

Washington

SPRING 2018



A FAMILY OF LEADERS

In fall 2017, both Jasmine Brown (left) and Camille Borders were named Rhodes Scholars. The two distinguished students are also Ervin Scholars, who helped celebrate, along with more than 500 students, alumni, family and friends, the prestigious program's 30th anniversary, its legacy and the impact Ervin alumni have had on the world.



COVER STORY: Celebrating the Ervin Scholars Program's 30th anniversary, alumni and current scholars — such as juniors Le'Aysha Pearson (left) and Tyler James — participated in an Assembly Series panel discussion, a picnic in the Quad, a recognition dinner and more, pg. 18. (Cover photo and above photo: Joe Angeles)

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In the midst of what scientists consider to be a sixth mass extinction event, Washington University is joining forces with the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo to collaborate on life-saving research and conservation efforts.

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In 2017, the Ervin Scholars Program celebrated its 30th anniversary. Known for its supportive, family-like atmosphere, the prestigious program continues to cultivate students who both excel academically and have a deep commitment to improving the world.

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One of the many skilled artisans behind the enchanting visuals in Pixar movies is alumnus Chris Bernardi. On the Oscar Award-winning *Coco*, Bernardi served as set supervisor, leading a team of designers who beautifully bring to life a boy's dream against the backdrop of Mexico's Day of the Dead.

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Evolutionary biologist Jonathan Losos, the inaugural William H. Danforth Professor, has returned to Washington University to lead the Living Earth Collaborative. In the new academic center, Losos is bringing together researchers from Washington University, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo in research and conservation efforts, pg. 12.

James Byard



Alumnus Chris Bernardi was pushed as an artist and coder when he served as set supervisor on *Coco*, Pixar's latest award-winning animated movie, pg. 26.

Courtesy Pixar Animation Studios

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Daniel Delgado

Steven Collins, AB '93, is one of the founders of MATTER, an incubator for health-care startups in Chicago, pg. 45.

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The Office of Public Affairs publishes print versions of *Washington* magazine three times a year: spring, summer and fall/winter; the digital edition can be found at magazine.wustl.edu. Unless otherwise noted, articles may be reprinted without permission — as long as they are not edited or revised — with appropriate credit given to "*Washington*, the magazine for Washington University in St. Louis."

Partnering for global impact

“We recognize ... that one institution alone cannot solve all the complex problems facing society today. Therefore, we look for ways to partner with other leading institutions and organizations ... in addressing these major challenges.”

— Mark S. Wrighton

Mark Kazman



At Washington University, one of our primary goals as an institution is to be engaged in making positive change in our home community as well as in the nation and around the world. We recognize, however, that one institution alone cannot solve all the complex problems facing society today.

Therefore, we look for ways to partner with other leading institutions and organizations, whether close to home or hundreds of miles away, in addressing these major challenges.

Take energy and the environment, for example. In December 2017 and January 2018, a group of Washington University thought leaders traveled to New Delhi, India, and Taipei, Taiwan, to host daylong forums to engage our international partners in advancing solutions to the environmental challenges posed by our energy choices.

The forums — “Energy Choices and Their Impact on the Environment, Agriculture and Public Health” — allowed us the opportunity to meet with our McDonnell International Scholars Academy partner universities as well as corporate leaders and governmental officials. Together, we are committed to finding collaborative, creative solutions to the far-reaching global problems caused by our energy choices, especially their impacts on the air we breathe, the water we drink and the food we eat. (See “First Look” images on facing page.)

Experts at the forums discussed the following: how advances in technology, such as AI, big data and satellite monitoring, will be key to better understanding and mitigating the issue of poor air quality; how poor air quality and poor water quality negatively impact public health; and how the increases in agricultural production needed to feed a growing population cause negative impacts to the environment.

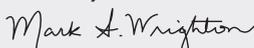
“As the human population grows, agricultural production needs to increase, providing ample harvests of nutritious food,” said Barbara Schaal, dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences, during her keynote presentation. “At the same time, there is a global movement to reduce the environmental effects of agriculture, reducing the use of agrochemicals and water. The expectation is that all of this will occur in the face of a changing climate. A combination of research, university and industry partnerships, and government policy can ensure that we meet these challenges.”

Combining our university with other leading institutions is also the model being used to form Washington University’s newest academic center, the Living Earth Collaborative. Last fall, we recruited renowned evolutionary biologist Jonathan Losos back to WashU from Harvard University to direct the collaborative, which will bring together leading biodiversity researchers from Washington University, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo. The collaborative will serve as a hub for research and conservation efforts to help create a more sustainable future for people, plants and animals on Earth. For more, see pg. 12.

A desire to improve the world is also exemplified by our students. Ervin Scholars, for example, are known for their deep commitment to the community. See our feature on pg. 18 for more on the Ervin Scholars Program. Of special note, two current Ervins (see cover) recently won the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship. I’d like to extend my congratulations to Mimi Borders and Jasmine Brown on this very special achievement.

I hope you enjoy these stories and more in this issue. I also invite you to visit the Source at source.wustl.edu for more news of today’s discoveries and activities.

Thank you for your ongoing interest and support.

Sincerely,

 Mark S. Wrighton
 Chancellor



Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton engages a participant during the "Energy Choices and Their Impact on the Environment, Agriculture and Public Health" forum in Taipei, Taiwan.



Pratim Biswas, chair of the Department of Energy, Environmental & Chemical Engineering at WashU's School of Engineering & Applied Science, served as a forum keynote speaker.



Attendees and panelists from WashU's McDonnell International Scholars Academy partner institutions explored energy choice issues.



Barbara Schaal, dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences, another WashU leader serving as a forum keynote speaker, discussed the impact of energy choices on agriculture.



The goal of the Taipei forum and the forum in New Delhi was to engage partners in advancing solutions for the environmental challenges posed by energy choices.



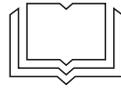
Professor Biswas (right) stated that advances in aerosol science and technology are key to developing approaches to resolve the adverse impacts of energy choices on air quality.



Dean Schaal (left) led a panel discussion to further examine specific problems related to energy sources and agriculture as well as to identify possible solutions.



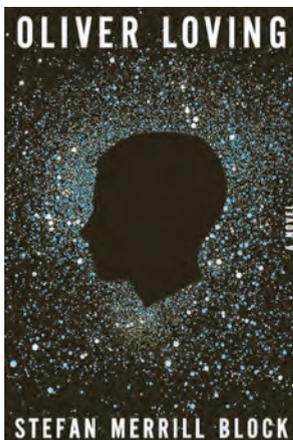
William Powderly, MD, the Larry J. Shapiro Director of the Institute for Public Health at WashU, was the keynote speaker on the topic of energy choices and public health.



Must-reads

Find out how the FBI spied on James Baldwin, how old America's cultural divide really is, how folk art is being preserved in America and much more in this latest selection of faculty and alumni books.

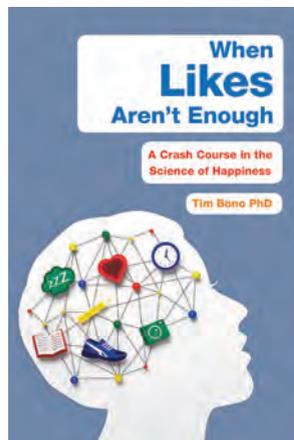
Explore more books by our faculty and alumni at bookshelf.wustl.edu.



Stefan Merrill Block

Oliver Loving

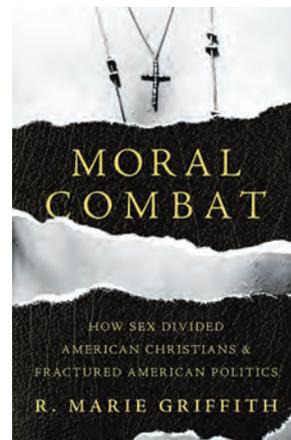
In his third novel, *Oliver Loving*, Stefan Merrill Block, AB '04, writes about a town and family dealing with tragedy and hope in the aftermath of a school shooting. The novel centers on the family of one victim, Oliver Loving, who was left paralyzed and wordless after the shooting. Ten years on, his family is in turmoil: His mother compulsively shoplifts, his father drinks, his brother has fled. A new MRI offers the family hope and may unlock the mystery of what really happened that fated day.



Tim Bono

When Likes Aren't Enough: A Crash Course in the Science of Happiness

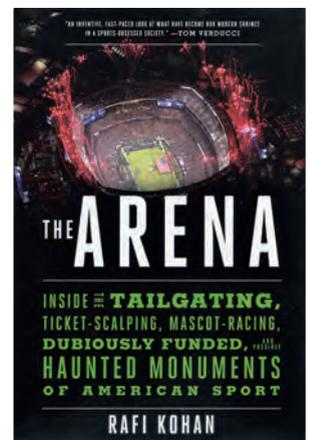
Tim Bono, AB '05, MA '08, PhD '11, lecturer in psychological and brain sciences, distills his popular class, "The Psychology of Young Adulthood," into a book. *When Likes Aren't Enough* deals with conundrums familiar to many young people today, such as helicopter parents, college rejection letters, Instagram envy and high-stakes testing. Here, he offers strategies to survive it all and lead a happier, more fulfilling life in our ultra-connected world.



R. Marie Griffith

Moral Combat: How Sex Divided American Christians and Fractured American Politics

R. Marie Griffith, the John C. Danforth Distinguished Professor and director of the Danforth Center on Religion and Politics, argues in her latest book that America's cultural divide on abortion, sexual identity and other issues isn't rooted in the 1960s, but in the 1920s when American liberal Protestants broke with the Catholic and fundamentalist consensus on abortion, sex education, obscenity and more.



Rafi Kohan

The Arena: Inside the Tailgating, Ticket-Scalping, Mascot-Racing, Dubiously Funded, and Possibly Haunted Monuments of American Sport

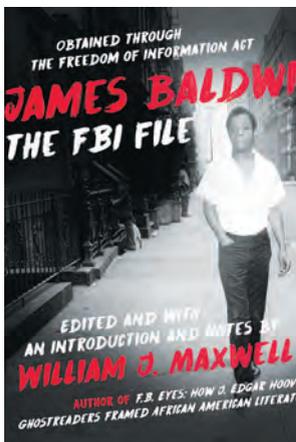
In his new book, *The Arena*, Rafi Kohan, AB '05, doesn't overlook a single aspect of life in and around America's shrines to sport: arenas and stadiums. Kohan explains what AstroTurf is made of, how jet flyovers happen and how pregame tailgates are kept in line. Plus, Kohan looks at how these behemoth structures are built and funded and how they shape a community.



Barry Bergey; photographs by Tom Pich

Folk Masters: A Portrait of America

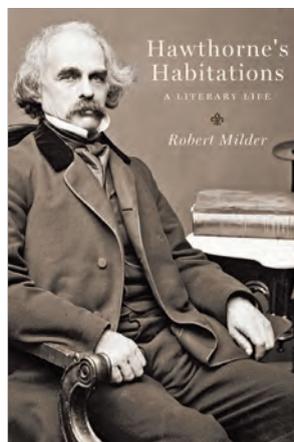
Barry Bergey, MA '68, retired director of Folk and Traditional Arts at the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), shares the story of many of the NEA's National Heritage Fellowship winners. The fellowship recognizes artists whose "work contributes to the nation's traditional arts heritage." Coupled with Tom Pich's beautiful portraits of the artists, the book both honors folk artists and helps to preserve the traditions that they strive to keep alive and pass on to future generations.



EDITED BY
William J. Maxwell

James Baldwin: The FBI File

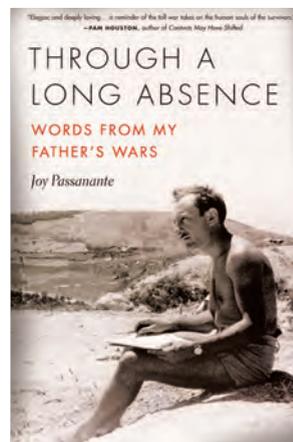
From 1958 to 1974, J. Edgar Hoover's FBI compiled a huge file — more than 1,800 pages — on writer James Baldwin. It was the largest file on any African-American artist of the Civil Rights era. Here, William J. Maxwell, professor of English and African and African-American studies, shares many of these once-secret documents that track Baldwin's writings, phone calls and sex life. The documents also show Baldwin's efforts to spy back on the FBI.



Robert Milder

Hawthorne's Habitations: A Literary Life

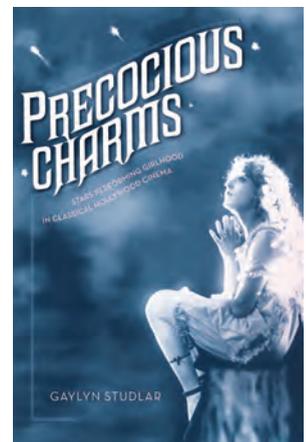
In the first literary/biographical study of Nathaniel Hawthorne's career in almost 40 years, Robert Milder, professor of English, gives a transatlantic perspective on the American author. Making use of Hawthorne's letters and notebooks, Milder details how Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Margaret Fuller and the American Renaissance impacted the writer. Milder also discusses the influence of Hawthorne's time in England, where he served five years as consul in Liverpool, and in Italy.



Joy Passanante

Through a Long Absence: Words From My Father's Wars

In her book *Through a Long Absence*, Joy Passanante AB '69, writes about her father, Bart Passanante, AB '35, MD '39, and his experiences as a medic during World War II. Intrigued by a time that her parents rarely spoke about, Passanante uses her father's journals and his extensive correspondence with his wife to recreate his experiences as a child bootlegger, a surgeon on the fields in Normandy and a soldier in Paris after the liberation.



Gaylyn Studlar

Precocious Charms: Stars Performing Girlhood in Classical Hollywood Cinema

Gaylyn Studlar, the David May Distinguished Professor in the Humanities and director of the Film and Media Studies program, takes representations of girlhood as the topic of her latest book. She examines female stars portraying young girls. These roles were sometimes played by children but more often were played by adult actresses. Studlar looks at the inspiration for these portrayals and the influence they had on America's cultural imagination.



On Topic

The history of black studies

INTERVIEW BY ROSALIND EARLY

In spring 2017, African and African-American Studies (AFAS), a longtime program at the university, became a department. This means that AFAS will be able to confer PhDs, hire its own faculty (previously, faculty could hold only a joint appointment with AFAS and another full department), and be a primary major for undergraduates. Overseeing the transition of AFAS from program to department was longtime faculty member **Gerald Early**, the Merle Kling Professor of Modern Letters and professor in the Department of English and African and African-American Studies. Early was director of the program in the early 1990s for nine years. Here, he talks about how black studies programs originated across the United States.

The rise of student activism ...

The movement to have black studies on predominantly white campuses happened in the late 1960s, and it was a convergence of two movements. It was the convergence of the anti-Vietnam War movement and the Black Power movement. And both of these movements were spearheaded in great measure by young people, particularly college students. And as a result of the convergence of these two movements, you had a lot of student activism.

Taking over Brookings ...

WashU's program resulted from a student protest that took place in 1968. The black students took over Brookings [Hall] and issued a *Black Manifesto*. And one of the demands in the *Black Manifesto* was for a black studies program. As a result of the *Black Manifesto* and the takeover of Brookings, ultimately, the school acceded to the demands and created a program in black studies in 1969.

Radical change ...

I think black students were driven to demand this because they thought that the curriculum was too white; it was too Eurocentric. You have to remember that what's going on at this time is that black students are coming in significant numbers to white universities — significant compared to the numbers that were [there] before, which was virtually nothing. They also wanted a black studies program because it was a way of getting black faculty. There were very few black faculty members on these college campuses at the time. The black students also wanted a place that they thought would be a kind of safe area where they could study and think about activism.

A new decade ...

My oldest sister was a college student at Temple University in 1965, and she, in fact, started what was called the BSU, the Black Student Union, at Temple. I would say for myself — I entered the University of Pennsylvania in 1970 — I was what you might call the beneficiary of these movements, because beginning in about 1970, many of these schools, like the University of Pennsylvania, increased the number of black students they were admitting and also gave them much greater support in order to try to retain them.

Incredible optimism ...

I look back at that time now, and I don't see the students being angry as much as I see an enormous belief that this country could be better than it was — that this country has an enormous potential to do good in the world and that it could change. And that can only come from people who have an incredible sense of optimism about where they live. *Note: To view the On Topic video, visit magazine.wustl.edu.*

Washington University brings excellent speakers to campus every year to share ideas and new perspectives with students and the community. Here are a few of the speakers from the past year.

INSTITUTIONS

“An institution is **like an old garment**: It has acquired the shape of those who tend to wear it, such that it is easier to wear if you have that shape.”

— Sara Ahmed, a feminist writer and scholar, speaking Oct. 20, 2017



COMMUNITY

“I passionately support any vulnerable community in this nation. **I stand with them; I lend them my voice.**”

— Khizr Khan, a gold-star father and speaker at the 2016 Democratic National Convention, speaking Nov. 3, 2017, on a panel on Islamophobia

CONSTITUTION

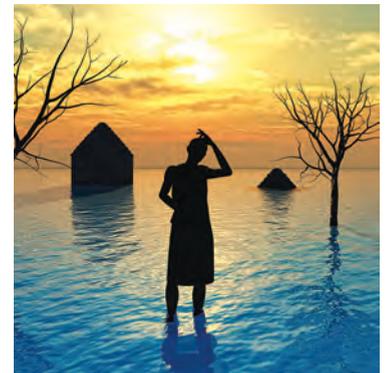
“Free speech, I would argue, is the **liberty that makes all other liberties possible** within the constitution.”

— National Review Institute Senior Fellow David French speaking on campus Oct. 11, 2017

CLIMATE CHANGE

“Climate change is not an environmental issue ... We care about polar bears; we care about rainforests. But it’s really a humanitarian issue. It’s an issue that **climate change impacts fall disproportionately on the poor.**”

— Paleoclimatologist Bronwen Konecky speaking at an Assembly Series panel on climate change led by “Science Friday” host Ira Flatow, Sept. 18, 2017



PEOPLE

“Running for president was extraordinary. You get to meet the American people across the country and understand what it is that makes us such a unique and powerful country. The greatness of America is not just our scale and our economic might and our military might. **It is also our goodness. ... This is a nation that is great and good.**”

— Former presidential candidate Mitt Romney speaking on campus Feb. 27, 2017

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Tips on being

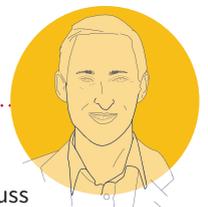
1 Making a more ethical workplace



“Organizations can affect ethical behavior through things like rules and monitoring, with incentives for ethical behavior and consequences for unethical behavior. These are real, and they are powerful. But managers also need to focus on norms and culture — what some people call an ‘ethical climate,’ i.e., ‘the way we do things around here.’ Employees quickly learn how things really work and how seriously ethical guidelines are taken within a given work context.”

