From Vision to Impact

Historic Leading Together campaign propels WashU forward
A RENEWED SENSE OF PURPOSE
Having reached the conclusion of its successful comprehensive campaign, the university is poised for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for the next era of academic excellence.

A BRIGHTER FUTURE
Scholarships can change lives. Here, students and alumni share stories of how WashU scholarships changed theirs.

UTMOST CARE
A day in the life of Washington University School of Medicine showcases the breadth of ongoing efforts to advance research, education and the best medical care possible for patients.

UNIFIED PURPOSE
Teaching, research and service to society blend together in new and innovative ways as leadership and faculty focus on collaborating across disciplines to solve real-world problems.
First-year student Ella Holman was among the first graduates of the College Prep Program to receive the College Prep Scholarship, which is allowing her to fulfill her dream of attending Washington University. For more on how scholarships are changing lives, see pg. 16.

While a WashU medical student, Michelle Mendiola Plá (left) volunteered in disadvantaged neighborhoods, helping residents manage chronic conditions such as high blood pressure. “The university emphasizes compassionate care and health advocacy,” says Mendiola Plá, MD ’18. Learn more about this care and the professionals at Washington University School of Medicine who work hard every day advancing human health, pg. 24.

Nancy Morrow-Howell, PhD, director of the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging, is among those working collaboratively in centers and institutes on complex societal problems. Learn more about these initiatives, pg. 34.

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On June 30, 2018, after years of hard work, the university marked the conclusion of Leading Together: The Campaign for Washington University, the most successful fundraising initiative in our history. In this magazine, we share more about the impact of the campaign “to enhance our leadership today to benefit America and the world tomorrow” as well as the truly inspiring generosity behind the success.

First, I’d like to thank the nearly 160,000 donors, including more than 71,000 alumni, who contributed a total of $3.378 billion to this pivotal effort. I’d also like to thank the campaign’s leadership: Andrew C. Taylor, who chaired the public phase, and John F. McDonnell, DSc ’06, MBA ’14, and Sam Fox, BSBA ’51, who served as co-chairs of the leadership phase (all three are life trustees). The three chairs worked tirelessly to ensure that the campaign surpassed its ambitious goals. Further, I’d like to thank my longtime colleague David T. Blasingame, executive vice chancellor for alumni and development programs, along with his dedicated staff, for their enormous efforts in helping us strengthen the university and the communities and individuals it serves.

In “A renewed sense of purpose;” pp. 8–15, the magazine provides a pictorial overview of some of the ways the campaign is helping us fulfill our mission. Images depict some of the people, places and programs that represent our continued growth.

To remain at the forefront of institutions of higher learning, Washington University must continue to build a community of students with unique perspectives and life experiences...

— Mark S. Wrighton

We did it, together

Approximately 14 percent are Pell Grant-eligible, and 7 percent are first-generation college students. Twelve percent of the new students are African-American, and 9 percent are Hispanic.

Scholarship support is crucial to our commitment to a diversified community. Meet five of our talented students and alumni whose scholarships have helped shape their educations and lives in “A brighter future,” pp. 16–23.

Another university priority is to advance human health worldwide. To that end, the School of Medicine and its researchers, clinicians, medical students and other professionals work diligently day in, day out to understand and treat cancer, addiction, heart disease, Alzheimer’s disease and more. See “Utmost care,” pp. 24–33, to experience a remarkable and inspiring, yet typical, day at the Washington University School of Medicine.

In our final feature, the magazine introduces readers to a few innovative initiatives enhanced by the campaign: public health, energy and the environment, business and ethics, and the policies around personalized medicine and the law. See “Unified purpose” on pp. 34–39.

The advancement of such institutional priorities relies on the vision and dedication of administrative leaders. Looking to the future, Andrew Martin, PhD ’98 — a highly accomplished scholar, academic leader and administrator, as well as a distinguished alumnus — will soon lead these university efforts. It is indeed my pleasure to welcome him home. Martin was named chancellor-designate July 14, 2018, and he assumed the role of chancellor-elect Jan. 1, 2019. He will officially become the 15th chancellor of Washington University June 1. I believe he will be an exceptional leader for our community. Look for more on the leadership transition in future issues.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Wrighton
Chancellor
**Campaign by the Numbers**

- **159,510** Donors
- **71,019** Alumni donors
- **110%** Eliot Society membership increase
- **15** Centers and institutes named
- **$1.394B** Regional total**
- **$3.378B** Raised
- **$297M** Annual Fund
- **$1.264B** Added to endowment
- **$311M** Facilities
- **$1.502B** Academic programs
- **153** Endowed positions*
- **4,397** Campaign volunteers
- **32** Campaign events outside St. Louis
- **3,409** Days in the campaign

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* 136 funded by donors, 17 funded by other sources
** From individuals and organizations in the U.S. outside St. Louis
The view from the chair

On chairing the *Leading Together* campaign

WITH ANDREW C. TAYLOR

In 2012, Washington University launched *Leading Together: The Campaign for Washington University* to raise $2.2 billion, funding for the university and schools to realize their visions for the future. When looking for the person to chair the public phase of the largest campaign in the university’s history, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton looked no further than Andrew C. Taylor, executive chairman of Enterprise Holdings. Taylor’s business acumen and generous support of the university made him the ideal choice, and he accepted the chancellor’s invitation. Looking back, Taylor says chairing the campaign was not what he expected, but it was a fascinating adventure.

A reluctant yes …

Early on I said, “I’m not very good at bureaucratic meetings.” We have a privately held family business with 100,000 employees, but I think we’re pretty nimble, and I don’t want necessarily to be part of the meetings and all. What I asked the university is to tell me how I could be used.

Travel across the country …

The campaign turned out to be truly interesting, and for reasons I hadn’t anticipated at the time. For instance, I made 14 or 15 trips around the country with Mark Wrighton and Dave Blasingame, attending all these kickoff events and meeting fascinating people. I love business stories and stories about interesting people. That said, I met the owner of a European football club. I met the founder of TripAdvisor as well as a renowned allergist in Florida, to name a few. And each one had a compelling story. … Also, I would like to offer a huge congratulations to Dave Blasingame and his team, because this experience was the absolute antithesis of a bureaucratic meeting that goes on too long. Everything was so well-planned; it was a well-run operation.
A WashU legacy …

My father went to Washington University for a time. He didn’t graduate because he had to go to war. Later, he got involved with the university by serving on its board. Since he thought of himself as an entrepreneurial small-business guy, I think he was honored to be asked to serve on the board of a school he went to, especially one as prestigious as Washington University. And when he got older, he said, “Andy, I think I’d like you to become involved with Washington University.”

Raising the stakes …

I said, “This campaign is really positive. I mean, we’ve reached our goal of $2.2 billion 18 months before the end.” And on some trips, Mark would say, “Well, it certainly would be nice to get to three.” And so, in board meetings, I’d say, “You know, our chancellor has his personal goal, the Mark Wrighton goal, of $3 billion.” At the time, I thought I was just kidding, but look what happened. I’m astounded. The campaign raised more than $3 billion.

On starting the Taylor Family Institute for Innovative Psychiatric Research …

Our family has experienced mental illness, through a couple of generations. And trying to make a difference in this area is important to us. To some people, mental illness does have a stigma attached to it, so we decided to put our name on the institute. At every one of my talks at campaign kickoff dinners around the country, I would mention it. I’d say, “You may have heard about the Taylor Family Institute for Innovative Psychiatric Research.” And then I’d say, “We did this because our family’s been touched by this illness.” And probably a half dozen times afterward, people would come up to me and tell me their own family stories.

Keep learning …

So when you turn 70, you get kind of philosophical. And for me, there are two things I still need to do: I need to keep learning, and I need to be relevant. Call it making a difference. And I got both of these with the campaign. I learned a lot from all the interesting people I met, hearing so many compelling stories. And looking back, I do feel as if we’ve made a difference.

“The campaign turned out to be truly interesting. … For instance, I made 14 or 15 trips around the country … attending all these kickoff events and meeting fascinating people. … I met the owner of a European football club. I met the founder of TripAdvisor as well as a renowned allergist in Florida. … And each one had a compelling story.”

— Andrew C. Taylor
“Washington University students all share extraordinary potential to make a difference in the world. … What a loss it would be, and how sad it would be, if we, who could have helped, didn’t.”

— Life Trustee John F. McDonnell, DSc ’06, MBA ’14, on his scholarship support

“The Danforth Campus is one of the most beautiful places in higher education, and our hope is that Tisch Park will make it even better.”

— Trustee Anne Rubenstein Tisch, AB ’76, on her and her husband Andrew’s decision to name the 18-acre landscape that will unite the new east end of campus

“This gift will allow the Gephardt Institute to take Civic Scholars further out of the classroom and into civic community settings where they will be challenged to engage in discourse across the political spectrum.”

— Stephanie Kurtzman, the Peter G. Sortino Director of the Gephardt Institute for Civic and Community Engagement, on Mickey and Debbie Stern, parents of alumna Michelle, AB ’00, and their generous support

“Karen has set a wonderful example for me. I’m looking forward to following in her footsteps by helping other veterans at Olin.”

— Jon Slack, MBA ’17, on Karen Von Der Bruegge, MBA ’77, who created the John H. Von Der Bruegge Jr. Military MBA Scholarship in honor of her father and his 33-year Army career. The scholarship benefits students with military backgrounds.

“Washington University was the only college I wanted to attend. Without this scholarship, I don’t know if I could have afforded the tuition.”

— Karoline “Ro” Baker, Arts & Sciences Class of 2019, on the importance of the Deborah Beckmann Kotzubei and Jacob Kotzubei Scholarship that enabled her to attend WashU
“Our gift will help ensure that today’s veterans have the opportunity to achieve their educational goals and prepare themselves to continue to have an impact in their communities.”

— Shelley Lavender, EMBA ’03, senior vice president, Boeing’s Strike, Surveillance, and Mobility division, regarding Boeing Co.’s scholarship support for military veterans at Olin. Boeing also increased its scholarship support to the engineering school.

“The Kirsch Professorship is a wonderful recognition … It demonstrates that Washington University and the law school value the role that interdisciplinary scholarship plays in understanding important issues like judicial decision-making and the concept of legal hierarchy.”

— Scott Baker, JD, PhD, on being installed as the first William F. and Jessica L. Kirsch Professor

“The Spartan Light Metal Products Maker Space will provide students and faculty with sophisticated fabrication capabilities that will allow them to have an even greater impact on our world.”

— Philip Bayly, PhD, chair of mechanical engineering and the Lilyan and E. Lisle Hughes Professor, on the Spartan Light Metal Products Maker Space made possible by a gift from the company

“Ralph has been a special mentor to me, always provoking and encouraging us to be more ambitious, more innovative and more courageous — to always think big. This is an amazing honor and a great gift to the school!”

— Carmon Colangelo, MFA, the E. Desmond Lee Professor for Community Collaboration, on being installed as the inaugural Ralph J. Nagel Dean of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts

Illustrations: Monica Duwel
‘A renewed sense of purpose’
In January 2017, Mary McKay, PhD, an expert in child mental-health services and social-service delivery to poverty-impacted youth and families, was named the Neidorff Family and Centene Corporation Dean of the Brown School (one of four named deanships committed during the campaign). At left, McKay (center) meets with Michal Grinstein-Weiss, PhD ’04 (left), the Shanti K. Khinduka Distinguished Professor and an expert in social and economic development, and Fred Ssewamala, MSW ’99, PhD ’03, the William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor and an expert in economic empowerment and social protection interventions, in the Maxine Clark and Bob Fox Forum of Thomas and Jennifer Hillman Hall, which was dedicated in October 2015.

Having reached the conclusion of its successful comprehensive campaign, Washington University is now poised for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for the next era of academic excellence.

Leading Together: The Campaign for Washington University, a major multi-year fundraising initiative with an initial goal of $2.2 billion to fund university priorities, ended June 30, 2018. The final total raised — $3.378 billion in gifts and commitments — was a Washington University record, announced Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

The campaign total includes other firsts for the university, including $591 million raised for scholarships and fellowships to enhance affordability and accessibility for outstanding students.

In announcing the comprehensive campaign’s successful completion, Wrighton expressed his gratitude to those who are helping advance the university’s mission.

“Washington University is extraordinarily fortunate to have some of the most loyal and forward-looking supporters in academic life today,” Wrighton says. “This historic initiative was conceived and planned by dedicated leaders and volunteers, and realized by generous donors who made gifts of all sizes to advance our work to improve lives through teaching, research and service.

“I am profoundly grateful to all who participated in the campaign. I extend special thanks to Andy Taylor, who chaired the campaign’s public phase, for his tremendous leadership.”
Leading Together was launched to secure the resources needed to implement priorities identified in the Plan for Excellence. The campaign focused on the development of four key areas: preparing the leaders of tomorrow; advancing human health; inspiring innovation and entrepreneurship; and enhancing the quality of life for all.

In addition to $591 million for scholarships, the historic initiative resulted in:

- 153 new endowed positions — deanships, professorships and other positions — to attract and retain outstanding faculty and leaders
- $1.502 billion for academic programs to further critical programs and advance powerful research
- $311 million for facilities to support collaborative, cutting-edge work
- $297 million for the Annual Fund to provide deans and the chancellor with flexible funds to address urgent needs.

Leading Together attracted unprecedented support from nearly 160,000 alumni, parents and friends of Washington University. More than 4,300 campaign volunteers in St. Louis and in cities across the United States and worldwide assisted in the effort.

Donors in St. Louis enhanced their already remarkable tradition of generosity to the institution, while regional efforts outside St. Louis led to a dramatic increase in gifts and commitments.

“The success of Leading Together bears witness to Washington University’s truly exceptional community, which came together to ensure the university’s continued ascent,” says Andrew C. Taylor, executive chairman of St. Louis–based Enterprise Holdings and a life trustee of the university, who chaired the public phase of Leading Together. “It is an honor to have been a part of a historic effort to provide a strong foundation for the future.”

“Throughout the past century and a half, Washington University has had a greater impact on society than many would have believed possible,” Wrighton adds. “In each era of our history, visionary alumni and friends have stepped forward to help us meet the world’s evolving needs, committing resources to fuel our continued service.

“The work of a great university is never done, and we now look ahead to the challenges and opportunities before us with a renewed sense of purpose and optimism. In addition to the profound impact campaign funds already are having, Leading Together is providing for Washington University’s next era of academic excellence.”

Elizabeth Maidl, MD ’18 (right), a resident at Baylor College of Medicine, helps provide essential medical services at Harris Health System’s Martin Luther King Jr. Health Center in Houston. While at Washington University School of Medicine, Maidl received numerous scholarships to offset the cost of her medical education, including the Philpott Family Scholarship for four years. On average, WashU medical students graduate with far lower debt; in 2018, U.S. News & World Report ranked them as having the second-lowest debt of medical graduates among the 115 schools ranked.

Susan Killenberg McGinn is executive director of university news. The above feature is excerpted from her Aug. 31, 2018, Record article “Leading Together campaign ‘a remarkable achievement.’”
Samuel Achilefu, PhD (center), oversees a variety of cancer-fighting projects, including the development of goggles that help surgeons see and remove cancer cells. In January 2016, he was installed as the inaugural Michel M. Ter-Pogossian Professor of Radiology at the School of Medicine. Here, Achilefu works with Christine O’Brien, PhD (left), a postdoctoral research scholar, and Kevin Bishop, a research technician, in the Optical Radiology Lab.

