in 2014 as an associate consultant.

Katherine Williams, SW 13, SW 13, works for Evidence Action, an international not-for-profit that focuses on scaling up evidence-based interventions to improve the health of millions worldwide. Previously, she had a fellowship position with Global Health Corps and worked in an HIV treatment center in Uganda.

Alaina Brown, LA 14, is a student in the University of Washington’s medical education program and conducts neuroimaging research at the university’s Integrated Brain Imaging Center.

Hayley Perlis, LA 15, earned a master’s degree in teaching (Spanish) from WashU.

Adam Schefkind, LA 15, a first-year medical student at the University of Virginia, received a grant from the university’s Center for Global Health to assess solar water-heating technology at the Hospital Nacional de Totonicapán in Guatemala.

Jeremy Shipley, GF 15, designed the cover for his mom’s (Melissa Crockett Meske) first book, _The Dirt Still Looks the Same_ (Create Space, 2016). In this collection of poems, Meske reflects on the lessons she learned in her first 50 years.

Christopher Thomas, GA 15, joined HOK as an architect in the firm’s St. Louis office. Thomas and his team members are working on the Campus Renewal Project, a partnership of Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis Children’s Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine. He previously worked at Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects in Fayetteville, Ark.

June (Stevens) Magdwick, LA 38; Sept. ’15 • Margery (Skinner) Nax, LA 38; July ’15 • John A. Schiffman, BU 38; Aug. ’15 • G. Russell Aufferheide, LA 39, MD 43; Oct. ’15 • Jane (Taylor) Bennetsen, OT 39; Aug. ’15 • Mildred (Weiss) Miksic, NU 39; April ’15 • Roslyn (Levin) Samuels, FA 39; Nov. ’15 • William J. Smith, LA 39, GR 41; Aug. ’15

1940s

Rudolph Freedman, EN 40, SI 52; Aug. ’15 • Richard L. Landau, LA 40, MD 40; Nov. ’15 • Mary (Thomson) Moodie, LA 40; April ’15 • Charlotte (Koehler) Flynn, NU 41; April ’15 • Suzanne (Perrin) Grote, FA 41; May ’15 • Irma (Smith) Moses, NU 41, NU 42; May ’15 • Eleonore S. Rodegast, FA 41; April ’15 • Anne (Livingston) Steding, LA 41; Aug. ’15 • Jeanne (Mannheimer) Stolar, LA 41; April ’15 • William M. Anderson, MD 42; April ’15 • Arleen (Cohen) Garland, LA 42; Nov. ’15 • Kathryn (Buck) Hewitt, LA 42; Oct. ’15 • Eugenie (Andrews) Orr, LA 42; May ’15 • Robert E. Poston, BU 42; Aug. ’15 • Robert G. Stoltz, BU 42; Aug. ’15 • Elizabeth (Rumer) Weeks, LA 42; May ’15 • Eugene A. Andrew, EN 43; Sept. ’15 • Carl R. Classen, EN 43; May ’15 • Calvin H. East, BU 43; April ’15 • Evelyn (Fischer) Harrell, NU 43; Oct. ’15 • Eugenia (Kuhn) Lund, NU 43; Oct. ’15 • Robert T. O’Donnell, EN 43; Aug. ’15 • Chester E. Roemer, AR 43; Nov. ’15 • Carl T. Woolsey, MD 43; May ’15 • Charles F. Luecke, EN 44; May ’15 • Helen (Herr) Benner, LA 45, GR 47; Oct. ’15 • Malvina (Isach) Brooks, NU 45; April ’16 • Peter G. Casten, DE 45; July ’15 • Kenneth W. Davey, LA 45; Aug. ’15 • Claire (Turk) Epstein, LA 45; May ’15 • William W. Klusmeier, DE 45; July ’15 • Gerald A. Reeves, MD 45; April ’15 • Nancy D. Shaffer, LA 45; July ’15 • Audrey (Bonnett) Shatz, FA 45; July ’15 • Roberta (Levy) Shifrin, FA 45; May ’15 • Jane (Nolte) Trovillion, LA 45; June ’15 • Lois (Dixon) Alexander, LA 46; July ’15 • Harvey A. Beffa, LA 46; June ’15 • Ruby (Burdett) Colson, NU 46; Sept. ’15 • Harold M. Gilbert, LA 46; Aug. ’15 • Lida (Schasteen) Magness, NU 46; Aug. ’15 • Jack M. Martt, MD 46; April ’15 • Nicholas L. Petrakis, MD 46; Dec. ’15 • Rosa (Abt) Plambek, FA 46; Aug. ’15 • Naomi (Mazur) Silvermintz, BU 46; Nov. ’15 • Joseph J. Simeone, LW 46, May ’15 • Theodore J. Smith, MD 46; Sept. ’15 • Harold B. Torrence, LA 46; Oct. ’15 • Gloria (Moncur) Broaddus, LA 47; May ’15 • Arnold J. Brody, MD 47; Oct. ’15 • Ralph V. Gieselman, MD 47, HS 52; April ’15 • Stanley A. Gitt, BU 47; June ’15 • Daniel D. Hankey, MD 47; Sept. ’15 • Herbert W. Havelsky, BU 47; Sept. ’15 • John K. Kern, LA 47, GR 48; Aug. ’15 • Doris (Bayley) Littlefield, LA 47; Aug. ’15 • George W. Lubke, EN 47; April ’15 • Floreine (Garvin) Marshall, NU 47; April ’15 • Virginia (Krauthem) Mellis, UC 47; July ’15 • Jean (Vogel) Murray, BU 47; June ’15 • Leonardi J. Rosen, DE 47; July ’15 • Evelyn (Pepper) Rosenberg, BU 47; April ’15 • Albert G. Smith, MD 47; Oct. ’15 • Jean E. St. Cyr, BU 47; Aug. ’15 • John H. Stradal, BU 47; Nov. ’15 • Raymond W. Winkler, SI 47, SI 51; April ’15 • C. Donald Ainsworth, LW 48; Nov. ’15 • Sophia (Coker) Brown, LA 48; Sept. ’15 • Rex Carr, LA 48; April ’15 • Laura (Fleischman) Cassel, OT 48; Nov. ’15 • Benjamin Duhov, EN 48; Nov. ’15 • Jack W. Fitch, BU 48; Nov. ’15 • Robert H. Friedman, MD 48; Sept. ’15 • Anne (Burns) Hillenbrand, LA 48; Nov. ’15 • John E. Hoffman, EN 48; Sept. ’15 • Richard F. Huck, MD 48; April ’15
• Robert C. Kane, EN 48, BU 49; June '15 • Arthur J. Kase, LA 48, LW 48; Dec. '15 • Richard L. Lich, EN 48, SI 51; Oct. '15 • Robert S. Maack, EN 48, April '15 • George E. Quick, EN 48, Aug. '15 • “Genevieve” Camilla (Fausek) Rinehart, LA 48; July '15 • James E. Russell, BU 48; Aug. '15 • Mary (Junckerman) Scramton, NU 48; March '16 • William C. Stading, DE 48; May '15 • Duane D. Warden, MD 48; Dec. '15 • Thomas E. Weber, BU 48; April '15 • Edward N. Wilson, EN 48; July '15 •