— **Stuart Bunderson** is the George and Carol Bauer Professor of Organizational Ethics and Governance and co-director of the Bauer Leadership Center at Olin Business School.

2 Be aware of self-serving biases



“We love to think that bad people do bad things. But when I give talks, I always discuss my own experiences with PTSD and chemo brain, and how easy it was for someone like me with a strong moral upbringing to swerve toward malfeasance. We’re all glad that we aren’t bad people until we wake up one morning and say, ‘What have I done?’ Our brains are hard-wired toward self-serving bias. A whole slew of psychological biases facilitates our bad behavior, helping us justify, rationalize, selectively forget and attribute in ways that are self-serving.”

— **Lamar Pierce** is professor of strategy at Olin Business School and academic director of the joint Olin/Brookings Institution Executive Master of Science in Leadership program. His research focuses in part on business ethics and incentives.

fair and ethical

3 The ethics of patient care



“The Institute of Medicine published a report stating that the cost of unnecessary treatments in the United States runs in the hundreds of millions of dollars. I wouldn’t say that’s because doctors are being unethical. Many times, doctors and patients think, ‘better safe than sorry.’ But that’s assuming that the benefit is always in favor of treatment or advanced screenings, and I do think that there are some costs. The most serious cost is overdiagnosis and overtreatment. I would say that acting ethically as a clinician means talking with patients about both the costs and the benefits of a treatment or test.”

— **Anya Plutynski** is an associate professor of philosophy. Her research interests include philosophy of medicine and biomedical ethics.

4 Ethicists don’t offer easy answers



“Philosophers distinguish between theories of the good, what makes a life better or worth living, and what sorts of things are morally correct.

As a generalization, what’s good for you is thought to be a different question from what’s morally good or right. A hedonistic theory of the good would have no issue with living a maximally pleasurable life. Whether a life of hedonistic pleasure was morally good would turn on what ethical theory you’re looking at. Utilitarians might see this as morally good; Kant would disagree. And in Aristotelian ethics, pleasure isn’t what ultimately matters; rather, it’s developing virtuous traits like honesty and generosity.”

— **Charlie Kurth** is an assistant professor of philosophy.

5 Making the ‘right’ decision



Illustrations: Monica Duvel

“There are always biases that can affect our decision making, for example, by not considering all the relevant factors or by discounting evidence too quickly. In order to avoid biases, it’s important to collect evidence in a thorough and systematic way, to rely on facts rather than first impressions, and to make sure positive and negative factors receive appropriate weighting and consideration. It can be helpful to run one’s reasoning by others, who might be able to spot errors and omissions in one’s weighing of the options.”

— **Julia Staffel** is an assistant professor of philosophy and specializes in epistemology and philosophical logic.

6 The logic of fairness

“The question of fair resource allocation is a difficult one. Take a simple example: You have two children, and you have saved money to pay for their college education. One fair way to divide the funds would be to give an equal amount to each child. However, suppose that one of the children wants to go to a more expensive school than the other. Perhaps it is more fair to give each of the children the education they most want, rather than giving one child more money for college than they need and the other one less than they need. The main message is that one must be aware that there might be more than one way of allocating resources that could be considered fair, so one should map out the possibilities before settling on one of them.”

— **Julia Staffel**

Frankenstein 200 years later

What can we learn from Mary Shelley's novel *Frankenstein* 200 years after it was published? A lot, insofar as the book's central conflicts — between science and ethics, society and the other — still resonate today.

BY ROSALIND EARLY



ABOVE: Cover of Victor LaValle's *Destroyer* #1 (artist: Micaela Dawn). LaValle's *Destroyer* comic-book series (illustrator: Dietrich Smith) is about an African-American boy killed by police. His mother, who is a scientist, brings her son back to life. LaValle is scheduled to speak on campus about his comic books this fall.

This year, Mary Shelley's novel *Frankenstein* turns 200. Washington University is celebrating the bicentennial with special events, conferences, film screenings and more. One of the organizers, Corinna Treitel, associate professor of history, is most excited about the conversations *Frankenstein* can spark.

"I thought celebrating the bicentennial would be a really great opportunity for a university like ours to create conversations between people who don't normally talk to each other," Treitel says. "The novel is often drawn into discussions about science and social responsibility, but it's also a foundational text for thinking about otherness."

Medical ethics are at the crux of the novel's central story about Victor Frankenstein, a college student who decides to reanimate dead tissue. When he is successful, Frankenstein is horrified by what he has created and abandons his creature.

The creature is a quintessential "other." Despite not having parents, he teaches himself language and civility, but people are so horrified by his appearance that their first response is to run away or try to kill him. The creature becomes an outcast and a murderer, determined to destroy his creator's life.

"The novel is really about failure of inclusion," Treitel says.

"[Shelley] created an outsider figure that can be read onto lots of different marginalized groups," adds Amy Pawl, senior lecturer in English, who along

with Treitel created and taught the interdisciplinary course "Frankenstein: Origins and Afterlives" in fall 2017. "The novel raises questions of sympathy for that outsider creature and the responsibility that the dominant culture needs to take for creating these awful positions for people to exist in," Pawl says.

This topic of identity and inclusion was among the reasons the novel was selected for WashU's 2017 Common Reading Program. All first-year students were asked to read the book and discuss it at the beginning of the 2017 fall semester.

In small groups, students used the novel to discuss current events, identity politics and the background of the young author. (Mary Shelley famously wrote *Frankenstein* as a teenager after she'd run off with and gotten pregnant by the renowned — and married — poet Percy Bysshe Shelley.) The book also served as a jumping-off point for a one-credit identity-literacy class offered to first-year students.

This year, students are competing to create a new *Frankenstein* for the modern age. Treitel and the Center for the Humanities are sponsoring a competition, in which students can write or create an art piece that reimagines the classic tale.

Treitel also organized a conference in October 2017, "Frankenstein at 200," that dealt with the novel and its "afterlives" in popular culture. The daylong event included three panels that discussed how *Frankenstein* has been retold through the



African-American experience, how the monster inspired the creation of disability studies, and how the novel is still shaping art today, among other topics.

“Historians are always interested in change over time,” Treitel says. “This is a novel that has been drawn into conversations in very different kinds of ways over the past 200 years. I thought it would be interesting to see how scholars across a variety of disciplines were talking about *Frankenstein* right now.”

Another conference, “The Curren(t)cy of *Frankenstein*,” will be held Sept. 28–30, 2018, at the School of Medicine. Organized by Rebecca Messbarger — director of the Medical Humanities program and professor of Italian, history, art history, and women, gender and sexuality studies — this conference will focus specifically on the novel’s relevance for contemporary medical practice.

One speaker will be Luke Dittrich, who wrote the award-winning book, *Patient H.M.: A Story of Memory, Madness and Family Secrets*, about the rise of the lobotomy. Part of the book is about Dittrich coming to terms with the fact that his own grandfather performed the controversial procedure on countless patients.

“Dittrich’s talk will be about the power of medical and scientific innovation. But like *Frankenstein*, it will raise questions about the responsibilities and the ethics that must undergird that same innovation,” Messbarger says.

The three-day event will also feature a *Frankenstein* performance piece, a demonstration of alchemical experiments and a panel of experts from the sciences and the humanities on the meaning of the novel for medicine today.

The issue of science and ethics is perhaps even more pressing today than in Shelley’s time. This September, Jennifer Doudna, a professor of chemistry as well as of biochemistry and molecular biology at the University of California, Berkeley, will talk about the technology she helped create, CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing, which allows scientists to manipulate genes. A powerful tool in curing disease, it also raises questions about ethics. Worried about what editing the human genome could mean, Doudna called for a moratorium on the clinical use of gene editing in 2015.

Although science can’t reanimate dead tissue as Frankenstein did, human beings are moving ever closer to the intelligent design previously ascribed only to the gods. As Nick Dear, the playwright who recently staged Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* in London, said when he came to campus Sept. 6, 2017: “Mary Shelley was writing, almost without appreciating it, a creation myth for the science age. [Creating the monster] involves solely the skills of humankind. And that’s why I think it stays with us now, because God doesn’t play a very big part in our rationalization about the world we live in.”

Treitel saw the questions that this creation story raised as extremely pertinent when she read it as an undergraduate studying chemistry, the same field that Frankenstein studied.

“The questions [the novel] made me ask concerned the vexed relations of science and society,” Treitel wrote in an article about the bicentennial. “Should scientists dare to alter living matter? I knew, of course, that the question was moot: They dare; they do. But more questions followed: How do we do such research ethically? What are our responsibilities to the organisms produced? Who should be involved in asking and answering such questions?”

The *Frankenstein* bicentennial won’t, of course, answer all of these questions, but the novel is still a useful tool in making us ask the tough questions about ourselves, our ethics and our future. 🧪

For more about the *Frankenstein* bicentennial celebration, visit <http://www.frankenstein200.wustl.edu/frankenstein-events/>.



“The novel raises questions of sympathy for that outsider creature and the responsibility that the dominant culture needs to take for creating these awful positions for people to exist in.”

— Amy Pawl, senior lecturer in English

TOP, LEFT: Illustration from the frontispiece of the 1831 edition of *Frankenstein*. Steel engraving. Victor Frankenstein leaves in horror after seeing what he created.

TOP, RIGHT: Cover of *American Weekly* magazine, Nov. 1, 1959. Illustration by Al Parker, BFA '27.

SUSTAINING LIFE on EARTH





In the midst of what scientists consider to be a sixth mass extinction event, Washington University is joining forces with the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo to collaborate on life-saving research and conservation efforts.

INTERVIEW BY TERRI NAPPIER

Renowned evolutionary biologist Jonathan Losos has returned to Washington University to lead a new academic center — the Living Earth Collaborative — to advance the study of biodiversity. The Living Earth Collaborative will team investigators from Washington University, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo, as well as other local and regional organizations, to study the great diversity of plants and animals with which we share this world, and to help conserve them before they become extinct.

According to the 2016 *Living Planet Report*, published by the World Wide Fund for Nature, global populations of fish, birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles declined by 58 percent between 1970 and 2012. And the planet could witness a two-thirds decline from 1970 to 2020.

This view was confirmed by scientists in the July 25, 2017, issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*. In the paper's abstract, the authors state: "Dwindling population sizes and range shrinkages amount to a massive anthropogenic erosion of biodiversity and of the ecosystem services essential to civilization. This 'biological annihilation' underlines the seriousness for humanity of Earth's ongoing sixth mass extinction event."

Against this dire backdrop, the Living Earth Collaborative will serve as a hub to facilitate interdisciplinary research among the world's leading scholars in the field of biodiversity and other scholars across a wide range of fields. Their collective work promises to help garner understanding about the processes that create and maintain species' diversity. Ultimately, the center's aim is to help create a sustainable future on Earth for people, plants and wildlife.

On the eve of his return to the university, Losos, the inaugural William H. Danforth Distinguished University Professor, sat down with the editor of *Washington* magazine to discuss his new role and his hopes for the Living Earth Collaborative.

Q: You taught at Washington University for 14 years before being recruited by Harvard University in 2006. Why return to WashU now?

JL: Washington University is a great place, and I had a wonderful experience when I was a faculty member in the biology department from 1992 to 2006. Both the institution and the people are first-rate, so it was with some hesitation that I left. Now, with the creation of the Living Earth Collaborative, I have a remarkable opportunity to work closely with colleagues at the university and other important St. Louis institutions.

Q: You're just getting started, but could you speak to the collaborative's goals, mission?

JL: The mission of the center is to become a world leader in the research and conservation of biological diversity. Efforts will span the spectrum from basic to applied work: understanding the basics of how species live in their own environments, how they evolve, how ecosystems are structured; identifying threats to these species and ecosystems; and figuring out what we can do to help protect them.

What is particularly exciting is that St. Louis already has an extraordinary number of individuals and institutions concerned with biological diversity, both in research and conservation. Of course, these include the three partner institutions in the Living Earth Collaborative: Washington University, the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Saint Louis Zoo. But there are other important institutions with strong programs, including the University of Missouri–St. Louis and its Whitney R. Harris World Ecology Center; Saint Louis University; the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center; the Endangered Wolf Center; and governmental and nongovernmental organizations, such as the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Missouri chapter of the Nature Conservancy.

Our goal is to build connections and collaborations and synergies with all these institutions to make St. Louis a great center for biodiversity study and understanding.

Q: Could you also speak to your first plans?

JL: One model guiding my plans is that “if you get people in the same room, good things will happen.” People in different departments, schools and, especially, institutions often don’t know each other. Yet we’re fortunate because these institutions are geographically close. Initially, we’re planning to get people together, introduce them, identify their shared interests and start building on that.

“The mission of the center is to become a world leader in the research and conservation of biological diversity.”

— Jonathan Losos

Q: Do you see your role ultimately as a facilitator?

JL: At the start, I’ll be introducing people and organizing events — discussion groups, workshops, symposia — to build bridges. I’ll try to facilitate that directly when I see opportunities, but it’s my hope that synergy will come from the bottom up as people make connections themselves and learn that the Living Earth Collaborative is here to support them.

Q: Is the challenge of species loss too daunting? Is it too late to reverse some of the damage?

JL: It’s easy to get depressed about the state of the world right now. There are *lots* of problems that need to be fixed. But you can’t be overwhelmed by the immensity of the problem. It’s not too late. In fact, some good things have happened lately, so it’s not all gloom and doom. To cite an example near and dear to my heart, American alligators were threatened with extinction 40 years ago, and now they’re plentiful. The same is true for bald eagles. We have to learn from what’s working and what’s not working, and then figure out where the opportunities are to make a difference.



 **LIVING EARTH**
COLLABORATIVE
CENTER FOR BIODIVERSITY

patrick sauer

ABOUT JONATHAN LOSOS:

- > Director, Living Earth Collaborative
- > Inaugural William H. Danforth Distinguished University Professor
- > Expert on behavioral and evolutionary ecology of lizards
- > Most recent book: *Improbable Destinies: Fate, Chance, and the Future of Evolution*
- > Formerly of Harvard University:
 - Professor of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology
 - Curator in Herpetology, Museum of Comparative Zoology
 - Monique and Philip Lehner Professor for the Study of Latin America

For more information:

<http://artsci.wustl.edu/faculty-staff/jonathan-losos>

Our collaborative — with great scientists at all three institutions and others in the St. Louis area working together — can move us forward in two ways: One way is to work both locally and around the world to figure out what species are endangered; the second is to use that knowledge to determine what needs to be done to protect and conserve them.

In this context, the opportunity exists to consider more than just the scientific research and to build collaborations with social scientists, architects, ethicists and more — all among the many areas in which WashU excels.

Q: Are there any particular species that you'll focus on first?

JL: We're not that far yet. This is not the sort of center where I come in as director and say, "Here are the four things that we're going to do."

Again, I see myself as building bridges and facilitating interaction. And based on the expertise we coalesce in our interactions, we'll find the best targets for our work.

Q: What do you see as the biggest challenges, threats to biodiversity?

JL: There are lots of threats, and this is one of the problems we face. If there were just a single threat, we could focus on it and figure out what to do about it. But, unfortunately, we humans have messed up the world in a lot of different ways. We're cutting down the habitat; we're polluting the air and the water; we're overexploiting species for food or other products; and, of course, we're changing the climate. And then there are particular problems facing particular species, and some of them are quite specific.

Obviously, there is no one silver bullet and no one thing we can study to try to solve all the problems. No one institution or collaborative can take on everything at once either. We're going to have to figure out — given the expertise that we have — the best approach for us. And, again, I can't tell you what that is right now; a lot will depend on what we find to be our strengths and the areas where we are particularly suited to make an impact. So that's what I'm working on now: figuring out where our efforts will be best spent.

Q: One of the biggest threats to sustainable life on Earth is climate change, but the topic, at least in our country, is so politically fraught. How do you plan to approach the topic and study its impact on loss of habitat and loss of species?

JL: Climate change is a huge problem, of course. But until recently it wasn't emphasized when considering species at risk. The other factors we discussed — habitat loss, overexploitation and so on — were the problems researchers focused on. Now, we realize that climate change has such pervasive consequences that it no doubt will be a major factor impacting species and their loss. Therefore, we will certainly look at that, but probably as one of many interrelated issues.

Before continuing, I should point out that Washington University already has a group studying climate change and doing a lot of great work. I'm referring to the International Center for Energy, Environment and Sustainability (InCEES). In many respects, I've been looking at how InCEES is structured as a guide to help me structure the Living Earth Collaborative. And, of course, opportunities exist to interact with that group. By bringing in more expertise on biodiversity issues, I see us working with them to figure out — from both the scientific side and the social and political side — what the issues are and what some of the solutions might be.

Further, Washington University has a strong environmental studies program in Arts & Sciences; it's an interdisciplinary, non-departmentally based major. And they're doing all kinds of wonderful things that mesh very well with the goals of the collaborative in terms of improving undergraduate training and of bringing people together — faculty and others involved in environmental studies — to think about how we could develop new programs in research, conservation and so on related to the environment. So I'm looking forward to joining forces with them as well.

“The impacts are happening, and the extinctions are occurring or can't be reversed. The longer we wait to get serious about solving these problems, the more species we will lose.” — Jonathan Losos

Q: In your opinion, how much time do we have to turn the tide?

JL: It seems unlikely that we will destroy all life forms on Earth; something will be left. However, we have started a mass extinction event. The actual number of species that has gone extinct is probably fairly small so far, but it's accelerating rapidly. Moreover, we're getting to the point where some species are beyond hope. Many scientists think that saving the polar bear may be impossible, for example. So we're already late to the game.

The impacts are happening, and the extinctions are occurring or can't be reversed. The longer we wait to get serious about solving these problems, the more species we will lose.