William Powderly, MD, is the Larry J. Shapiro Director of the Institute for Public Health (IPH) and the J. William Campbell Professor of Medicine and co-director of the Division of Infectious Diseases at the School of Medicine. IPH was a priority articulated in the university’s Plan for Excellence, which set the strategic course for the Leading Together campaign. Powderly’s directorship, named through the generosity of St. Louis–based BJC HealthCare, is one of the 153 new endowed deanships, professorships and other positions established during the campaign to attract and retain outstanding faculty and leaders.
Heather Woofter, MArch (left), director of the College of Architecture and Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design, was installed as the inaugural Sam and Marilyn Fox Professor in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts in September 2018, during a period of substantial growth for the school. Over the past decade, enrollment in the nationally ranked graduate school has nearly doubled. Carmon Colangelo, installed as the inaugural Ralph J. Nagel Dean of the Sam Fox School in November 2016, says, “Heather is a dedicated faculty member, gifted architect and inspiring academic leader. Both inside and outside the classroom, she does an exemplary job of guiding students as they seek to discover their own strengths, talents and professional paths.”

John Inazu, JD, PhD — whose scholarship and teaching focus on the First Amendment freedoms of speech, assembly and religion — was installed as the Sally D. Danforth Distinguished Professor of Law and Religion in October 2016. Inazu is a member of the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics, which fosters rigorous scholarship and informs broad academic and public communities about the intersection of religion and U.S. politics.
Gary Patti, PhD, installed as the Michael and Tana Powell Associate Professor of Chemistry in Arts & Sciences in March 2018, studies the metabolism of patients, animals and specific cells within various tissues. Also a member of the School of Medicine faculty, Patti focuses his research on understanding metabolic regulation in health and disease, specifically the metabolic pathways involved in cancer, neurological disease and toxicant exposure. Recently awarded two separate NIH grants to further study the regulatory processes that underlie metabolism, Patti (right) confers with Jhullian Alston, a PhD student in biochemistry, biophysics and structural biology. Patti’s new lab is located in renovated Bryan Hall and is part of the broader university initiative, Driving Discovery, a plan that is fostering a collaborative ecosystem of scientific discovery in Arts & Sciences and beyond.

“This historic initiative was conceived and planned by dedicated leaders and volunteers and realized by generous donors … to advance our work to improve lives,” says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.
• Dedicated in 2016, the Gary M. Sumers Recreation Center is a state-of-the-art fitness and recreation facility that encourages healthy living for the entire university community. The Sumers Recreation Center, named for Trustee Gary M. Sumers, AB ’75, the lead donor, provides much-needed space for intramural sports, group exercise classes and other recreation and fitness activities. Visitors enter the facility through the historic towers of Francis Gymnasium, built to host events during the 1904 Olympic Games. Today, the reimagined facility includes a 66,500-square-foot addition with a suspended jogging track, three-court gym, sports medicine center and more.

• A recipient of the Jean and Donald Frahm Scholarship and a Consortium Fellow at Olin Business School, Gheremey Edwards (left), who previously taught with Teach For America, is a second-year student studying for his MBA. In his first year, he consulted for a local nonprofit, assisted in a marketing project with the mayor of East St. Louis, received second place in Accenture’s Innovation Case Competition, and served as the vice president for diversity and inclusion in student government. He frequently meets with fellow graduate students in the atrium that connects the Charles F. and Joanne Knight Hall with the George and Carol Bauer Hall, the business school’s newest facilities dedicated in May 2014.
The research facility at 4515 McKinley Ave., which opened in 2016, is a hub supporting rapidly changing scientific techniques and the explosive advancement of genetics and genomics. In November 2017, the facility was named the Debra and George W. Couch III Biomedical Research Building. The naming recognizes longtime benefactors, Trustee George and Debra Couch, who support research that advances personalized medicine, aiming to change the way disease is diagnosed and treated. And since personalized therapies often are rooted in a person’s genetic makeup, the new fund provides support for the university’s Genome Engineering and Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell Center. With the center’s expertise in the latest genome-editing technologies, such as CRISPR, and reprogramming of stem cells, scientists across the university are able to create precise cellular models of disease.
Scholarships turn dreams into realities for many talented students who otherwise couldn’t afford to attend a school like Washington University. Knowing the impact that scholarships can have, university leaders set the goal of raising $150 million for new scholarships during Leading Together: The Campaign for Washington University. Inspired donors had soon given double that. In the end, the university raised an unprecedented $591 million, including funds to create 690 new endowed scholarships and fellowships.

During the campaign, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton explained the importance of scholarship giving. “We aspire to admit talented students, independent of their financial circumstances, and to help them fulfill their potential as graduates of the university. To do so, we must increase the financial aid resources we have available so that all admitted students can afford to join us,” he says.
A brighter future

Scholarships can change lives. Here, students and alumni share stories of how WashU scholarships changed theirs.

BY ROSALIND EARLY

Two key challenges helped inspire scholarship giving: the McDonnell Scholarship Challenge, made possible by support from Life Trustee John F. McDonnell, DSc ’06, MBA ’14; and the Taylor Family Scholarship Challenge, which was spearheaded by Andrew Taylor, life trustee and chair of the campaign’s public phase, and his wife, Barbara.

The McDonnell Scholarship Challenge matched scholarship gifts up to $20 million, while the Taylor family led a $10 million challenge in 2017 and 2018. Both families have a longtime commitment to preparing the leaders of tomorrow.

In 2005, McDonnell, former chairman of the board for McDonnell Douglas Corp., and the JSM Charitable Trust established the McDonnell International Scholars Academy, a global research and education partnership. Today, the university and 34 leading global institutions attract the best and brightest from around the world to Washington University for graduate study.

The Taylor family and Enterprise Holdings, with a gift of $25 million, established the Enterprise Holdings Scholars program in 2001. Ten years later, during Leading Together, Jack C. Taylor — Andrew Taylor’s father, founder of Enterprise Holdings and a university emeritus trustee — gave an additional $25 million for scholarships on behalf of the company. And in 2015, Andrew and Barbara Taylor committed $10 million for this purpose. Overall, the Taylor family and Enterprise Holdings have given $70 million toward the Enterprise Holdings Scholars program, benefiting more than 300 students already.

“Scholarships are critical to advancing the university’s mission,” says Andrew Taylor, executive chairman of Enterprise Holdings. “They allow us to serve students from many different socioeconomic backgrounds. These are outstanding students who make valuable contributions to academics, research and university life, and who will ultimately go on to serve society.”

Here, alumni Li Chen and LiaFaith Reed, along with current students Gabriela Hall, Ella Holman and Patrick Murray, share stories of how their lives and careers were positively impacted by scholarship giving.

(Above) Each year, the Enterprise Holdings Scholars program supports 60 to 80 exceptional students, such as first-year students (from left) Yohanes Mulat, Brian Jwa and Jakrya Williams. (On pg. 23) Undergraduates (from left) Jazmin Garcia, Rob Hall and Carol Pazos are McLeod Scholars. The McLeod Scholars program honors the late James E. McLeod, a former vice chancellor for students and dean of the College of Arts & Sciences.
At 15, LiaFaith Reed was living on her own, supporting herself with a full-time job, battling homelessness and still managing to remain at the top of her high school class. So when Reed was considering colleges, she needed one that was going to support her.

“It was difficult to get independent status at other schools,” Reed says. “WashU and the financial aid office really worked with me to make that an easy process.”

Reed also was awarded Enterprise Holdings and Larry Thomas scholarships. “Without that help, I would not have been able to be in college. Period,” Reed says.

Despite sometimes feeling out of place compared with her peers, Reed thrived in college. Outside the classroom, she served as executive producer on a mock news and variety show on WUTV, participated in the international business fraternity Delta Sigma Pi, was a resident adviser for two years, and volunteered at Barbara Jordan Elementary School through the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program. In her junior and senior years, Reed also worked as a teaching assistant at Imagine School, an experience that inspired her to join Teach For America (TFA) after college.

As part of TFA, Reed taught middle school in Washington, D.C., while earning a master’s degree in education policy and leadership at American University. She eventually became the strategic school operations director for District of Columbia Public Schools.

By 2017, Reed started considering next steps. “I knew that I wanted to do policy work,” she says, “to have an impact on the systems and structures that influence education.” She understood that law was one of the tools that affects policy and, therefore, decided to apply to law school.

In fall 2017, Reed matriculated at Harvard Law School. There, she works in the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau and for the Harvard Defenders as a student attorney. She is also a teaching assistant and a board member and symposium committee chairperson for the Journal on Racial and Ethnic Justice. She is on course to earn her JD in 2020.

After law school, Reed plans to work as an attorney in New York and clerk for a judge before returning to the public sector. “My end goal is to practice law that affects policy or direct services for poor people of color,” Reed says.
Growing up in a small town outside Jefferson City, Missouri, Patrick Murray knew he wanted to be an architect and play football, and he wanted to do both at Washington University. “But at my high school, we didn’t send people to institutions like WashU,” Murray says.

He applied and was waitlisted. Disappointed, Murray paid his $500 deposit to attend another school. He eventually was accepted to WashU, but he figured there probably wasn’t any scholarship money left, and he wouldn’t be able to afford full tuition.

“Then my mom called when I was at school and said, ‘Patrick, check your email,’” he recalls. There was an email from Washington University. He had received the Mackey Mitchell Scholarship, sponsored by Mackey Mitchell Architects, and would be able to afford to attend WashU after all.

“We forfeited the $500 deposit [to the other school],” he says with a laugh.

Now, Murray was missing just one thing: football. He had played in high school but had been on the injury list for the final game. Murray wrote to Larry Kindbom, WashU’s head football coach, and introduced himself, explaining that he would love to play for the Bears. Kindbom invited him to join the team, and Murray has been playing as a defensive lineman ever since.

“Football has been a huge part of my time here,” Murray says. “Our coach tries to instill a positive mental attitude within the team. I’ve really latched onto that. Bad stuff happens, but you can be the person who complains about it or the person who goes out and does something about it.”

That problem-solving mentality has served Murray well in his study of architecture. A few of his courses have focused on an interdisciplinary approach to problem-solving in design. “Working across disciplines allows you to tackle more problems with a greater chance of success in your solutions,” he says.

Today, Murray is applying to grad school, and WashU is high on his list. “When I was a little kid, I loved to draw. My mom said I should be an architect, and it stuck,” he says. “The lessons I’ve learned here at WashU will help me. I’ll carry them with me for the rest of my life.”
First-year student Ella Holman has lived in St. Louis her entire life. But it was not until her first year in high school that she heard of Washington University in St. Louis. That’s when she was nominated for the College Prep Program, an innovative multiyear program for talented low-income students from St. Louis–area high schools.

For three summers, Holman and her fellow scholars lived and learned on campus, earning college credit, drafting college admissions essays, mastering skills such as time management, and meeting successful college students.

“Seeing all of these black girls who were excelling at this prestigious school was so inspiring,” Holman says. “I wanted to be just like them, and now I have the chance.”

Holman already had decided to apply to Washington University when the university established the College Prep Scholarship for admitted graduates of the program. Ten other members of her cohort also are attending Washington University through the scholarship.

“We couldn’t believe it when we found out about the scholarship,” Holman says. “It made my dream school a reality. I was confident that I could make my way at any school, but this was the place that felt like home.”

Since arriving, Holman has joined the cheerleading squad, WashU Dance Collective and WashU Dance Theatre. She also is a member of Deneb STARS, a cohort program that connects low-income, first-generation students to resources and mentors. Named for the farthest star that can be seen with the unaided eye, Deneb STARS attracts top students from across the country.

Holman has yet to decide her major. She may choose dance. Or African and African-American studies. Or sociology. Or mathematics.

“In high school, I was very focused on getting into college — go to class, get the As, do the extracurricular activities,” Holman says. “Now that I’m in college, I get to ask myself, ‘What’s next? What do you want to do? What do you like?’”

Holman is certain about one thing: She will use her education to better St. Louis.

“There is a world beyond St. Louis that I want to explore,” Holman says. “But at my core, I care about my family and my home. And St. Louis, in its entirety, is my home.”
Gabriela Hall remembers the moment she found out she would become a Rodriguez Scholar and attend WashU.

“I was eating lunch with my friends in this big noisy cafeteria, and my mom called. She was mad that I hadn’t been answering my phone,” Hall says. Her mother had been asked not to share the good news. She just told her daughter to call a certain number, right now. It was a former Rodriguez Scholar telling Hall that she had been selected.

“I was standing outside the lunch room, so excited,” Hall recalls. “I wouldn’t have been able to attend Washington University without Rodriguez.”

With the Rodriguez Scholarship, Hall found a supportive group of compatriots. They all quickly bonded at a three-day pre-orientation retreat. “The people that I’ve met and the experiences that I’ve had are priceless,” Hall says. “The Rodriguez community has made [attending WashU] very fun.”

Hall had long been interested in engineering and public policy, and she was glad she’d have opportunities to study across disciplines at WashU. Today, she studies systems engineering and takes electives in policy.

From the start, Hall has thrown herself into college life. She conducts research in the micro/nano photonics lab; is chair of the Lego Robotics program; and volunteers with Niños Cambios Puertas, a college mentoring program. She also receives intensive leadership training through the Civic Scholars Program.

“It’s been challenging,” Hall says. “But I’ve learned so much about myself here.”

This past summer, Hall won a Newman Travel Fund grant that allowed her to conduct research at RWTH Aachen University in Germany. Being there inspired Hall’s future plans.

“In Germany, people trust the scientific community more than in the United States,” Hall says. “I want to bridge the divide between the policy-making process and the scientific community here in the U.S. And while doing so, I hope to bridge the divide between the scientific community and the public.”

Hall isn’t certain yet what that looks like. But she feels confident and supported going forward. “I’ve met so many wonderful people here that I can be myself with. I didn’t feel that before coming here,” she says. “And that is so important.”
Li Chen’s passion for the law has taken him around the world.

“Tt have an unwavering belief in the power of law as an effective, useful instrument to seek social change,” Chen says. “To effectively tackle intractable challenges at home in China, I felt that I ought to gain exposure to a variety of legal systems and legal education in the Anglo-American world as well as continental Europe.”

Chen had already studied at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the National University of Singapore and New York University Law School before discovering the McDonnell International Scholars Academy at Washington University.

At the time, Chen was applying to several institutions, but he says, “WashU offered some unique advantages that I just couldn’t pass it up.” Advantages included mentorship and innovative leadership training.

Chen earned his LLM as a McDonnell International Scholars Academy and Lee Foundation Fellow in 2012. He then went to Oxford and Harvard before returning to WashU and the academy to enroll in the joint Juris Scientiae Doctoris (JSD) and Juris Doctoris (JD) program in the law school. Despite his worldwide education, Chen says that his experience at WashU stands out.

“The academy sent us to Washington, D.C., and New York City to meet with leaders in business, politics, journalism and education,” he recalls. “Engaging in in-depth conversations with some of these luminaries was priceless.”