Evelyn (Pepper) Rosenberg, Sept. '15 • Silvermintz, July '15 • Lois (Dixon) Alexander, May '15 • Benjamin Duhov, BU 50; Nov. '15 • Gloria (Moncur) Doris (Bayley) Schmidt, LA 50, GR 51; May '15 • Charles A. Costantinou, EN 52; June '15 • Roger P. English, LW 52; Dec. '15 • Shirley (Schwier) Garrett, BU 52; June '15 • Peter J. Geoffroy, GR 52; Aug. '15 • Nancy (Brashaw) Henske, LA 52; June '15 • Henry Herold, AR 52; April '15 • Robert B. Katims, MD 52; Aug. '15 • Charles R. Kite, BU 52; Feb. '16 • Theodore P. Maheras, DE 52; June '15 • Wharton M. Peters, EN 52; July '15 • Herbert R. Richter, EN 52; June '15 • Mary (Hase) Stocks, NU 52; Aug. '15 • James P. Sunderland, LW 52; May '15 • John V. Tilly, EN 52, SI 56; Oct. '15 • Kelso C. Towe, LA 52; June '15 • Elizabeth (Kostedt) Vitt, FA 52; Sept. '15 • Willis J. Wollman, DE 52; Oct. '15 • Eugene S. Yanchus, LA 52; April '15 • Norman Brachfeld, MD 53; July '15 • Dolores (Whitaker) Crossland, LA 53; Sept. '15 • James C. Denninghoff, MD 53; April '15 • Francis B. Forage, EN 53; June '15 • Ludmila (Kolesnyk) Foster, LA 53; Nov. '15 • Richard Franzel, BU 53; April '16 • Marjorie (Williams) French, LA 53; Sept. '15 • Wayne E. Garrett, MD 53; June '15 • Betty (Gackle) Halvorson, NU 53; April '15 • Sawyer Marglous, BU 53; LW 56; Dec. '15 • Richard E. Sommerfeld, GR 53, GR 57; Nov. '15 • David L. Spooner, EN 53; March '15 • Mort Stelling, LA 53; July '15 • Richard I. Thomas, EN 53; June '15 • Gilbert E. Wahlman, EN 53; Dec. '15 • Marian (Vogler) Willoughby, LA 53; Dec. '15 • Charles A. Allen, DE 54; Sept. '15 • Alan H. Goodman, BU 54; June '15 • Richard A. Hase, EN 54; June '15 • John A. Headrick, LA 54, MD 58; July '15 • Ulrich B. Jacobsohn, MD 54; May '15 • James P. Kennedy, BU 54, LA 54; July '15 • June (Grebe) Kilo, BU 54; May '15 • Fred H. Lamping, EN 54; July '15 • Martin N. Leaf, LA 54; May '15 • Herbert Y. Matsumura, AR 54; April '15 • Gerald A. Mendel, MD 54; Aug. '15 • Arline (Heckman) Miller, UC 54; May '15 • James M. Pierce, LA 54; April '15 • Sarah (Thielbar) Quinnelly, LA 54; Aug. '15 • Elaine (Klein) Rapoport, LA 54; April '15 • Robert L. Romano, GR 54; May '15 • Margaret (Peet) Ruch, LA 54; Aug. '15 • Marilyn (Schmoeller) Sandefur, LA 54; May '15 • Ann (Soudier) Schreen, FA 54; Sept. '15 • Carol (Amthor) Teska, LA 54; Oct. '15 • Barbara (Eng) Tuttle, LA 54; June '15 • Barbara (Thail) Ungar, LA 54, GR 56; April '15 • Suzanne (Engel) Wichman, NU 54; Dec. '15 • S. Joseph Gore, GR 55, GR 62; Nov. '15 • James F. Hawk, GR 55; April '15 • Dean I. Heath, BU 55; July '15 • Peggy (Gwynn) Hemker, BU 55; April '15 • Wayne A. Klish, SW 55; April '15 • Peter B. Sanderson, DE 55; July '15 • Leo S. Shanley, DE 55, GD 60; July '15 • Ronald J. Silber, BU 55; June '15 • Joe R. Smith, MD 55, HS 59; June '15 • Roberta (Mare) Wright, LA 55; July '15 • Edward Deutch, BU 56; Nov. '15 • Jack M. Donahue, SW 56; May '15 • Marilyn (Berger) Engman, LA 56; Sept. '15 • Stanley R. Fagin, LA 56; April '15 • Donna (Moore) Haffner, NU 56; June '15 • John M. Kratky, EN 56; June '15 • William J. Krummel, GR 56; July '15 • James K. Lahr, GR 56; April '15 • Marcella B. Montrey, UC 56; July '15 • August J. Sabadell, BU 56; Oct. '15 • Joseph Schmich, LA 56, SI 62; June '15 • David R. Simms, EN 56; Dec. '15 • Robert S. Spitzer, MD 56; Dec. '15 • James H. Wilson, UC 56; Dec. '15 • Robert O. Andrews, MD 57; Nov. '15 • Carol (Langenwalter) Bell, NU 57; Aug. '15 • John W. Breitweiser, LA 57, GR 62; June '15 • Claire (Fullerton) Daehnick, LA 57; June '15 • Robert G. Dietrich, EN 57;
CLASSNOTES

April ’15 • Louis Z. Dueringer, BU 57; Oct. ’15 • Wayne N. Hill, GR 57; May ’15 • Barbara (Striss) Johnson, OT 57; Nov. ’15 • Doris (Weihl) Knollhoff, NU 57; Dec. ’15 • James B. Nash, BU 57; July ’15 • Calvin J. Rogers, BU 57; Oct. ’15 • Daniel E. Rogers, BU 57, LW 65; May ’15 • Thomas L. Bever, EN 58; May ’15 • Barbara (Burcham) Brown, BU 58; June ’15 • Robert E. Cutler, MD 58; March ’16 • Dorothy G. Goos, SW 58; Dec. ’15 • Hugo C. Heinemann, SI 58; Nov. ’15 • James D. Herr, EN 58; May ’15 • Robert W. Klipp, BU 58; Nov. ’15 • Robert W. Mackey, LA 58; Dec. ’15 • Edna M. Major, LA 58; July ’15 • Clarence Malcolm, UC 58; June ’15 • Charles L. Manske, GR 58; July ’15 • Theodore D. Ponfil, LW 58; June ’15 • George J. Quick, LA 58, GR 69; Oct. ’15 • Wayne F. Schlosser, FA 58; Apr. ’15 • George R. Schmick, BU 58; May ’15 • Thomas R. Seawell, FA 58; Aug. ’15 • Armand U. Simeone, UC 58; Sept. ’15 • John E. Smith, SI 58; June ’15 • Phillip A. Theis, LA 58, LW 62; Sept. ’15 • Clinton S. Tobias, BU 58; April ’15 • John W. Westhouse, BU 58, GB 64; Oct. ’15 • Elizabeth (Gibson) Whitehouse, FA 58; Nov. ’15 • Jerald M. Alton, LA 59, LW 60; Sept. ’15 • Edward J. Breier, LA 59; Oct. ’15 • Beverly (Sprague) Chapman, LA 59; May ’15 • F. Roger Clark, LA 59, GB 60; Sept. ’15 • Arthurline Clingman, HA 59; Dec. ’15 • Robert T. Cook, EN 59; June ’15 • Jeanette (Conrad) Dansberry, OT 59; Aug. ’15 • Ward E. Dickey, MD 59; Sept. ’15 • Edgar E. Frye, EN 59; Dec. ’15 • Edward A. Gulewitz, BU 59; June ’15 • Duane C. Hellam, MD 59; July ’15 • John C. Heuston, UC 59; Sept. ’15 • John C. Kleinschmidt, LA 59; July ’15 • Judith (Stecker) Lofaro, LA 59; May ’15 • Bernard J. Matyshak, BU 59; July ’15 • William D. Olinger, AR 59; Sept. ’15 • Nicholas A. Stein, GB 59; Sept. ’15 • Edward A. Trujillo, SW 59; June ’15 • Patricia (Eoff) Wolf, LA 59, GR 60, GR 64, Sept. ’15 • Raymond P. Young, EN 59; April ’15