From a geological time frame, life survives mass extinctions. There have been five already,

BY THE NUMBERS:

1 Planet

3 primary partners:
Washington University, Missouri
Botanical Garden, Saint Louis Zoo

6th mass extinction event

58% decline
of global populations of
fish, birds, mammals,
amphibians and reptiles
between 1970 and 2012

100s of researchers
and opportunities for
collaboration in St. Louis region

and after a while, life has recovered. The problem is the time frame to recovery is 5 million to 10 million years. Therefore, the longer we wait to address overexploitation, habitat loss, etc., the more devastation there will be and the longer it will take for our descendants to be able to enjoy a world in which the impacts of this mass extinction event are no longer apparent.

So, I don't think we have any time actually. We need to start doing as *much* as we can as *quickly* as we can.

Q: What would you like our readers — our Washington University community — to take away from this discussion?

JL: I think the message today is that our new collaborative joins a leading university, one of

the best botanical gardens (considered among the top three botanical gardens in the world, because in addition to its fabulous grounds, it has an enormous research and conservation program), and one of the best zoos in the world. Very few other cities in the country, perhaps in the world, have a great zoo, a great botanical garden as well as a great university. In the biggest picture, the Living Earth Collaborative provides us the opportunity to bring together these three institutions with overlapping expertise and missions in new ways to work toward great outcomes, in both learning about the biological world around us and using that knowledge to figure out how to conserve it. We're just getting started, but we have an opportunity to do truly great and amazing things. 🐼

Interview conducted by Terri Nappier, editor, *Washington* magazine.

Jackie Anyaso (left), AB '17, and Jordan Peters, AB '14, a graduate student in social work at the Brown School, meet up during the Ervin Scholars Program's 30th-anniversary weekend.

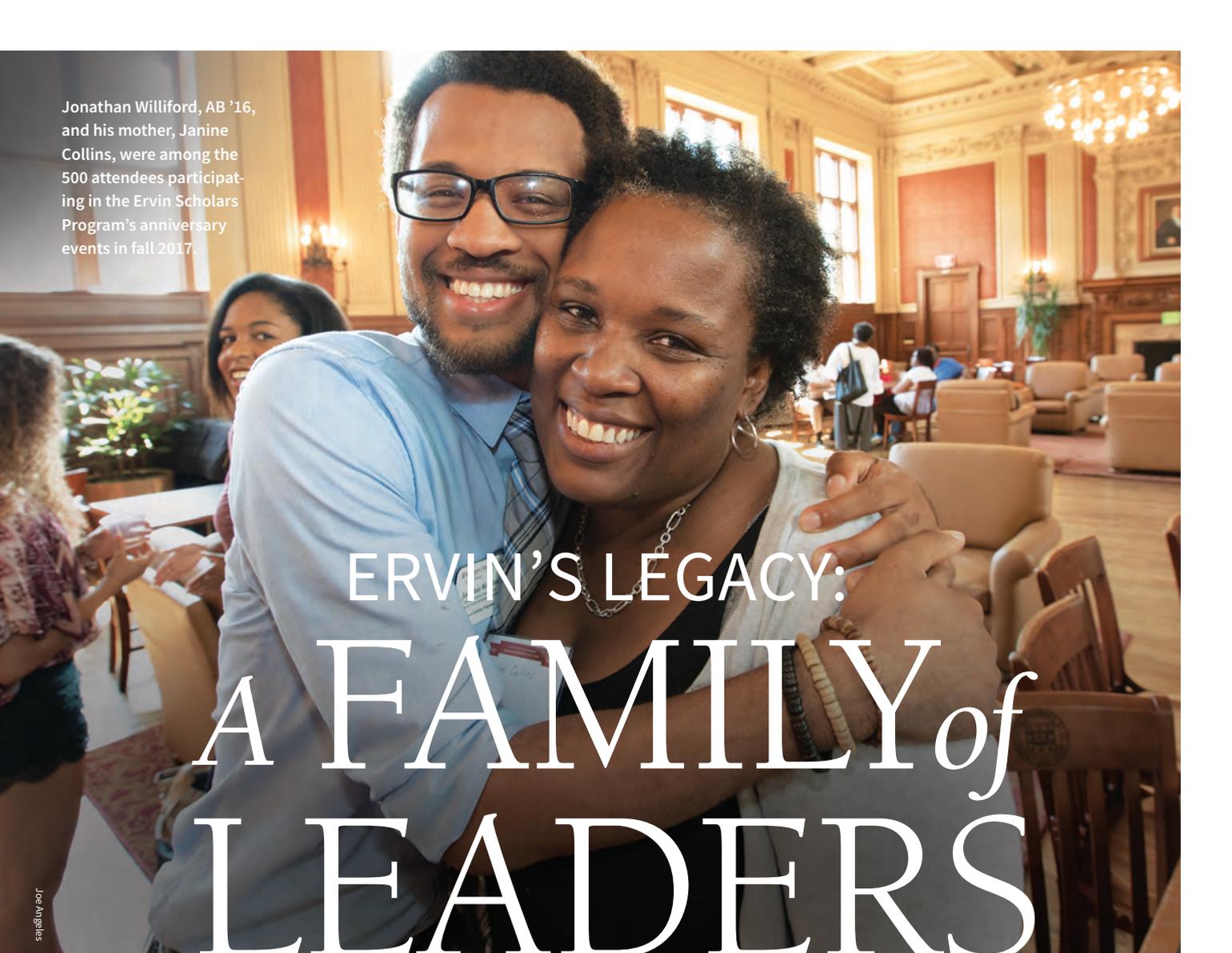


Joe Angeles

Solomon Brown (center), AB '14, who earned his JD in 2017, attended anniversary events with his mother, Debra Knight Brown, and father, Homer Brown.



Stef Hestling

A photograph of Jonathan Williford and his mother, Janine Collins, smiling together in a large, ornate hall. Jonathan is wearing glasses and a light blue shirt, and Janine is wearing a white cardigan. They are surrounded by other people in the background, suggesting a social event or gathering.

Jonathan Williford, AB '16, and his mother, Janine Collins, were among the 500 attendees participating in the Ervin Scholars Program's anniversary events in fall 2017.

ERVIN'S LEGACY: A FAMILY *of* LEADERS

In 2017, the Ervin Scholars Program celebrated its 30th anniversary. Known for its supportive, family-like atmosphere, the prestigious program continues to cultivate students who both excel academically and have a deep commitment to improving the world.

BY DIANE TOROIAN KEAGGY

For 30 years, Ervin Scholars at Washington University in St. Louis have come together for class dinners, winter retreats, service projects and all-class reunions.

But a new tradition emerged recently — the celebration of yet another Ervin Scholar to be named a Rhodes Scholar, one of the world’s most prestigious and competitive academic honors.

Since 2010, every Washington University Rhodes Scholar has also been selected as an Ervin Scholar, including Joshua Aiken, AB ’14, who won in fall 2013; and Priya Mallika Sury,* AB ’10, who was awarded the Rhodes in fall 2010. In fall 2017, two Ervin Scholars (just the second time two WashU students were selected for the award in the same year) — seniors Camille “Mimi” Borders and Jasmine Brown — won the scholarship.

“Josh [Aiken] was one of the first people to congratulate us,” says Borders, sitting next to Brown before a television interview. “I can still remember him speaking to us at our Ervin orientation. I was so impressed by all that he’d already achieved.”

“Me, too,” Brown adds. “I always thought that ‘changing the world’ was something I’d try to do after I was grown up with a career and money. But listening to him, I realized I didn’t have to wait. I could make an impact now.”

In addition to the winners, Ervin Scholar Damari Croswell, AB ’15, was a Rhodes finalist in 2016. He is now at Harvard Medical School. And Nicholas Okafor, BS ’16, a mechanical engineering and materials science graduate, was a finalist in 2016. Okafor currently works in Kenya for Burn Manufacturing, which designs fuel-efficient cooking products that save lives and forests in the developing world.

Robyn S. Hadley, associate vice chancellor for student affairs and dean of the Ervin Scholars Program, is a Rhodes Scholar herself. And she is not surprised that so many Ervins have wowed the Rhodes selection committee.

“Both programs are looking for true scholars who want to answer the big questions — and have already demonstrated a deep commitment to improving the world around them,” Hadley says. “That is most certainly the case with Mimi and Jasmine, two incredibly smart and humble individuals.”

Brown, a biology major in Arts & Sciences, has served as a research assistant at some of the nation’s top institutions, including the Broad

*While a WashU student, Priya Mallika Sury, AB ’10, who was awarded the Rhodes Scholarship in fall 2010, had been selected for a Danforth, Ervin and Rodriguez scholarship. Being able to choose only two of the three, she chose the Danforth and the Rodriguez.

“I can’t describe the way they [other Ervin Scholars] have changed my life and taught me to keep pushing. To be an Ervin [Scholar] has been to be part of a family — a really nurturing, really motivating family.”

— Mimi Borders

Institute of MIT and Harvard, the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Currently, she is working at the Washington University School of Medicine to uncover the molecular pathways that West Nile and Zika viruses travel to infect the brain. She plans to obtain a doctorate in neuroscience at Oxford University.

Brown also founded the Minority Association of Rising Scientists (MARS) to support under-represented students and to educate faculty members about implicit bias. She has been working with the National Science Foundation to expand the program nationally.

Borders, a history major in Arts & Sciences, helped create the group Washington University Students in Solidarity in the aftermath of the shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson in 2014. As a campus leader, she facilitated dialogues about race and successfully advocated for changes at Washington University. Meanwhile, she distinguished herself as a scholar: serving as a research assistant on the oral history project “Documenting Ferguson,” working on independent historical research since her sophomore year as a Mellon Mays



Camille "Mimi" Borders (left) and Jasmine Brown both were awarded a Rhodes Scholarship in 2017. The two seniors are Ervin Scholars, members of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and good friends.

Joe Angeles

Fellow, and studying the transatlantic slave trade at the Fulbright University of Bristol Summer Institute. At Oxford, Borders plans to pursue a master of philosophy degree in social and economic history.

Borders and Brown, who are Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority sisters and "besties," say their friendship sustained them during the arduous Rhodes application process. But they credit Dean Hadley and their Ervin peers for their success.

"I can't describe the way they have changed my life and taught me to keep pushing," Borders says. "To be an Ervin has been to be part of a family — a really nurturing, really motivating family."

'Am I doing enough? Can I do a bit more?'

Being a part of the supportive Ervin family lasts a lifetime, too. Last fall, for example, more than 500 members reunited at the university to commemorate the program's 30th anniversary. Ervin alumni remembered the legacy of the program's founder, the late James McLeod, vice chancellor for students and dean of the College of Arts & Sciences.

They also paid their respects to Jane Ervin, the widow of program namesake John Ervin, the university's first black dean; and to Clara McLeod, the widow of James McLeod and earth and planetary sciences librarian at WashU. Further, alumni reflected on the ways the Ervin experience continues to define who they are today.

Alumnus Fernando Cutz, AB '10, who was promoted to senior adviser to U.S. National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster in October 2017, shared with current Ervin Scholars how the scholarship set him on a path of public service.

"The Ervin program is fundamental to who I have become," Cutz says. "It's an incredible community because it pushes you. You get to see all of these accomplished individuals fighting for causes you believe in. It makes you look at yourself and say, 'Am I doing enough? Can I do a bit more?'"

As a student, Cutz served as senior class president and waged a successful campaign



Seth Haskins

In her interactions with students, Robyn Hadley, dean of the Ervin Scholars Program, asks them a lot of questions, hoping their conversations allow students to pivot away from issues with homework and tests and to dream big.

against the Chicago bar that discriminated against black students during their senior trip. Cutz also started WU/FUSED, a student group that fought successfully to increase the number of Pell-eligible students on campus. The organization currently has some 25 chapters at colleges across the nation.

Formerly director for South America at the National Security Council, Cutz now works on issues relating to the entire world. The work is exhausting but invigorating, he says.

“I will walk into the White House thinking I know what the day will bring, and an hour or two later, the day shifts completely,” Cutz says. “Every day, I take a moment to think about the people who came before and the decisions they made — good and bad — that affected national security and foreign policy. I know one day people will examine my decisions, and that motivates me to do my very best for my country.”

Jason Green, AB '03, is another senior class president turned White House staffer. As a student at Yale Law School, Green joined the presidential campaign of Barack Obama, managing field operations and get-out-the-vote efforts. After earning his law degree, he worked four years as President Obama's associate counsel and senior adviser.

Today, Green is working on multiple projects. He helped found The Arena, a nonprofit that develops and trains the next generation of civic leaders, and launched SkillSmart, a platform that pairs employers with job seekers with the right skill sets and experiences. Green also is producing a documentary about three segregated churches, including his grandmother's church, that came together in the wake of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.

“All of these things are about building community,” Green says. “And that all starts with really knowing someone, as Dean McLeod would say, ‘by name and by story.’”

Turning classmates into a community

Today, the Ervin Scholars Program is lauded as one of Washington University's most prestigious programs. But it was born out the university's difficult history. Back in 1986, only 36 black students enrolled as freshmen at Washington University. Then-Chancellor William H. Danforth turned to Dean McLeod to find a fresh way to draw more black students.

McLeod acted fast, creating a program that would provide 11 full-tuition, merit-based

“Not only did the Ervin Scholars Program build a foundation and draw better and better [students] ... it also helped catalyze the African-American presence in events, activities and organizations. There were more of us.”

— Paul Wright

scholarships to talented black students each academic year. The initiative was an immediate success, attracting more than 300 gifted applicants in 1987.

But McLeod recognized at once that the program could do more than draw students; it could also develop leaders. One by one, he introduced new programs that became signature traditions: monthly class dinners, fall orientation and a winter retreat. These events encouraged classmates to become a community.

McLeod was supported by Dorothy Elliott, assistant director of the Ervin Scholars Program; the late Adrienne Glore, assistant dean of students; and, of course, John B. Ervin himself. Admired across campus for his commitment to justice and his kindness to students, Ervin interviewed applicants and participated in programs. In *A Legacy of Excellence* — a history of the program's first 20 years written by Ervin alumna Monica Lewis, AB '99 — Elliott recalled receiving word of Ervin's death hours before he was to meet the new Ervin class in 1992.

“Jane called at about five in the morning. She said the last thing she saw John do before she went



Jason Green, AB '03, a former associate counsel and senior adviser to President Barack Obama, is currently working on multiple projects to build community and train future leaders.

Joe Angeles

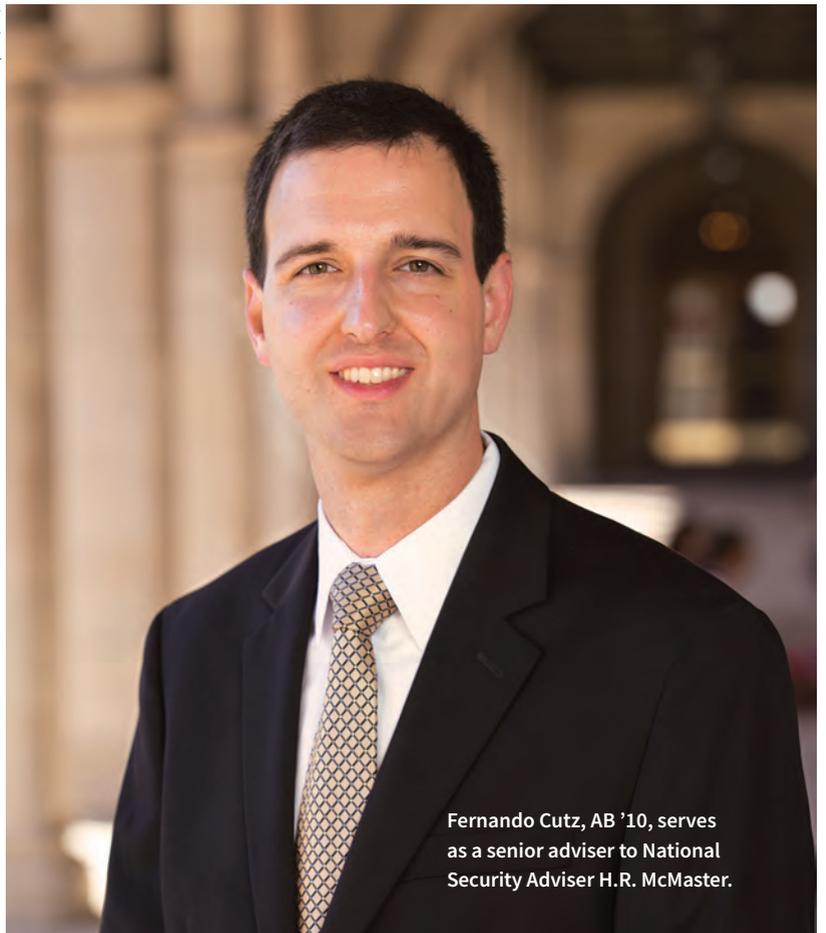
to bed was look over the Ervin folders so he could really knock their socks off when he met them. He told her to go to bed. The last thing he did was look at those folders," Elliott shared with Lewis for the historical account.

Further, Paul Wright, AB '91, a member of the inaugural class of Ervin Scholars, told Lewis that the program immediately changed the campus climate.

"Not only did the Ervin Scholars Program build a foundation and draw better and better [students] and more and more African Americans, it also helped catalyze the African-American presence in events, activities and organizations," Wright said. "There were more of us, but people were also doing more. It was really something that was noticeable by contrast in three or four years."

"White students — and faculty — also benefited," said Sharon Stahl, vice chancellor of students emerita.

"Students who come here and succeed in the classroom and the laboratory and assume roles of leadership in the community have helped our majority students and faculty to cast away the stereotypes that unfortunately still linger in our



Fernando Cutz, AB '10, serves as a senior adviser to National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster.

Joe Angeles

society,” Stahl recalled for the written history. “It’s not their responsibility, but they’ve been able to do it. And because of this ‘educational’ side effect, our majority students graduate going into the world better able to be informed citizens in the workplace, appreciative of the contributions and abilities of their African-American co-workers.”

Helping people grow together

The program was threatened in 2003 when the Supreme Court ruled race-exclusive admission policies unconstitutional. University leaders disagreed with the court, but ultimately they changed the program’s admission requirements. Candidates, university leaders determined, need not be black, but they must demonstrate a commitment to diversity, service, academic excellence and leadership.