After earning his degrees, Chen worked briefly as a visiting assistant professor in WashU’s law school. Then in 2017, he returned to China to work as an associate professorial fellow at Fudan University. He credits WashU with preparing him for his current success.

“My experience with WashU and the academy prepared me well for leading initiatives advocating for the internationalization of legal education in my home country,” he says. “My JSD and JD training exposed me to the Socratic method of teaching. I now try my best to emulate my U.S. professors’ way of teaching in delivering my classes here at Fudan, encouraging my students to be critical, creative and open-minded.”

Rosalind Early, AB ’03, is associate editor of this magazine. (Diane T. Keaggy, AB ’90, senior news director of campus life, wrote the vignette on Ella Holman.)
“A scholarship can transform a life. We prepare students to become leaders with the character, insight and skills to address the most urgent challenges of the 21st century.”

— Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton
A day in the life of Washington University School of Medicine showcases the breadth of ongoing efforts to advance research, education and the best medical care possible for patients.

A day in the life of Washington University School of Medicine, every day is a day of discovery. The scope of work that transpires in any 24-hour period to advance human health — in research, training and patient care — is inspiring and consequential.

Across disciplines, physician-scientists are looking at genetic clues, working to solve some of medicines toughest puzzles: cancer, addiction, Alzheimer’s disease, cardiovascular disease and so much more.

The School of Medicine is a place with a long tradition in immunology and microbiology, and researchers in those areas are working to develop vaccines for cancer and treatments for emerging infections, autoimmune disorders and antibiotic resistance. Further, researchers are working to understand malnutrition, obesity, diabetes and other conditions by delving deeply into the microbiome. The medical school, with the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, also has a long tradition of being a leader in imaging sciences, from the development of the PET scanner to evaluate organ and tissue function in the 1970s to the use of high-tech glasses to help spot cancer cells today.

A key contributor to the Human Genome Project, the school is going beyond describing genes and how they vary to understanding how to develop better diagnostics and therapeutics to address disease-generating variations in a personalized way.

According to David H. Perlmutter, MD, the inaugural George and Carol Bauer Dean of the School of Medicine and the executive vice chancellor for medical affairs, over the last two decades, the medical school actually has been a part of two campaigns: “I am using the word campaign in two different ways,” Perlmutter says. “There is an ongoing campaign for determining whether something really is a cause of a disease; the other campaign has been to secure the financial resources necessary to make this important work possible. Thanks to the generosity of those who supported Leading Together, the school has made progress on both fronts.”

Through funding important centers — the McDonnell Genome Institute, the Edison Family Center for Genome Sciences & Systems Biology, and the Genome Engineering and iPSC Center, all in the Debra and George W. Couch III Biomedical Research Building; the Andrew M. and Jane M. Bursky Center for Human Immunology and Immunotherapy Programs; the National Cancer Institute–recognized Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center; and others — Leading Together allows the School of Medicine to support the scientific leaders making progress on these complex medical challenges.

Here, take a glimpse at some of the important work happening on any given day at this busy, vital place.
A medical oncologist and expert in bone-marrow transplantation and leukemia, **John F. DiPersio**, MD, PhD, serves as the deputy director of the Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine. Above, DiPersio, who also serves as chief of the Division of Oncology and the Virginia E. and Samuel J. Golman Endowed Professor of Medicine at the School of Medicine, meets with Stephen Brown at the Center for Advanced Medicine (CAM). At CAM, more than 750 Washington University physicians and 18 collaborative clinical centers give patients access to comprehensive medical care in an outpatient setting.
2 Reducing pre-term labor

3 Disease and the immune system
6 Early development and disease

7 Celebrating cancer survivors
Lilianna (Lila) Solnica-Krezel, PhD, is the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Distinguished Professor, head of the Department of Developmental Biology, and co-director of the Center of Regenerative Medicine. In Washington University’s zebrafish facility, one of the largest and most modern facilities in the world, Solnica-Krezel and others conduct large-scale, collaborative projects that help scientists understand human development and disease, from birth defects and cancer to musculoskeletal and nerve disorders. A common type of minnow, the zebrafish is popular in both scientific research and home aquariums. Zebrafish embryos are transparent and develop outside the mother’s body, making them useful for observing growth and development.

William G. Hawkins, MD, FACS (center), the Neidorff Family and Robert C. Packman Professor of Surgery, is chief of the Section of Hepatobiliary-Pancreatic and Gastrointestinal Surgery. A noted pancreatic cancer surgeon at Siteman Cancer Center, in 2016, he and other researchers and physicians at Siteman were awarded a five-year, $10.4 million National Cancer Institute grant to lead a national group of experts in collaborative pancreatic cancer research. The award, a prestigious Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) grant, will help scientists pursue new treatments for the deadliest form of the disease, pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, including development of more effective chemotherapies and a vaccine. Each year at the School of Medicine, Hawkins hosts a group of survivors of pancreatic cancer, such as Harry Stern and Edie Cornell-Smith, for a day of lectures and sessions on the latest developments in the field.

A clinical expert in breast cancer and breast surgery, Timothy J. Eberlein, MD, is the Bixby Professor and chair of the Department of Surgery at the School of Medicine. Eberlein is also the Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Distinguished Professor. He also serves as surgeon-in-chief at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and as director of the Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center. Under his leadership, Siteman has established internationally recognized programs across the continuum of cancer care. Further, Siteman now has expanded to six locations around the St. Louis area, which also provide underserved adults access to highly trained Washington University cancer specialists. Siteman offers access to more than 500 clinical trials, innovative cancer therapies often not available elsewhere in the region. Comprising the cancer research, prevention and treatment programs of Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine, Siteman currently partners with St. Louis Children’s Hospital in the treatment of pediatric patients. Siteman is Missouri’s only National Cancer Institute–designated Comprehensive Cancer Center and the region’s only member of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network.
Sarah K. England, PhD, is the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Professor of Medicine and professor of cell biology and physiology. She is considered one of the premier authorities on the molecular mechanisms underlying uterine function during pregnancy. Specifically, her research focuses on understanding the role of ion channels in modulating uterine activity in women with pre-term labor, with the goal of developing better therapeutic targets. Here, she confers with staff scientist Ronald T. McCarthy in her lab in the BJC Institute of Health at Washington University School of Medicine.

Robert D. Schreiber, PhD, the Andrew M. and Jane M. Bursky Distinguished Professor and professor of molecular microbiology, is director of the Andrew M. and Jane M. Bursky Center for Human Immunology and Immunotherapy Programs, where basic, translational and clinical aspects of human immunology and immunotherapy research are seamlessly integrated. Key areas of research include infectious disease and vaccines, immune dysfunction, and the immune system’s role in cancer. He and center collaborators have pioneered the use of genomic approaches in major translational programs that test the therapeutic efficacy of personalized vaccines in patients with cancers of the breast, brain, lung, pancreas, prostate, skin and lymphatic system. Here, Schreiber works with postdoctoral research fellow Elise J.O. Alspach, PhD, at the BJC Institute of Health.

Jeffrey I. Gordon, MD, the Dr. Robert J. Glaser Distinguished University Professor has, over the past 20 years, revolutionized understanding of the vital functions that our gut microbial communities play in shaping human health and disease. Gordon directs the Edison Family Center for Genome Sciences & Systems Biology, where investigators are making key contributions to advancing human microbiome research. Carrie Cowardin, PhD (right of Gordon), and Vanderlene Kung, MD, PhD (right of Cowardin), are among the postdoctoral research scholars in Gordon’s lab. Gordon has trained more than 130 students and postdocs, a number of whom have become leaders in the field.

Deanna M. Barch, PhD, the Gregory B. Couch Professor of Psychiatry and chair of the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, is a leading researcher on the role of cognition, emotion and brain function in illnesses such as depression and schizophrenia. She uses functional MRI, structural MRI and cognitive neuroscience methods to examine the neural basis of risk for the development of these illnesses, potentially as a means of developing better preventive approaches. Her work includes a focus on the ways in which early adversities (stress, poverty and disparities in access to health care) shape early brain development and subsequent risk for mental-health challenges. Here, Barch confers with Joan Luby, MD (at left), the Samuel and Mae S. Ludwig Professor of Child Psychiatry and director of the Early Emotional Development Program.
Understanding addiction

Overcoming antibiotic resistance
Laura J. Bierut, MD ’87, HS ’91, the Alumni Endowed Professor of Psychiatry, is a physician-scientist with expertise in genetic studies of smoking behaviors, addiction, and other psychiatric and medical illnesses. She is an active member in the National Institute on Drug Abuse Genetics Consortium, a group of scientists leading efforts to understand genetic causes of substance-use disorders. She has led large, collaborative projects through the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and the National Cancer Institute to discover genetic roots related to susceptibility to addiction. Through these projects, thousands of research participants from St. Louis have been interviewed and have given blood samples for genetic discovery. Now, she is working to translate this knowledge into action to reduce smoking and other addictions. At Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Bierut (left) is working with clinical nurse specialists, such as Ann Petlin (center) and Carrie Sona, to develop nursing-led smoking cessation programs for hospitalized patients.

Gautam Dantas, PhD (right), professor of pathology and immunology, of biomedical engineering, and of molecular microbiology at the medical school, is recognized for his outstanding contributions to graduate student teaching and mentoring. Dantas leads an interdisciplinary team of basic scientists, engineers and clinicians focused on understanding antibiotic resistance, designing novel antibiotic and probiotic therapies, and engineering microbial catalysts. Their work has been published in top journals and yielded many patents. Dantas is co-director of the Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences’ Computational and Systems Biology graduate program. Over the past nine years, he has mentored 10 postdocs, 20 graduate students, five research technicians, and more than 50 high school and undergraduate interns in his laboratory.

Helen McNeill, PhD (center), professor of developmental biology, was recently named the inaugural holder of the Larry J. and Carol A. Shapiro Professor at the School of Medicine. Here, McNeill works in her lab with Alex Fulford, PhD (left), a postdoctoral research associate, and Megan Glaeser, a research technician, to understand how tissue growth and tissue organization are coordinately regulated during normal development, and how loss of this control leads to human disease. McNeill, whose work in developmental biology spans birth defects to cancer, was also the first researcher named a BJC Investigator. The new BJC Investigators Program aims to recruit scientists who bring innovative approaches to major biological quandaries. Inspired by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute’s philosophy of investing in people with exceptional creative talent, the BJC Investigators Program plans to bring 10 renowned researchers to the medical school and the life sciences ecosystem of St. Louis.

Randall J. Bateman, MD, BSBS ’95, BSEE ’95, HS ’04, is the Charles F. and Joanne Knight Distinguished Professor of Neurology. As director of the Dominantly Inherited Alzheimer Network Trials Unit (DIAN-TU), he launched the world’s first clinical trials for at-risk families with autosomal-dominant Alzheimer’s disease (ADAD). The interventional therapeutic trials focus on drugs that could potentially change the course of the disease. Here, Bateman meets with trial participants and sisters, Rachel Habiger (left) and Taylor Hutton (not pictured), whose mother died from complications of Alzheimer’s. Participants in the trial either know they have an Alzheimer’s disease–causing mutation or are unaware of their genetic status yet have a 50 percent chance of having an ADAD mutation.
Teaching, research and service to society blend together in new and innovative ways as leadership and faculty focus on collaborating across disciplines to solve real-world problems.

BY JORIE JACOBI

Across higher education, universities have traditionally been broken up into schools, which then were divided further into departments, disciplines and specializations. The notion of collaboration as a means of real achievement sat there in plain sight but was often underutilized in the context of a university almost by design. Though collaboration may be one of the simplest, most effective means possible to achieve meaningful progress in any field, its deficiency begged a question: Is a commune of geniuses and well-decorated experts limited, at least to some degree, if they’re not combining resources and working collectively on problems?

That historic structure has been challenged at Washington University — not only to strengthen intra-university relationships, but to solve real-world problems. A deeper dive into a few new or enhanced initiatives, programs and research, made possible in part by funding from the Leading Together campaign, shows how collaboration has taken hold at Washington University, particularly in the areas of sustainability, leadership, public health, and medicine and policy.
Outside Provost Holden Thorp's office on the day of the scheduled interview, there's a torrential downpour. The semester is in full swing, and the campus has fallen into its familiar hum. Thorp's office, which overlooks Brookings Quadrangle, is filled to the brim with photos and books. Though no longer involved in active research, Thorp holds a PhD in chemistry from the California Institute of Technology and, over his career, has helped develop new drugs that inhibit metallo-enzymes. One such drug, called oteseconazole — used to treat fungal infections — is now in the third phase of clinical trials.

His tenure at Washington University, which began July 1, 2013, was preceded by a five-year term as chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

As WashU's chief academic administrator, while he still reviews tenure cases, Thorp takes great pride in staying out of the research faculty's way. “The way American higher education works, fortunately, is that administrators don’t tell individual faculty what to work on. That’s what makes it great: You have all these brilliant people pursuing their curiosity, wherever it leads them,” Thorp says.

Thorp does, however, wade into broader issues in higher education as co-author of two books, Our Higher Calling: Rebuilding the Partnership Between America and Its Colleges and Universities (2018) and Engines of Innovation: The Entrepreneurial University in the Twenty-First Century (2010). He enthusiastically endorses new WashU initiatives such as the Joseph and Yvonne Cordell Institute for Policy in Medicine & Law, a collaboration between the medical and law schools, as mechanisms for future success.

“A lot of universities either can’t figure out a way to achieve collaboration between individual schools like that, or they don’t want to,” Thorp says. “But the founders of the Cordell Institute came up with the terrific idea to tap professors at our law school to help our medical researchers understand how to handle our genetic data findings. That’s a very important problem.”

Cordell Institute: considering how the law and medical research converge

The Cordell Institute, established by Joseph Cordell, LLM '08, and Yvonne Cordell, JD '88, is a vital arrangement between Washington University's School of Medicine and School of Law that epitomizes the possibilities of collaboration. Forged in 2017, the institute is co-directed by Neil Richards, JD, the Thomas and Karole Green Professor of Law and an international leader in the field of privacy law, and Jonathan W. Heusel, MD '95, PhD '95, professor of pathology and genetics. Bridging
the disciplines of law, medicine, science and ethics, the institute explores how new medical and information technologies can be legally deployed in the most effective, ethical ways possible.

Richards’ work in helping establish the academic field of privacy law gained national attention alongside the rise of the digital age, as smartphones, email and social networking sites gained prevalence. Born in England, he moved to the United States with his family when he was 11. To soften the blow of an international move, his parents bought him a computer — which was really a bribe, as he remembers it. After attending law school at the University of Virginia, Richards clerked for Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist of the U.S. Supreme Court and Chief Justice Paul V. Niemeyer of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

Richards says we’ve all witnessed firsthand what happens when powerful technologies aren’t structured, at least in part, by moral and practical considerations from the outset. For example, the political consulting firm Cambridge Analytica became well-known in the wake of the 2016 presidential election for gathering personal information from Facebook users for political gain without first obtaining consent.

