

Washington



Res Life *for the Win*

WashU creates a residential experience —
a living and learning community —
that is second to none, pg. 20.

The Type of Leaders the World Needs Today

Kurt Dirks discusses three ways WashU can help transform the concept of leadership and create leaders who can make positive change, pg. 16.

Climate of Opportunity

WashU is among 30 founding members of the Midwest Climate Collaborative formed to help address specific climate challenges in the 12-state region, pg. 30.

Creating 'Fellowship'

Alumnus Jason Green, a former White House counsel under President Obama, finds another calling as a documentary filmmaker. And he's just begun to tell the stories we need to hear, pg. 36.

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How alumnus Jason Green went from White House counsel to documentary filmmaker, and why he's just begun to tell the stories we need to hear — in the way we need to hear them.

On the cover: The Congress of the South 40 (CS40) hosts events throughout the year for students to come together in community and fun. Here, students are displaying gold medals won in the CS40-sponsored Residential College Olympics. See pg. 20 for more on how a sense of belonging permeates WashU-provided housing.

Photo: Danny Reise

This spread: U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor visited the Danforth Campus April 5. Speaking to a crowd of 3,000 students, faculty, staff and friends of WashU, she encouraged students to pursue their passions and said people from all walks of life can serve others, from lawyers ... to bus drivers.

Photo: Whitney Curtis

“I truly am engaged with and devoted to inspiring all of you ... to understand how important your obligation is to participate in bettering the world. It should be your No. 1 goal.”

— SONIA SOTOMAYOR, U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE



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University Marketing & Communications publishes *Washington*: three print and six digital editions (magazine.wustl.edu) a year. · Unless otherwise noted, articles may be reprinted without permission with credit given to “*Washington*, the magazine of Washington University in St. Louis.”



Photo: Joe Angeles

Chancellor Andrew D. Martin facilitates a discussion of Nadine Strossen's book, *HATE: Why We Should Resist It with Free Speech, Not Censorship*, with first-year students.

Fostering diversity — of people and ideas

Greetings to the friends of Washington University! A new academic year is upon us and with it, the promise of adventure: new connections, new discoveries and, of course, a bright new group of Washington University Bears. Welcome, Class of 2026!

This year's class of first-year students represents a distinction worth celebrating: the first to be welcomed under a need-blind admissions policy, which is a giant step forward for educational equity and diversity across many categories.

The importance of diversity goes beyond educational access and the makeup of our student body, faculty and staff. Preparing students for engaged citizenship in a diverse world and in our democracy is a fundamental responsibility of our university. Thus, we welcome and encourage a wide diversity of viewpoints to be expressed in the classroom, at events and in discussion groups dedicated to encouraging civil discourse on challenging topics.

A terrific example is the work of the John C. Danforth Center for Religion and Politics, which actively seeks to engage students and community members in scholarship, research and dialogue that address the complexities that lie at the intersection of religion and politics. The center offers a minor in religion and politics, and the minor is gaining popularity with undergraduate students from many disciplines. Events sponsored by the center feature hot topic experts and attract a broad and diverse audience of curious learners.

The Center for Diversity and Inclusion also prepares students to live and work in an increasingly diverse world, and it offers a robust training program of workshops and dialogues

designed to improve the campus culture and climate. A highlight of each year is the center's Day of Dialogue and Action, at which students, staff and faculty explore topics like unconscious bias, navigating campus with a disability, meaningful LGBTQI+ allyship and more.

Students have the opportunity to engage with diverse cultures through celebration as well. WashU boasts more than 100 diversity groups that serve students, faculty and staff on the Danforth and Medical campuses. These groups inspire pride among members, eagerly welcome opportunities to connect and converse, and organize events to raise consciousness about their communities.

To be certain, we are not immune to hearing ideas that challenge or offend us, nor do we wish to be. Without opportunities for engagement across differences, communities can become echo chambers. If we allowed that to happen at WashU, we would no longer be able to meet our fundamental responsibilities to either our students or our democracy.

I'd be dishonest if I said we never have to navigate the fine line between offense and harm as we engage with tough issues as a community. We are, after all, still learning. But far more commonly, our students approach ideological opposition with curiosity, engage in civil discourse, exhibit strong critical thinking skills, and channel discomfort into action. I firmly believe they are well on their way to becoming the changemakers that we and the world need them to be.