ShaAvhrée Buckman-Garner, AB ’92, MD ’99, PhD ’99, FAAP, a member of the second Ervin cohort, says today’s students are being prepared to share Ervin values with their future workplaces and neighborhoods. A quintessential scholar herself, Buckman-Garner is director of the Office of Translational Sciences in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, where she oversees the work of some 600 employees. She joined Cutz, Green and Blavity founder Morgan DeBaun, AB ’12, at a fall 2017 Assembly Series panel, “Measuring the Impact and Influence of Ervin Scholars.”

“We are all from a variety of backgrounds — different ethnicities, different socioeconomic classes — in a program that promotes family,” Buckman-Garner says. “That helps us look at that person who is your brother or sister in a new way. And you realize that that person you perhaps thought of as an ‘other’ has more in common with you than you anticipated. When you look at our long-range goals as a society, you have to put people in an environment where they can grow together.”

Another profound change to the program came in 2011 with the death of McLeod — a loss to both Ervin Scholars and the entire university community.

“Working with Dean McLeod was one of the great honors of my life, and that says a lot after serving two presidents,” Cutz says. “Dean McLeod had this wisdom, this patience, this understanding. I frequently ask myself: ‘Who are you? Where do you come from? Where are you going? What do you stand for?’ These are the guiding principles that Dean McLeod instilled in me.”

“We are all from a variety of backgrounds — different ethnicities, different socioeconomic classes — in a program that promotes family. That helps us look at that person who is your brother or sister in a new way.”

—ShaAvhrée Buckman-Garner

‘I have felt incredibly cared for’

Today’s Ervin Scholars hold the same values. Before arriving as first-year students, all Ervins must read McLeod’s *Habits of Achievement*, the printed version of McLeod’s orientation lecture; Lewis’ history, *A Legacy of Excellence*; and *A Legacy of Commitment*, by Ervin Scholar Michelle Purdy, AB ’01, MA ’03, who earned a doctorate from Michigan State University and is now an assistant professor of education in Arts & Sciences at Washington University.

As dean, Robyn Hadley brings her own ideals to the program. In addition to being awarded the Rhodes, Hadley received the University of North Carolina’s famed Morehead-Cain Scholarship, the first merit scholarship in America. She counts the program’s late leader, Mebane Pritchett, as one of the two most important role models in her life. The other: her mother.

“Mebane Pritchett helped me see my potential as my future, and his interactions with me inspired



ShaAvhrée Buckman-Garner, AB '92, MD '99, PhD '99, FAAP, is director of the Office of Translational Sciences in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at the FDA, overseeing 600 employees.

Joe Angeles

how I approach this work today," Hadley says. "Like him, I ask a lot of questions. I encourage our students to be open, to be vulnerable and to dive deep. I would like to think these conversations are an opportunity for a student to pivot away from the gen-chem homework or the anthro test and to dream big. 'You want to travel to Kathmandu? Okay, what will it take to get there?'"

It was during one of these talks that Hadley convinced Grace Egbo, then a first-year student, to apply for a competitive internship at Facebook.

"When I first found out about the opportunity, I didn't know what to do," recalls Egbo, now a junior studying computer science in the School of Engineering & Applied Science. "Dean Hadley convinced me that I should take my shot. Her encouragement got me to take a step I wasn't sure I was ready for, and I got it!"

Hadley is supported by staff members Kristopher Campa, AB '13, and Jonathan Williford, AB '16, both alumni of the Ervin Scholars Program. Current Ervin Scholar Sophia Kamanzi, a pre-med student in Arts & Sciences, says the Ervin team is why she chose to apply

to Washington University. Hadley and Williford attended her high school's senior night. And when Kamanzi left her backpack in a locked building, Williford calmed her down and provided advice on the steps she could take to retrieve it.

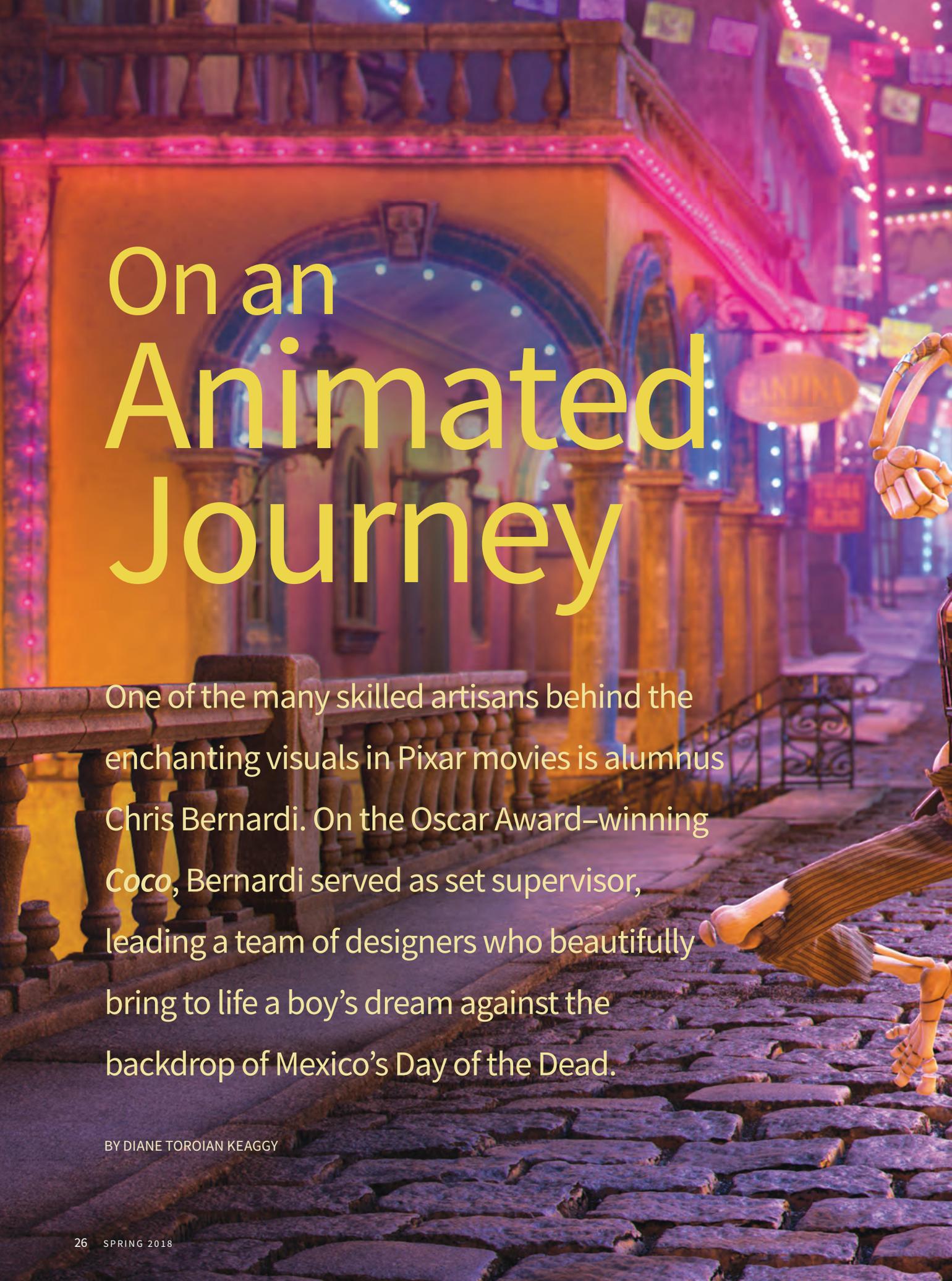
"I have felt incredibly cared for in the Ervin Scholars Program," Kamanzi says.

Kamanzi looks forward to biweekly Ervin dinners, when students each share a high and a low from the past weeks.

"When I hear the highs, things I thought seemed out of reach feel doable," she says. "But I also like hearing the lows, because, with everyone here being so talented, it's easy to forget that everyone struggles. It's good to hear the honest truth."

Kamanzi says that older Ervin Scholars are quick to offer help and advice. "That's why I call Ervins my family," Kamanzi says. "Your family helps you, not because they have to, but because they care about you and want the best for you. It's a great feeling knowing everyone is here for me. I just need to ask." 

Diane Toroian Keaggy, AB '90, is senior news director of campus life.



On an Animated Journey

One of the many skilled artisans behind the enchanting visuals in Pixar movies is alumnus Chris Bernardi. On the Oscar Award–winning *Coco*, Bernardi served as set supervisor, leading a team of designers who beautifully bring to life a boy’s dream against the backdrop of Mexico’s Day of the Dead.

BY DIANE TOROIAN KEAGGY



(Courtesy of Pixar Animation Studios)

During his long career at Pixar Animation Studios, Chris Bernardi, AB '85, has attended premieres for hit movies like *Finding Nemo*, *Cars* and *Inside Out*. But he was especially thrilled — and more than a bit nervous — to walk the red carpet Oct. 24, 2017, for the Mexico City premiere of *Coco*.

Bernardi was thrilled because *Coco* was his first film as set supervisor, a job that pushed him as both an artist and a coder. And Bernardi was nervous because he had supervised a team of 32 designers and hoped Mexican moviegoers would recognize the world they had created as both authentic and magical.

“We were in Mexico City for a movie about a Mexican family that takes place against the backdrop of *Día de Muertos* (the Day of the Dead), an important Mexican holiday,” Bernardi says. “We had worked very hard to get the movie right. By the end of the night, we knew that we had succeeded.”

The movie went on to bust box-office records in Mexico and was universally adored by American critics and moviegoers alike. And it won more than a dozen major awards, including the Golden Globe and Oscar for Best Animated Feature.

For those who have yet to see *Coco*, the movie is about a young boy named Miguel who wants to play guitar despite his family’s longtime ban on music. To prove his talent, he travels from his village, where his family makes shoes, to the “Land of the Dead,” where he meets his ancestors. Bernardi’s job was to build both worlds.

“We are the carpenters and masons of Pixar, but instead of working with wood and brick, we are using code and software,” Bernardi says. “Everything from the smallest piece of trash in the gutter to the tallest building to the sky itself was created by an artist.”

Bernardi decided to use a palette of warm colors for Miguel’s village and to illuminate the town with natural light. In contrast, the Land of the Dead is seen at night and features cool colors and artificial light. Indeed, one scene features 8 million points of light — a visual feat that required Bernardi to create custom code.

Bernardi says the look and feel of *Coco* was the product of both his imagination and several fact-finding trips to Mexico, where designers observed Day of the Dead celebrations in locations big and small. In the movie, for instance, the Land of the Dead is inspired by the hillside city of Guanajuato.

“At Pixar, research is vitally important. When I worked on *Finding Nemo*, I had to become certified in scuba, so I could see what a coral reef looked like. For *Cars*, I took a trip down Route 66, so I’d know what it’s like to stand in the desert heat when the sun goes down. And for *WALL-E*, I got to go to ...”
Outerspace?!

“No, a garbage dump,” he says.

Nothing and everything about Bernardi’s education at Washington University prepared him for this career. Bernardi, a native of Edwardsville, Illinois, majored in biology and had even taken the MCAT when he decided to write music



“We are the carpenters and masons of Pixar, but instead of working with wood and brick, we are using code and software.” — Chris Bernardi

for film. Like Miguel, Bernardi loved music. As a student, he played with the popular local band Big Fun and took electronic and computer music classes. Soon, his passion for making music for film morphed into an interest in making graphics for film.

“There’s actually a logic to that progression,” Bernardi says. “The underlying functions and math behind sound design and computer design are similar.”

The field was new, and the technology changed rapidly. To adapt, Bernardi leaned on his liberal arts education.

“Ultimately, my classes taught me how to acquire knowledge,” Bernardi says. “Having a broad education across technologies and disciplines gave me the confidence to try new things.” And seemingly it honed a talent — much like the movie *Coco* — to shine brightly. 🎓

Diane Torioan Keaggy, AB '90, is senior news director of campus life.



FROM TOP: *Coco*, *Inside Out*, *Cars*, *Finding Nemo*
(All graphics courtesy of Pixar Animation Studios)



Staying engaged is a win-win

Steven G. Segal, BSBA '82, chair of the Alumni Board of Governors, answers questions about his longtime commitment to the university and how staying involved adds value for all: the university, alumni and current students.



“The talented students who were my classmates were probably the biggest influence on my education.”

— Steven G. Segal

It is difficult to overstate the role that Washington University has played in Steven Segal's life. He met and fell in love with his future wife, Ellen Binstock Segal, BSBA '82, while he was a student at Olin Business School. Two of the Segals' three children are WashU graduates, and the third currently attends as a member of the Arts & Sciences Class of 2019. Segal is the 2017–18 chair of the Alumni Board of Governors (ABG), serves on the Olin Business School National Council, co-chairs the Boston committee for *Leading Together: The Campaign for Washington University*, and serves on the Boston Regional Cabinet. He was honored with an Olin

Distinguished Alumni Award in 2013.

Now living in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, Segal is a special limited partner with J.W. Childs Associates, a Boston-based private equity firm he co-founded in 1995, and an executive-in-residence and lecturer for Boston University's Questrom School of Business.

What was your first volunteer role for WashU?

My wife and I hosted a Washington University Summer Send-Off event in our home when our oldest was in high school. The event was coordinated by the Alumni and Parents Admission Program (APAP), and it gave new Boston-area students and their families an opportunity to meet each other before the start of the school year. It was fun — my wife and I enjoyed sharing our love of WashU with a new generation. I had other volunteer roles through the years, which eventually led to my work with the ABG as chair of the development committee. After joining the committee, I learned that I was the first person living outside St. Louis to serve as chair of Annual Giving. I was excited to help WashU reach that milestone, because I think it is important for the university to attract alumni volunteers from across the country.

What are some of your goals as the new chair of the Alumni Board of Governors?

We will continue to look for strategic ways to make all alumni networks more valuable for

alumni and explore new ways to engage alumni immediately following graduation. We are also focused on helping today's students recognize the importance of giving back to the university. Finally, we want to get more voices of recent alumni and current students into the ABG. Together as a group, the ABG tries to help the university become a better resource for alumni.

You made your first gift to the university the year after you graduated, and you have continued giving for 35 years. What inspired you, as a young alumnus, to make that first gift?

I guess I always understood that my relationship to the university wasn't purely a transactional one. I started out making small gifts, and my gifts grew as my career progressed. I knew that Washington University was a great school because of the alumni who came before me, and I knew it continued to do well because of alumni generosity.

The good news is that the number of alumni who give back to the university keeps growing. It costs a lot for any university to attract and retain great educators and great students. The talented students who were my classmates were probably the biggest influence on my education. They helped me stay motivated, and they inspired me. Many of them were at the university because of scholarships made possible by alumni gifts.

What advice would you give to alumni who want to become more involved?

The level of engagement we all experienced during our years as students easily translates to volunteering for the university. Whether you join your Reunion committee or interview students for the APAP, there are plenty of ways to get involved without a huge time commitment. I have found it incredibly rewarding to remain connected to the institution that had such a strong impact on my life and career. As an added benefit, I get the chance to meet alumni from different class years and schools who are doing interesting and important work. 

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VOLUNTEER?

Contact the Alumni Association:
alumniassociation@wustl.edu or 314-935-7378

Come back to where it all began.

ReUNION 2018

Reunion at Thurtene Carnival

APRIL 13–15

Celebrating all alumni, with special events for the following undergraduate classes:

1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993*, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013 and 2017

All alumni are invited to return to campus and reconnect with friends and classmates during Thurtene Carnival. Choose from a full schedule of class parties, campus tours, the “Cocktails with Classmates” welcome reception, visits to St. Louis attractions, the 25th Reunion recognition ceremony, an alumni barbecue, faculty-led sessions and more!

Olin Reunion Weekend

APRIL 12–14

Celebrating all undergraduate and graduate alumni of Olin Business School

All Olin alumni are invited to come back to campus to reconnect with friends, classmates and faculty during Reunion at Thurtene Carnival. The weekend will include the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Gala, Lessons in Leadership breakfast and panel discussion, and a Graduate Reunion Reception.

Reunion at Commencement

MAY 17–19

Honoring the following classes:

1943, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963 and 1968*

Undergraduate, Nursing, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy alumni from the 50th and Emeritus (beyond 50th Reunion) classes will celebrate their Reunion in conjunction with Commencement. With a weekend full of luncheons, receptions, tours, class parties and open houses, there will be something for everyone to enjoy. The Class of 1968 will also participate in the Medallion Ceremony and the Class of 2018 Commencement Ceremony.

**Classes of 1993 and 1968 to receive ceremonial recognition for their 25th and 50th Reunions, respectively*

Visit REUNIONS.WUSTL.EDU for more information.



From left: Aurora Kerscher, AB '92; Virginia Bute-Riley, BArch '93; and Khadem Mahmud Yusuf, BS '92, stop for a photo during their 25th Reunion Class Party.



Members of the Class of 1997 recreate a photo taken 21 years earlier at their sorority semi-formal.



David King, AB '67, poses with his wife, M. Gretchen Henry, during his 50th Reunion Class Party.

Inspired by our community

Historic *Leading Together* campaign nears its conclusion



With only three months remaining, *Leading Together: The Campaign for Washington University* has entered the home stretch with great momentum.

Seeing our alumni, parents, friends, faculty, staff and students come together in support of the university is truly inspiring. As of January 31, more than 152,500 donors have contributed approximately \$2.9 billion to *Leading Together*, including \$535 million for scholarships and fellowships. Such generosity helps to ensure that Washington University can serve society with distinction for generations to come. It also sends a strong message: Our great institution has the support of those who know it best.

This historic initiative will conclude on June 30, 2018. I extend my gratitude to those who have given — and to those who continue to give. If you have yet to participate, I hope you will join us in securing a strong foundation for Washington University's future.