1960s

Linda (Aloe) Abrahamson, UC 60; May ’15 • Francis W. Cheatham, GB 60; June ’15 • Donald H. Dinger, HA 60; June ’15 • M. Peter Fischer, LW 60; July ’15 • William M. Friedman, BU 60; Sept. ’15 • Frank V. Igo, UC 60; Sept. ’15 • Robert J. McCune, DE 60; Sept. ’15 • Ottoline (Els) Means, SW 60; Sept. ’15 • Robert W. Pommer, LA 60, GB 62; Oct. ’15 • David L. Rosenbaum, MD 60; Dec. ’15 • Richard F. Rudowicz, UC 60; Oct. ’15 • John G. Steinke, EN 60; April ’15 • Bashar A. Syed, GR 60; June ’15 • Fay O. Wardlaw, GD 60; Aug. ’15 • Philip G. Ziegenfuss, UC 60; July ’15 • Joseph J. Barbieri, EN 61; Sept. ’15 • William D. Barrels, UC 61; July ’15 • Audrey (Pinkston) Boyd, UC 61; Nov. ’15 • Julius Czwornog, UC 61; Aug. ’15 • J. Howard Dawson, GD 61; Dec. ’15 • Angelo A. Dendrinelis, UC 61; Oct. ’15 • Denis P. Hackett, EMBA 64; May ’15 • Drummond B. Hadley, LA 61; Nov. ’15 • David E. Hillier, EN 61; Nov. ’15 • Gordon F. Jacques, UC 61; June ’15 • Paul F. Lammert, EN 61; Aug. ’15 • Elbert H. Leigh, MD 61; May ’15 • Robert C. McKnight, MD 61; Nov. ’15 • David W. Papendick, BU 61; Aug. ’15 • Donald J. Rabin, UC 61; Sept. ’15 • Henry G. Stratmann, UC 61; April ’15 • Charles C. Wolf, LA 61; June ’15 • Eugene V. Zinck, SW 61; July ’15 • Joan (Bayer) Burns, NU 62; Dec. ’15 • Michael J. Curry, LA 62; May ’15 • Thelma B. Edelstein, GR 62, GR 83; Aug. ’15 • Marty A. Ferman, SI 62; Aug. ’15 • Joan (Speed) Gilbert, LA 62; May ’15 • William H. Holz, MD 62; July ’15 • Frank J. Kropiunik, UC 62; July ’15 • Robert L. Marcolina, UC 62; July ’15 • Sheldon B. Margulis, LA 62; Oct. ’15 • Carl H. Marting, EN 62, SI 64; Sept. ’15 • Peter E. Nathan, GR 62; May ’16 • Peter J. Origliasso, EN 62, GB 68; Dec. ’15 • Rodney M. Phillips, DE 62; Aug. ’15 • Robert L. Seiler, UC 62, UC 74; Aug. ’15 • Robert E. Smith, UC 62; Aug. ’15 • William J. Swift, GR 62, GR 69; July ’15 • Peter D. Tkach, GR 62; June ’15 • Sarah (Squires) Beane, PT 63; April ’15 • Thomas F. Langwith, EN 63; Dec. ’15 • Edward R. Lansen, UC 63, GB 67; Dec. ’15 • Michael C. Manion, EN 63; May ’15 • Joseph A. Meisel, AR 63; June ’15 • Constance (Bradshaw) Morrill, FA 63; June ’15 • Paul A. Pohland, GR 63, GR 70; Sept. ’15 • Mary W. Riley, NU 63, GR 65; Nov. ’15 • Barbara (Heinz) Sanders, LA 63; Dec. ’15 • Merrill E. Scheichel, GB 63; Dec. ’15 • Charles W. Wiggins, GR 63, GR 64; May ’16 • Robert G. Zignago, FA 63; July ’15 • Frank V. Biondo, UC 64; June ’15 • John C. Brackmann, LW 64; Dec. ’15 • Richard V. Dorsch, DE 64; Nov. ’15 • Robert L. Dunbar, DE 64; July ’15 • George B. Eagleton, MD 64; Aug. ’15 • James C. Ellsasser, MD 64, HS 69; July ’15 • Stephen P. Falk, LA 64; Dec. ’15 • John Gouse, UC 64, UC 73; Nov. ’15 • Robert L. Hartzog, LW 64; May ’15 • Arthur H. Lowell, UC 64; Sept. ’15 • Norman H. Nie, LA 64; April ’15 • William J. Westerman, SI 64; June ’15 • Bruce I. White, MD 64; Sept. ’15 • Robert W. Andersohn, EN 65; July ’15 • Harry W. Kinworthy, UC 67; Oct. ’15 • A. Gordon Larsen, DE 67; Aug. ’15 • Lin Lee, SI 67; Sept. ’15 • Frank S. Letcher, MD 67, HS 75; Dec. ’15 • Mary (Wilson) Mayhew, LA 67; June ’15 • Adrienne (Dorney) McKenna, GN 67; July ’15 • Norbert J. Sextro, TI 67; May ’15 • Neal Westermeyer, LA 67, GB 70; April ’15 • Diane (Specter) Agate, NU 68, LA 68; Aug. ’15 • William N. Baltz, UC 68; June ’15 • Alfred E. Bruns, SI 68; Sept. ’15 • Charles P. Conway, SI 68; Dec. ’15 • Henry J. Heusack, UC 68; June ’15 •
Donald R. Kozlowski, SL 68; June '15 • Ben T. Leung, LA 68; Aug. '15
• Lanex L. Mooradian, EN 68; Oct. '15 • Robert B. Oahlen, HA 68; Nov. '15 • Charles W. Pullaro, BU 68; Nov. '15 • Margaret A. Ridgeway, UC 68; May '15 • Paul J. Schlueter, UC 68; May '15 • John W. Stuart, UC 68, SW 72; April '15 • Ronald P. Bolte, TI 69; Aug. '15 • Arlyn E. Brase, UC 69; May '15 • Ronald O. Ebersole, HA 69; Dec. '15 • Timothy J. Ferre, DE 69; April '15 • James L. Haskins, EN 69, PMBA 83; Sept. '15 • Ruth (Hinton) Kelly, UC 69, UC 79; Dec. '15 • John L. McMullin, BU 69; March '16 • Helena Mullert, LA 69; Dec. '15 • Richard L. Paris, LA 69; May '15 • Linda (Affolder) Stropes, PT 69; Oct. '15 • Gladys (Hoff) Tress, UC 69; Sept. '15 • William A. Warnann, BU 69; April '15 • Anthony Wolff, DE 69; July '15