“If your technology isn’t created with an ethical sensibility that protects users from the beginning, it’s very hard to bolt it on at the end,” Richards says. “Several companies have had very public struggles with that — not just with legal compliance, but with what builds trust among their users. The tools we need to tackle these issues are much broader than existing laws.”

It’s a principle that also applies to Heusel’s research, which focuses on translating medical discoveries into viable therapeutic treatments for patients. And like developing digital technology, ensuring that the research is done in a regulated, ethical way positions these revelatory treatments to stand the test of time.

“Particularly in the realm of cancer and other genetic diseases, we’re working at the interface of discovery and healthcare solutions. In the 25 years I’ve been practicing medicine, I’ve seen an amazing transformation and extraordinary innovation,” Heusel says. “The Cordell Institute wants to develop policy that keeps pace with this kind of technology.”

Originally from a small town in Nebraska, Heusel thought he’d be a family-medicine physician like his father. But once he got to college in the ’80s, he became fascinated by the new science of molecular biology, cloning and studying individual genes. After graduating with an MD and a PhD in immunology from Washington University’s School of Medicine, Heusel continued studying genetics, laboratory medicine and clinical pathology. His current work in pathology at the medical school is heavily rooted in genomic sequencing, of not only healthy human DNA but also the DNA of different cancer cells and tumors.

Inasmuch as the medical school at Washington University was such a major player in the Human Genome Project, sequencing some 25 percent of the first human genome, forming the Cordell Institute was the logical next step in the evolution of precision medicine and beyond.

Institute for Public Health: focusing on community collaboration

Heusel and Richards also face the issue of long lag times between the discovery of impactful technologies and their implementation. Ross Brownson, PhD, recently appointed the Steven H. and Susan U. Lipstein Distinguished Professor in Public Health at the Brown School, also comes across this problem in his research. Brownson, who serves as co-director of the Prevention Research Center in the Institute for Public Health, a collaboration with Saint Louis University’s College of Social Justice and Public Health, says, “The pipeline from a discovery to when it is available to improve people’s lives can take many years. We’re working on implementation science to shorten that time span.”

Brownson’s work considers several public health issues affecting the U.S., one being chronic-disease prevention. Last year, he was awarded a $2.9 million grant from the National Cancer Institute to develop infrastructure to bolster physical activity in rural communities. Brownson notes that in the U.S., the importance of prevention and early detection are severely undervalued: A meager 3 percent to 6 percent of the federal health-care budget goes toward prevention, missing
many opportunities to invest wisely in health. “We skip over what leads to long-term progress: things like prevention and early detection, healthy eating, not smoking, and prioritizing regular cancer screenings, such as mammograms,” he says.

Brownson had just finished graduate school and was working at a triathlon store in Fort Collins, Colorado, when a former professor offered him his first job in public health at the Missouri Department of Health. Working on initiatives aimed to prevent cancer and other chronic diseases, Brownson was confronted with a startling discovery. “State and local public-health agencies are the frontlines of what we do. They’re responsible for addressing the issues we study and serving the most vulnerable populations,” he says. “But we realized that too often these agencies implement programs that are ineffective and not evidence-based. They’re delivering things that should be significantly changed or stopped altogether.”

An example that needs to change, he says, is the D.A.R.E. program, or Drug Abuse Resistance Education. The program was developed in Los Angeles and soon made its way to public schools as required curriculum. “Our best evaluations show that it is not an effective program and requires a lot of resources, yet at one point it was one of the most widely implemented school-based programs in the country.”

Nancy Morrow-Howell, PhD, the Bettie Bofinger Brown Distinguished Professor in the Brown School and director of the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging, works collaboratively on the topic of productive aging. Along with Brian Carpenter, PhD, professor of psychological & brain sciences, and Susan Stark, MSOT ’89, associate professor of occupational therapy, she also teaches the freshman seminar “When I’m Sixty-Four: Transforming Your Future.”

Nancy Morrow-Howell, PhD, the Bettie Bofinger Brown Distinguished Professor in the Brown School and director of the Harvey A. Friedman Center for Aging in the Institute for Public Health, has similarly dedicated her life to community-based collaborations and research. A trained social worker, she found her calling in the study of aging during her doctoral studies at the University of California at Berkeley. She returned to St. Louis, her hometown, in 1987 to work with social work students at Brown and has been with the university ever since.

Morrow-Howell’s work largely concerns what has been dubbed “productive aging,” or how to maintain meaningful engagement during retirement age. As older adults leave the workforce, she points out, they’re often incorrectly perceived as no longer able to make valuable contributions to society. “We can’t afford that perspective. People are now often living 20 to 30 years past retirement, and we have to use that capacity for everyone’s benefit,” she says.

One community-based project that she evaluated and helped lead her to this conclusion is the Experience Corps, operated by the AARP Foundation. The program, active in 23 cities, selects older adults as volunteer tutors to work with children in underresourced public elementary schools. Morrow-Howell was awarded a substantial grant to document...
the effects on participants, and the results offered quantifiable evidence of the benefits for both age groups. Children’s reading levels improved, and the adult volunteers exhibited increased levels of well-being, functional ability and even a decrease in depressive symptoms.

“It shows that the kind of win-win you might predict with a program like that really exists,” she says. “Engaging older adults this way yields real economic value and taps into the highly underutilized resources of the older population.”

At the university level, Morrow-Howell predicts that as birth rates continue to slow, fewer young adults will pursue higher education, and universities will need to focus on programming for prospective students of all ages to remain vibrant. In line with this theory, Washington University has just joined the Age-Friendly University Global Network, made up of universities that commit to diversifying via age-inclusive offerings.

Bauer Leadership Center: teaching a values-based perspective

Although the corporate world may strike onlookers as more concerned with profits than ethics, the George and Carol Bauer Leadership Center at Olin Business School is teaching leaders how to achieve profit goals while maintaining a moral code.

Further, the new initiative is building on the premise that it is through a moral code that leaders achieve real business solutions, doing away with tired business-culture stereotypes of the past. The university calls it values-based leadership, focused on honing evidence-based traits of good leaders.

“The relationship between business and ethics has always been something I’ve cared about,” says Stuart Bunderson, PhD, the George and Carol Bauer Professor of Organizational Ethics and Governance. Bunderson, who also serves as co-director of the Bauer Leadership Center, spent years studying business organization and management at PepsiCo, Inc. and Allina Health System before transitioning to his current roles at Olin.

While PepsiCo, for example, is seen as the best in the business for developing leaders, Bunderson noticed that it primarily rewards results-based leaders. “What we increasingly hear younger generations say is that they want to drive results in a way that means something more than just the bottom line,” he says. “I also had that sense when I was that age and somehow never lost it. I can relate to our younger students who tell us that they want meaning and significance in their work lives. Our programs outline how to help get them there.”

Bunderson confirms that students preparing for management roles in the workforce learn best by experience, which often is absent in MBA programs. Students at Olin, however,
obtain valuable experience through the Bauer Leadership Center and the Center for Experiential Learning, where they are able to manage their peers on actual client projects through collaborations with the business community.

“It was beneficial to hear the values-based perspective from directors, professors and also business leaders,” says Cole Donelson, MBA ’18. A former Bauer Fellow, Donelson began a management consulting position at Accenture in St. Louis after graduating. “There’s so much more to the success of a business than profit numbers. It’s about how that success is achieved. And as a leader, you set the tone for your team or company, and people are going to follow your example.”

InCEES: developing sustainable solutions

Organizations that tackle issues of sustainability, the environment and alternative energy may be where these kinds of high-caliber, values-based leaders are needed most. Himadri Pakrasi, PhD, a leading biochemist and founding director of the university’s International Center for Energy, Environment and Sustainability (InCEES), recognized the critical importance of bringing high-powered research minds in the field together.

“Through InCEES, the university is committed to addressing a range of interconnected energy and environmental challenges that are critical to the well-being of society and the planet,” says Pakrasi, the Myron and Sonya Glassberg/Albert and Blanche Greensfelder Distinguished University Professor.

InCEES collaborator Vijay Ramani, PhD, the Roma B. and Raymond H. Wittcoff Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Energy, Environmental and Chemical Engineering at the School of Engineering & Applied Science, has one such research mind. Ramani has been developing a hydrogen fuel cell to power cars as an alternative to burning gasoline, a main contributor to global warming. Users would never need to stop for gasoline or electric charging. Instead, “charging” could be done continually with a combination of oxygen in the air and hydrogen stored in a pressurized hydrogen tank, creating water and electricity.

“Vijay’s work, in collaboration with others through InCEES, will help transform the way people and goods are transported in a more populated, increasingly urban society, where we are asked to feed more people while consuming fewer resources,” Pakrasi says.

While the term “electrochemical engineering” — the basis of Ramani’s work — sounds complex, he insists that if you can understand how a battery works, you can understand the basics of electrochemical engineering. “Today, almost everyone engages with it on a daily basis — for example, when you charge your phone or laptop,” says Ramani, who is also director of the Center for Solar Energy and Energy Storage at WashU and Faculty Fellow for Entrepreneurship for the Danforth Campus. “In my lab, we work on developing materials and systems that make electrochemical energy conversion and storage devices last longer in a cost-effective way.”

And, interestingly, the automotive industry champions Ramani’s research: He recently collaborated with Nissan to craft a durable catalyst that extends the life of a fuel-cell vehicle.

“Fuel-cell development for automobiles is an example of the kind of innovation happening all over Washington University that’s going to change the world,” says Provost Thorp. “Ramani’s research is such a great example of that. His work has very practical applications, and when explained, people can easily see why what he does is so important. But if you’re a hard-core electrochemist, you can read his papers and see that the basic science of what he does is exemplary as well.”

If implemented on a larger scale, hydrogen-powered cars could significantly slow the devastating effects of greenhouse gases. And while Ramani’s day-to-day work is full of making complex calculations, solving engineering-based problems, and leading a team of students and postdoctoral researchers, he views the current environmental crisis facing the globe as straightforward, back-of-the-envelope math.

“To face the problem, you first have to look at the impact of greenhouse-gas emissions, which lead to climate change,” he says. “To modulate the amount of carbon dioxide emitted — one major cause of the problem — you have to look at where it’s being produced: driving a gasoline- or diesel-powered automobile, and making electricity from coal or natural gas. It’s much more feasible to capture and sequester carbon-dioxide emissions in a large power plant, but it’s nearly impossible to do so from the tailpipes of millions of cars on the road,” Ramani says. “As you can imagine, the stakes are incredibly high.”

Jorie Jacobi, BFA ’11, is a freelance writer based in St. Louis.
Creating her own recipe for change

Alumna Amy DuVall, BS ’95, a lawyer turned environmental lobbyist turned pastry chef, bakes purpose into whatever she pursues, including her service to Washington University.

"... I was scared to death to try all of these recipes. But I decided the only way to learn, to improve, to get better, was to tackle them, one at a time. … There were certainly bumps in the road: funkiness in my ricotta cannoli filling, cracks in my macarons, for example. But it was so worth it to try. If you don’t try, you will simply never know. Start small. Build confidence. Add your eggs one at a time. … It will pay off — and fill your heart, mind and tummy, too.”
— Amy DuVall, BS ’95, from her blog, From Politics to Pastry, June 4, 2018

Dedicated Washington University volunteer Amy DuVall recently accomplished a major career goal. As an environmental lobbyist with the American Chemistry Council, she spent more than 10 years building a coalition of 200 trade associations to reform and modernize the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976. The process was long and arduous, but DuVall’s broad coalition eventually helped pass the most significant piece of environmental legislation in decades — the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act — in 2016. Afterward, DuVall found herself wondering, “What’s next?”

“I had accomplished exactly what I originally set out to do,” she says, “and I knew it would be decades before a similar opportunity came along.”

DuVall decided to turn her attention to her neglected creative side, and she left the congressional lobbying world in early 2018 to pursue her passion for baking. In addition to documenting her baking adventures in her blog, From Politics to Pastry, and writing a book about her recent success building and leveraging a large coalition, DuVall serves as chair of the Washington, D.C. Alumni Network.

Why did you transition from environmental lobbyist to pastry-chef-in-training?
My lobbying work was all-consuming. I missed having time to be creative, and I was ready to make a change. I have always been an organized person with a clear path forward, so embracing the unknown is new for me. I briefly apprenticed at a large bakery in D.C., and I was grateful for the opportunity, because internships and apprenticeships allow you to discover what you like and what you don’t like. The experience taught me that I don’t want to work in a high-volume bakery in D.C. Further, I can’t rule out a return to politics in the future. But right now, I’m content to build my confidence as a chef, learn new techniques, take classes and bake for family and friends.

How did your WashU experience influence your career?
My parents always told me and my sister that we could accomplish whatever we wanted, so I didn’t feel daunted as a woman pursuing a degree in a technical field. However, after I arrived at the School of Engineering & Applied Science,
I quickly realized there were very few women in the program — which was excellent training for my time representing the electrical utility and chemical industries as a lawyer and lobbyist. I worked very hard to succeed, and so did all of my classmates. I had a wonderful mentor, Maxine Lipeles, now director of the Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic in the School of Law. As my senior year adviser, she helped me choose a graduate law program, and her viewpoint was invaluable. I’ve turned to her for advice many times throughout my career, and I’m grateful for her continued mentorship.

Why is staying connected to the university important to you?
I was a very involved student. I sang with the a cappella group The Greenleafs for four years and served as the business manager. I played in the Pep Band, and I was involved in student government. I received generous scholarships — so I always felt a responsibility to give back to the university that had given me so much. I joined the William Greenleaf Elliot Society immediately after I finished law school, and I began volunteering. I have co-chaired two of my Reunions and have served on the Washington, D.C. Eliot Society membership committee. I currently serve as chair of the Washington, D.C. Alumni Network (formerly Washington, D.C. Alumni Club). We’re very lucky to have many amazing, accomplished and accessible alumni in the D.C. area who are actively involved with the network and happy to give back to the university.

I had many outstanding mentors at Washington University. The people who helped me along the way often said, “All I ask is that one day you pay it forward.” So, when someone calls to let me know they have a WashU engineering student who’s thinking about law school and needs advice, I’m always willing to meet that student. It gives me great satisfaction to continue the long tradition of WashU alumni helping students and each other.

Laura Josephart is senior associate director of development communications.

The Black Alumni Council

Washington University’s Black Alumni Council was founded in the spring of 1983, coinciding with the 10th Reunion of the Class of 1973. That year, Alex Carroll, AB ’73, expressed an interest in celebrating the university’s largest graduating class of African-American students. Cynthia Cosby, BS ’93, a staff member in the Program in African and African-American Studies at the time, saw potential.

“It was a perfect opportunity to ask our African-American alumni to get involved with the university on a new level, something I had been thinking about for some time,” Cosby says. By the end of Reunion 1983, the Black Alumni Council (BAC) was born.

A core group of volunteers formed an initial steering committee and identified three guiding goals: to support the professional and personal development of black alumni; to assist with recruitment and retention of African-American students; and to enhance the continued growth and development of the university. This mission has remained central to the council’s priorities and activities for 35 years.

In addition to organizing social and networking activities in St. Louis and beyond, the BAC helps with student recruitment, organizes community service projects, sponsors campus panel discussions and provides mentorship for student organizations such as Black Senior Alliance and the Association of Black Students.