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

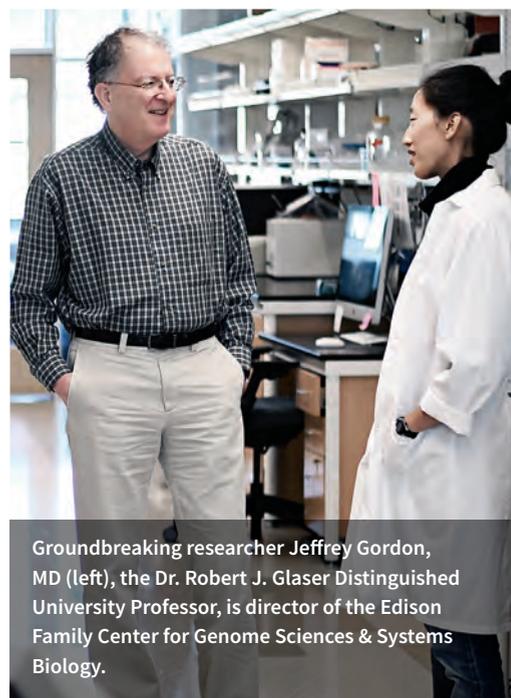
Andrew C. Taylor, Life Trustee
Executive Chair, Enterprise Holdings
Chair, *Leading Together*

The Harry Edison Foundation helps to fight malnutrition

The global fight against childhood malnutrition has received a helping hand via a \$10 million gift from the Harry Edison Foundation to support the interdisciplinary Center for Genome Sciences & Systems Biology and the groundbreaking work of its director, Jeffrey Gordon, MD, the Dr. Robert J. Glaser Distinguished University Professor.

"This support from the Harry Edison Foundation will enable us to make timely investments to enhance the work of the group of extraordinarily gifted, creative and inspiring students who we, the faculty, are so fortunate to have in our labs," Gordon says. "Through the Harry Edison Foundation, the Edison and Newman families have had a profound impact on life and health in St. Louis and beyond. Both families' belief in our center and our potential to improve the health and well-being of people around the world encourages and enables us to keep making progress."

In recognition of the ongoing generosity of the Edison family toward Washington University, the center is being renamed the Edison Family Center for Genome Sciences & Systems Biology.



Groundbreaking researcher Jeffrey Gordon, MD (left), the Dr. Robert J. Glaser Distinguished University Professor, is director of the Edison Family Center for Genome Sciences & Systems Biology.

James Beard



Couches advancing personalized medicine

As a member of the Washington University School of Medicine National Council for nearly two decades, George Couch has had a close-up view of breakthroughs that have revolutionized the way scientists and physicians approach disease. In summer 2017, Couch and his wife, Debra Couch, made a commitment to support one of the School of Medicine’s highest priorities: personalized medicine. In recognition of their \$10 million pledge, the university has named the newest research building at the Washington University Medical Center the Debra and George W. Couch III Biomedical Research Building. A ceremony to dedicate the building took place Oct. 6, 2017.

The Couches’ gift will establish an endowed fund that has been designated to support the Genome Engineering and Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell Center, which gives scientists throughout the university and beyond access to innovative gene-editing technology.

“If we are able to help mitigate suffering in any way, that’s a larger contribution to humanity than Debra and I ever envisioned we would make,” George Couch says. “We feel very fortunate that we can do something that has such potential to help others.”

This gift follows years of significant support for Washington University, including the couple’s commitment in 1986 to establish The Gregory B. Couch Professorship in Psychiatry in memory of George Couch’s brother.

Courtesy photo

Debra and George Couch

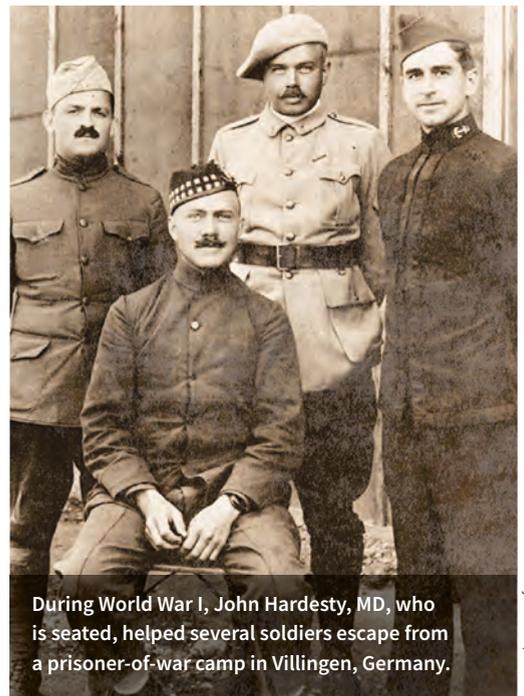
Ophthalmology department renamed to honor Poole’s father, a pioneering glaucoma researcher

“My father was modest and humble,” Jane Hardesty Poole, AB ’61, says of the late John Hardesty, MD — a pathbreaking ophthalmologist and World War I hero. “He wanted to be a doctor simply to help people. On top of his great ability, he gave freely of his time and resources. He stands as a shining example of what every doctor should be.”

To honor her father’s memory and his legacy of service to his profession and society, Poole committed \$10 million to the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at Washington University School of Medicine. In recognition, the department will be renamed the John F. Hardesty, MD, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

Poole earlier honored her father by establishing the John F. Hardesty, MD, Distinguished Professorship in Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at Washington University. The position is held by pediatric ophthalmologist R. Lawrence Tyachsen, MD.

To learn more about Poole and her father, see pg. 34.



During World War I, John Hardesty, MD, who is seated, helped several soldiers escape from a prisoner-of-war camp in Villingen, Germany.

Missouri History Museum, St. Louis

Practicing generosity

Alumna Jane Hardesty Poole learned from her physician-father the importance of giving. Today, she continues to support the university in honor of his lifetime of service.

BY MARY LEE

When Jane Hardesty Poole, AB '61, was a young girl, her father taught her how to knit. The celebrated St. Louis ophthalmologist trained himself from a book. It was an unusual thing for a father to do in the 1940s. But John Hardesty, MD, was no ordinary man.

A longtime professor of ophthalmology at Saint Louis University, Hardesty pioneered the systemic use of epinephrine to treat glaucoma in 1934. He provided free eye care throughout the St. Louis region and advocated for laws to benefit the blind. And as a member of the U.S. Army Medical Corps serving with the British Army's Seaforth Highlanders during World War I, he risked his life to treat soldiers on the front lines and help plan the escape of several officers from a prisoner-of-war camp in Germany.

Poole adored her father. "My mother told me one of his patients came in and asked about me once," she says. "My father replied that when he kissed my hand, I curled it up and said I was never going to wash it."

Hardesty's death in 1953, when Poole was 14, affected her deeply. But it wasn't until years later that she realized how much he influenced her life's path, particularly her decision to leave St. Louis and pursue a career instead of marriage after her graduation from Washington University — an unconventional choice at the time.

"My father provided the unconditional love that every child needs," she says. "He gave me the confidence and courage to move to New York City with few friends, no job, no place to live and very little money. I hand it all to him."



Jane Hardesty Poole

Jennifer Westland, BFA '92

An adventurous life

In 1961, when Poole earned her bachelor's degree in political science, about 6 percent of American women had completed four or more years of college. Most of her friends were married by age 20. Her mother insisted she finish her degree. "She wanted me to be able to take care of myself no matter what happened in life," Poole says.

With her education complete, Poole sought excitement — and a job — in the Big Apple. Her first position as a salesperson at Saks Fifth Avenue came just as she was running out of money. She went on to work as an assistant to a senior editor at *Glamour* magazine and as a secretary at Merrill Lynch, where she passed the test to become a licensed stockbroker on her first try. The brokerage houses were not ready for women in the late '60s, she says, so she moved on to an interior design firm.



“Although I never found the perfect career, I learned something valuable from every one of those jobs, which helped when I went to work as a realtor in the mid-1980s,” she says.

Poole loved being single in the city. Her busy social life included dinners, theater outings and galas. A *Life* magazine photo of her taken during this time is displayed in her Midtown Manhattan apartment.

“I went out with all kinds of people because they were interesting,” she says. “I had a terrific time.”

Although she had no intention of marrying until she was 40, Poole fell in love with F. Harrison Poole, an executive with Philip Morris. They married in 1972, when she was 33, and their daughter, Josephine, was born in 1976. Poole’s husband’s position as vice president and treasurer required him to travel across the country and to Europe, and she enjoyed accompanying him.

Poole’s passion for travel grew even further after she married her second husband, Robert Bendheim, a philanthropist and retired president of a textile manufacturing firm. Together, they toured countries around the globe. Since Bendheim’s death in 2009, Poole has taken many trips with friends.

employment programs and other services to adults with developmental disabilities. Her daughter resides in one of the agency’s group homes.

Just as she attributes her strength and courage to her father, Poole credits him for her generosity. “My father was known for helping patients who could not pay,” she says. “He gave freely of his time and resources. I like to think I got that from him.”

A desire to honor her father led her to establish the John F. Hardesty, MD, Distinguished Professorship in Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at Washington University School of Medicine in 2011. In 2017, she made an additional \$10 million commitment to support the department. In recognition, it will be renamed the John F. Hardesty, MD, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at a dedication ceremony in September 2018.

These gifts have helped Poole reconnect with her alma mater. She is a member of Washington University’s New York Regional Cabinet, and she frequently attends university events in the city. She also hosts receptions for students from the

“My father was known for helping patients who could not pay. He gave freely of his time and resources. I like to think I got that from him.” — Jane Hardesty Poole

Another passion, collecting 16th- and 17th-century Japanese Imari porcelain, was fueled by her travels. She acquired her first piece in Japan in 1971 and began expanding her collection in 1984 during excursions to London to scour antique shops. The hobby opened doors to friendships with antique dealers and museum curators. She has since donated 16 vases to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. “I’m thrilled and astounded that my pieces will be displayed in the museum,” says Poole, who was told she is the only American collecting this type of pottery.

A legacy of generosity

Poole’s philanthropy extends well beyond her porcelain. She contributed her father’s papers and military memorabilia to the Missouri History Museum. And she has made significant gifts to Ability Beyond, a nonprofit that provides residential living and

McDonnell International Scholars Academy, who visit New York every other spring.

“I have known Jane for many years,” Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton says. “She is a tremendously warm and giving person who is deeply committed to her family. Her remarkable generosity in honor of her father will extend and preserve his legacy and benefit the School of Medicine for generations to come.”

Poole had intended to provide funds for the professorship through her estate but changed her mind during a meeting with Chancellor Wrighton in 2010. “I realized it would be more fun to pay tribute to my father while I was alive,” she says. “Nothing has given me more joy. It’s my way of celebrating a man who shaped my life and gave so much to others.” 

Mary Lee is director of development communications.

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 wustlmagclassnotes@wustl.edu

Washington magazine publishes Classnotes in print issues.

ALUMNI CODES

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

50s

Jay M. Lapin, EN50, and **Ruby (Sander) Lapin**, BU51, GR66, celebrated 65 years of marriage in June 2017. Jay, a retired consulting engineer, and Ruby, a retired teacher and writer, have been very active in alumni activities and in Washington University's Lifelong Learning Institute. Ruby has facilitated writing and other courses since the institute's founding 22 years ago.

Sanford Bank, BU51, presented his grandson, **Harrison Bank**, LA17, his diploma at graduation ceremonies in May 2017. Sanford's father, **Abraham Bank**, MT1908, EN1912, was also a WashU alum.

Graham "Terry" Flint Jr., EN56, writes that he still works out at the YMCA and that all is well in Pennsylvania. He last worked at RAND Corporation, where he conducted studies for the U.S. Air Force.

60s

Eugene Markowski, FA60, received the Marquis Who's Who Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award in art, education and military in June 2017.

Nicholas T. Kouchoukos, MD61, was awarded the 2017 A.N. Bakoulev Prize from the Russian Association of Cardiovascular Surgeons and delivered the Alexander Bakoulev Memorial Lecture at the Scientific Council of the A.N. Bakoulev National Center for Cardiovascular Surgery in Moscow. He was the John M. Shoenberg Professor of Cardiovascular Surgery at WashU from 1985 to 1996.

Glenn Moreton, LA65, a photo-realist painter of contemporary cityscapes, was featured in an article in *The Artist's Magazine* (November 2017). His paintings have appeared in galleries in New

York, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.; in Moscow, his work was included in the first show of American artists at the State Tretyakov Gallery.

Perci Chester, FA67, had a one-woman show, *In Search of the Glass Slipper, San Francisco, 1974 Photographs*, at the Traffic Zone Center for Visual Art in downtown Minneapolis. Chester is a visual artist, sculptor, painter, photographer and printmaker.

Judy (Friedman) Schnitzer, LA67, says WashU had a major impact on her life. She participated in the study abroad program in France; met her future husband, the late **Robert Schnitzer**, LA67, on campus; and made many lifelong friendships. She has two sons, a daughter-in-law and four grandchildren.

R. Nelson Koopman, EN68, was elected to the board of trustees of Benedictine University in Springfield, Illinois.

Joy Passanante, LA69, published her fourth book, *Through a Long Absence: Words from My Father's Wars* (Ohio State University Press, 2017). Drawing on the letters, paintings and wartime diary of her father, **Bart Passanante**, LA35, MD39, she narrates his experiences as a young doctor in a World War II medical unit and his painful, nearly three-year separation from his wife.

70s

Richard Batterberry, BU70, retired from Barnes Dennig, where he headed the firm's not-for-profit public accounting practice.

Barbara (Morgan) Detjen, LA70, recently won a Pfizer Worldwide Research & Development Achievement Award. Detjen, who is Pfizer's senior director of vaccine development, led an international team that accelerated a key milestone in the development of the company's investigational

Clostridium difficile vaccine. In 2015, *C. difficile* caused nearly half a million infections in the U.S., resulting in an estimated 15,000 deaths.

Charlie Seymour, SI70, wrote *Walt: A Story of Fathers, Sons, and Road Trips* (Archway Publishing, 2016), which tells the story of a cross-country trip that he patterned after his father's 1926 trip. Through diary excerpts and photos, Seymour points out the changes that occurred over time, the delight of visiting new places, and the special bonds that exist between fathers and sons.

Joe Madison, LA71, signed a new, exclusive, multiyear contract with SiriusXM radio for his show on SiriusXM's Urban View channel 126. On each daily show, Madison discusses the latest political news with leading politicians, newsmakers and pundits.

Albert Ip, EN73, executive director and CEO of Langham Hospitality Investments Ltd. in Hong Kong, was elected as an Ethan A.H. Shepley Trustee on WashU's Board of Trustees for a four-year term ending in December 2021. Ip also was appointed to the advisory council of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology School of Business and Management and to Hong Kong Polytechnic University's advisory board in accounting and finance.

Tom Lassar, LA73, HS81, is professor of medicine/interventional cardiology at the University of Arizona College of Medicine, Sarver Heart Center. Previously, he was at Case Western Reserve University Hospitals in Cleveland.

Ralph "Rusty" Schroedel Jr., EN74, was named a 2016 Water Environment Federation (WEF) Fellow in recognition of his contributions to the water profession. A wastewater specialist with AECOM in Milwaukee, Schroedel designs plant processes for treatment facilities around the world.

Stuart Dorsey, GR75, GR78, was appointed to the NCAA Division III Presidents Council, the highest governing body in Division III. Now in his seventh year as president of Texas Lutheran University, Dorsey previously was president of the University of Redlands.

Randy Kahan, SW76, and Joan Cauley were married in July 2017. The couple resides in Arlington, Texas, where Kahan works for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Previously, he was president of the board of trustees of Crowley Independent School District and an assistant professor of social work at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas.

Terry Martin, UC76, SW77, was invited to present his research on anxiety at the May 2018 Stress, Depression and Anxiety Conference in Frankfurt, Germany.

Michael Shindler, LW76, was appointed chair of the Carolina Performing Arts International Advisory Board. The board champions the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill as a leading university arts presenter. In his sixth year on the board, Shindler was originally appointed by WashU Provost Holden Thorp when he was chancellor at UNC.

Francesca Woods, OT76, retired from St. Charles Community College after 20 years as coordinator for the occupational therapy assistant program. She and her husband, James Klein, who were recently blessed with their first grandchild, plan to travel.

Thomas O. Bean, LA77, a partner with Verrill Dana, LLP in the firm's Boston office, has been recognized as a Best Lawyer in every edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2012. Bean represents businesses at the trial and appellate levels in complex disputes with government and with other businesses, and in insolvency matters.

Ted Rich, LA77, who recently retired from Korn Ferry after 19 years with the human resources consulting firm, reports that he is excited to start a new journey.

Bruce Friedman, LA78, was once again recognized as a Best Lawyer in the area of family law in the 2018 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Friedman has been listed in the publication every year since 2003.

Douglas W. Kueffner, GA78, received the 2017 Robert F. Hastings Award for his contributions to AIA Michigan and to the architecture profession. A partner with WTA Architects, Kueffner oversees contracts, client development and project management in a broad range of projects.

Ira Spector, EN78, EN78, founded SFA Therapeutics, a development-stage, biopharmaceutical company focused on new advancements in the treatment of inflammatory diseases. The company is focusing initially on psoriasis and liver disease, hepatitis B and hepatitis C, and nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH). Previously, Spector worked 35 years in medical device and pharmaceutical research and development.

Gary M. Feldman, LA79, an attorney with Davis, Malm & D'Agostine, P.C. was named to the 2018 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* in the areas of employment law and labor and employment litigation.

80s

Brad Graber, HA80, is pleased to share that his debut novel, *The Intersect* (Dark Victory Press, 2016), won a National Indie Excellence Award.

Robert Schwartz, LW80, general counsel of Deer Park Road Corporation, an investment

management company in Steamboat Springs, Colo., was featured recently in an article in *Modern Counsel* magazine.

Gene Gragg, FA81, and his wife, **Ellen (Liston) Gragg**, LA81, are the new owners of The Spanish Clubhouse, a language school for children and adults in Kirkwood, Mo. The couple lives in Ballwin, Mo.

Frederick Heger, GB81, is the CFO of 360 Solutions, a St. Louis auto parts company. Heger and his wife, Eleanor, relocated to St. Louis from Tulsa, Okla.

David Levine, AR83, is proud to share that his first novel, *Arabella of Mars* (Tor Science Fiction, 2016), the first book in the Adventures of Arabella Ashbay Series, won the Andre Norton Award for Young Adult Science Fiction and Fantasy. The annual award is presented by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America to the author of the best young adult or middle-grade science fiction or fantasy book published in the U.S. in the preceding year. The second book in the series, *Arabella and the Battle of Venus*, was published in July 2017, and the concluding book, *Arabella the Traitor of Mars*, will appear this year.

Kathy Weinberg, FA84, had work in the annual juried show at The Painting Center in New York City. She was also in a two-person show at the Maine Jewish Museum, along with Jeffrey Ackerman (WashU School of Fine Arts 1983). The show featured Weinberg's recent paintings and Ackerman's sculpture.