Andrew D. Martin
Chancellor



@WashUChancellor

FEEDBACK



THE APRIL 2022 ISSUE

“I understood the article in the April issue regarding working to find a medical solution for antibiotic resistance. I would like to find another term for it other than ‘war,’ though. I know it’s a metaphor. We use similar ones all the time, such as the ‘War on Christmas’ or ‘Ms. X lost her long battle with cancer.’ I get it. The war metaphor is a shorthand for complicated and difficult subjects. And it’s inherited language. But I wonder if our writers, poets and philosophers could find new ways of describing our shared pains, struggles, aspirations, successes and failures in newer, deeper and more specific, connected ways. Save the term ‘war’ for such instances as the Trojan War, Civil War, Wounded Knee, Pearl Harbor, World War II, the Tet Offensive, Tulsa’s Greenwood massacre – or Russia and Ukraine.”

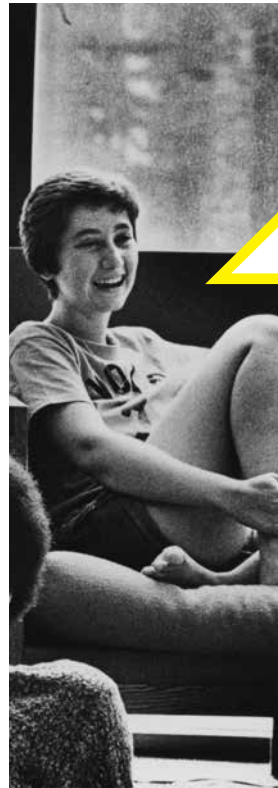
MICHAEL WILLIS, AB '73, MARCH '76, MSW '76

“I usually skim and throw away university magazines. For some reason, I read your article on antimicrobial resistance. It was excellent. Too bad a lot of recipients will toss the magazine without reading it. Lots of practicing physicians could benefit from reading it as well.”

LEWIS CHASE, MD,
Professor Emeritus
of Medicine,
Washington University
School of Medicine

“I just want to say thanks for the ‘Bookshelf’ pages. Holding a spotlight up to books by faculty and especially alumni is a wonderful addition to the magazine. I look forward to it in every issue. Celebrating books is a good thing!”

CAROLYN PERRY, MA '66



“I am one of the students pictured ‘hanging out old-school style on the South 40’ in the December 2021 issue.

“Susan Brunell (AB '77), my sophomore-year roommate, sorority sister and dear friend, called to exclaim about my photo being in the magazine. Sue, who lives in New York, received her copy before I got mine in Dallas. We had a good laugh, and Sue said this is exactly as she pictures me. I am on the far right, with short dark hair, wearing a T-shirt and shorts, and have bare feet!

“I feel fairly confident this is a photo from a Residential Life meeting. I was an RA junior year and an SRA senior year.

“Sue and I also poignantly thought of my husband (then boyfriend), who passed away from Parkinson’s disease Dec. 18, 2020. He was probably sitting on the other side of me out of the camera’s view. Paul would have delighted in seeing this photo from our times together as students.

“Thanks for the fun memory!”

ELLEN (KAUFMAN) MCINTOSH, AB '77

We want to hear from you!

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ST. LOUIS In

Wave of the future

Give it up for the Class of 2022! After all they'd been through due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, they deserved a grand celebration. And that's what Washington University's 161st Commencement aimed to be: starting with the ceremony on Francis Olympic Field (the new, permanent home of Commencement) and continuing with a daylong festival of food and fun that stretched from Francis Olympic Field to Tisch Park on the east end. It was day filled with jubilation.



Photo: Whitney Curtis



Photo: Carol Green

DINING SERVICES MAKES EATING ON CAMPUS MORE SUSTAINABLE

Cooking with local produce and reducing waste are just two ways Dining Services continues to make its offerings and operations more sustainable. Other ways campus kitchens are making a difference include the following:

- Promoting plant-based alternatives whenever possible
- Diverting almost half of dining-related trash through composting and reusable containers and biofuel
- Achieving annual sustainability certification through the Green Dining Alliance
- Working with student groups such as the Burning Kumquat, a student-run organic garden; WashU Green Ambassadors, a peer education program; and the Student Sustainability Board, which helps make campus programs and events more sustainable.