In 1989, the council created the Black Alumni Council Emergency Fund to provide immediate resources for students with unanticipated financial need. Six years later, the group established the Black Alumni Council Endowed Scholarship (formerly the Washington–DuBois Endowed Scholarship). More than 100 students have received financial assistance from one of these two funds.

Upon Cosby’s retirement in late 2015, the BAC transitioned to the Alumni Association, which boosted engagement across the university and the nation. Today, there are more than 7,800 African-American WashU alumni worldwide. There are active BAC chapters in Baltimore, Chicago, San Francisco and Washington, D.C., and the university anticipates increased involvement nationwide.

Kandyce St. Clair Woods, AB ’07, a BAC volunteer, organized an inaugural BAC happy hour attended by nearly 50 alumni in Chicago last August. “I have heard from many enthusiastic alumni — the desire is there,” Woods says. “We want to be more engaged with the university, reconnect with each other and offer current WashU students mentorship and networking opportunities.”

For more information, contact Elizabeth Williams-Johnson at 314-935-4557 or ewilliams-johnson@wustl.edu.
Ensuring Success for Washington University’s Future

Appreciating Washington University’s distinctive role in the St. Louis community, Andrew and Barbara Taylor are two of the institution’s staunchest supporters. They cherish the opportunity to serve WashU, whether by leading a comprehensive campaign, fostering student success or sponsoring new areas of medical research.

BY MARY ELLEN BENSON

For Life Trustee Andrew C. Taylor, the best thing about serving as chair of the public phase of Leading Together: The Campaign for Washington University was the people he met along the way. At the gala event in St. Louis that formally launched the campaign’s public phase in October 2012, and at a number of regional campaign events he attended around the country, Taylor says he met “some of the biggest supporters of the university, and they all had really interesting stories.”

By the conclusion of Leading Together on June 30, 2018, he says, “I came away amazed at the loyalty, the passion, the interest, the participation and the really positive environment. It was pretty consistent how people felt about the school, and it was very positive.

“And if you look at the campaign results, they speak for themselves.”

A family legacy of philanthropy

Beyond Andrew Taylor’s campaign leadership, gifts from him and his wife, Barbara, and from the Crawford Taylor Foundation — the charity of the Jack C. Taylor family — played a key role in ensuring the success of Leading Together. Andrew Taylor says his late father, Jack, who founded the Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company in 1957, led the way in the family’s tradition of giving and making a difference in the community.

In 2001, the Taylor family and Enterprise Holdings established the largest scholarship fund at Washington University with a gift of $25 million. Ten years later, Jack, an emeritus trustee of the university, gave an additional $25 million for scholarships on behalf of the company.

“My father came from a middle-class family and had the opportunity to start a company with $25,000 of borrowed money and turn
“It is very appealing to us to give a life opportunity to men and women who would not otherwise be able to attend the university. That makes us feel really good, and we have connections with those students.” — Andrew C. Taylor

It is very appealing to us to give a life opportunity to men and women who would not otherwise be able to attend the university. That makes us feel really good, and we have connections with those students.”

Andrew C. Taylor

Serving the community

Andrew Taylor, who is executive chairman of St. Louis–based Enterprise Holdings — which operates Enterprise Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental and Alamo Rent A Car — as well as Barbara and other members of the Taylor family have long supported and been active in St. Louis’ civic and cultural organizations. Barbara Taylor is an honorary trustee and former president of the board of commissioners for the Saint Louis Art Museum, as well as a trustee and a member of the executive committee of Forest Park Forever. She previously served as a trustee of Mary Institute and Saint Louis Country Day School and of Webster University.

“One of the best things about Washington University,” Andrew says, “is that it’s a very caring school. If they admit you, they work really hard to keep you and help you do well.

“My family loves St. Louis,” he continues, “and Washington University is a big economic engine and brings a lot of prestige to our area. It’s very, very good for St. Louis — one of the best things we have in this town, and we have a lot of really good things.”

Andrew calls his campaign experience “a lot of fun.” Along the way, he says, “I learned a lot from the people and groups and volunteers that I met.

“That the Taylors’ leadership and extraordinary generosity are an inspiration to everyone who desires to help exceptional young people from all walks of life turn their aspirations into achievements,” says Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

In addition to scholarships, Andrew and Barbara Taylor and the Crawford Taylor Foundation committed $20 million to the Department of Psychiatry in 2012 to fund the Taylor Family Institute for Innovative Psychiatric Research, designed to advance the science underlying the diagnosis and treatment of psychiatric illnesses. “We thought it would have an impact,” Andrew says. “Our family has experienced mental illness; trying to make a difference in this area is important to us.”

On June 30, the final day of Leading Together, the Taylors committed an additional $10 million to the Taylor Family Institute. Andrew says institute researchers “have had some interesting success with a new classification of drugs, neurosteroids, which fight profound depression. Part of this gift, to use the layman’s term, is to get these drugs across the finish line.”

Chancellor Wrighton calls Andrew and Barbara Taylor “great university citizens who are among our most dedicated benefactors.”

Mary Ellen Benson is a writer in Development Communications and former executive editor of Washington magazine.
News of fellow alumni

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.

Please send news to:
Classnotes, Washington magazine, Washington University in St. Louis, Campus Box 1070, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130-4899
Email wustl_magclassnotes@wustl.edu
Washington magazine publishes Classnotes in print issues.

ALUMNI CODES

AR  Architecture
BU  Business
DE  Dentistry
EN  Engineering
FA  Art
GA  Graduate Architecture
GB  Graduate Business
GD  Graduate Dentistry
GA  Graduate Art
GL  Graduate Law
GM  Graduate Medicine
GN  Graduate Nursing
GR  Graduate Arts & Sciences
HA  Health Care Admin.
HS  House Staff
LA  Arts & Sciences
LW  Law
MD  Medicine
MT  Manual Training
NU  Nursing
OT  Occupational Therapy
PT  Physical Therapy
SI  Sever Institute
SU  Sever Institute
SW  Social Work
TI  Tech. & Info. Mgmt.
UC  University College

40s

Betty (Selzer) Hoffman, BU46, is retired and living in New Bern, N.C. She has four children, 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Harvey M. Brown, BU48, chaired the Class of 1948 70th Reunion in May 2018. On behalf of himself and his nine classmates who also attended the gathering, he sends thanks to the alumni staff for a wonderful event.

John O. Sutter, GR48, BU48, recently donated his collection of eight unique Balinese paintings to the Saint Louis Art Museum. From 1950 to 1984, Sutter had six tours of duty in Indonesia: in the U.S. Foreign Service, as a consultant for the National Academy of Sciences and as representative of The Asia Foundation.

Leonard Adreon, BU50, a facilitator of writing classes in the Lifelong Learning Institute at Washington University, published Hilltop Doc: A Marine Corpsman Fighting Through the Mud and Blood of the Korean War (BookBaby, 2017). About the book, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton said, it is “an engaging and fascinating firsthand account from a Korean War veteran who remained silent for more than 60 years about his experiences.”

Carol (Goodman) Kaufman Segal, LA52, has been involved in the arts in Los Angeles for 34 years. After 14 years as a radio host on public radio stations, she wrote reviews and information on the arts for the National Jewish News as an independent journalist. Her reviews can be read on her blog, Carol’s Culture Corner, carolsegalwriter.blogspot.com.

50s

Robert Edelman, LA58, MD62, retired in May as professor emeritus of medicine from the Center for Vaccine Development, University of Maryland School of Medicine. He continues working as a consultant to the vaccine industry. He and his wife, Marge, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last year and are proud of their four married children, 24 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren, who live in the U.S., the United Kingdom, Israel and South Africa.

Eugene Nagel, MD59, enjoyed his 94th birthday in August 2018. He sends his regards to all alumni.

James K. Elrod, HA64, CEO of Willis-Knighton Health System, was honored at the Louisiana Legends Awards Gala in May 2018. The fundraising and public awareness project supports the instructional, educational and cultural programs presented by Louisiana Public Broadcasting.

Walter E. Massey, GR66, GR66, GR90, who served as president of Morehouse College from 1995–2007, is the first president and living alumnus of the college to have an endowed chair named in his honor. The Walter Eugene Massey Endowed Chair of Physical Science was made possible by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Susan (Taylor) Brashier, LA67, retired in 2010 from University High School, Irvine, Calif. In her retirement, she continues teaching Latin and English at the school as a substitute teacher.

Chuck Ortner, LA67, was elected to the board of trustees of Carnegie Hall, and he continues to serve a second term on the board of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, having been appointed by President Barack Obama. Still a practicing entertainment lawyer and partner at Proskauer Rose, Ortner is also an executive producer of several film and TV projects, including the political drama Run (picked up by FX) and To Be Of Service, a documentary about veterans with PTSD and their service dogs. He and late wife Jane Gold Ortner, AB ’67, had a daughter, Amy Ortner Mandell, AB ’94, and a son, Eric Ortner.

Charles M. “Mel” Gray, GR68, GR78, on retirement from Opus College of Business at the University of St. Thomas, Minnesota, was named professor emeritus of business economics. Now a senior fellow in the university’s Center for the Common Good, he teaches in the Aquinas Honors Program.

Janet (Searcy) Joyce, LA68, married her high school sweetheart, Dennis Joyce.

R. Laurence Davis, LA69, GR72, retired in August as a professor of earth and environmental sciences at the University of New Haven. Davis spent 43 years in higher education, including 27 years at New Haven. He continues his work with the Children & Nature Network’s New Nature Movement, an effort to draw children away from their video screens and into nature.

David W. Miller, FA69, wrote an article reviewing 30 years of culinary history, “No Bread With One Meatball,’’ that appeared in the February 2018 issue of food journal Petitos Propos Culinaires. The founding member of The Culinary Historians of Boston, the oldest circle of culinary historians in the U.S., Miller later served a term as its president.

Renee Winter, LA69, GR70, retired from the practice of law after almost 40 years working at Ralston Purina, Bryan Cave LLP and DLA Piper. She also was an adjunct professor at Saint Louis University School of Law and Santa Clara University School of Law.
of Law. The first female editor of WashU’s Student Life, Winter is focusing on a career as an essayist. She and her husband, Paul Roth, live in Santa Cruz, Calif., and have two daughters and two granddaughters.

Michael Sullivan, BU70, launched Michael C. Sullivan Dispute Resolution, Inc. He previously was a circuit court judge for 24 years.

Martin Fischer, LA71, won a first-place award in the 2017 excellence-in-writing competition of the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors for his article titled “How the Gogolinsky Family of Warsaw Became the Barney Family of St. Louis.” The article was published in the spring 2016 issue of Avotaynu: The International Review of Jewish Genealogy.

Joe Madison, LA71, was named No. 7 on the Talkers Magazine 2018 Heavy Hundred list of the most important radio talk show hosts in America. Madison hosts a daily show on Sirius XM satellite radio.

David Dietrich, LA72, GR79, is past president of the Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute. He continues to supervise and teach psychiatrists and psychologists there and to work in the private practice of psychoanalysis and psychotherapy in Birmingham, Mich. He also leads a discussion group on termination in psychoanalysis at the annual meeting of the American Psychoanalytic Association.

Norman Rose, LA72, GR72, published his third book for young readers, Grandma in Space, last year. He also made two videos for the nonprofit Modern States initiative: “Educational Psychology” and “Human Growth and Development.” The goal of the initiative is to give students access to free study materials as they prepare to take CLEP tests for college credit.

Jill (Lebow) Schechter, LA72, continues to manage her private practice in therapy services for patients of all ages and works at Comprehensive Med-Psych in Sarasota and Lakewood Ranch, Fla. Schechter also works as a clinical psychotherapist at the Center for Revitalizing Psychiatry in Sarasota.

Robert S. Davidson, EN73, received the 2017 Industrial Research & Development Award from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. He was honored for developing the 3M patented process to synthesize and purify ceramic nanoparticle sols used in dental composite resins and optical films. Davidson retired from 3M in 2017 after 36 years. In 2017, he also was honored with a WashU Department of Energy, Environmental & Chemical Engineering Alumnus Award.

Wayne Koff, LA74, in 2017 launched the Peace Island Children’s Center to assist children and disaffected adolescents in the fishing communities near Lake Victoria in Uganda. The nonprofit group provides fresh water, health care, education and activities. Visit peaceislandcc.org.

Bruce Rittmann, EN74, SI74, won the 2018 Stockholm Water Prize for his work finding new ways to clean up pollution, treat water and wastewater, capture renewable energy, and improve human health. Rittmann is director of the Swette Center for Environmental Biotechnology at the Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University and a regents’ professor in the School of Sustainable Engineering and Built Environment.

Linda Weinreb, LA77, was appointed medical director of Medicaid programs and Medicaid accountable-care organizations at Fallon Health, an insurer and provider of care in Worcester, Mass. A family physician with more than 25 years of experience directing clinical programs for, and conducting research with, vulnerable populations, she is a nationally recognized expert on the health and support needs of homeless families and the integration of behavioral health and primary care services for vulnerable populations.

Michael T. Hutchins, LA78, published his first book, Irreconcilable Politics: Our Rights Under a Just Government, in June. Acknowledging that each of us has a unique world view and our own understanding of justice, rights and the consequences of political actions, Hutchins addresses the question: How can we make shared decisions that affect us all?

Gary M. Feldman, LA79, an attorney with Davis, Malm & D’Agostine, was recognized in the 2018 edition of “Chambers USA,” a guide to law firms and lawyers in labor and employment.

James Omoleye, EN79, SI79, sends his regards to the chemical engineering class of 1979, especially Young Soon Kim, Ross Mandel, Grace Gacial and friend Ethel. He writes that he can’t forget the days of teamwork and study at WashU. Omoleye is a professor of chemical engineering at Covenant University in Ota, Nigeria.

Prachak Sapmanee, TI79, works as an independent observer for the National Anti-corruption Commission of Thailand. Previously, he was a lecturer in public administration at the country’s National Institute of Development Administration.

Raymond Tymas-Jones, GR79, GR88, was installed as president of Cornish College of the Arts, in Seattle, in October. Previously, he served as dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of Utah for 12 years and was appointed associate vice president for the arts in 2017. He earlier was associate dean, Faculty of Humanities and Fine Arts at Buffalo State College; director, School of Music at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls; and dean, College of Fine Arts at Ohio University. He is known for his presentation and scholarship on American art song and spirituals, and sacred music in the African-American tradition.

Jill (Ferguson) Wilkus, LA80, retired in March 2018 after more than 37 years as an associate actuary. Wilkus, her husband, Dale, and their dog, Stella, recently moved to Verona, Wis.

Yi-Long Chen, SI81, SI84, is managing director of the Automotive Industry Action Group in Asia, as well as the Motor and Equipment Manufacturers Association and Automotive Aftermarket Suppliers Association in China. Previously, he held high-level positions with General Motors in Detroit and Asia.

Elizabeth “Betsy” Troeder, LA82, earned a master’s degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College in June 2018. She was one of 28 civilians in the college’s Resident Class of 2018. Troeder is currently assigned to the U.S. Army Materiel Command’s headquarters in Huntsville, Ala.