Alexander "Alex" S. Douglas II, LA86, a partner with the law firm of ShuffieldLowman, was named a 2017 Legal Elite attorney by *Florida Trend* magazine. The magazine awarded the designation to the top 2 percent of the Florida Bar's more than 67,000 members. Douglas practices in the area of fiduciary and commercial litigation.

Robert Berlin, LW87, who in November 2016 was re-elected state's attorney of DuPage County, Ill., leads a staff of 175, including 87 prosecutors. A resident of Clarendon Hills, Ill., Berlin is serving his sixth term as a Republican precinct committeeman.

James T. Madore, LA87, was appointed to the First Amendment Committee of the Society of American Business Editors and Writers, Inc. The newly established committee acts as an advocate for the First Amendment and responds to attacks on journalism.

Brian Oster, AR87, was named to the management team of Cho Benn Holback + Associates, a Quinn Evans Company. His projects include buildings for Montgomery College, Morgan State University, the University of Baltimore, the University of Maryland, Virginia Wesleyan College and the Casey Family Services Center in Baltimore.

Chuck Munson, BU88, GB94, GB98, directs the PhD program at the Carson College of Business at Washington State University. He is a co-author of two textbooks: *Operations Management: Sustainability and Supply Chain Management* (12th ed., Pearson) and *Managerial Decision Modeling: Business Analytics with Spreadsheets* (4th ed., De|G Press).

David J. Yu, LA88, who returned to St. Louis as the executive medical director of hospitalist programs with Barnes Jewish Christian Medical Group, writes that he is glad to see that I Hall suites, now called Myers House, are still standing.

Susan-Ann Swan, LA89, is a professor of English at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas. She is married to Glen Contreras and has three daughters: Chloe Isabel Swan-Rybalka, 24; Cosette Rose Swan-Rancatore, 14; and Anais Kimme Swan-Rancatore, 11.

David Wiviott, LA89, is on the Education Advisory Committee of the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie, Ill. He is the chair of the social studies department at Old Orchard Junior High School.

90s

Paulino Do Rego Barros Jr., EMBA91, was named interim CEO at Equifax. Previously, he led the company's Asia-Pacific business, which includes Veda, the largest acquisition in Equifax's history. Barros has worked as a manager in the telecommunications, food, financial and chemical industries for more than 30 years.

Anthony M. Calcagni, BU91, who practices real estate law at Verrill Dana, was recognized as a Best Lawyer in the 2018 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*.

Barnaby W. Horton, LA91, a financial adviser specializing in corporate and executive retirement benefits with Merrill Lynch in Hartford, was named by the *Financial Times* for the third straight year as a Top 401 Retirement Advisor for 2017. He is a board member of Hartford's Camp Courant and a member of the Asylum Hill Congregational Church Sanctuary Choir.

Michael J. Pfeifer, LA91, is professor of history at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and the CUNY Graduate Center. His most recent book, which appeared in two volumes, is *Global Lynching and Collective Violence* (University of Illinois Press, 2017).

Amanda (Paetz) Hiner, GR92, GR98, was promoted to associate professor of English at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C. She has served as the coordinator of the university's Critical Thinking Program, consulting with schools, businesses and organizations on critical-thinking strategies and

applications, and has been a focal session speaker at the International Conference on Critical Thinking and Educational Reform.

Joshua Rosenow, LA92, LA92, was promoted to professor of neurosurgery, neurology, and physical medicine and rehabilitation at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. He has served as the director of functional neurosurgery for the last 14 years. Rosenow was also elected as the national chair of the Council of State Neurosurgical Societies.

Jennifer (Zander) Wilck, LA92, authored a contemporary romance, *Addicted to Love* (Wild Rose Press, 2017).

Jeffrey E. Janis, BU93, a professor and executive vice chairman of the Department of Plastic Surgery at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, was elected president of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons.

Hope Korenstein, LA93, wrote a cookbook, *7x7 Cooking: The Art of Cooking in a Small Kitchen* (Skyhorse Publishing, 2013), which includes photographs by her WashU classmate **Jennifer Silverberg**, LA93. Korenstein, who is a practicing attorney, cooks for her husband and two children in their Brooklyn, N.Y., kitchen. Silverberg, an editorial and commercial photographer, lives in St. Louis with her husband and their cat, Claire.

Michael Suchman, LA93, LW96, and his husband, Ethan Ciment, received a 2016 Veg News Bloggy Award for their blog, *veganmos.com*. They recently traveled to veg fests to conduct cooking demonstrations and promote their first cookbook, *NYC Vegan: Iconic Recipes for a Taste of the Big Apple* (Vegan Heritage Press, 2017).

Ann Bauer, LW94, a founding member and attorney with The Center for Family Law, was named to the 2018 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Bauer was the

2013 recipient of the Missouri Bar's Roger P. Krumm Family Law Award.

André Landau-Remy, LA94, published *From Germany to Brazil: Our Family's Story* (Create Space, 2017), which relates the story of his German grandparents' migration to Brazil in 1935. The book also tells of the escape of his grandmother's family from Berlin in 1945 as the Soviet army approached the city and of the history of his extended family, which included an Austrian president and a Nobel laureate.

Keva Landrum-Johnson, LA94, the presiding judge for New Orleans Parish District Criminal Court, Section E, was recently chosen as the court's chief judge. She is the first African-American woman to be appointed to this office. Along with her new responsibilities for overseeing the administrative functions of the court and serving as an ex officio member on all court committees, Landrum-Johnson continues to preside over criminal proceedings in Section E.

Mark Salinas, FA95, is the director of arts and culture for Carson City, Nev. Salinas was awarded a Big Read Literary Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and was appointed by the governor to the board of the Nevada Arts Council. He also serves on the board of the Western Nevada Boys & Girls Club in Carson City.

Daniel Messeloff, LA96, an attorney in the practice of employment law with Tucker Ellis, was selected for inclusion in the 2018 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*.

Benjamin Rubin, LA97, and Jill (Herbert) Rubin welcomed their third child, Jackson Finn Rubin, in June 2017. Jackson is the grandson of the late **James Rubin**, LA68, and **Barbara (Herman) Rubin-Greenberg**, LA69, and the great-grandson of Samuel H. Rubin, MD, and **Audrey (Arndt) Rubin**, LA43.

Lisa Brown, LA98, and Rebecca Chambers recently welcomed a

son, Benjamin, to their family. Brown was promoted to business editor at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* after seven years as a reporter. The family lives in St. Louis.

Leo Cabassa, LA98, SW01, SW05, returned with his family to St. Louis, where he joined the Brown School faculty as an associate professor.

Yann Palmore, BU98, is vice president of Smart Building Solutions for JLL. Previously, he was president of Evolved Buildings, which he founded.

Arsalan Iftikhar, LA99, LW03, joined Georgetown University's Alwaleed Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding as a senior research fellow. An international human rights lawyer and scholar, Iftikhar is the author of *Scapegoats: How Islamophobia Helps Our Enemies and Threatens Our Freedoms* (Hot Books, 2016).

Seth Rogoff, LA99, wrote a novel, *First, the Raven: A Preface* (Sagging Meniscus Press, 2017), that brings two old friends together in a Maine bar during a blizzard. Their conversation spirals the friends into confusion, doubt and despair, but a glimmer of hope remains. Rogoff, his wife and their two children have lived in Prague since 2015.

John J. Scharkey, LA99, co-founded Sweeney & Scharkey LLC, which focuses on commercial and employment litigation for publicly traded and closely held companies, partnerships and high-net worth individuals. Previously, he was at Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP.

00s

Andrew Baker, LA00, was recently promoted to partner at RMB Capital, an independent financial services firm that he joined in 2008. Baker was named vice president in 2014 and became portfolio manager for multistrategy alternative portfolios in 2015.

The real deal

In 1967, New York City forced nearly 2,000 low-income families out of a 20-acre area on the Lower East Side to make way for the Seward Park Extension Urban Renewal Area (SPURA), a \$50 million project that promised new, affordable housing units that the displaced families could move back into. Of the six planned buildings, only two were built, and the area has languished ever since.

But Washington University alumnus Paul Pariser, AB '76, is helping make good on that half-century-old promise, taking the blighted area of Manhattan in a chic — and affordable — new direction.

Pariser is the co-chief executive officer and co-founder of Taconic Investment Partners, a real estate development and investment firm based in New York City. Since its creation in 1997, Taconic has acquired, developed and repositioned more than 12 million square feet of commercial and residential space in New York.

“Taconic strives for, in the ideal, extraordinary vision and creativity,” Pariser says, “and to create returns that are excellent for our investors and to service the community in which we operate.”

Essex Crossing, the \$1.5 billion development being built on the old SPURA site, is one of Taconic’s biggest and most exciting projects. The development will bring hundreds of thousands of square feet of office and retail space, as well as 1,000 new apartments. Half of the apartment units planned in the new development will be permanent, affordable housing for lower-income residents and senior citizens.

Pariser brings nearly 40 years of experience in the real estate development business to the Essex Crossing project. He graduated from Washington University with a biology degree, which might seem unusual for someone who ended up in real estate development.

“My actual major was in an area called ethology, which is animal behavior, and I thought it was a great stepping stone into New York real estate,” he jokes. “When I was younger, I truly didn’t know what I was going to do for a living. I didn’t go to college with a specific plan. I went with a view that I was going to have fun and learn and mature.”

He found his calling as an MBA student at Columbia University. For an assignment in one of his classes, Pariser and a friend invested in a plot of land in Lake Placid, New York, with the hope of turning it into housing for the 1980 Winter Olympics.

“I certainly did well in the class, but moreover, I wound up learning a lot. The investment exposed me to real estate and got me excited by real estate,” Pariser says.



Courtesy photo

Paul Pariser, AB '76, is reshaping Manhattan with his real estate development and investment firm, Taconic Investment Partners.

He joined real estate investment management company Jones Lang Wooten in 1978 and later served as the president and CEO of Balfour Holdings, which he helped sell in 1997. From there, he created Taconic.

“Paul brings experience and know-how to the team. He digs in and focuses while keeping a global perspective,” says Sandy Loewentheil, AB '76, the chairman of L+M Development Partners, a collaborator on the Essex Crossing project.

Both Loewentheil and Pariser serve on WashU’s Arts & Sciences National Council, an advisory committee to the dean. The two met as students during a regular off-campus basketball game and have stayed in touch ever since.

Essex Crossing is the first project the two have worked on together as real estate developers. Taconic and L+M, as well as BFC Partners, won the bid to develop the area in 2013.

“Paul has been a pleasure to partner with. Our firms and partners have meshed really nicely. I believe more collaborations will follow,” Loewentheil says.

In the meantime, Essex Crossing will be home to an expanded Essex Street Market, a public food market. And Market Line — the building that will house the market — will become one of the world’s greatest public markets, at 150,000 square feet, when it opens in 2018.

The full development, when complete in 2024, will also include a movie theater, bowling alley, medical center and even a photography museum. 📷

— Alex Dropkin, AB '12, is a freelance journalist in Austin, Texas.

Danica (Rodemich) Mathes, LW01, a branding and creativity partner at Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP in Dallas, was named to the Dallas Regional Chamber's Leadership Class of 2018. She also serves as a board member and communications chair for Big Thought, which brings tailored creative learning opportunities to kids in Dallas neighborhoods with the greatest need. Visit her blog at www.imwiththebrand.guru.

Heather (Brouillet) Navarro, LA01, LW08, was elected alderwoman for the City of St. Louis' 28th Ward in July 2017. She continues in her role as executive director of the Missouri Coalition for the Environment.

Cassie (Arensberg) Zpevak, LA01, and her husband, **Chris Zpevak**, EN02, GB02, welcomed a daughter, Tavie Virginia, in March 2017. After an assignment in Mexico City, the couple returned to Dallas, where Chris is vice president of sales operations at AT&T and Cassie continues her veterinary relief service business, Cassie Cares, PLLC.

Michael N. Fine, LA02, a partner with Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, was selected by the American Health Lawyers Association (AHLA) to chair the tax and finance practice group. The AHLA is the nation's largest, nonpartisan educational organization that has been devoted to legal issues in the health-care field for the past 50 years.

Ari Elias-Bachrach, EN03, and **Rebecca (Belzer) Elias-Bachrach**, LA03, are living with their four children in Silver Spring, Md., after spending a year in Israel. Ari is a software security engineer with TD Ameritrade, and Rebecca is a pediatrician with Primary Pediatrics.

Kjell Erik Brekke, GR03, returned with his family to Norway after three years as first secretary at the Norwegian Embassy in Washington, D.C. Brekke now is a

senior adviser in the Legal Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Rachel Dalton, LA03, HA05, and her husband, Daniel Weiss, welcomed their first child, Zachary Weiss, in July 2017. Rachel works as a health-care consultant at Loeb & Troper, LLP in New York City. The family lives in Queens.

Leah Hofferkamp, GA03, was named to the Ones to Watch list in the interior design profession by the American Society of Interior Designers. The award recognizes rising stars who demonstrate leadership potential and push the boundaries of interior design. An architect in HOK's St. Louis studio, Hofferkamp works primarily on projects in the health-care industry.

Kathleen "Katie" Antony, LA04, published a children's book, *My Shadow* (Orange Hat Publishing, 2017), whose proceeds are being donated to two literacy organizations: International Literacy Association and Reach Out and Read Wisconsin.

Alison (Kleaver) Jordan, LA04, and Jonathan Jordan were married in Long Beach, Calif., in May 2017. She is employed by the Office of General Counsel for the California State University System as university counsel for Humboldt State University. The couple resides in Los Angeles with two rescue dogs, Goose and Maverick.

Kevin Mang, BU04, recently celebrated 13 years with Nestlé USA and is now a business optimization manager. The company selected him to attend the USC Food Industry Management Program, where he graduated with a certificate in May 2017. His daughter will be 2 years old this May.

Adannaa Alexander, LA05, has been living in Guyana and working with the Peace Corps for the past five years. She and her Guyanese husband, Nigel, who is a physician, have a young son, Jurgen.

Walker Averitt, BU05, GB06, is a real estate agent with Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate after working 10 years in health-care administration at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Keona K. Ervin, GR05, GR09, assistant professor of history at the University of Missouri, published *Gateway to Equality: Black Women and the Struggle for Economic Justice in St. Louis* (University Press of Kentucky, 2017). The book investigates black working-class women's struggle for economic justice from the rise of New Deal liberalism in the 1930s to the social upheavals of the 1960s.

Luke Jumper, GA05, was selected by the Illinois Community College Trustees Association from a field of 29 nominees to receive the Outstanding Faculty Member Award. Jumper is the coordinator of Lewis and Clark Community College's architectural technology and drafting and design programs.

Rafi Kohan, LA05, published *The Arena: Inside the Tailgating, Ticket-Scalping, Mascot-Racing, Dubiously Funded, and Possibly Haunted Monuments of American Sport* (Liveright, 2017). The book takes fans inside the deals, dealings and controversies of America's most iconic sports stadiums.

Matthew Lauer, LA05, earned a PhD in East Asian languages and cultures from the University of California, Los Angeles, in June 2017 and is studying premodern Korean history at Harvard, which awarded him a postdoctoral fellowship for the 2017-18 term.

Audrey (Ting) Schmook, LA05, and her husband, **Zachary Schmook**, LW07, moved to Norman, Okla., after returning from an Army deployment in Honduras. Zachary teaches legal writing and research at the University of Oklahoma School of Law, and Audrey has taken a work hiatus to explore the city with their

daughter, Jocelyn, 2. Their older daughter, Layla, is in kindergarten.

Catherine Lena Kelly, LA06, is a research adviser at the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative in Washington, D.C. Over the past two years, Kelly's job has taken her to Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Morocco and Rwanda.

Keydra (Phillips) Oladapo, GM06, is a U.S. diplomat for Southern Africa, serving as chief of epidemiology, surveillance, monitoring and evaluation for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Jennifer (Selke) Ramirez, LA06, and **Rafael Ramirez**, GA07, joyfully welcomed their first children, twins Madeline and Joey, in November 2016.

Karl Riley, BU06, an attorney with Snell & Wilmer, was named 2017 Young Lawyer of the Year by the State Bar of Nevada. Riley represents financial services institutions in federal and state forums.

Melissa Teply, LA06, completed a medical fellowship in hospice and palliative medicine at Johns Hopkins University and is an assistant professor in general internal medicine and palliative medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Beth (Wolfson) Winters, LA06, and her husband, **Joshua Winters**, LA04, welcomed a daughter, Ava Rebecca, in June 2016. The family lives in Austin, Texas, where Beth is enrolled in the MBA program at McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas.

hannah draper, LA07, GR07, with her husband, Eric Edwards, and their young son moved to Ankara, Turkey, for a three-year assignment with the U.S. Foreign Service. In September 2017, draper began a Transatlantic Diplomacy Fellowship as a diplomat working in the Turkish Foreign Ministry in Ankara.

Nathan Heigert, FA07, and his wife, Kelly, welcomed their first child, Oliver Blake, in February 2017.

An Exceptionally Powerful Gift

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The Jackson Johnson Scholarship — established in 1930 through the estate of Jackson Johnson — has benefited more than 700 medical students including a Nobel laureate, Washington University department chairs and faculty, and outstanding physicians and researchers throughout the world.

The Emma Showman Memorial Scholarship — established in 2005 through the estate of Winfred Showman, MD '21, and Emma Thompson Showman — honors her memory by providing support for students majoring in education in

Arts & Sciences. To date, 25 Showman scholars have benefited from this generous bequest.

The Norvell C. Brasch Memorial Scholarship — established in 1974 by Jerome F. Brasch, EN '44, SI '47, and Rosalie Brasch — is one of seven founding scholarships in the School of Engineering & Applied Science. Endowed through the assets of a charitable life income plan, the scholarship will continue to benefit engineering students for generations to come.

To learn how you can establish an annual or endowed scholarship through your estate plan, life income plan or other planned gift, contact the Office of Planned Giving at **800-835-3503** or visit **plannedgiving.wustl.edu**.

Consult your legal and tax advisers before making a charitable gift.



LEADING Together

The Campaign for Washington University

Veronica L. Boyer, LW08, an attorney with Mette, Evans & Woodside, was named to the 2017 Women of Influence list by the *Central Penn Business Journal*. Boyer focuses her practice in construction law and litigation as well as commercial, real estate and general civil litigation.