1970s

Roy E. Barnette, SI 70; Dec. '15 • Nazneen S. Mayadas, SW 70; June '15 • J. David Polys, BU 70; Sept. '15 • Scott S. Vogel, LA 70; July '15 • Eloise (Mountain) Wright, LA 70; Nov. '15 • Robert W. Bidlingmeyer, GB 71; May '15 • Marilyn (Struthers) Donahue, SW 71; Dec. '17 • Joseph P. Herring, GR 71; Aug. '15 • Joseph Ancona, UC 72; June '15 • Edward L. Corley, GR 72; Aug. '15 • Edward A. Doisy, MD 72; Sept. '15 • Margery (Abbott) Ellis, UC 72; April '15 • Gary T. Girshner, UC 72, UC 76; June '15 • Roger A. Keen, LA 72, LW 75; Oct. '15 • Harry M. Levy, LA 72; April '15 • Wayne I. Munkel, SW 72; Sept. '15 • William V. Roberts, MD 72; Oct. '15 • Francis (Federman) Schapiro, SW 72; Aug. '15 • Madeleine T. Schmitt, GR 72; June '15 • James A. Steen, DE 72; Oct. '15 • Pamela A. Weisberger, LA 72; Sept. '15 • Ernst K. Zinner, GR 72; July '15 • William H. Armstrong, UC 73; April '15 • Nelson C. Eaton, UC 73; Oct. '15 • Matthew W. Placzek, LW 73; Nov. '15 • John E. Chubb, LA 74; Nov. '15 • Patricia M. Forester, UC 74; May '15 • Harold C. Goering, UC 74; May '15 • Terrill H. Jones, LA 74; May '15 • Andrea S. Kevrick, AR 74; April '15 • Madalyn (Frazzini) Perrine, LW 74; July '15 • Michael J. Pimmel, UC 74; July '15 • Donald R. Pujol, LA 74; Oct. '15 • Radford R. Raines, UC 74; Aug. '15 • Barry L. Samson, MD 74; July '15 • Robert C. Smith, GB 74; June '15 • Rebecca L. Barnard, LA 75, GR 81; July '15 • Kendall R. Jacobs, DE 75; May '15 • Margaret (Carr) Jost, SI 75; Nov. '15 • Leonard E. Mazel, LA 75; May '15 • Mark L. Travis, DE 75; June '15 • Robert S. White, GR 75, GR 80; Oct. '15 • Brigida Emma, LA 76, Oct. '15 • Mitchell P. Fink, MD 76; Nov. '15 • Tom A. Krakover, EN 76; Oct. '15 • Donald M. Baron, LW 77; April '15 • Judith (Matsisoff) Block, UC 77; Aug. '15 • Daniel G. Collins, GB 77; Oct. '15 • Leah B. Haub, LA 77; Nov. '15 • Earle J. Kennedy, EN 77; April '15 • Eugene R. Yates, TI 77; June '15 • Patricia (Buzbee) Tolson, UC 78; June '15 • William R. Call, TI 79; Nov. '15 • Charles M. Currie, SI 79; May '15 • Donald L. Giovonini, TI 79, TI 80, TI 81, June '15 • John J. Hom, DE 79; April '15 • Daniel J. Leopold, GR 79, GR 83; Dec. '15 • Robert C. O’Neal, LW 79; Aug. '15 • Thomas Papenhien, GB 79; Dec. '15 • Steven E. Waggoner, LA 79; May '15

1980s

V. (Walther) Burrow, GR 80, SW 80; Aug. '15 • Sarah T. Gearhart, GR 80; Oct. '15 • Constance (Wise) Higginbotham, UC 80; June '15 • Laverne D. Holliday, UC 80; June '15 • Augustus J. Jones, GR 80; Dec. '15 • Donald R. Lucy, UC 80; Aug. '15 • Douglas R. Powers, UC 80; Dec. '15 • Mary L. Roques, SW 80; Sept. '15 • David R. Warshauer, LA 80, Dec. '15 • Thomas P. Wilson, UC 80, UC 84; Oct. '15 • Judith (Lucy) Engel, GR 81; Dec. '15 • Janelle A. Gordon, FA 81; Nov. '15 • Alden B. Hall, LA 81; June '15 • Leslie (Beecher) Schexnayder, LA 81; Dec. '15 • Scott L. Schubel, LA 81; April '16 • Debra (Hirschberg) Slutskier, SW 81; Dec. '15 • Beall D. Gary, LW 82; May '15 • Brian T. Lew, MD 82; June '15 • Leslie T. Ora, SW 82; Jan. '16 • Jerry W. Paul, HA 83; May '15 • Albert L. Allmon, TI 84; May '15 • Calvin L. Fisher, LW 84; Aug. '15 • Philip J. Karmin, LA 84; May '15 • Alan R. Monken, PMBA 85; June '15 • Ellen E. Post, GR 85; July '15 • Fred T. Powers, DE 85; June '15 • Mary F. Roback, BU 85; July '15 • Stuart I. Seidman, GB 85, GA 85; Aug. '15 • Doris C. Sturzenberger, TI 85; May '15 • Leon J. Crossley, TI 86; May '15 • Linda (Patterson) Munny, GR 86; July '15 • Russell D. Phillips, LW 86; June '15 • Gregory A. Walters, HA 86; July '15 • Edward F. Doczy, EMBA 87; Sept. '15 • Ashish K. Gupta, LA 87; July '15 • William K. Coor, AR 88; July '15 • Katherine L. Hall, GR 88; Sept. '15 • Phyllis M. Mast, SW 89; Aug. '15 • Robert S. Whitcomb, EN 89, SI 03; Aug.'15

1990s

Rosalind D. Ellis, PT 90; May '15 • Patrick L. Burton, UC 91, GB 95; Sept. '15 • Gary L. Mann, UC 91, TI 91; Sept. '15 • William M. Kerrigan, FA 93; Dec. '15 • Richard D. Cragen, MD 94; Sept. '15 • Kevin D. Sherman, LA 94; May '15 • Mary P. Barrett, GR 95; June '15 • Stephen M. Chappell, UC 95; July '15 • Jonathan E. Brook, LW 96; July '15 • Timothy J. Gallagher, GM 96; April '15 • Kyla Y. Hartong, SW 96; Aug. '15 • Steven T. Anderson, SI 97; July '15 • Juli (Moore) Einspanier, GR 98; Aug. '15 • Stephen J. Hampton, EN 98; July '15

2000s

Julian Bond, GL 00; Aug. '15 • Vicki W. Straub, EMHS 00; Sept. '15 • Brian D. Guattieri, AR 01; Aug. '15 • Amy Leonas, LW 02; July '15 • Michele C. Owens, GF 02; Aug. '15 • Mark A. Von Hatten, PMBA 03; June '15 • Lawrence Henges, SW 04; July '15 • Charles L. Steffens, GR 04; Dec. '15 • Ingrid A. Flom, SW 08; April '15 • Jacipto Jiiravanon, BU 09, BU 09; Dec. '15

2010s

Mark A. Smith, LW 10; July '15 • Cara A. Nickolaus, LA 13; Sept. '15 • Virginia P. Shearan, UC 13; April '15 • Robert N. Kohn, EN 15; Dec. '15 • Timothy B. Burnight, PT 16; Sept. '15 • Jacques M. de Villiers, LA 16; July '15 • Robert J. Iversen, LW 16; Oct. '15 • Lisa C. Simone, PT 16; Sept. '15 • Scott A. Hoffer, LW 17; Oct. '15

In Remembrance

Bettie Caldwell

Bettie Caldwell, PhD ’51, best known for creating a prekindergarten to prepare poor children for elementary school, died April 17, 2016. She was 91.

After earning her doctorate in early childhood education, Caldwell went on to become the director of the Children’s Center at Syracuse University in the early 1960s. There, along with collaborators, she created a day care for low-income children from 6 months to 5 years. The goal of the education program was to create an environment where children from poor families could learn and keep up developmentally with their peers, without breaking familial bonds.

The program eventually became the template for the national Head
Start program, which relied heavily on Caldwell’s research. Caldwell went on to become an elementary school principal, professor of education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and at Fayetteville, as well as the director of the Center for Early Development and Education.

Caldwell is survived by her son, Paul; her daughter, Elizabeth Lawson; two granddaughters; and a sister, Mildred Carpenter.

James W. Davis
James W. Davis, professor emeritus of political science, died April 27, 2016. He was 80.

Beloved professor and nationally recognized scholar of American politics and public policy, Davis’ research and teaching focused on the U.S. presidency, political campaigns, military history, national defense, intelligence and security issues. In addition to publishing articles in national publications like The New York Times and the Chicago Tribune, he also co-authored several books.

Davis held many roles at the university. He served as director of the Teaching Center from 1996 to 1998 and was the founding director of the Gephart Institute for Public Service. He most recently served as the university’s vice chancellor for students and coordinator of special projects.

Davis’ classes on the American presidency were popular with students, who gave him the Award for Teaching Excellence from the Arts & Sciences student council. He also received an Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award, a Distinguished Faculty Award (1997) and the Dean’s Medal in Arts & Sciences (2002).

In 2015, the university established the James W. and Jean L. Davis Professorship to honor Davis and his wife. The professorship is currently held by Fiona Marshall of the Department of Anthropology.

Davis is survived by his wife, Jean; daughter, Clare Davis (David Obedin); son, Warren (Emily) Davis; and three grandchildren.