Susan Goldberg, LA83, is co-author of Leadership in Wonderland, a book and workbook for new leaders based on characters from Lewis Carroll’s fable. She also launched Susan Goldberg Leadership Consulting, which helps large organizations develop and retain high-potential emerging leaders. Visit susan@susangoldbergleadership.com.

William Hunt, EN83, is chairman of the board of Orbit Chemical, based in Nairobi, Kenya. The
company produces home and personal care products for Kenya and sub-Saharan Africa.

Marla (Johns) Cloos, EN84, owner and president of Green Home Coach/Sustaining Spaces in Edmond, Okla., in 2017 was tapped by the National Association of Home Builders as Professional Women in Building (PWB) Member of the Year. Cloos led the Metro Denver Home Builders Association in forming and chartering a PWB council.

Adamina Vocero-Akbani, LA85, is proud to report that her son, Adam Vocero, is a member of the WashU Class of 2022 and was a finalist for the Annika Rodriguez Scholars Program. Adam is the third generation of his family to attend WashU. Adamina’s father, Rogello Vocero, EN57, who was the first to graduate, has fond memories of his time at WashU.

Frank Flucke, EN85, LA85, is CEO of Microcon, a custom software design and development business with offices in St. Louis, as well as San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Ellen Levy, LA85, LW88, a judge in the 21st Judicial Circuit Court in St. Louis County, spoke at the 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations in March 2018. Her remarks focused on the experiences of rural versus urban women and girls seeking justice through the courts.

Janice Mac Avoy, LA85, partner and co-chair, real estate litigation, at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, was among 30 women at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, and co-chair, real estate litigation, through the courts.

Gregory McFarland, LA86, recently celebrated his sixth year as a transportation economist at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

David W. Fermino, LW87, a partner with Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP in San Francisco, began his tenure as chair of the Judicial Nominee Evaluation Commission for the State Bar of California in April 2018. His practice focuses on white-collar criminal defense, complex criminal and civil appeals in the state and federal courts, and cyberspace.

Lisa O. Stump, LA96, was appointed distinguished engineer at IBM. His career at IBM began thanks to a co-op with WashU’s School of Engineering & Applied Science.

Corey Shapiro, LA96, is legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky. He lives in Louisville with his wife and two young children.

Robert Dunakin, EN97, is director of sales and business development for medical products at AccuTec Blades. Formerly American Safety Razor, the company is the oldest blade manufacturer in the U.S.

Freya Paschen, GR97, is head of communications and public relations at the German Lost Art Foundation in Magdeburg, Germany. The foundation is the central point of contact, nationally and internationally, for all matters pertaining to the unlawful seizure of cultural property in Germany in the 20th century. Previously, Paschen was head of marketing and education at the Magdeburg Museums.

Michelle Pardoll, LA98, is an assistant attorney general in the District of Columbia, and a member of the firm’s Government Practice Group. She is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law. Pardoll has handled cases before the Supreme Court of the United States and has argued before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. She has represented the District of Columbia and the state of Maryland in a number of significant cases.

90s

Ann (Hartman) Luban, LA91, LA91, in May 2018 was awarded an honorary doctorate of Jewish nonprofit management by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Luban is the director of Jewish community engagement at Jewish Child & Family Services in Chicago, where she lives with her husband and three children.

Thomas Seigel, LA91, published his debut novel, The Astronaut’s Son (Woodhall Press, 2018), which tells the story of a Jewish astronaut who must confront NASA’s early collaboration with the Nazis and its possible link to his father's death.

Kristen K. Mitchell, LA92, is deputy attorney general for the state of Washington. She supervises the attorneys and staff working in the areas of natural resources, environment, transportation, health and tribal issues.

Andrew Bernheimer, GA94, principal of Bernheimer Architecture, was named a fellow of the American Institute of Architects for excellence in the profession.

Virginia Drywater-Whitekiller, SW95, received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program award to Canada in aboriginal studies. During the fall 2018 semester, she conducted research at Vancouver Island University, British Columbia, as part of a project to explore indigenous cultural resilience student supports in higher-education pathways.

Chitra (Ambalam) Durgam, LA95, owner of Aesthetic Dental in North Bergen, N.J., was featured in The New York Times best-seller Crushing It! How Great Entrepreneurs Build Their Business and Influence — and How You Can, Too for her use of social media in her business.

Troy Sherrard, GA95, a partner/practice leader in sports and recreation design with Moody Nolan in Columbus, Ohio, was named a fellow of the American Institute of Architects for excellence in the profession.

Emily (Engeland) Bannister, LA96, MD01, welcomed twins Abigail and David in April 2017. She is a member of the residency faculty at HealthPartners Occupational Medicine Program.

Brian Brunken, PT96, is owner and president of Go Physical Therapy, PC. He is also chair of the Practice and Management Committee of the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association.

Harris Edelman, LA96, married Alexandra “Sasha” Rukovskaya — an art dealer and founder of an immersive live theatrical event, Garden of Delights — in October 2017. Edelman is founder and CEO of Ombligo, which helps companies maximize value and minimize risk by recycling and refurbishing out-of-service information technology equipment.

David Hunt, EN96, LA96, was a partner at Eversheds Sutherland. He retired in 2017 to focus on his family and community engagement at Jewish College-Jewish Institute of Religion. He lives in Louisville with his wife and two young children.

Lisa A. Johnson, LA96, is a partner at the law firm of SmithAmundsen, LLC, in Clayton, Mo.

Freya Paschen, GR97, is head of communications and public relations at the German Lost Art Foundation in Magdeburg, Germany. The foundation is the central point of contact, nationally and internationally, for all matters pertaining to the unlawful seizure of cultural property in Germany in the 20th century. Previously, Paschen was head of marketing and education at the Magdeburg Museums.
An entrepreneurial drive

As an undergraduate studying finance and computer science, JD Ross ran not one but two companies. As a first-year student, Ross started Fresh Prints, a custom apparel company, and he bought UTrucking, a moving and storage company that other WashU students had started as part of the Student Entrepreneurial Program.

“That’s when I was first became very clearly interested in applying finance and computer science to an entrepreneurial track,” says Ross, BSBA ’11, BS ’11, who received two scholarships to attend Washington University. “And I wanted to see how I could apply technology to make business better.”

While juggling a 21-credit course load, Ross also found success with his two business ventures. By the time he graduated, Fresh Prints was doing a couple of million dollars in sales per year. And UTrucking had more than doubled in size, with about half of all students who lived outside a 150-mile radius using the company.

Ross learned a lot of lessons while running both businesses. The most important one, he says, was to be “customer-obsessed.”

“I think people really undervalue the amount of talking to customers they should be doing. As a founder, you have to spend all your time doing one of two things,” Ross says. “Either you’re talking to customers or you’re building the infrastructure of your company.”

Despite these demands, Ross interned the summer after his sophomore year with Addepar, a financial technology startup. He added so much value that the company kept him on throughout the rest of his college career.

“I was flying back and forth from San Francisco and doing all these conference calls between classes,” Ross recalls. “It was getting ridiculous.” That spurred Ross to graduate early.

He graduated in December 2011. At Addepar full time now, he led the product team. In less than two years, he became the vice president of product.

About six months into his job at Addepar, Ross started talking with Keith Rabois, a former senior executive at PayPal and Slide, about why real estate was broken.

“Why do people think that selling their home is comparable to divorce or bankruptcy in terms of pain?” Ross remembers discussing. “What would a one-click move look like?”

The answer was Opendoor, an online marketplace that buys homes instantly without a real estate agent, open houses or hassle. After the owner moves out, Opendoor sells the house, also without real estate agents. Instead, prospective buyers with the app show themselves Opendoor houses by unlocking the home from their phone.

The idea was revolutionary — but didn’t catch on.

“There wasn’t customer demand,” Ross says about the startup, which he, Rabois, Ian Wong and Eric Wu launched in 2014. For Ross, though, this wasn’t a problem. “We knew if we did this right, if we presented it right, people would want it.”

Ross’ customer obsession took over as he marketed the idea of Opendoor and got people comfortable with a new way of selling their homes. Others on his team created a property valuation methodology that is the most accurate of any out there commercially or in academic papers.

Ross’ efforts earned him a spot on Forbes’ 2017 30 Under 30 list, since now, more than half of Opendoor offers to buy a home are accepted. As the company grows, Ross says that the only constant is change.

“Every 12 months, you’re going to be running a different company,” Ross says. “Elon Musk said that running a company is like chewing glass and staring into the abyss, and he’s not wrong.”

But Ross thrives on the uncertainty and rapid change, and his time at WashU is a major contributor to that. “I think being an entrepreneur by definition means you’re a bit of a rascal,” he says. “And there are institutions that try to beat that out of you and those that try to foster it. WashU, at every step, fostered my entrepreneurial inclination. And I’m endlessly grateful for that.”

— Rosalind Early, AB ’03, is the magazine’s associate editor.
Carlos Anzola, GB00, helped launch LLBRE, a mobility platform to replace analog taximeters with digital ones in Mexico City’s 138,000 taxis.


Dost Ongur, GM00, MD00, was promoted to full professor at Harvard Medical School and was selected to serve as the William P. and Henry B. Test Professor of Psychiatry. A clinician-scientist, Ongur’s primary research focuses on brain abnormalities in major psychotic disorders using in vivo neuroimaging, particularly magnetic resonance spectroscopy.

Chun Xu, BU00, is a risk management consultant for Wells Fargo. He enjoys writing customized machine-learning algorithms to predict consumer behavior and building statistical models to advance biomedical knowledge.

Nicole Gorovsky, LW01, launched Gorovsky Law, LLC, in St. Louis, which represents victims of crime and abuse in civil lawsuits. She previously was a state and federal prosecutor.

Michael N. Fine, LA02, was selected by Louisville Business First for its Forty Under 40 award, which recognizes up-and-comers who share their time and talents in community service. Fine is a partner with Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP, on its health-care service team.

Bryant M. Godfrey, LA02, joined Arnold & Porter, LLP, as counsel in the Washington, D.C., office, where he practices in the life sciences and health-care regulatory area. Previously, he was senior regulatory counsel at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Centers for Drug Evaluation and Research and senior counsel to the deputy commissioner for medical products and tobacco.

Farhan A. Irshad, LA02, moved to Austin, Texas, to join Eye Clinic of Austin as president and medical director. He is a board-certified ophthalmologist and fellowship-trained in cornea and refractive surgery. He and his wife, Farheen, look forward to connecting with classmates in the Austin area.

Andwele Jolly, LA02, PT05, business director at Washington University School of Medicine, was named a 2018 Eisenhower Fellow. Each year, the organization’s USA Program typically awards 20 fellowships to a diverse group of leaders, supporting their customized, immersed international experiences.

Dan Schuller, HS02, is chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center—Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, Transmountain, in El Paso, Texas. Joseph Sheehan, EN02, SI06, and his wife, Maggie, live in University City, Mo. An adjunct instructor at WashU, Sheehan continues to work at Boeing as a senior engineer.

Adam Zuckerman, LA02, LW07, GB07, was named a 2018 Zhi-Xing China Eisenhower Fellow. Fellows spend two and a half weeks pursuing individual projects and exchanging knowledge and ideas with thought leaders throughout China. Zuckerman is director of ventures and innovation at Discovery Communications in Washington, D.C., where he is in charge of identifying, piloting and implementing future technologies.

Sarah (McCarty) Berry, LA03, was promoted to director of catalog and curriculum for the Registrar’s Office at the University of New Orleans. McCarthy was recognized for five years of service to the university in May. She and her husband, Lee, a New Orleans police officer, recently celebrated 12 years of marriage.

Joshua Isaacs, LA03, was named a principal of the law firm SmolenPlevy in Vienna, Va. His practice areas include family law, divorce, support and custody issues. He is president of the Fairfax Law Foundation Board of Directors, which provides law-related education to youth and the community, as well as direct legal assistance to indigent persons and those with special needs.

Jennifer Kokai, GR03, published Swim Pretty: Aquatic Spectacles and the Performance of Race, Gender, and Nature (Southern Illinois University Press, 2017). She was recently promoted to associate professor of theater at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah.

Puneet Leekha, BU03, was named CEO and general counsel at InterWorks, Inc., a firm based in Stillwater.

Kristina Olson, LA03, won the National Science Foundation’s 2018 Alan T. Waterman Award. The annual award is the government’s highest honorary award, given to an early-career scientist or engineer who is age 40 or younger or within 10 years of receiving a PhD. Olson, associate professor of psychology at the University of Washington, runs the Social Cognitive Development Lab at the university and created the TransYouth Project, the nation’s largest longitudinal study of transgender children. As part of the award, Olson received a five-year, $1 million research grant.

Sarah K. Chenault, FA04, was a freelance curator on the exhibition “Axé Bahia: The Power of Art in an Afro-Brazilian Metropolis” at The Fowler Museum, one of three public arts institutions of the School of the Arts and Architecture at UCLA. The former exhibition was part of the Getty Foundation’s major initiative Pacific Standard Time: Los Angeles/Latin America.

William Joyce, LW04, is the mayor of Stillwater, Okla., and general counsel at InterWorks, Inc., a global technology consulting firm based in Stillwater.

Morgan Klein, LA04, and her husband welcomed a son, Matteo, in May 2018.

Puja Leekha, LW04, is vice president, chief compliance officer and corporate counsel at Lundbeck Pharmaceuticals. Previously, she worked 10 years at Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, representing pharma and medical-device companies in product liability. She and her husband reside in Chicago, Ill.

Eric Rovie, GR05, is an English teacher at Brookwood High School in Snellville, Ga. He is also the head coach of the boys’ track-and-field team, one of the largest in the country with 185 members.

Jefferson Stewart, FA05, principal product strategist for
Profile

Monique Williams, MD

Serving with a clear mission

Monique Williams knew from a young age she wanted to be a doctor. Williams’ father was dean of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences in the early 1980s. “All of my babysitters were Washington University pre-med students,” she says. Growing up, Williams engaged her father’s co-workers, talking about current events or new advancements in science.

“My impression of WashU was that it was a positive, nurturing and supportive environment of people who would listen patiently to an 8- or 9-year-old.”

Although she received a full academic scholarship to Johns Hopkins University, Williams decided to attend WashU, in part because of her early experiences with the school.

Williams, AB ’95, MD ’99, MSCI ’08, knew she wanted to study geriatric medicine, thanks to a great-grandmother who lived to be 114. But Williams had studied French ever since she was 7, so she decided to double-major.

“My senior thesis in biology looked at Alzheimer’s and genetics in African-Americans, and my other thesis was in French, looking at Marguerite Duras,” says Williams, in the manner she says everything: rapidly, bubbly and matter-of-factly.

“Duras was a French writer who spent time in Vietnam,” Williams explains. “She wrote about the infrastructures in societies that tend to marginalize women who actively pursue their identities.”

Actively pursue their identities. It’s a phrase fitting for a woman who is a doctor, teacher, lecturer, researcher and advocate.

After graduating from medical school, Williams held many positions, including assistant professor of medicine and psychiatry at WashU; interim chief of the division of geriatrics and palliative medicine and director of geriatric education and outreach at the Garrison Institute on Aging at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center; and medical director for VITAS Healthcare-St. Louis, a hospice. Now, she’s a physician with BJC Medical Group.