SOTOMAYOR VISITS CAMPUS

U.S. Supreme Court Justice **Sonia Sotomayor** visited the Danforth Campus in April, speaking to more than 3,000 students, faculty and staff, and imploring them to always see the good in people — even those with whom they disagree.

“These days, there is a lot of screaming between people and among people,” Sotomayor said. “And it’s sometimes hard to get past that. With my colleagues, with whom I have very divergent views with many, probably the majority right now, I try very, very hard to see the good in them, because I know there is good in every one of them.”

Sotomayor answered questions from Chancellor **Andrew D. Martin** and students in the audience. She left her seat and mingled among the crowd, hugging, shaking hands and taking pictures with students. She encouraged students to pursue their passions and said people from all walks of life, from lawyers to accountants to bus drivers, can serve others.

“You create service by how you turn your life into making the world a place ... others can feel included and helped,” she said.

CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS CALL FOR HELP TO SAFELY PERFORM

Stephen Y. Liang, MD, along with other infectious disease experts from the School of Medicine and engineers from the McKelvey School of Engineering, continue to play key advisory roles with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra (SLSO) and other St. Louis-area cultural institutions regarding how to safely perform during the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Initially contacted by the SLSO to help the organization prepare for its first public concert in October 2020, Liang has persisted in this role through the first shutdown, the availability of vaccines and boosters, the appearance of new variants, and the evolution of federal masking and safety guidelines. Liang also leads WashU’s efforts in advising other local cultural institutions, such as The Muny, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, and Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, as well as the university’s Performing Arts Department, which staged a well-received run of *Rent* in March.

“The pandemic is not over, and I see this partnership continuing as it evolves and hopefully beyond as we think about a post-pandemic normal,” Liang says. “Working with the symphony and other St. Louis institutions has been inspirational and an honor.”



Helping first-gen college students

WashU was one of 10 universities to join a new national cohort initiative, the Kessler Scholars Program, to recruit and support first-generation and Pell Grant-eligible STEM students who want to tackle challenges such as public health and climate change. It's yet another way WashU supports first-generation, low-income students.

Since 2013, the percentage of Pell Grant-eligible students has grown from 6% to now being on track for 20% of the Class of 2026. The percentage of first-gen students has increased from 4% to 12% during that same period.

Though not all Pell-eligible students are first-gen and not all first-gen students are Pell-eligible, there is significant overlap. To better serve these students, a number of initiatives have been launched, including WashU Pledge, Gateway to Success, QuestBridge Scholars, Chancellor's Career Fellows Program, First-Year Grants, Student Success Fund, and Deneb STARS.



TWO STUDENTS CREATE AWARD-WINNING PODCAST

A podcast created by two Arts & Sciences students, "Nameless Faceless Monster," was among 10 finalists in the "College Podcast Challenge" from National Public Radio. NPR released its list of finalists in April after sorting through entries from 37 states and the District of Columbia.

Created by **Jared Adelman**, a political science major, and **Olivia Poolos**, a philosophy-neuroscience-psychology major, the podcast focuses on reliving an event that took place in Poolos' high school. In 2018, several Jewish teachers received antisemitic hate mail following the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh. She went back to talk to the former teacher who was the perpetrator to determine his motives and how the event ultimately affected his life. As finalists, the pair received a \$500 prize, and their work was featured on the NPR website.



A 24TH NCAA NATIONAL TITLE

In March, the men's track and field team won a national championship at the NCAA Division III 2022 Indoor Track & Field Championships in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The achievement, a co-national title with the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, marked the first team title for the Bears since the women's cross country squad won in 2018.

The deciding event came down to the final race of the day, the 4x400 relay. The team of **Marcus Jay Wilkes**, **Harry Mills**, **Andrew Whitaker** and **John Harry Wagner** put forth a valiant effort with a time of 3:16.79, enough to win national runner-up in the relay and All-American honors for the group. But it was not without drama. Multiple protests on the race took two hours to unravel, but the Bears' 2nd-place finish was finally confirmed. And once it was, Coach **Jeff Stiles** and the team were able to celebrate WashU's 24th NCAA Division-III national title.

Having a year of eligibility remaining, Whitaker, who graduated in 2021 with a degree in biomedical engineering, competed as a graduate student, and he had an eventful spring in his own right. Along with winning an individual national title at the meet in the 60-meter hurdles by five-thousandths of a second with a personal-record time of 7.943, the two-sport athlete decided to delay medical school applications and declare himself eligible for the NFL draft. He wasn't selected during the draft in April, but in early May he received an invite to the Green Bay Packers rookie camp and was participating in organized training activities as the magazine went to press.