Tad Foote II
Edward T. (Tad) Foote II, dean of the School of Law from 1973 to 1980, died of complications from Parkinson’s disease on Feb. 15, 2016. He was 78.

In addition to his role as dean, Foote served as vice chancellor, general counsel and secretary to the Board of Trustees during his time at the university. He was special adviser to then-Chancellor William H. Danforth and the board. He went on to serve as the University of Miami’s fourth president from 1981 to 2001.

He is survived by his three children and eight grandchildren.

Mokhtar H. Gado
Mokhtar H. Gado, a leading researcher at Mallinckroit Institute of Radiology at the School of Medicine, died of colon cancer April 28, 2016. He was 84.

Gado’s research involved using magnetic resonance imaging to study the brain and spine. He was well known for his work in neurological diseases, radiological manifestations of Alzheimer’s disease and brain changes in the elderly, and in studying how magnetic resonance can read pathological changes to the central nervous system from disease.

Born in Egypt, Gado earned his bachelor’s and medical degrees at Cairo University. After residencies in Egypt and England, he came to Washington University as a senior fellow in neuroradiology in 1970. He was appointed chief of the neuroradiology section the very next year.

Gado is survived by his wife, Sonja; his children, Karim Yasmine, Soraya and Ameer; his brother, Kamel Hishmat Gado; and two grandchildren.

Arlo H. Hasselbring
Arlo H. Hasselbring, BS ’52, MBA ’59, a 30-year veteran of the university’s staff, died June 3, 2016, from complications from pneumonia, cardiac failure and severe osteoporosis. He was 93.

Hasselbring served the university as facilities manager, controller and chief financial controller. He also was a part-time member of the economics faculty. His interactions with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services helped secure years of funding to expand Washington University Medical Center. He retired in 1989.

Hasselbring is survived by four children and seven grandchildren.

Morvarid Karimi
Morvarid Karimi, MD, assistant professor in the Department of Neurology’s Movement Disorders Section, died May 21, 2016, of a brain hemorrhage. She was 44.

Karimi was born in Tehran, Iran, and earned her medical degree from the University of Munster in Germany. She then moved to the U.S., where she worked in Wisconsin and Iowa before coming to the School of Medicine for a movement disorders fellowship in 2004. She went on to become an instructor of neurology in 2004 and an assistant professor of neurology in 2010.

Karimi, who also had a joint appointment at the Mallinckroit Institute of Radiology, specialized in dystonia and Parkinson’s and Huntington’s diseases.

Karimi is survived by her husband, Eric Johnson, MD, a hospitalist at Barnes-Jewish Hospital; her son, Kian, 12; her daughter, Sri, 6; her parents, Ebrahim Karimi and Shahla Shahrokh; and her brother, Ali Karimi.

Danny Kohl
Danny Howard Kohl, PhD ’65, professor emeritus of biology in Arts & Sciences, died March 12, 2016. He was 87.

Kohl, along with collaborator Georgia Shearer, made seminal contributions to the understanding of how plants convert atmospheric nitrogen to a form they and other organisms can use to build proteins. Kohl was also a constant advocate for social justice. He conducted groundbreaking research linking water pollution and industrialized agriculture, and he wrote an oft-cited article debunking attempts to link race and IQ.

Kohl was engaged in the anti-war, environmental and civil rights movements. He helped create the Freedom of Residence, Greater St. Louis Committee to help ensure equal housing opportunity. The committee supported an interracial couple seeking a suburban home in Jones v. Mayer, which went all the way to the Supreme Court.

Kohl is survived by his wife, See; his children, George, Paul and Martha; 11 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Wilfred R. Konneker
Wilfred R. Konneker, PhD ’50, a trustee emeritus of Washington University, died Jan. 7, 2016. He was 93.

Konneker earned his doctorate in physics from the university in 1950 and went on to become a pioneer in nuclear medicine and radio pharmaceuticals. He co-founded Nuclear Consultants, the nation’s first commercial supplier of radioactive isotopes for the pharmaceutical industry. Mallinckroit bought the business in 1966, and Konneker eventually went on to run Mallinckroit’s pharmaceutical division.

Konneker received the Dean’s Medal from Arts & Sciences in 2015 and the university’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 1991.

He was an original member of the Arts & Sciences National Council and a supporter of professorships and scholarships. He also served on the Alumni Board of Governors, as a Shepley trustee on the Board of Trustees and a trustee emeritus since July 1997.

Konneker is survived by his wife, Ann; daughter Barbara Lynn
Webster; and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Donald E. Lasater
Donald E. Lasater, former member of the Board of Trustees, died Feb. 5, 2016. He was 90.
Lasater served on the board from 1973 to 1997 and was an emeritus trustee from 1997 to 2010. He also served on the School of Medicine National Council and on many committees during his tenure.
In his career, Lasater was the chairman and CEO of the Mercantile Trust Co., later known as Mercantile Bancorporation, from 1970 until he retired in 1989. He served on many corporate boards and was a director of Barnes Hospital for 25 years.

Marvin E. Levin
Marvin E. Levin, AB ’47, MD ’51, an endocrinologist and emeritus professor at the School of Medicine, died April 30, 2016. He was 91.
Levin researched diabetes and was associate director of the endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism clinic. He was particularly focused on how to prevent lower leg and foot amputations in people with diabetes and started the university’s foot clinic.
A prolific writer, Levin wrote more than 150 articles, papers and book chapters. He also co-authored the 1973 textbook *The Diabetic Foot*, which is now in its seventh edition. He retired from private practice in 1989.
Levin and his wife established the Barbara and Marvin E. Levin Visiting Professorship in Endocrinology at the School of Medicine. He won a distinguished alumni award in 1998.
Levin is survived by his wife, Barbara; his daughters, Lynn and Judith; his son, Michael; and three grandchildren.

Sarah Longyear
Sophomore Sarah Longyear died by suicide April 22, 2016, in her hometown of Palo Alto, California. She was 19.
Longyear is remembered as a cheerful, kind student, who was eager to learn and turned every event, from mandatory floor meetings to birthdays, into fun experiences for all involved.
Longyear was majoring in anthropology in Arts & Sciences with minors in design and marketing, but she was on medical leave from school when she died. She was also a member of the Chi Omega sorority; a center for the junior varsity basketball team; and active in Red Alert, the student sports fan group.
“She touched the lives of many people during her short time here,” says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. “And it will be this — her kindness toward and enabling of others — that will long be remembered by those who knew her well. That is the kind of lasting legacy toward which we should all strive.”
Longyear is survived by her parents, Sally and Rick, and her brother, CJ.

Philip W. Majerus
Philip W. Majerus, MD ’61, professor emeritus of medicine at the School of Medicine, died June 8, 2016, after a long illness. He was 79.
A renowned hematologist, Majerus spent his career studying how blood clots. His research showed that platelets play an active role in a blood clot — overturning a long-held belief that platelets were passive in clotting. This discovery led Majerus to determine that low-dose aspirin, because it interferes with platelet activation, can help prevent blood clots. This discovery has helped save hundreds of lives every year.
Majerus earned his bachelor’s degree from Notre Dame University in 1958 and his medical degree from Washington University in 1961. He completed his internship and residency at Massachusetts General Hospital and was a research associate at what was then the National Heart Institute. He joined the School of Medicine faculty in 1966.
Majerus was a member of many organizations including the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He also received the Dameshek Prize for research from the American Society of Hematology.
Majerus is survived by his wife, Elaine, MD, an associate professor of medicine at the School of Medicine; sisters Diane (Brick) Brewer and Kathy (Roby) Burke; daughters Suzanne (Rodney) Thompson, Julie Del Valle and Karen Majerus; son David (Cecily) Majerus; and four grandchildren.