Her former-supervisor-turned-colleague calls Williams a triple threat: “She is an excellent clinician; she’s good at teaching; and she still does a bit of research,” says David Carr, MD, the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Distinguished Professor of Geriatric Medicine. “I think she’s got all bases covered.”

It’s not, however, just her academic and clinical talents that make Williams exceptional. “I think she has many strengths. One is her love and passion for older adults. She’s an outstanding clinician, who has an open communication style,” Carr says.

That style suits Williams in the office and in the community, where she focuses on one of her passions: diversity in research.

To do good science in any community, she says, you need a few things, one being context. “If you pick a venue that is not historically or culturally relevant, that can be a problem,” Williams says. So she hosts programs at relevant places, like the now-defunct Phyllis Wheatley Heritage Center. “We’d get everyone to come because it was a location that was relevant for the African-American community,” she says. “Everyone had gone there for a dance at some point.”

The results? Uncovering significant scientific findings about, for example, how a particular gene confers risk of Alzheimer’s disease differently for people who self-report as African-American versus those who self-report as white.

“Advocate” was already one of Williams’ identities at WashU. During summers, she traveled to the National Institutes of Health to do research, but she also worked with her mother teaching study skills to students entering college on athletic scholarships. “I’d say, ‘Yes, you’re going on an athletic scholarship, but you need a Plan B.’ Some went on to get master’s degrees and MBAs,” Williams says.

“My father and mother and grandparents always strongly emphasized the importance of giving back and making sure you’re helping to facilitate and empower future generations,” she explains. Williams still models that lesson, as does her husband, Franklin Stephenson, who is her ardent supporter, attending and assisting with community engagement programs nearly every week. Williams knows the source of her passion for advocacy.

“I always thought, when I was a kid, ‘Everybody serves, and everybody educates.’”

— Brandie Jefferson is a senior news director at the university.
Foundational, designs and produces mobile video games and apps.

Amber Rachelle (Standridge) Beckman, LW06, and her husband have two children, Eelyn and Johann. Before starting her family, Beckman worked eight years as a trial attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division, which recognized her with its 2012 Distinguished Service Award for her work on the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act portion of the National Mortgage Settlement.

David Brenner, BU06, EN06, was pleased to welcome several WashU classmates at his wedding to Jenny Merkin in May 2018. The couple resides in Manhattan, where David works at JP Morgan in risk-management technology and Jenny is a clinical psychologist finishing a fellowship at Mount Sinai St. Luke’s Hospital.

Lauren (Miller) Hoye, SW06, an attorney with Willig, Williams & Davidson, was named a 2018 Pennsylvania Rising Star for the fifth consecutive year. She represents labor unions and individual employees before state and federal courts and in arbitrations and negotiations.

Sarah (Baker) Painter, BU06, was promoted to head of search engine optimization at Merkle, Inc., in the United Kingdom. With her husband and daughter, Painter relocated to London, England, for the new position.

Victoria (Coppard) Bouchard, LA07, and her husband, Jesse, joyfully welcomed their first child, Owen Michael, in April 2017. The family resides in Boca Raton, Fla.

Maria (Higuerey-Birgisson) O’Hollearn, GB07, is regional director for Rocketship Schools, responsible for building business relationships with parents, community-based organizations and government officials. Previously, she was with the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley, where she helped more than 3,000 young people on a path to college.

Sally Preminger, LA07, assistant vice president of Next Gen Initiatives for Chicago’s Jewish United Fund, was named a Next Gen Jewish Federation Fellow. As a fellow, she will be involved in a 18-month program to support and grow the next generation of leaders in Jewish communities across the country.

Mario Treto Jr., LA07, was named a 2018 Top Lawyer Under 40 by the Hispanic National Bar Association and was included in its 2018 Class of 40 Top Latino Leaders Under 40 by the Hispanic business publication Negocios Now.

Justin Wilke, EN07, SI07, and his wife, Holly, along with siblings Claire and Logan, welcomed a fifth family member, Lauren, in February 2018.

Dennis Vega, LW08, was named chief operating officer of America’s Promise Alliance, the nation’s largest network dedicated to improving the lives of children and youth. Vega has spent more than a decade in policy development, international and domestic affairs, strategic and organizational planning, and resource mobilization and allocation.

Ian Weaver, GF08, was an artist in residence at Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts in Omaha, Neb., from May through August 2018. During his residency, he continued work on his “Black Bottom” project, using still, motion and collaged film, and experimenting with projecting large-scale drawings, relief prints and collages.

Andia Augustin-Billy, GR09, GR15, GR15, was a 2018 recipient of Mount Canaan Baptist Church’s Black History Award, which honors the Rev. Harry Blake, a longtime pastor and prominent figure in the civil rights movement in Shreveport, La. Augustin-Billy is an assistant professor of French and francophone studies at Centenary College of Louisiana.

David McCormick, EMBA09, retired in June 2018 from Pfizer, where he was director of business strategy and operations.

Lucia Moore, LA10, left the publishing industry to pursue a master’s degree in marriage and family therapy at the Wright Institute in Berkeley, Calif., specializing in LGBTQ+ populations and couples therapy.

Meghan Spriggs, GM11, is a clinical faculty member at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), where she teaches graduate courses to audiology students in the UCSD/San Diego State University Joint Doctoral Program in Audiology. Her clinical practice focuses on evaluation and treatment of adults with hearing loss.

Tazeen Ali, GR12, was selected by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation as a 2018 Dissertation Fellow in Women’s Studies at Boston University. The fellowship supports the final year of dissertation writing for doctoral candidates in the humanities and social sciences whose work addresses women’s and gender issues in interdisciplinary and original ways.

Emily C. Burns, GR12, assistant professor of art history at Auburn University, published Transnational Frontiers: The American West in France (University of Oklahoma Press, 2018). The book examines how American artists, writers and tourists traveling to France exported their work to France, and the promise of superior literary work to come. Laurentiis is the inaugural fellow in creative writing at the Center for African American Poetry and Poetics at the University of Pittsburgh.

Cary Simowitz, LA13, LW16, participated in the 13th Annual MFA Playwrights’ Workshop in July 2018 at the invitation of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. He and the four other students selected from graduate programs around the country were each paired with a professional director, a dramaturg and several Washington, D.C.–based artists during the eight-day workshop. Simowitz is pursuing an MFA degree in playwriting at UCLA.

Matthew Bishop, LA14, is working toward a doctorate in noble gas geochemistry at the University of California, Davis.

Yasemin Kuyumcu, EN14, joined Mixer, a video game–streaming platform, as a program manager in the Xbox team at Microsoft. She returned to the U.S. after working for a year with The Coalition game studio in Vancouver, British Columbia.
Raising natural leaders

Growing up, Stephen Lockhart, MD, AB ’77, was struck by his mother’s deep interest in helping others achieve four-year degrees.

“Back then, she spent her life tirelessly teaching and getting babysitters and helping the students,” he notes about his mother, who was a mathematician with a graduate degree in urban planning from Washington University. Yet she was not able to find a suitable job in urban planning or mathematics until well into the 1970s, which made an impression on him, too.

It’s no accident, he says, that he is involved in promoting education now. An avid climber and backpacker, Lockhart was named a Champion of Change by the White House in 2014 for his work supporting environmental education. He says he and others in such outdoors roles (such as friend Sally Jewell, 51st secretary of the interior) aim to create tomorrow’s conservation leaders.

Having learned about nature himself in a segregated Boy Scout troop in the St. Louis area, Lockhart noted in a talk at CleanMed 2017 (a national conference of health-care leaders in sustainability) that in the woods, “all those taboos and prohibitions and limitations that exist in our society simply didn’t exist in the outdoors. I found the outdoors to be invigorating, liberating and educational.”

Lockhart also works daily in science as an anesthesiologist and chief medical officer at California-based not-for-profit health-care system Sutter Health. His passion in promoting education in environmental science and introducing national parks to an increasingly diverse population shows up in his board memberships in cooperative outdoor retailer REI, the California-based organization NatureBridge, and prior membership in the National Parks Second Century Commission — a group of leaders and experts who convened in 2009, developed recommendations for the park service’s second century and presented findings to Congress, the Obama Administration and the American people.

With NatureBridge, he is involved with an organization that leads children on trips into six national parks, and it has exposed more than a million kids to environmental science since its founding in 1971. With such work, Lockhart says he aims to develop children’s critical thinking and “stop the degradation of science.” Along the way, outdoors leaders are created, he adds: One NatureBridge alum is the superintendent of Yosemite; and in the recent, hotly contested lawsuit over whether to dam the Merced River outside Yosemite, people on both sides of the lawsuit were former NatureBridge students. “We’re not telling them what to think; we’re asking them to know the issues, so they can talk about them,” Lockhart emphasizes.

With his mother’s interest in promoting knowledge still strong in his memory, he also supports scholarships for Washington University students. When his mother passed away in 1999, he says “it felt like the right thing to do” to fund an endowed scholarship in her name — Josephine Lockhart — to help students at Washington University, which she loved. Being a grad himself made that choice easy, too, he explains.

A strong humanities education at Washington University helped lead Lockhart toward the Rhodes Scholarship he received in 1977, he says. As someone who “studied a lot of medieval German courses, weird stuff that fascinated me,” and who eventually left for Oxford University to study for a master’s in economics, Lockhart says there is value in studying the arts and sciences as an undergraduate. “You meet lots of people doing many interesting things,” he says. “They become your friends, and your life is enriched by knowing people who study other areas.” That helped prepare him for conversations and hangouts at Oxford, where three of his economics professors later earned Nobel Prizes.

As the parent of a senior in high school, he passes on that recommendation to his daughter, telling her arts and sciences “is the place to start.” He thinks humanities make a person “better able to read the newspaper and understand what’s happening in the world. It makes you better-developed as you go into adulthood. ‘What is sociology?’ you might say randomly. ‘Let me take that and find out.’ The opportunities are so great.”

— Catherine Arnold is a freelance education journalist.
Brittany (Parker) Lenze, PMBA14, and her husband relocated to the San Francisco Bay area and are enjoying their new home and explorations. She is a senior analyst in transactions management with JLL. Jordan Rettig, LA14, is a senior associate in office services at Capital Group in Los Angeles. He is also working toward an MBA at USC Marshall School of Business. Kirsten Brown, SW15, is program manager for the Working to Institutionalize Sex Education initiative, an effort to support school districts in adopting and implementing comprehensive sex education (CSE) programs that are research informed, medically accurate and age appropriate. Brown provides technical assistance on state and local CSE policy, program implementation and staff training in Iowa and western Illinois.

Yuru Ding, LA15, is in the landscape architecture program at Harvard Graduate School of Design. Rohan Marfatia, PMBA15, is vice president of U.S. sales at Popcorn Apps, a technology company that is a provider of mobile, cloud, social and web solutions enabling enterprises to provide a unified customer experience across all channels.

Mia Perlman, LA15, completed a master’s degree in social work at Boston College and is an in-home therapy clinician with Wayside Youth & Family Support Network in Boston. Sydney Tonsfeldt, LW15, joined the New York office of Leader Berkon Colao & Silverstein, a law firm specializing in commercial litigation and arbitration.

John Felix, BU16, joined Edgehill Endowment Partners, an outsourced chief investment firm based in New Haven, Conn., as a senior investment analyst. Previously, he was with Washington University Investment Management Company. Megan Freiler, LA16, is pursuing a doctorate in evolution, ecology and behavior at Indiana University.

Eric Moraczewski, EMBA16, executive director of the Gateway Arch Park Foundation, helped lead the success of the $380 million CityArchiRiver project in St. Louis. That resulted in a reimagined museum, a revitalized Mississippi riverfront and renovated park grounds around the Gateway Arch. The grand reopening of the Arch took place in July 2018.

Gemma Baugh, LA17, is a research staff member in the Early Emotional Development Program at Washington University School of Medicine. She coordinates new research studies, administers diagnostic interviews and assists with MRIs and EEGs. Baugh hopes to pursue a master’s degree in social work and become a clinical social worker. Gregory Tucker, GL17, has his own firm, G.A. Tucker P.I., Investigations LLC, in Murrieta, Calif.

Joseph Woodson, EN17, SI17, a software engineer at Google, is grateful that WashU’s computer science program prepared him so well for career success. Linde Parcells, SW18, is a Presidential Management Fellow and health scientist in policy and issues management at the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control in Atlanta.

In Memoriam

1940s

Lucien A. Horowit, EN40; Aug. ’18 • Bill A. Frank, BU42; July ’18 • Robert K. Royce, MD42, HS49; May ’18 • Henry L. Seifert, BU42, LW43; June ’18 • Joseph L. Tucker, LA42, LW42; July ’18 • Sherrill Friedman, BU43, LW43; May ’18 • Bill Gonterman, LA43; May ’18 • Caroline (Choate) Rees, LA43; June ’18 • Nathan Kesseler, EN44, SI44; Aug. ’18 • Madge (Henry) Carter, BU45; May ’18 • John C. Herweg, MD45; April ’18 • Marian (Morris) Matson, FA45; July ’18 • Richard Bell, DE46; July ’18 • Milton M. Voda, DE46; Aug. ’18 • Martha (Laudeman) Benedict, OT47; June ’18 • Meryl (Moehlman) Berry, LA47; June ’18 • Eleanor (Pattiz) Gellman, BU47; Aug. ’18 • Virginia (Frech) Krebs, NU47; July ’18 • Loretta (Urban) Lakinger, UC47; July ’18 • Wing Leong, EN47, SI 59; July ’18 • Richard C. Lyon, DE47; April ’18 • Julian B. Mathes, BU47; June ’18 • William C. Schiller, BU47; May ’18 • William P. Schorr, LA47; Aug. ’18 • Paul T. Berry, MD48; Aug. ’18 • Laura (Roschke) Claassen, LA48; May ’18 • Robert P. Gibb, MD48; July ’18 • Virginia P. Hagemann, NU48; July ’18 • Allen E. Jants, EN48; May ’18 • Elfred H. Lampe, MD48; Aug. ’18 • David G. Lupo, BU48, LW 51; Aug. ’18 • Julia (Moffet) Moseley, LA48; April ’18 • Mary D. Rootes, GR48, GR52; April ’18 • Ruth (Portman) Steele, OT48; Aug. ’18 • John F. Susek, EN48; April ’18 • Robert D. Uthoff, EN48; April ’18 • Laura (Thompson) Cook, LA49; May ’18 • Edward E. Elder, MD49; Aug. ’18 • Frederick L. Goebel, BU49; April ’18 • Jacob Hoffman, EN49; May ’18 • Lynn R. Kinneman, EN49; May ’18 • Doris (Giebel) Long, LA49; May ’18 • Richard F. Muth, LA49, GR50; April ’18 • Bryan C. Ringo, LA49; June ’18 • Betty (Schrumpf) Roberts, FA49; July ’18 • Donald M. Rowland, LA49; April ’18 • Fred H. Smith, EN49; April ’18 • Richard L. Swarn, LA49, MD 50; June ’18 • C. Robert Wells, GR49; April ’18 • David B. White, LA49; May ’18 • Theodore R. Karros, LA50; April ’18 • Eugene F. Kluge, BU50; July ’18 • Jay M. Lapin, EN50; June ’18 • Ralph H. Lilenkamp, LA50; May ’18 • Daniel B. Lowrey, MD50; June ’18 • Edward P. Merryman, LA50, UC52, GR56; June ’18 • Robert B. Nevins, LA50; June ’18 • Thomas F. Ostertag, BU50; June ’18 • Nelson A. Reed, FA50; July ’18 • Frank J. Schwermin, BU50, HA52; Aug. ’18 • Seward L. Van Petten, UC50; April ’18 • Laura (Nystrom) Vann, OT50; June ’18 • Gloria (Glomski) Wolf, LA50; April ’18 • Aline (Winetroub) Feldman, FA51; June ’18 • William G. Ferguson, LA 51; May ’18 • Warren F. Kaiser, BU51; May ’18 • Sol Kaufman, LA51; April ’18 • Betty (Beard) Maag, LA51; May ’18 • Frederick H. Mayer, LW 51; June ’18 • Alan H. Siegerist, EN51; April ’18 • Walter J. Taylor, LW51, BU51; July ’18 • Milton M. Toffe, LA51, DE55; Aug. ’18 • John D. Van Nest, LA51; June ’18 • Frank E. Vanderwal, EN51; May ’18 • Gerard H. Berndsen, MD52; April ’18 • Robert W. Cotterman, EN52; April ’18 • Beverly (Clarke) Hubbell, LA52; March ’18 • Donald B. Kramer, LW52; May ’18 • Thomas B. McMurtrey, BU52; May ’18 • Robert E. Miles, GR52;
My name: Bill Siedhoff, UC '68, SW '73

Childhood Dream: Playing second base for the St. Louis Cardinals. Red Schoendienst was my hero!