Jennifer Coane, GR08, the editor of CogBlog, writes that this blog on cognitive research at Colby College was named to the OnlineCounselingPrograms.com list of Top Psychology Blogs of 2017. The counseling website notes that “this growing collection of posts ... specializes in making cognitive research accessible and relevant to the broader community in a relatable, illuminating and oftentimes humorous way.”

Gabriel Merlin, LA08, is a hand surgery fellow at the Philadelphia Hand Center.

Jessica F. Pizzutelli, LW08, an associate with Littler Mendelson, PC, was selected for the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce’s CLIMB Program, which connects young professionals with area business leaders for collaboration and growth. Professionals who display leadership, vision and integrity within their organizations and community are considered for the program.

Lauren (Strnad) Reynolds, OT08, OT12, and her husband, **Matthew Reynolds**, HS15, welcomed a second daughter, Avery. The couple and their two young daughters reside in Chicago, where Matthew is a vascular neurosurgeon.

Will Staton, LA08, self-published *Through Fire and Flame: Into the New Inferno* (2017), a rethinking of Dante Alighieri’s poem, *Inferno*. Awakening in a post-apocalyptic dreamscape, a confused and afraid narrator is rescued by Socrates, who leads the helpless survivor into hell, the only chance of escaping the apocalypse.

Jaclyn (Vernace) Alper, LA09, recently opened a counseling and psychotherapy private practice treating adolescents and adults in Philadelphia’s Rittenhouse Square. Her areas of specialty include trauma, anxiety and depression.

Danielle (DuRousseau) Cherney, LA09, LW12, and her husband, **Steven Cherney**, HS16, moved to Little Rock, where Steven is an assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

10s

Dione Drew, LA10, was promoted to operating vice president/general manager of Bloomingdale’s Lenox Square store in Atlanta after working five and a half years for the retailer in New York City.

Scott Friedman, LA10, joined the Houston office of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP as an associate specializing in labor and employment law.

Jessica (Weiss) Levin, LA10, and Jason Levin were married at the City Club of San Francisco in May 2017; many WashU alums attended.

Shira Stolarsky, LA10, an associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers, was named an associate of the Casualty Actuarial Society after successfully completing the society’s seven examinations.

Meghan Spriggs, GM11, is a clinical audiologist at the University of California San Diego (UC San Diego) as well as a classroom instructor and clinical preceptor for the San Diego State University–UC San Diego joint doctoral program in audiology.

Alexandra Willcockson, LA11, earned a doctoral degree in August 2017 after successfully defending her integrative biology thesis at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Neil O’Kelly, LA12, is in residency training in plastic and

reconstructive surgery in New York after earning an MD degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine in 2017. His wife, **Ginika Agbim O’Kelly**, BU12, recently earned an MBA from MIT Sloan School of Management.

Sam Propis, EN12, joined Button, a startup in New York City that works to better connect apps on mobile devices to facilitate e-commerce.

Catherine (Rafferty-Millett)

Quatrano, LA12, and **Alex**

Quatrano, LA12, were married in Marblehead, Mass., in July 2017. Catherine is a student at Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business, and Alex is a senior software engineer at Hubspot in Cambridge, Mass.

Neal Mareschal, PMBA13, is married and works at Monsanto as a category manager.

Brittany Tokasey, LA13, is in the graduate program in social psychology at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Danielle Ferretti, GB14, relocated to Austin, Texas, from San Francisco in January 2017 after her employer, NetSuite, was acquired by Oracle. She has taken on the leadership of SuiteAcademy, a philanthropic program that supports growth in STEM and cloud-computing skills by granting free NetSuite licensing to universities worldwide.

Sean FitzGibbons, GF14, was named director of the Meadows Museum of Art in Shreveport, La. Previously, he was a senior management analyst with the City of San Antonio’s Department of Arts and Culture. FitzGibbons’ own work is featured in the Public Art San Antonio collection and is in private collections.

Ellie Spitz, SW14, director of community engagement and wellness at Mishkan Chicago, was presented the 2017 Samuel A. Goldsmith Award by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan

Chicago. The award recognizes young professionals who have distinguished themselves by their work at an area Jewish agency.

Robin Schnitzer, BU15, moved to Philadelphia to serve as a full-time City Year AmeriCorps member, helping students build social-emotional and academic skills to achieve their goals.

Jessica Bluedorn, LA16, is head of marketing at Lexody, a language startup based in New York City that promotes fluency by matching native speakers with individuals interested in becoming more proficient in a second language.

Mary Katherine Hofstetter, LA16, is a medical student at the College of Medicine of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

Jason Tinero, LA16, is in the doctorate program in clinical psychology at Palo Alto University, Pacific Graduate School of Psychology–Stanford Psy.D. Consortium.

Audrey (Mecklenburg) Brooks, GM17, is a teacher at the multidistrict Deaf/Hard of Hearing Program in Blue Springs, Mo.

Meghan Gunn, LA17, received a Fulbright Scholarship to teach English and creative writing in Malaysia. Her work titled “Losing Mount Fuji” appeared in the fall 2017 issue of Cornell University’s *Rainy Day* literary magazine.

In Memoriam

1930s

Eric P. Newman, LW35; Nov. ’17 • **Charlotte (Anschuetz) Bleistein**, LA36, LW39; Sept. ’17 • **Dorothy (Danner) Hunter**, UC38; Sept. ’17 • **Gladys (Hecker) Myles**, LA38; Sept. ’17 • **Yvonne (Bost) Pickett**, NU38; Aug. ’17

1940s

Sarah (Karraker) Babington, LA40; Sept. ’17 • **J. Richard Compton**, LA40, MD43; Aug. ’17 • **Eloise**

Leveraging her seat at the table

After 20 years in finance and commercial insurance, Joyce Trimuel, EMBA '16, might seem like a surprising choice to be a chief diversity officer, even if it is at CNA, one of the country's leading commercial insurance firms.

"I always tell people I'm probably one of the most nontraditional diversity officers that you'll meet," she says. "But I was always doing diversity and inclusion work on the side of my desk."

Trimuel has long been passionate about opening up opportunities for others. As a finance major at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from a working-class family, she wasn't sure how to enter corporate America. Thanks to a program called INROADS, she learned the soft skills needed to succeed and scored an internship with Chubb, the largest commercial insurer in the United States. After graduation, she joined its specialty underwriting division in Chicago, where she worked for nearly 10 years.

During that time, and later while Trimuel was working in Washington, D.C., as Chubb's assistant vice president and regional marketing manager from 2007 to 2012, she always gave back, volunteering in education and even becoming a licensed foster parent.

But it was in 2012 when Trimuel really started focusing on opening up opportunity for others at her workplace. That year, she became Chubb's first and only female, African-American branch manager. After moving to Kansas City to start the job that had been a longtime dream, she noticed that all the brokers and agency leaders she was working with were men.

"I was baffled by the lack of women in leadership across the board," she says.

By 2013, Trimuel had created Lead.Link.Leverage, a program that helped more than 200 women in the Kansas City area develop business skills to advance their careers. Trimuel oversaw the program for three years.

Trimuel was also serving on the board for the charter school KIPP Endeavor Academy and chairing Chubb's multicultural development council. The council was a group of about 250 individuals who identified as multicultural and were positioned at the assistant vice president level or above at Chubb.

Trimuel helped organize an executive leadership program for 18 people in the group. They were divided into teams and given business problems to solve. They then presented their solutions to the C-suite.



Daniel Delgado

Joyce Trimuel, EMBA '16, has always seen her career advancement as a chance to help others. Now, as the diversity and inclusion officer for CNA, she's making their corporate culture more inclusive.

"[They were] getting access to senior leaders in a meaningful way," Trimuel says. "I'm not saying that they received promotions as a result of this one event, but it helped give them a larger and wider audience of folks to advocate for them."

At the same time, Trimuel was a student in Washington University's Executive MBA program from 2014 to 2016. A few months before the program ended, she left Chubb and took a year off to figure out what she wanted to do next.

"I'm not a job hopper," Trimuel says. "I didn't want to get into a new role and realize, 'Oh, this isn't for me.'"

Instead, she worked with her executive coach at Olin. Drawn to being a diversity and inclusion officer, Trimuel connected with an opportunity at CNA. "My skill set and the needs of the organization seemed to align perfectly," Trimuel says.

She started as the company's first chief diversity officer in March 2017. Trimuel describes her role as "outside-in work." She works to bolster a culture of inclusivity at CNA, while using new methods to recruit people to the industry, which is expected to have 400,000 vacancies by 2020.

"It takes a lot of energy to pretend all day every day, and people shouldn't have to do that [to fit in at the workplace]," Trimuel says. "We want to make sure we're providing our employees with the resources and tools that they need to be successful and to be able to bring their entire authentic self to work every day." 🧘

— Rosalind Early, AB '03, is associate editor of this magazine.

Turner Droke, LA40; July '17 • Josephine (Sippy) Schwaebe, LA41; Sept. '17 • Elbert H. Cason, MD42; Oct. '17 • Leslie F. Loewe, LA42; Aug. '17 • Annetta (Peckert) McMahon, NU42; Nov. '17 • Gloria (Sprick) Barnes, UC43; Sept. '17 • David A. Bensinger, LA43; July '17 • Charles B. Castiglione, EN43; Aug. '17 • Sidney M. Glazer, LA43; Jan. '18 • Richard A. Jones, MD43; Aug. '17 • Jean (Jones) Norwood, NU43; Aug. '17 • Robert N. Saveland, LA43; Nov. '17 • Andrew T. Carver, FA44; Nov. '17 • Helen (McDowell) Fischer, BU44; Aug. '17 • Marvin Gelber, LA44; July '17 • Jeanne (Cohen) Manesberg, FA44; Oct. '17 • David E. Smith, MD44; Nov. '17 • Nancy (Chase) Brandenburger, LA45; Nov. '17 • Lois (Baer) Miller, LA45; Aug. '17 • Sterling M. Friedman, BU46; Oct. '17 • Albert Hirson, EN46; Sept. '17 • Marion (Maizner) Perkoff, BU46; Oct. '17 • Cecelia (Ramsey) Raines, LA46; Aug. '17 • William B. Stocker, DE46; Aug. '17 • Jennie (Constantinides) Vlantou, LA46; Aug. '17 • Donald M. Baldwin, LA47; Nov. '17 • Harvey R. Bernard, MD47; Nov. '17 • David G. Kroft, GR47; Oct. '17 • William M. Landau, MD47, HS49; Nov. '17 • Walter W. McKeague, BU47; Sept. '17 • Janice (Puesser) Noland, LW47; July '17 • William W. Regan, MD47; Oct. '17 • Francis J. Sauer, EN47; Oct. '17 • Juanita (Gresham) Brownback, NU48; Aug. '17 • Lois (Mitchell) Eason, GR48; Oct. '17 • Stanley Gollub, EN48; Oct. '17 • Marilyn (Kriege) Kane, LA48; July '17 • John W. Kourik, EN48; Oct. '17 • Madelyn (Comfort) Reynolds, LA48; Nov. '17 • Perry H. Roth, BU48; Nov. '17 • Eileen (Lupo) Speiser, LA48; Oct. '17 • Lilly (Epstein) Abraham, LA49; Oct. '17 • Joy (Reinhardt) Allen, LA49; Nov. '17 • Carl A. Bade, LA49, GR51; Oct. '17 • Rudolph E. Catanzaro, LA49, MD50; Aug. '17 • Norman M. Essman, BU49; Sept. '17 • Clifford L. Fields, LA49; Sept. '17 • Francis W. Hunt, UC49; Nov. '17 • Martin E. Janis, BU49; Oct. '17 • Everett L. Jung, LA49, MD55; Nov. '17 • Carl J.

Nowacki, BU49; Nov. '17 • Irvin Shore, UC49, GR52; Aug. '17 • Margaret (Oliver) Stevens, SW49; Nov. '17 • Jack C. Tippet, LA49, MD53; Aug. '17 • Harold Wasserman, LA49; Sept. '17

1950s

Ivan S. Ankenbrandt, LA50; Oct. '17 • Gene A. Cole, UC50; Nov. '17 • Bernard H. Dell, EN50; Sept. '17 • Earl C. Essman, BU50; Sept. '17 • Ida E. Goff, GR50; Nov. '17 • John W. Hard, LA50, MD54; Sept. '17 • Gaither B. Jones, BU50; Nov. '17 • Robert R. Kenski, LA50, LW52; Oct. '17 • Irene (Polishuk) Kogutt, UC50; Sept. '17 • Eula (Constantino) Murray, GR50; Oct. '17 • John R. Otto, EN50; Nov. '17 • James R. Pettus, LA50; Sept. '17 • Saunders Schultz, FA50; July '17 • Martha (May) Stewart, LA50; Sept. '17 • Joan (Harrison) Edwards, NU51; Sept. '17 • Richard L. Ellis, DE51; Aug. '17 • John N. Frank, EN51; Sept. '17 • Bernard L. Hill, LA 51, GR52; July '17 • Nancy (Pearce) Jeffett, UC51; July '17 • Anne E. Kelly, LA51; Sept. '17 • Anne (Skinker) Kindorf, UC51; July '17 • Joan (Himebaugh) Lince, LA51; July '17 • Henry T. Likes, LA51; Nov. '17 • Shirley (Gauch) Mercier, LA51; Nov. '17 • May (Yamamoto) Omura, NU51; Aug. '17 • Sylvan H. Robinson, BU51, LW51; Nov. '17 • Semon J. Sandven, MD51; July '17 • Joyce (Shrago) Swigart, LA51; Oct. '17 • Mary (Thomas) Wrausmann, LA51; Oct. '17 • Richard J. Boll, UC52; Nov. '17 • Gerald D. Gallop, LA52; Oct. '17 • Allan M. Gallup, EN52; Aug. '17 • David H. Heidbreder, BU52; Sept. '17 • Richard A. Hoffman, FA52; Aug. '17 • Donald W. Kaller, LA52; Nov. '17 • Mary A. Krause-Browne, LA52; July '17 • Percy E. Luecke, MD52; Oct. '17 • John J. O'Fallon, BU52; Aug. '17 • Frank A. Presker, BU52; July '17 • Faye (Schuman) Rose, BU52; Sept. '17 • Norman J. Steinback, BU52; July '17 • Earl J. Wipfler, LA52, MD55; Aug. '17 • Earl C. Biffle, LA53; Sept. '17 • Hyman L. Cohen, SW53; July '17 • William Y.

Eubank, MD53; July '17 • Melvin L. Evans, EN53; Aug. '17 • Stephanie Friedman, LA53; Oct. '17 • Enoch E. Morrow, DE53; July '17 • William S. Waeckerle, EN53; Nov. '17 • Paul E. Bauer, EN54, SI64; Aug. '17 • Billie R. Bethel, LA54, LW57; Sept. '17 • Edwin E. Carter, MD54; July '17 • Joel H. Germeroth, EN54; July '17 • Marilyn (Classe) Gordley, FA54; July '17 • Ellis Gregory, LW54; Aug. '17 • Carl W. Martin, AR54; Aug. '17 • Robert F. Rolf, UC54; Oct. '17 • William T. Sheahan, BU54; Nov. '17 • Lawrence H. Boxerman, LA55; Nov. '17 • Clastine (Alexander) DuBose, SW55; Aug. '17 • Robert O. Gregory, SI55, SI64; July '17 • Willa (Glover) Matthews, PT55; Oct. '17 • Lothar H. Pinkers, MD55; July '17 • Harry T. Schukar, BU55; July '17 • Barbara (Boeger) Winkler, LA55; Sept. '17 • Kirti K. Charan, GR56; Sept. '17 • William W. Combs, BU56; Aug. '17 • Diane (Doelling) Goodwin, BU56; July '17 • Robert L. McKinley, LA56; July '17 • Albert F. Hejnal, EN57; Nov. '17 • Fred H. Kirchoefer, LA57; Aug. '17 • Leslie E. Long, DE57; Sept. '17 • John C. Noonan, LW57; July '17 • Jewell L. Osterholm, MD57; Oct. '17 • Paul A. Rubenstein, MD57; July '17 • Shirley (Eismann) Sackwitz, BU57; July '17 • Donald C. Fox, LA58; Nov. '17 • Robert R. Franklin, UC58; Nov. '17 • William A. Kamman, EN58; Aug. '17 • Julian Orenstein, BU58; Sept. '17 • Mary (Matthews) Ruddon, PT58; Nov. '17 • Robert B. Smith, EN58; Aug. '17 • Joan J. Stenseth, LA58; Oct. '17 • Dwight C. Taylor, LW58; Oct. '17 • Leroy E. Westlake, UC58; Oct. '17 • G. James Blaine, EN59, SI61, SI74; Aug. '17 • Joseph F. Boston, EN59; Oct. '17 • James A. Ciarlo, GR59; Oct. '17 • Gilbert G. Early, FA59; Oct. '17 • Ann (Feldman) Freeman, PT59; Aug. '17 • Robert Guillaume, LA59; Oct. '17 • Merle (Kalishman) Miller, LA59; Nov. '17 • Paul M. Packman, LA59, MD 63; Aug. '17 • Stephen M. Rayhawk, EN59; Sept. '17

1960s

Duane E. Christian, DE60; Oct. '17 • Alice (LaBreacht) Click, UC60; Sept. '17 • Charles R. Hayward, SI60; July '17 • Rosetta Lingle, UC60; Oct. '17 • James C. Rosner, BU60, LW63; July '17 • Harold G. Johnson, BU61, LW62; Oct. '17 • George O. Monnig, GR61; July '17 • Paul A. Flaten, MD62; July '17 • Jane (Driscoll) Flynn, GN62; Nov. '17 • Steven M. Friedman, LA62, LW65; Sept. '17 • Thomas S. Goldwasser, BU62, LA64; Oct. '17 • Norman Ladage, UC62; Oct. '17 • Earl M. Schenberg, BU62; July '17 • Robert J. Walbridge, UC62; Sept. '17 • W. Noel Hobson, UC63; Oct. '17 • Richard E. Mansfield, UC63; Oct. '17 • Mary (Poindexter) Merz, LA63; July '17 • Eric G. Pettersson, GA63; July '17 • Elizabeth (Clark) Sowa, MD63; Oct. '17 • Harold H. Tessereau, GR63; Aug. '17 • John A. Weiss, UC63; Aug. '17 • John E. Farby, AR64, AR65; Oct. '17 • H. James Harre, UC64; Oct. '17 • James T. Henke, LA64; Sept. '17 • Adrienne (Juerling) Hutchison, GR64; Aug. '17 • Ronald J. Mogavero, SI64; Oct. '17 • Marianne (Sapienza) Wehrle, LA64; July '17 • Harry Weintrop, UC64; Nov. '17 • Ronald Alderfer, LA65, GR69; Dec. '17 • Joseph A. Diviney, AR65, GA67; July '17 • David L. Hoehnen, LW65; Sept. '17 • Joseph P. Huber, EN65; July '17 • Sonja M. Lind, GR65; Oct. '17 • D. Rhoades Schroeder, GR65; Sept. '17 • Lucia (Gonzalez) Beare, GR66; July '17 • Margaret E. Bracken, UC66; Oct. '17 • John T. Brown, UC66; July '17 • Daniel C. Williamson, GR66; Nov. '17 • Erwin S. Barbre, LW67; July '17 • Frank A. Brown, SI67; Aug. '17 • Jake Glassman, UC67; July '17 • Annette (Mallett) Haines, LA67; July '17 • Thomas T. Hamilton, UC67; Aug. '17 • Susan (Hackman) Kingston, NU67; Sept. '17 • William G. Rickard, UC67; Sept. '17 • Robert J. Schnitzer, LA67; July '17 • Lee Davis, UC68; Oct. '17 • Wilda (Higgins) Swift, GR68; Nov. '17 •

A start for startups

Four years ago, when Steven Collens, AB '93, thought about the organizational chart for his new company, only one name appeared on it: his own. Collens had plenty of prior experience in government and business — even at another startup — but never as CEO.