Martha N. Ozawa
Martha N. Ozawa, former Bettie Bofinger Brown Distinguished Professor of Social Policy and professor emerita at the Brown School, died May 3, 2016. She was 82.
Ozawa joined the Brown School faculty in 1976 and became a leading voice in her field on the impact of America’s public-assistance networks, including Medicaid, Social Security and other social-welfare programs.
Ozawa published more than 150 peer-reviewed articles; wrote three major books, including *Women’s Life Cycle and Economic Security: Problems and Proposals*; and authored more than 28 book chapters.
In 1985, Ozawa earned the first endowed chair at the Brown School and became a distinguished professor in 2003. Two years later, she established her own center, the Martha N. Ozawa Center for Social Public Policy Studies, which assisted Asian governments and communities in making informed policy decisions.
Ozawa is survived by her two sisters, Kiki Ozawa Beraud and Takako Ozawa; her lifelong friend, Beverly Grant-Davison; and many cousins, nephews and nieces, as well as friends and colleagues.

Michael C. Purdy
Michael C. Purdy, a medical sciences writer in the Office of Medical Public Affairs, died April 14, 2015, of an inoperable brain tumor. He was 47.
As a teen, Purdy underwent surgery to remove a brain tumor, which was one of the reasons he went on to write about medicine, particularly about neurology.
During his time at the medical school, Purdy wrote about the first clinical trial of drug treatments to prevent Alzheimer’s disease, the link between the mix of microbes in the gut and obesity, and the growing problem of antibiotic resistance. He was known for being able to explain even complex medical research in understandable lay terms.
Purdy was an active member of Mensa and the National Association of Science Writers. He is survived by his parents, Thomas and Barbara; his sister, Dana (Brian) Clemson; and four nephews, several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Cathy Rodgers
Cathy Rodgers, BFA ’50, former member of the fashion design faculty at Washington University, died April 6, 2016. She was 87.
Rodgers began working on the university’s fashion design faculty in 1957 after spending several years in the fashion industry. She emphasized precision and systematic thinking in her courses on tailoring and pattern-making. Rodgers also helped build the program’s library of garment templates. She frequently coordinated the annual Fashion Design Show and helped recruit late-professor Jeigh Singleton, who led the fashion design program for 25 years.
Rodgers is survived by two children, son Doug and daughter...
Carolyn (Gordon Weiner). Her daughter, Judy, preceded her in death, but Rodgers is mourned by her husband, Kirk Russell; two stepdaughters, Kate and Olivia; and beloved nieces and nephews.

Maggie Ryan

Maggie Ryan, AB ’16, died in a car accident May 22, 2016, in Wayne County, Indiana, on her way home to Boston, just two days after earning degrees in anthropology and women, gender and sexuality studies, both in Arts & Sciences.

Ryan’s car was struck by a tractor-trailer. Passenger and fellow alum Chryssi Yip, AB ’13, sustained serious injuries in the crash.

In addition to her studies, Ryan served as leader of both Dance Marathon and the Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity during her time at the university. She was also a member of Alpha Epsilon Phi sorority.

Friends remember Ryan for her vivacious personality — she often dressed up in fun costumes for the 12-hour Dance Marathon events — and her desire to improve health care for children and the world’s most vulnerable. Ryan completed anthropology’s global health and environment track and was planning to move to Kenya to conduct public health research for Massachusetts General Hospital.

Ryan is survived by her parents, Ann and Anthony Ryan, and her siblings, Matthew, William and Thomas Ryan.

Robert C. Strunk

Robert Charles Strunk, MD, the Donald B. Strominger Professor of Pediatrics, died April 28, 2016. He was 73.

Strunk conducted clinical research in childhood asthma at the School of Medicine for almost three decades and treated scores of patients at St. Louis Children’s Hospital. He was the inaugural director of the school’s Division of Pediatric Allergy and Pulmonary Medicine, discovered that parental neglect or familial conflict can worsen a child’s asthma, and directed the Childhood Asthma Management Program, which helped children manage asthma into adulthood.

In addition to having roles in the Pediatric Asthma Clinical Research Network and the Childhood Asthma Research and Education Network, Strunk was instrumental in establishing Healthy Kids Express, a fully equipped and staffed mobile clinic that provides asthma care for children in underserved communities in Missouri.

“Bob dedicated his life to improving the health of children with asthma, especially those who are most vulnerable in society,” says longtime friend and colleague Thomas W. Ferkol, MD, the Alexis Hartmann Professor and director of the Division of Allergy, Immunology and Pulmonary Medicine in the pediatrics department. “He was the conscience of this division and department, always asking how we can better serve the children and families who depend on us.”

Strunk is survived by his wife, Juanita; two children, Chris and Alix; two stepchildren, Rick Macivor and Ellen Royal; and nine grandchildren.

Robert Sussman

Robert Sussman, professor of anthropology in Arts & Sciences and a leading scholar on the evolution of human and primate behavior, died June 8, 2016. He was 74.

Sussman earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of California, Los Angeles, studying under primatologist Jack Prost. He followed Prost to Duke University, earning a doctorate in 1972, and then joined the faculty at Washington University the following year.

Sussman’s research took him across the globe. In Madagascar, he studied the behavior and ecology of lemurs; while in Mauritius, he studied long-tailed macaques. He also conducted research on community ecology and primate conservation in Central and South America.

Among Sussman’s most important publications is the groundbreaking 2006 book, *Man the Hunter: Primates, Predators and Human Evolution*, which he co-authored with Donna Hart of the University of Missouri–St. Louis. The book argues that primates, including early humans, evolved not as hunters but as prey. The book won the W.W. Howells Prize in 2006 from the American Anthropological Association.

Sussman is survived by his wife, Linda, and his daughters, Katya and Diana.

Jack C. Taylor

Emeritus Trustee Jack C. Taylor, founder of Enterprise Holdings Inc., died July 2, 2016, in St. Louis, following a short illness. He was 94.

Taylor was a leading philanthropist in St. Louis and a longtime benefactor of Washington University. Together with his family and his company, he established the Enterprise Holdings Scholars program in 2001 with a gift of $25 million, the largest scholarship gift ever made to the university. Ten years later, Taylor made another $25 million gift on behalf of his company to enhance the scholarship fund.

Enterprise Holdings Scholars are selected for academic merit, leadership and commitment to community service. About 10 percent of the scholarships each year are reserved for students from the St. Louis area. Enterprise Holdings scholarships have made it possible for 272 undergraduates to attend Washington University to date.

“We are forever grateful to Jack Taylor and his family for their many enduring contributions to the university,” says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton. “We will always remember Jack as a great citizen of our community.”

In 1957, Taylor founded Enterprise Holdings, the most comprehensive service provider and only investment-grade company in the U.S. car rental industry, operating Alamo Rent A Car and National Car Rental, as well as its flagship Enterprise Rent-A-Car brand.

Taylor enrolled in Olin Business School in 1940 and left in 1941 to serve as a Naval aviator, flying F6F Hellcat fighters and earning two Distinguished Flying Crosses and a Navy Air Medal. Washington University recognized him as a member of the Class of 1944 and awarded him an honorary doctor of humanities degree in 2001.

“The term ‘Greatest Generation’ was coined for men like Jack Taylor,” says Chancellor Emeritus William H. Danforth. “He served his country with distinction in World War II, came back home, raised a talented family, and built a world-class organization that has remained family operated, providing jobs for St. Louis and the nation.”

Taylor is survived by his children, Andrew C. Taylor, executive chairman of Enterprise Holdings, a university life trustee and chair of the Leading Together campaign; JoAnn Taylor Kindle, president of the Enterprise Foundation; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

H. Edwin Trusheim

H. Edwin Trusheim, emeritus trustee of Washington University, died March 23, 2016. He was 88.

Trusheim was elected to the university’s Board of Trustees in 1983 and served on various committees, including the Investments Committee. In 1998, he became an emeritus trustee.