Favorite WU memory: Campus unrest was rampant in the 60s, but I gained a lifelong passion for helping others, an interest in public affairs and active engagement in the political process.

First Job: Soda jerk at a corner ice cream store in North St. Louis.

Soundtrack: "Graceland," Paul Simon

Favorite Honors: 2006 Brown School Distinguished Alumni Award and 2009 Berry and Bob Virgil Ethnic of Service Award from Wash U.

I am a Brookings Partner because: Having spent my entire career as a director in public service, I recognize the value of advanced education for those in senior-level positions. I tailored my scholarship to those seeking a similar experience in the public sector.

Bill Siedhoff, UC '68, SW '73

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May '18 • Arthur F. Niemoeller, EN52, SI65, SI61; Aug. '18
• Richard E. Orgel, EN52; Aug. '18
• Ruth L. Rosen, SW52; Aug. '18
• Thelma (Lending) Schrier, LA52, GR68; June '18 • Stephen L. Washburn, MD52; June '18
• Dorothy (Brandhorst) Zelle, SW52; Aug. '18 • Ibrahim H. Adawi, EN53; April '18 • Mary (Cable) Cannon, LA53; June '18
• Betty (Brinkman) English, LA53; April '18 • Raymond C. Hase, EN53; April '18 • Josephine A. Jones, NU53, GN58; April '18
• Muriel (Kreiling) MacKallor, OT53; April '18 • Leonard B. Rich, EN53; June '18 • Charles G. Sain, EN 53; April '18 • Eddie Basler Jr., GR54; Aug. '17 • Vernon W. Brumbaugh, SI54; Aug. '18
• James C. Griffin, MD54, Aug. '18
• Shirley (Kabele) Johnson, LA54; July '18 • David A. Librach, EN54, UC75; May '18 • Elizabeth (Smith) North, UC54, GR57; April '18
• Bernice Radman, LA54; June '18 • Paul D. Tinnin, DE54; July '18
• John I. Davis, MD55; April '18
• John C. English, LA55; April '18
• Robert C. Jaudes, EN55; May '18
• Lee L. Johnson, MD, LA55; Nov. '17 • Eleanor (Rickensolh) Kaiser, LA55; July '17 • Klaus H. Kettentidt, AR55; Aug. '18 • Henry W. Klein, BU55; May '18 • Dorothy (Maher) Macke, LA55; July '18
• Jane (Coleman) Monaghan, LA55; April '18 • Ted J. Moore, EN55; April '18 • Morris Reichlin, LA55, MD59; July '18 • Joseph Sanker, DE55; April '18 • Willis G. Swanson, SW55; July '18
• Kenneth A. Augustin, EN56; Aug. '18 • Edgar L. Bland, BU56; May '18 • Barney A. Ebsworth, BU56; April '18 • William H. Grundmann, EN56; July '18 • Susan (Greer) Hudnut, LA56; May '18 • Henry J. Kaltenhailer, GR56; May '18
• Donald A. Banashek, EN57; April '18 • Tom W. Day, GR57; May '18
• David J. Edwards, MD57; July '18 • Donald E. Gruner, EN57; Aug. '18 • John O. Hollosy, MD57; July '18 • John A. Mulach, LA57, GR60; Aug. '18 • Reton W. Spotts, DE57, Aug. '18 • Wade Dewoskin, UC58; April '18 • Beatrice Holland, LA58, UC64; April '18 • James F. Jennings, EN58; April '18
• Kenneth Miles, BU58; May '18 • Raymond A. Ritter, LA58, MD62, HS67; May '18 • Sheldon M. Sherman, EN58, SI66; June '18
• Burton H. Shostak, LA58, LW60; April '18 • Robert G. Smith, EN58; Aug. '18 • Eldone H. Truex, GB58; Aug. '18 • Robert D. Albright, LW59, LA59; Aug. '18 • Edward D. Betlach, EN59; July '18 • Dolores (Glogau) Chambers, SW59; April '18 • William H. Chitty, EN59; June '18 • Rachel Gaither, PT59; Aug. '18 • Charles J. Krill, EN59; Aug. '18 • Harry J. Lenzen, GB59; June '18 • Paul A. Marsal, GB59; July '18 • Charles M. Polk, LA59; Aug. '18 • Albert L. Reinsch, LA59, GR62, GR77; April '18 • John R. Schneider, EN59; June '18
• Gordon R. Wood, EN59; Aug. '18

1960s
Donald P. Berra, EN60; June '18 • Ronald E. Cook, LA60, GB63; Aug. '18 • Susan (Gruetzemacher) Hohmann, FA60; June '18 • John W. Patton, LA60, UC77, UC78; April '18 • Thomas M. Singer, LA60, LW60; April '18 • David F. Ward, BU60; Aug. '18 • Richard Wiedemann, AR60; Aug. '18
• Nicholas V. Beulick, EN61; July '18 • Marion R. Delfert, UC61; April '18 • Roy N. Gerdel, UC61; June '18 • Donald W. Gerth, GB61; April '18 • R. Craig Jerner, EN61, SI62; April '18 • Margot (Weder) Manheimer, FA61; Aug. '18 • Cleveland M. McCarty, DE61; July '18 • John R. Mountjoy, LA61; April '18 • Clarence J. Schaefer, UC61; May '18 • Eleanor (Mathes) Waltuch, LA61, GR65; May '18
• Charlotte (Green) Benson, LA62; Aug. '18 • Sjoerd A. Kiers, SW62; July '18 • Kevin P. McGinnis, UC62; Aug. '18 • Marion (Suttner) Murphy, UC62; June '18 • Sara (Raskas) Myers, LA62; Aug. '18 • Richard E. Schwartz, LA62, LW65; May '18 • David C. Taylor, LA62; June '18 • Subir K. Bose, GR63; July '18 • Barrett W. Dick, MD63; Aug. '18 • Walter H. Kuhlmann, EN63; Aug. '18 • Clarence J. Sands, HS63; July '18 • Charles J. Slade, EN63; June '18 • Robert E. Smith, DE 63; June '18 • Orlo D. Summers, UC63; July '18 • Leon Burke, UC64; June '18 • Glenn A. Campbell, GR64; Aug. '18 • Jimmie H. Close, LA64, BG66; Aug. '17 • Donald Dorsey, BU64; May '18 • Darlene A. Fesser, NU64, GN66; July '18 • Eleanor (Webber) Fleen, UC64; June '18 • Alfred H. Knebel, SI64; July '18 • Seena B. Kohl, GR64, GR69; June '18 • Robert Porter, UC64; April '18 • Gerald R. Weiss, EN64; April '18 • John R. Jones, LA65; Aug. '18 • David P. Krajcovic, LA65, MD69; May '18 • Ralph S. Long, GR65; May '18 • John O. Monick, LA65; June '18 • Helen L. (Hays) Norman, LA65, GR70; July '18 • Maxine (Kessler) Rubin, UC65; July '18 • John R. Schaeffer, UC65, UC66; July '18 • George R. Schilling, SI65; Aug. '18 • Terry D. Schwartz, LA65; April '18 • Phyllis (Roberts) Staplin, GR65; June '18 • Ronald A. Williamson, EN65, SI67; May '18 • John M. Winecoff, LA65, GR68; Aug. '18 • Richard M. Arnold, EN66, SI68, SI70; April '18 • Joyce E. Barnes, UC66; May '18 • Richard G. Busse, UC66; June '18 • Margaret T. Evans, GR66; June '18 • Harvey L. Heintz, LA66, AG68; '18 • Steven Levitt, LA66, DE70; June '18 • George F. Schneider, TI66; Aug. '18 • Gordon F. Webb, LW66; May '18 • Virgil A. Wiesner, UC66; May '18 • Raymond G. Ashley, UC67; July '18 • Bob M. Balk, BU67; June '18 • Chester H. Hemme, AR67, GA69; April '18 • Robert C. Landes, GR67; May '18 • Herbert P. Cheesman, UC68; July '18 • Michael E. Emick, AR68, GA 70; July '18 • Joseph M. Grindon, AR68; Aug. '18 • Thomas W. Hoeber, EN68, SI70; April '18 • James G. Leathers, GL68; June '18 • James B. Nelson, SI68; June '18 • Harold W. Brunner, TI69; April '18 • Charlotte A. Thomas, UC69, UC76; June '18

1970s
Robert P. Lammert, UC70; April '18 • Patrick K. Miehe, LA70; June '18 • Christine E. Rasche, GR70, GR72; June '18 • Gerald L. Wilkes, GR70; June '18 • Noha Applebaum, GR71, GR74; July '18 • Clinton N. Corder, MD71; April '18 • Marlo D. Davis, LA71; May '18 • Edward F. Klinger, LW71; July '18 • Peter V. Buckert, EN72; May '18 • Viola (Williams) Butler, UC72, UC78; July '18 • Monika Franzen, GR72, GR79; June '18 • Robert W. Miller, LA72; May '18 • Pamela J. Rasp, LA72; July '18 • Thomas O. Waelterman, UC72; June '18 • Weston E. Whatcott, SW72; July '18 • Charlene S. Bry, LA73, GR13; July '18 • Randall B. Kopf, LA73, LW76; June '18 • William G. Lawyer, UC73; June '18 • Victor D. Phillips, GR73, April '18 • Rodnye B. Smyth, GA73; April '18 • Mishell J. Stucki, SI73; June '18 • Robert J. Berney, BU74, GB76; July '18 • Richard C. Knoff, SI74; June '18 • Robert V. Rouse, MD74; July '18 • Luis A. Serron, GR74; June '18 • Richard D. Stopher, SW74; Aug. '18 • Thomas J. Theis, HA74; June '18 • Michael O. Williams, MD74; Aug. '18 • Darlene Oyster, LA75, HS95;
In Remembrance

Joseph J. Billadello

Joseph J. Billadello, MD, professor of medicine and director of the Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center at the School of Medicine, died Aug. 8, 2018. He was 65.

Billadello initially came to Washington University in 1981 as a cardiology fellow and later joined the faculty. He held several leadership positions over the years in organizations focused on providing care for individuals born with heart defects who survive into adulthood and require specialized care.

Jared P. Crane

Jared P. Crane, a senior studying architecture in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, died May 20, 2018, following a two-year battle with cancer. He was 22.

Crane regularly volunteered for Food Roof Farm at Urban Harvest STL. He also developed STEAM-related projects for the students at Brittany Woods Middle School in University City, Mo. Crane went abroad to Florence, Italy, with the Sam Fox School’s semester abroad program, and he helped build Spectroplexus, a public art project that is on view at St. Louis Lambert International Airport.

John O. Holloszy

John O. Holloszy, MD ’57, an alumnus and former faculty member of the School of Medicine, died July 18, 2018. He was 85.

During his tenure at the School of Medicine, Holloszy held many leadership positions, including director of the school’s Division of Applied Physiology in the Department of Preventive Medicine and director of the Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology.

Holloszy’s research focused on aerobic exercise, nutrition and muscle development. It impacted how elite athletes train and helped people better cope with common issues including heart disease, diabetes, obesity and aging.

Peter Riesenberg

Peter Riesenberg, professor emeritus of history in Arts & Sciences, died May 14, 2018. He was 92.

Riesenberg was a faculty member at Washington University from 1960 until his retirement in 1993. Riesenberg also served in university leadership as the first faculty member to sit on the Board of Trustees.

Students knew Riesenberg as the evening host of WU Radio, where he had worked since 1965. He also served as a director of the Tyson Research Center from 1966 until 1969 and regularly brought students from all backgrounds to the grounds, not just those specializing in ecology, out to Tyson.

Victoria Witte

Victoria Witte, a 22-year veteran of Washington University Libraries, died Aug. 8, 2018. She was 83.

Witte worked for University Libraries from 1979 until she retired in June 2001. At the time, she was assistant dean and had been integral to the redevelopment of Olin Library.

Zishan Zhao

Zishan Zhao, a rising junior in the College of Arts & Sciences, died June 2, 2018, after being hit by a car. He was 19.

Originally from Guangdong, Longgang District in Shenzhen, China, Zhao was majoring in biochemistry with a minor in writing. Zhao was even working on a novel. Laura Sandoval-Sweeney, Zhao’s residential college director on the South 40, said he possessed an openness and “sweet energy.”
FROM VISION TO IMPACT

Inspiring Innovation
Driving innovation and entrepreneurship at the university and throughout the St. Louis region was one of the high priorities of the university’s strategic plan, Plan for Excellence, and Leading Together campaign. This vision is becoming a reality in many ways, and one of the most visible is the Cortex Innovation Community. Formed in 2002 by Washington University and collaborating institutions — BJC HealthCare, the Missouri Botanical Garden, Saint Louis University and University of Missouri-St. Louis — Cortex is a flourishing bioscience and technology hub in Midtown that now hosts more than 350 startups and resident companies, including Wexford Science and Technology, Square, Microsoft, Mastercard, Google and Accenture. (Photo: James Byard)
A Fitting Tribute

For 44 years, David Blasingame (center), AB ’69, MBA ’71, has advanced development efforts and been integral to achieving the university’s strategic goals. At a dinner for trustees and national council members Dec. 6, 2018, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton and Life Trustee John McDonnell surprised him with two honors: an endowed scholarship and endowed professorship in his name. Blasingame, a scholarship recipient himself, committed his career to making education more affordable and accessible and to recruiting and retaining exceptional faculty. The David T. Blasingame Scholarship, created by McDonnell, and the David T. Blasingame Professorship, endowed by the university, will continue that legacy.