“I had never run anything before,” Collens says.

Collens had been tapped to build and lead a company called MATTER — a startup for other startups. The founding vision was to create a place to encourage health-care innovation in the Chicago area. MATTER member companies are developing technology to help deaf people enjoy music and using video-game technology to train medical professionals, among other innovations. But back in 2013, there was a lot of work ahead before the company would become home to the 200 health-care startups there today.

Collens, who grew up just north of Chicago in Evanston, Illinois, was eager to get out of town for college. Washington University's Collegiate Gothic architecture and green lawns made an impression on him, and he enrolled. After graduating in 1993, Collens headed to Washington, D.C., where he worked on Capitol Hill. Several years later, he returned to Chicago and earned an MBA at Northwestern University.

Collens started his first business while working for the health-care company Abbott. He teamed up with a professional dancer and chiropractor to provide health-care coordination for dancers. “We did just about everything wrong that you can do when starting a business,” Collens says. After three years, in 2009, they called it quits.

But Collens would soon get a chance to put the lessons of that startup failure to work. In 2011, as senior vice president of Pritzker Group, a private investment firm, he was asked to establish a co-working space that could help create a more connected tech community in Chicago and incubate new businesses.

Collens had worked in several industries, but the tech world was uncharted territory. He threw himself into the community to learn as much as he could about the industry and the needs of entrepreneurs.

Collens and his co-founders named the co-working space 1871 as a nod to the rebuilding of Chicago after the Great Chicago Fire that destroyed much of the city that same year.

“It was a startup, so it was inherently a mess,” Collens recalls, laughing. He worked seven days a week for long hours but loved it. “It was one of the most fun things I've ever worked on,” he says.

In 2012, 1871 opened its doors, and hundreds of applicants vied for space in the new startup incubator from day one.

About a year later, Collens met entrepreneurs Andrew Cittadine and David Schonthal, who were convinced of Chicago's potential



Daniel Delgado

In Chicago, Steven Collens, AB '93, was instrumental in starting 1871 and MATTER, co-working spaces for tech and health-care startups, respectively.

as a hub for health-care innovation. Large pharmaceutical and health-insurance companies are headquartered in the city, which is also home to several teaching hospitals and national medical professional organizations. But much like the Chicago tech scene before 1871 opened, no forum existed where the city's health-care resources and talent could come together. Collens, Cittadine and other founders created MATTER to solve that problem.

“Steve's drive and vision from 1871 were critical to the success of MATTER,” Cittadine says.

The U.S. health-care system is sprawling and rife with inefficiency, but it's difficult to spot opportunities without direct access to hospital facilities or insurance companies.

“Unfortunately, it can be easy to build a product that has no market,” Collens says. So MATTER connects its larger institutional partners with member companies to help guide innovation. And MATTER took things a step further by building mock doctors' offices and inpatient facilities so developers could better understand how their products would be used in real life.

Since it opened in 2015, MATTER member companies have employed 2,200 people and developed health-care products used by 76 million patients.

Collens says he doesn't have any plans to leave MATTER to launch yet another business. But he doesn't rule out the idea completely.

“I love new challenges,” he says. “It motivates everything I'm doing.” 🧑🏻

— Zach Dyer, AB '07, is a freelance writer in St. Louis.

George W. Bowling, UC69, GR96; July '17 • **Andrew J. White**, LW69; Oct. '17

1970s

Donald R. Hoelscher, TI70, TI73; Oct. '17 • **Susan C. Smith**, LA70, GR74; Aug. '17 • **Maureen L. Bender**, LA71; Sept. '17 • **Robert Q. Glass**, SI71; Aug. '17 • **Pamela (Haffner) Pedersen**, GR71; Aug. '17 • **Susan (Cats) Merrick**, LA72, SW78; Aug. '17 • **D. Richard Rowland**, AR72; Nov. '17 • **Gary L. Davis**, LA73; Aug. '17 • **Cynthia H. Tao**, LA73; Aug. '17 • **Sharon S. Crandell**, MD74; Oct. '17 • **Martha E. Gentry**, SW74; Nov. '17 • **Sheila (Krawll) Hyatt**, LW74; Nov. '17 • **Marion (Adler) Lipsitz**, UC74; Oct. '17 • **Mark S. Sargent**, LA74, LW77; Nov. '17 • **Jennye M. Robinson**, SW75; Aug. '17 • **Anthony A. Stokes**, LA75; Nov. '17 • **Richard A. Barnes**, LA76; Nov. '17 • **Robert O. Cutchens**, LA76; Nov. '17 • **Gary A. Rotert**, GR76; Oct. '17 • **Donald L. Gephardt**, GR78; Oct. '17 • **Scott Goodman**, GR78; July '17

1980s

Scott J. Williams, LA80; Sept. '17 • **Barbara A. Blaine**, SW81; Sept. '17 • **Pierrette Daly**, GR81; Aug. '17 • **Thomas J. Valerius**, HA81; Nov. '17 • **William C. Bevans**, TI82; July '17 • **Theresa (Landgraf) Huang**, TI82; Sept. '17 • **Carl S. Nadler**, LW82; Aug. '17 • **Rhonda R. Corretti**, LW83; Sept. '17 • **Sandra (Cleary) Faber**, GR83; Oct. '17 • **Timothy E. Montgomery**, GA83; Nov. '17 • **Murray E. Snyder**, BU83; July '17 • **Constance M. Graziano**, UC84; July '17 • **Richard Marias**, DE84; Aug. '17 • **Paul M. Polries**, GB87; Sept. '17 • **Dewey D. Propst**, TI87; Sept. '17 • **Janet M. St. Onge**, EMBA87; Aug. '17 • **Robert W. Delaney**, TI88; Oct. '17 • **Cynthia (Wagner) Paydon**, GR88; Oct. '17 • **Larry G. Smithee**, GR89; Oct. '17

1990s

Patricia (Burge) Busch, GR90; July '17 • **Georgia M. Britt**, GR91, GR03; July '17 • **Melissa (Palan)**

Goldenberg, LA93; Sept. '17 • **Judy Z. Lincoff**, SW94; July '17 • **Charles F. Knight**, GR96; Sept. '17 • **David C. Getsie**, BU99; Nov. '17 • **Michael J. Puckett**, SI99; July '17

2000s

Matthew K. Mayer, EMBA01; Sept. '17 • **Andrew Ghim**, LA05, LW08; Sept. '17 • **Benjamin D. Alexander**, LA06; July '17 • **Jeffrey D. Patton**, PMBA08; Aug. '17

2010s

Denise Thomas, UC15, UC17; July '17 • **Nikhil H. Junnarkar**, EN17; Aug. '17 • **Shayel C. Patnaik**, LA18, LA18; Sept. '17 • **Gregory P. Smith**, LA19, BU19; July '17

In Remembrance

Barbara Blaine

Barbara Blaine, MSW '81, founder of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP), died Sept. 24, 2017. She was 61.

In 1988, Blaine founded SNAP after reading an article about clergy abuse. Abused by a priest herself, she began searching for other victims. The group now has more than 21,000 members. Blaine advocated for victims' rights and the extension of the statute of limitations, so older victims could seek financial recourse against their abusers.

G. James Blaine III

George James Blaine III, BS '59, MS '61, PhD '74, former assistant director of the Biomedical Computer Laboratory, died Aug. 15, 2017. He was 79.

Blaine began working at the School of Medicine in 1967 as a research assistant in the Biomedical Computer Laboratory. He worked there for 25 years, eventually becoming assistant director and leading a program to develop a new networking system. In 1986, he became co-director of the newly founded Electronic

Radiology Laboratory, where he worked for 15 years. From 1974 onward, Blaine also held an appointment as an associate professor in computer science and electrical engineering.

Arthur Z. Eisen

Arthur Z. Eisen, MD, a physician-scientist in the dermatology division at the School of Medicine, died Nov. 12, 2017. He was 88.

In 1967, Eisen founded the Division of Dermatology and was its director for more than 30 years. He was also the Winfred A. and Emma R. Showman Professor of Dermatology. An asset to both the field and the school, he remained active in clinical medicine and resident education at the School of Medicine and even attended clinical grand rounds each week until his retirement in 2017.

Nancy K. Galofré

Nancy Kay Galofré, a longtime staff member at the university, died Aug. 25, 2017. She was 74.

Galofré worked at the university for more than 25 years, ending her career as the special events coordinator for the Chancellor's Office before retiring in 2015. Galofré was also deeply committed to her community and served on many boards and helped build homes for Habitat for Humanity.

William H. Gass

William H. Gass, the David May Distinguished University Professor Emeritus in the Humanities, died Dec. 6, 2017. He was 93.

Gass was an acclaimed and influential scholar and writer. In addition to essays, he wrote novels, a novella and short stories. His essays and short stories were often anthologized.

He won many awards, including three National Book Critics Circle Awards, the Lannan Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award, the Pen Nabokov Award, four Pushcart Prizes and the American

Academy of Arts and Letters Award for Fiction.

Gass joined the university faculty in 1969. In 1990, he founded the International Writers Center in Arts & Sciences, now known as the Center for the Humanities. In 2005, the university gave him an honorary doctorate of humanities.

Adrienne Glore

Adrienne Glore, retired associate dean of students and longtime staff member, died Nov. 22, 2017. She was 75.

After joining the university staff in 1976, Glore moved up the ranks, being named associate dean of special services and programs in 1987, where she advised senior class officers, the Association of Black Students, and Ashoka (the WashU South Asian Society). She promoted diversity on campus by planning many beloved events, such as Diwali. Further, she served as a mentor and supporter for the John B. Ervin Scholars Program.

The university awarded her the Rosa L. Parks Award in 2009 for her meritorious service to the community.

Stephen L. Johnson

Stephen L. Johnson, a professor of genetics at the School of Medicine, died Dec. 15, 2017. He was 56.

Johnson joined the faculty in 1996 and spent much of his career developing the use of zebrafish as an important research model. Their transparent embryos make zebrafish an ideal subject for studying growth and development. Johnson made important advances in the study of melanoma by studying these embryos. He also won several awards, including the PEW Scholars Award, and served on editorial boards for two genome research journals.

William M. Landau

William M. Landau, MD, professor emeritus of neurology, died Nov. 2, 2017. He was 93.

Landau was the longest-serving faculty member at the School of Medicine, serving from 1954 to 2012. He also served as the head of the Department of Neurology from 1970 to 1991.

Working with Frank Kleffner, of the Central Institute for the Deaf, Landau identified and described Landau-Kleffner syndrome, a rare disorder where children lose the ability to speak and respond to language. He also studied movement disorders as well as how patients fared who were revived via CPR after their hearts stopped beating.

Judith J. Leicht

Judy Jasper Leicht, former associate vice chancellor for university communications, died Dec. 24, 2017, after battling multiple cancers. She was 77.

Leicht served as executive director of university communications from 1989 to 1997 when she was promoted to associate vice chancellor. She coordinated media relations for major university initiatives, including for several presidential debates.

Leicht was also involved with the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), serving as chair of District 6 and later as chair of CASE's international board. From CASE, she received the prestigious Frank L. Ashmore Award and the Virginia Carter Smith Recognition Award. She retired in 2007.

Arthur D. Loewy

Arthur DeCosta Loewy, professor of anatomy and of neuroscience at the School of Medicine, died Dec. 2, 2017. He was 74.

Loewy was on the faculty at the medical school for more than four decades, conducting research on how the brain regulates bodily function. He discovered the anatomical basis of the fight-or-flight response and used radioactively tagged molecules to trace the pathways that connect the brain to the pace-making neurons on the heart.

Shirley G. Mercier

Shirley Gauch Mercier, AB '51, a counterintelligence officer for the CIA, died Nov. 14, 2017. She was 86.

For 31 years, Mercier worked for the CIA, starting in 1951 right after she graduated from Washington University. She took a 19-year hiatus, from 1958 to 1977, to raise her two sons. Mercier specialized in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. During her career, she earned a Balkans Service Medallion and a Career Commendation Medal on retirement in 2002.

Jeffrey F. Moley

Jeffrey Fletcher Moley, MD, professor of surgery and chief of the Section of Endocrine and Oncologic Surgery at the School of Medicine, died Oct. 15, 2017, from a sudden cardiac event. He was 64.

Moley was a highly regarded professor, surgeon and researcher, doing pioneering research in treating multiple endocrine neoplasia, inherited syndromes that often cause an aggressive form of thyroid cancer and other endocrine diseases.

He also served as associate director of Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine. He was married to Kelle H. Moley, MD, the university's James P. Crane Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Eric P. Newman

Eric P. Newman, JD '35, a major benefactor of the university, died Nov. 15, 2017. He was 106 years old.

After attending Washington University's law school, Newman was a longtime officer for Edison Brothers Stores Inc., where he also served on the board. He was also president of the Harry Edison Foundation from 1988 to 2005.

But Newman is perhaps best known as one of America's foremost numismatists — a topic on which he authored many books and articles.

His contributions to the university were many, including being a

founding member of the Library's National Council, underwriting the Eric P. Newman Education Center and endowing two professorships at the School of Medicine, and donating one of the few surviving broadsides of the Declaration of Independence to Olin Library.

In 2006, the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum dedicated the Newman Money Museum, a state-of-the-art numismatics facility, in his honor.

Shayel Patnaik

Shayel Patnaik, a Class of 2018 history major in Arts & Sciences, died Sept. 22, 2017. He was 21.

In addition to his studies, Patnaik worked in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions as a campus tour guide, tutored elementary students through the Each One Teach One program, and prepared East St. Louis high school students for the college-application process through College Access Mentoring. He also was a program assistant for the College Prep Program, which prepares talented, first-generation students from the St. Louis region for life on a college campus.

The university and his family created the Shayel Patnaik/College Prep Endowed Scholarship to provide annual support to a College Prep graduate enrolling at WashU.

John A. Pierce

John A. Pierce, MD, emeritus professor of medicine at the School of Medicine, died Nov. 24, 2017, following a long battle with cancer. He was 92.

In 1967, Pierce joined the university faculty as the first director of the Department of Medicine's Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. He also worked at the St. Louis Veterans Affairs Medical Center as the chief of pulmonary and critical care medicine.

During his career, Pierce made many contributions to the School of Medicine, including creating the

first respiratory intensive care unit at what was then Barnes Hospital. He was the first Selma and Herman Seldin Professor of Medicine and became emeritus in 1993.

John S. Rigden

John S. Rigden, a longtime adjunct professor of physics in Arts & Sciences, died Nov. 24, 2017, of cardiac arrest. He was 83.

During his 15-year tenure, Rigden helped bring in renowned speakers for the physics department's colloquia series and the Saturday Science Lecture Series. He was also responsible for Washington University being recognized as a historical site significant to physics — Arthur Holly Compton did work in Eads Hall that led to his winning the Nobel Prize — by the American Institute of Physics.

Elizabeth G. Sayad

Elizabeth Gentry Sayad, AB '55, MA '03 — a founder, co-founder, trustee member or benefactor of many St. Louis institutions — died Dec. 12, 2017. She was 83.

A concert pianist and author, Sayad, a music major, was involved in the founding of several St. Louis institutions, including New Music Circle, New City School and the Missouri Arts Council. She was also heavily involved with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Laumeier Sculpture Park, Opera Theatre of St. Louis and the Saint Louis Art Museum.

Milton J. Schlesinger

Milton J. Schlesinger, professor emeritus of molecular microbiology, died Oct. 27, 2017, of heart failure. He was 89.

Schlesinger worked on diverse aspects of viral assembly and replication, first as a professor of microbiology and later as a professor of molecular microbiology at the School of Medicine from 1964 to 1999. He twice served as acting head of his department.



Our Olympic legacy

On Feb. 5, 2018, the St. Louis Sports Commission unveiled its plans to raise the profile and impact of the region's involvement in the Olympic movement. Of significance, the commission announced that the International Olympic Committee has approved placing a sculpture of the Olympic rings — what is called a "Spectacular" — at Washington University, home to the 1904 Olympics and birthplace of the Olympic gold medal. The sculpture, scheduled to be installed later this year, will be located near the northeast corner of Francis Field, the oldest modern-day Olympic stadium in active use. See upcoming issues of the magazine for more information. (Photo: James Byard)





Joe Angeles

WINNING WAYS Under Coach Teri Clemens (right), the women's volleyball team (at left) earned Washington University's first NCAA Division III National Championship on Nov. 18, 1989. The volleyball team would go on to win six additional titles under Clemens (and three under her successor, Rich Luenemann). Clemens credits John Schael, former director of athletics, with creating a culture of winning for the

women's as well as men's teams. Schael, with pivotal support from then-Chancellor William H. Danforth (pictured at right with his late-wife, Elizabeth Gray Danforth) and subsequently Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton, helped turn the WashU Bears into a sports powerhouse. See "Winning ways" at magazine.wustl.edu for more on the history of women's sports after the passage of Title IX in 1972.