In his career, Trusheim served as president and CEO of General American Life Insurance Co. He also served on the boards of directors for Laclede Gas Co., Maritz Inc. and The Muny, among other organizations.
Security in an Uncertain Market

Fixed payments to you for life

A charitable gift annuity is a great way to supplement your income, reduce taxes and support Washington University. When you establish a gift annuity, your gift will provide:

- A charitable income tax deduction (Make your gift by December 31, 2016, and take your deduction in 2016.)
- Fixed lifetime payments to you and/or another individual based on the age(s) of the recipient(s); a portion of your payments is usually tax-free
- Capital-gain tax savings when you use appreciated securities to fund your gift
- Support for the purpose you designate when payments end

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For information about specific payment rates, tax deductions and capital gains and tax benefits based on your age, please contact the Office of Planned Giving at 314-935-5373, 800-835-3503 or email plannedgiving@wustl.edu.

Consult your legal or tax adviser before making a planned gift. Rates are subject to change.
Doing good in the world

Last spring, Washington University alumni in 10 cities simultaneously served their communities through WashU Engage, a new alumni civic engagement program.

BY LAURA JOSEHART

Civic engagement and community service are encouraged and prioritized from day one at Washington University. More than half of our freshmen are involved in community service, and 67 percent of undergraduates participate in community service at some point during their four years — 10 percent higher than some of our top comparison schools. And this civic mindset does not end at graduation. Alumni leave campus and go on to serve their own communities — professionally and privately — as leaders, innovators, and compassionate and engaged citizens.

Recognizing and supporting the transition from active students to engaged alumni is critical to the mission of the Washington University Alumni Association, says Susan Cohen, executive director of Alumni Relations. “Our goal is to serve graduates for a lifetime,” she says. “Knowing that community service, social issues and civic engagement are important to alumni of all ages, we want to offer them meaningful ways to make a positive impact in their communities, while also connecting with other alumni and members of the WashU community.”

With this priority in mind, the Alumni Association collaborated with the Gephardt Institute for Civic and Community Engagement in fall 2015 to create and plan WashU Engage — a series of community engagement initiatives led by alumni in cities across the country during April and May 2016. The new program corresponded with the 10th anniversary of the Gephardt Institute, and it aligns perfectly with the institute’s mission of cultivating informed and actively engaged citizens among students, staff, faculty and alumni.

In this inaugural year, WashU Engage consisted of 12 different community projects in 10 cities — Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, St. Louis and Washington, D.C. — with approximately 250 alumni participants. A key feature for these projects was an educational component that contextualized the work. Stephanie Kurtzman, interim executive director of the Gephardt Institute, explains, “It was more than three to four hours of service. We emphasized a proper orientation to the host agency and the issues at hand, as well as some solid reflection and discussion time. This deeper understanding is what uplifts the educational impact of the experience and mirrors what we teach on campus.”
John Crosby, AB ‘69, serves on the Gephardt Institute National Council and was instrumental in the initial planning for WashU Engage. He and Kurtzman attended a Princeton University conference on alumni engagement last fall, and Crosby worked tirelessly with alumni volunteers, university staff and alumni focus groups to gauge interest, field suggestions and help finalize the program’s first iteration.

“In order to have a successful alumni engagement program, you have to start with the energy and interest of active alumni leaders, not only on campus and in St. Louis, but across the country,” Crosby says. “The alumni I have spoken with are enthusiastic; they want to serve as agents of change and help solve the problems facing their communities.”

By all accounts, the program was a success, and alumni seem eager for more. Laura Kleinhandler, AB ‘90, Gephardt Institute National Council member and site co-leader in New York, says alumni at her project kept asking, “This is so much better than a cocktail party — when can we do this again?” Many alumni have offered ideas for expanding WashU Engage throughout the year, including faculty-led talks and salons, civic engagement book groups and a mentor program for young alumni. Alumni will determine growth possibilities by assessing the needs of their communities. And, as with all efforts spearheaded by the university, the bar has been set very high. As John Crosby says, “We aspire to be the platinum model for alumni engagement throughout the country.”

Laura Josehart is associate director of development communications.

CHICAGO, April 9

The Ronald McDonald House is a home-away-from-home for the families of children undergoing treatment for cancer or other serious illnesses. On April 3, seven alumni worked in the communal areas of the house to make it clean and comfortable for families — helping with organizing, vacuuming, dusting and disinfecting.

Sue Ann Huang, BSBA ’09, site co-leader, says, “WashU students are always engaged in the community, and so are alumni. We want to make a positive difference in our communities, so these types of events are a great fit for us. We all had lunch afterward, and everyone agreed they wanted to do more community service in the future.”

NEW YORK CITY, April 17

The United Jewish Council of the East Side works to preserve and stabilize the Lower East Side of Manhattan community through a range of human services and community development programs that primarily address the needs of the elderly. On April 17, 40 Washington University volunteers served lunch to 93 participants, distributed a “picnic in a bag” dinner and played bingo with the seniors.

“We all talked about the current Illinois budget crisis and the impact it has had on nonprofits that depend on state grants. We discussed what we could do, as engaged alumni, to help alleviate the problem — perhaps writing letters or making phone calls to members of the state legislature,” says John Crosby, AB ‘69, site co-leader.

“The amount of work and interaction we accomplished in just a few hours was truly amazing. The executive director of the United Jewish Council did an excellent job of putting our work in perspective — she helped us understand the vital services the UJC provides to the senior population of the Lower East Side every single day,” says Laura Kleinhandler, AB ’90.
LEADERSHIP GIFTS HAVE LASTING IMPACT

New endowments for scholarships, professorships, deanships, directorships, research centers, libraries and the museum

More than 130,000 alumni, parents, friends, faculty and staff of Washington University have participated in Leading Together since the campaign began in 2009. Together, we surpassed our initial, minimum goal of $2.2 billion in April 2016 — more than two years ahead of schedule — and we will continue working toward our new goal to raise $2.5 billion by June 30, 2018.

We are profoundly grateful to everyone who has supported Leading Together so far. On these pages we recognize some recent gifts and commitments that will have a transformative effect on Washington University. By investing in our faculty and students, the friends who make these leadership gifts inspire us all. Their generosity creates a lasting legacy for our community, our nation and our world.

Mark S. Wrighton, Chancellor

For more about gifts to the campaign, please visit together.wustl.edu.

Barbara and Andrew Taylor

Andrew and Jane Bursky

William Powderly, MD

Taylor’s add to endowment for undergraduate scholarships

Andrew and Barbara Taylor have committed $10 million in scholarship support for undergraduate students with limited financial means. Their gift will add to the existing Enterprise Holdings scholarship fund established by the parent company of the Enterprise Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental and Alamo Rent A Car brands. The executive chairman of Enterprise Holdings, Andrew Taylor is a Washington University Life Trustee and chair of the public phase of Leading Together.

Burskys name center for human immunology and immunotherapy programs

A $10 million commitment from Trustee Andrew Bursky, AB, BS, MS ’78, and his wife, Jane, AB ’78, will name the Andrew M. and Jane M. Bursky Center for Human Immunology and Immunotherapy Programs at the School of Medicine. Their gift also establishes the new Andrew M. and Jane M. Bursky Distinguished Professorship, held by Robert D. Schreiber, PhD, director of the center and its mission of groundbreaking medical research.

BJC establishes named directorship in Institute for Public Health

The directorship of the Institute for Public Health has been named in honor of Larry J. Shapiro, MD, former dean of the School of Medicine. The directorship was named through the generosity of St. Louis–based BJC HealthCare, one of the largest non-profit health-care delivery organizations in the United States. William G. Powderly, MD, the current director of the Institute, will serve as the inaugural Larry J. Shapiro Director.