A HUB FOR GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGY

Washington University is among eight research institutions that launched the Taylor Geospatial Institute, a hub for big-data analytics and computing.

Leaders from St. Louis' business, civic, academic and governmental communities came together April 21 to celebrate the launch of the institute, a first-of-its-kind organization that brings together these eight institutions to collaborate on research into geospatial technology. The Taylor Geospatial Institute's establishment implements a key component of the GeoFutures Strategic Roadmap, the St. Louis region's plan to become the world's geospatial center in the next decade.

"Geospatial is the critical technology in nearly everything we do, and it is imperative that St. Louis has the world's leading geospatial research institution to fulfill our promise as the global center for geospatial technology in the next decade," said **Andrew C. Taylor**, executive chairman of Enterprise Holdings Inc. and founding chair of Greater St. Louis Inc. "It is my hope that this institute will cement St. Louis as the world's true center for geospatial excellence."

Space: The next 10 years

What's the next decade going to bring in planetary science and astrobiology? Two Arts & Sciences researchers — and fellows of the McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences — weighed in on a national survey designed to identify priorities for the next 10 years.

William B. McKinnon, professor of earth and planetary sciences, and **Paul Byrne**, associate professor of earth and planetary sciences, played important roles in developing the report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine called "Origins, Worlds, and Life: A Decadal Strategy for Planetary Science and Astrobiology 2023–2032."

The good news: The next decade holds tremendous promise. New research will expand our understanding of our solar system's origins; how planets form and evolve; under what conditions life can survive; and where to find potentially habitable environments in our solar system — and beyond.

GETTING DOWN AND DIRTY IN THE SEARCH FOR NEW ANTIBIOTICS

Demand for new kinds of antibiotics is surging, as drug-resistant and emerging infections are becoming an increasingly serious global health threat. Biologist **Joshua Blodgett** discovered a new candidate for drug development from one such microbe, the soil bacterium known as *Lentzea flaviverrucosa*.

"Rare actinomycetes are an underexploited source of new bioactive compounds," says Blodgett, assistant professor of biology in Arts & Sciences. "Our genomics-based approach allowed us to identify an unusual peptide for future drug design efforts."

POVERTY, CRIME LINKED TO DIFFERENCES IN NEWBORN BRAINS

Poverty and crime can have devastating effects on a child's health — even in the womb. A School of Medicine study suggests that environmental factors can influence the structure and function of young brains even before babies make their entrances into the world.

MRI scans of full-term newborns born to mothers living in poverty revealed smaller volumes across the entire brain than found in the brains of babies whose mothers had higher household incomes. The brain scans, which were conducted only a few days to weeks after birth, also showed evidence of less folding of the brain among infants born to mothers living in poverty. Fewer and shallower folds typically signify brain immaturity. The healthy human brain folds as it grows and develops, providing the cerebral cortex with a larger functional surface area.

BIG DATA ARRIVES ON THE FARM

An analysis by Arts & Sciences anthropologist **Glenn Stone** examined how digital technologies are beginning to make inroads into agriculture in lower-income countries. Stone's research incorporates years of study on peasant agriculture in Africa, India, the Philippines and North America to predict how farmers might be affected by new technologies in the precision agriculture toolkit.

Among the advancements are detailed soil mapping; "variable rate application" control of seeding, fertilizing, irrigating and spraying; automatic machine guidance; and autonomous vehicles. But are such advancements helpful to the small farmer?

"Peasant autonomy means different things to different people," Stone says. "But to me, the key to it is farmers being able to learn and make decisions according to their own interests. That means individual farmers have to be able to collect empirical information on technologies and practices. The social aspects of agriculture must be able to operate."

ANOTHER STEP FORWARD IN FIGHTING MALNUTRITION

Researchers are learning more about the benefits of gut bacteria in fighting severe acute malnutrition — a condition that affects about 18 million children under age 5. A joint study from the School of Medicine and the International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research in Dhaka, Bangladesh, shows that a standard milk-based therapy plus treatment with a specific strain of gut bacteria known as *B. infantis* for four weeks promotes weight gain in infants with severe acute malnutrition, with accompanying reductions in gut inflammation.



For more on university research and faculty achievement, visit source.wustl.edu/news.

Photo: NASA and STScI

OPENING UP THE ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM

McKelvey School of Engineering researchers **Lan Yang**, the Edwin H. & Florence G. Skinner Professor, and **Xuan “Silvia” Zhang**, associate professor, have developed the first fully integrated parity-time symmetric electronic system. And it can be made without the use of exotic materials, only requiring the same standard microelectronic fabrication technology used today for common integrated circuits.

This new technology implemented a concept with remarkable mathematical properties originating from quantum physics into an integrated circuit. It opens up a new part of the spectrum for research in the gigahertz to terahertz range.

TOWARD A MORE EFFICIENT AI

To reduce the tremendous amount of energy needed to run AI’s enormous energy footprint, **Shantanu Chakrabarty**, the Clifford W. Murphy Professor at the McKelvey School of Engineering, has reported a prototype of a new kind of computer memory.

A disproportionate amount of energy is consumed to train an AI, when the computer searches different configurations as it learns the best solution to a problem, such as correctly recognizing a face or translating a language. Because of this energy use, most companies can’t afford to train a new AI from scratch. Instead, they train it “enough” and then maybe tweak some parameters for different applications.

Now, Chakrabarty and his team have turned to quantum tunneling, training electrons to do their thing using the laws of physics. “Electrons naturally want to move to the lowest stable state,” he says. “Once they have, the AI is said to have learned something,” without much interference and hardly any additional energy.



Sleep apnea sufferers beware

People with sleep apnea wake up tired in the morning, no matter how many hours they actually sleep. The condition causes them to briefly stop and restart breathing dozens or even hundreds of times a night. Even though such breathing interruptions often don’t awaken those with apnea, they prevent them from sinking into deep, refreshing sleep.

A new study — by co-senior authors **Brendan Lucey, MD**, associate professor of neurology and director of Washington University’s Sleep Medicine Center, and **Ganesh M. Babulal, PhD, OTD**, assistant professor of neurology and a driving researcher — puts a number on how dangerous such chronic tiredness can be, at least in regard to driving. For every eight additional breathing interruptions per hour, the odds of making a dangerous driving move, such as speeding, braking hard or accelerating, suddenly increase by 27%.

FOLLOW THE POLLEN

Records from past plant life are giving scientists a clearer picture of the history of global warming, says Arts & Sciences climate scientist **Alexander Thompson**. In a study published last spring, Thompson updated simulations from an important climate model to reflect the role of changing vegetation as a key driver of global temperatures over the past 10,000 years.

Long troubled by a problem with models of Earth’s atmospheric temperatures since the last ice age, Thompson saw that too many simulations showed temperatures warming consistently over time. But he had a hunch that the models were overlooking the role of changes in vegetation in favor of impacts from atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations or ice cover. So, he followed the pollen.

“Pollen records suggest a large expansion of vegetation during that time,” Thompson says. “But previous models show only a limited amount of vegetation growth. So even though some of these other simulations have included dynamic vegetation, it wasn’t nearly enough of a vegetation shift to account for what the pollen records suggest.”



Illustration: Monica Duwel

Matters of time

Marketing Professor **Robyn LeBoeuf** researches how people's perceptions of time affect the way they make decisions.

How long is a month? Logically, the answer is simple: from 28 to 31 days. But the human mind does not always work on logic.

"A month is a month, right?" asks Robyn LeBoeuf, professor of marketing at Olin Business School. "But for a child, waiting a month for Christmas can seem interminable, while the month at the end of summer feels all too short."

These kinds of perception biases can help us more deeply understand everyday decision-making, according to LeBoeuf's latest research. "Marketing is all about understanding your customers and understanding how they make decisions," she says.

LeBoeuf became interested in time-perception bias at the turn of the millennium, while studying for a doctorate in psychology at Princeton University. "Looking at it from 1999, the year 2000 seemed very far off, even though it was only a couple of months away," she says. She began to wonder if this connection, between the way people describe time and the way it felt, might affect the way people make decisions.

This suspicion was supported in LeBoeuf's 2006 paper on the "discount rates" that people apply to future financial transactions. It is a well-known phenomenon that people find rewards in the more distant future to be less valuable, but LeBoeuf set out to determine whether subjects might value rewards differently depending on how the future was described. Her research confirmed that they did.