Some of the planned renovations
Renovations to Olin Library

The generosity of many alumni and friends will support new spaces planned for exhibits, technology and study in John M. Olin Library. The lead gift of $10 million came from foundations and members of the Newman family, including Eric Newman, JD ’35; his late wife, Evelyn; Trustee Andrew Newman; and his wife, Peggy, AB ’72, JD ’76. Adele Dilschneider, granddaughter of John M. Olin, made a significant commitment to support the renovations. Trustee Jack Thomas and his wife, Debbie, also pledged a major gift.

Powell family professorships

Trustee Mike Powell and his wife, Tana, have made a generous $8 million commitment to match gifts for endowed professorships in the Department of Chemistry in Arts & Sciences and related disciplines. “Washington University has the potential to become a world leader in biotech and have tremendous impact on people’s lives,” says Mike Powell, PhD, who serves on the university’s National Research Advisory Council. “We decided to help the university build the next generation of leading scientists in chemistry.”

Bauer Leadership Center

Washington University will launch the George and Carol Bauer Leadership Center at Olin Business School, thanks to a $5 million commitment from Trustee George Bauer, BS ’53, MS ’59, and his wife, Carol. The new center will cultivate leaders who measure success in both what they achieve and the impact they have on their communities and society. The gift includes the Bauer Leadership Fellows Program, which will engage participants in the science and application of leadership.

Nagels create deanship in Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts

Trustee Ralph Nagel, BArch ’67, MArch ’69, and his wife, Trish Nagel, JD ’74, have made a $5 million commitment to endow the deanship at the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts. The deanship will fuel growth across all disciplines at the school, sustaining current programs and supporting new innovation. It will empower the school to move beyond current boundaries and inspire the next generation of leaders to address critical social and environmental challenges.

Neidorffs and Centene name deanship for Brown School

A $5 million commitment from the Neidorff Family and the Centene Charitable Foundation will establish an endowed deanship at the Brown School. Michael Neidorff is chairman, president and CEO of Centene and a member of the Brown School National Council. The deanship will help the Brown School continue to attract and retain outstanding faculty, launch innovative new programs and enhance its global leadership in social work and public health.

Kemper family supports expansion of art museum

The William T. Kemper Foundation has pledged $5 million to fund the upcoming renovation and expansion of the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum at the Sam Fox School. The foundation and members of the Kemper family, including Life Trustee David W. Kemper, are longtime supporters of Washington University. In 2004, they named the museum in memory of Mildred Lane Kemper to advance scholarship and the study and appreciation of art.
Courage to ‘Keep Going’

Facing hardship, Jackson Ling persevered throughout his early life. Today, he leads a multinational with compassion and a desire to help change lives for the better.

BY CYNTHIA GEORGES

Guo Jing, the protagonist of the Chinese novel *The Legend of the Condor Heroes*, rises out of poverty, overcomes many obstacles and emerges a powerful fighter whom few can equal.

“The character inspires me,” says Lin-Kuei Jackson Ling, EMBA-Shanghai ’04, the CEO of Enhance Holdings Company, a multinational conglomerate based in Taiwan. “Guo Jing never gives up. With integrity and faith in his principles, he overcomes hardship and earns the respect of everyone, even his enemies.”

Ling was born in 1953 and raised in a single-parent family in southern Taiwan. “My mother was abandoned by an irresponsible man,” he says. “Words cannot describe the poverty and hardship we faced every day.”

While Ling’s mother struggled to maintain steady work, she taught her son about responsibility, courage and trust.

Determined to do well, and with few options for a better life, Ling enlisted in the Taiwanese army. During his eight years of service, he completed his high school and college educations.

“Whenever I had a setback,” he says, “I could hear my mother’s voice: ‘Son, be strong, keep going.’ She never left my side.”

Ling persevered and set his sights high. At 25, he left the army to work as a sales representative at Singer Sewing Machine Company. He excelled at the job and a few years later entered the international trading market. He also managed a small company in Taipei that manufactured lighting.

In 1993, he founded Enhance Neon Shanghai, the largest neon sign manufacturer in the world. As Enhance Holdings grew, Ling looked to expand his own capabilities. A friend introduced him to the Washington University-Shanghai Executive MBA program. “At Olin Business School, I met many people who worked in different fields,” Ling says. “This broadened my social circle and provided me with new and valuable information.”

The education Ling received helped him restructure his company and develop businesses in sectors that include real estate, the golf and hotel industries, and biomedicine.
“To become successful, you must put yourself in the boss’ shoes every day and think from a leader’s perspective.” — Jackson Ling, EMBA-Shanghai ’04

To add value and spur growth, he invited two of his children, both Olin alumni, to join the company. Kai-Chun Kathy Ling, BSBA ’08, is in charge of Enhance Biomedical operations, and Kuang-Yeh Ozzie Ling, EMBA ’14, oversees the Enhance Golf Club business. Ozzie also is the owner representative of Crowne Plaza Shanghai Anting Hotel.

“Through their Olin education and interaction with its alumni circle, Kathy and Ozzie present innovative ideas that have helped improve our enterprises,” Ling says.

The company’s fastest-growing arm is Enhance Biomedical, Ling says. “We recently obtained a license from the Chinese central government to build a Stem Cell Medical Center in Boao, Hainan Province,” he explains. “The hospital, to be built within the next three years, will allow us to introduce the most advanced stem cell banks, treatments and medicine to researchers and doctors worldwide.”

A LEADER’S PERSPECTIVE

Ling made his first gift to Washington University in 2005, and over the years he has had a profound impact at Olin Business School. Recently, he made a commitment to fund the annual Lin-Kuei Jackson Ling Scholarship at the business school and to name an 80-seat classroom in Bauer Hall.

He has supported his alma mater in other ways, through service as a member of the Olin National Council and the International Advisory Council for Asia. In recognition of his many contributions, the Olin School honored Ling in 2006 with a Distinguished Alumni Award. Ling and his wife, Ming Chu Kuo Ling, are life benefactors of the William Greenleaf Eliot Society.

“Through his dedicated service, wisdom and remarkable generosity, Jackson Ling has helped ensure a strong future for Olin Business School,” Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton says. “Jackson’s story is one of great courage and compassion for others. Washington University is proud and deeply honored to have Jackson, Ming and their family in our community.”

Ling says, “Chancellor Wrighton and the administration give us a strong sense of belonging to the Washington University family. I admire their dedication to quality education and to long-term success.”

Changing lives for the better has become a way of life for Ling. Working with the local government in Jiading, a suburban district in Shanghai, Enhance Holdings sponsors a scholarship program that has helped more than 500 poor students obtain an education. A point of pride for Ling: Of those students, 80 percent have been admitted to colleges.

On the home front, Ling is the adoring and celebrated grandfather of 2-year-old twins, Victoria and Edward, and their baby sister, Elizabeth.

If a society needs compelling stories to survive, flourish and reach new heights, Jackson Ling offers his for the record books.

“To become successful, you must put yourself in the boss’ shoes every day and think from a leader’s perspective,” Ling says. He also promotes honesty, fulfilling commitments and upholding the ideals of heroes like Guo Jing.

“Hardship,” he says, “can stand among our richest sources of strength.”

Cynthia Georges retired in May 2016 as a senior associate director of Development Communications.
A Time to Reconnect

Following years of tradition, members of the 50th Reunion Class don caps and gowns for a very special Medallion Ceremony with Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton the Thursday evening before Commencement (pictured here). During the Reunion at Commencement weekend, the 50th Reunion Class also leads the university-wide Commencement procession into the Quadrangle, and along with alumni from earlier years, they attend class parties, deans' receptions, luncheons, faculty presentations, campus tours and more.
FROM PULPS TO SLICKS   The Modern Graphic History Library collects and preserves periodical illustration of the late-19th and 20th centuries. Its most recent acquisition, the Walter Baumhofer collection, showcases one of the few artists who successfully moved from illustrating low-paying pulp fiction to mainstream magazines. Search for From Pulps to Slicks at magazine.wustl.edu to learn more.