She was able to measure the fundamentally subjective feeling of future time by asking participants to put a monetary value on a future reward. She found

that, on average, they requested more money when asked to wait a month than when asked to wait until a specific date one month in the future.

The participants, of course, would have been aware that the time was not different, but, as LeBoeuf describes: "They are logically equivalent, but they are not psychologically equivalent." There is a general tendency, it seems, to think of "a month" as longer than "a date" one month out, she says.

This tendency was confirmed in LeBoeuf's more recent study: "In 2018, we started to think about whether goals might seem more or less achievable or attractive if we changed how the time intervals involved were described," she says. When study participants were asked if they could envision saving up enough money for a vacation in a set amount of time, they were more likely to see that goal as achievable when given a range of time rather than a specific date.

"When you describe by month, time seems empty," LeBoeuf says in explaining the psychological discrepancy. "But when you describe by date, it seems more full. A date links the time interval to a calendar, and then to your calendar, with all its appointments and obligations." A month, however, is more abstract and, therefore, less likely to remind us of competing demands.

These findings have implications for both marketing (customers are more likely to respond to an ad to "lose weight in 30 days" than to one in which they are asked to "lose weight by April 30") and personal decision-making. "How we describe time matters," says LeBoeuf, "and we think about different things when we describe time in different ways."

■ THOMAS HUMPHREY

QUOTED

'IN THE NEWS'

WashU experts weigh in on the major topics of the day.



Photo: Jerry Naunheim Jr.

“So many people did what they needed to do to get through this pandemic. ... A lot of people are saying, ‘I’ve gotta do a lot of things to take care of myself, improve my diet, and not be so isolated.’ It’s played into an already existing trend of wellness.”

GLENN MACDONALD, THE JOHN M. OLIN PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS AND STRATEGY, QUOTED IN “AS IN-PERSON LIFE RESUMES, SELF-CARE BUSINESSES SEE SURGE IN CUSTOMERS,” *THE WASHINGTON POST*, MAY 5, 2022.

“Ultimately, we must all act to support survivors and prevent such sexual violence in Ukraine and in conflict zones across the globe as part of our long-term strategy to build peaceful societies.”

LINDSAY STARK, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR GLOBAL STRATEGY AND PROGRAMS AT THE BROWN SCHOOL, WROTE IN “PREVENTION OF CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN UKRAINE AND GLOBALLY,” A COMMENT PIECE PUBLISHED IN *THE LANCET*, MAY 10, 2022.

“In my opinion, we’re actually seeing far greater struggles on the human side as people are trying to figure out exactly what the new routines are going to be and as organizations are struggling to adjust to people’s new beliefs about work.”

ANDREW KNIGHT, PROFESSOR OF ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR, QUOTED IN “WORKERS ARE BACK IN OFFICES. WHY DOES IT FEEL SO WEIRD?” *THE WASHINGTON POST*, APRIL 19, 2022.



Photo: Sid Hastings

“The LOG OFF Movement just started as a youth movement by teens for teens, largely hyper-focused on providing that space for conversation, to talk about the multifaceted nature [of social media] and to promote the healthier usage of it.”

EMMA LEMBKE, WHILE A FRESHMAN, APPEARED ON CBSNEWS.COM, MAY 5, 2022, IN THE SEGMENT “GEN Z HAS LIVED THEIR ENTIRE LIVES ONLINE. SOME ARE FED UP.”



Photo: Matt Miller

“There are probably many more viruses and other pathogens that are transmitted by ticks and other insect vectors. There [are] lots of cases of people who have unexplained fevers, and probably many of these are caused by some kind of virus.”

DAVID WANG, PROFESSOR OF MOLECULAR MICROBIOLOGY, STATED IN “NEW TICK DISEASES ARE EMERGING ACROSS THE U.S. AND AROUND THE WORLD – FUELED BY CLIMATE CHANGE – BUT DOCTORS SAY THEY’RE DIFFICULT TO DIAGNOSE,” IN *YAHOO NEWS/INSIDER*, JUNE 9, 2022.

W74 LAW 801K Wrongful Conviction Clinic

Students help correct wrongful convictions

In a new law clinic, students gain experience with litigation, parole work, clemency cases and more as they help those wrongfully convicted of crimes.

Kevin Strickland and **Michael Politte** are now free men thanks in part to the efforts of law students in Washington University's Wrongful Conviction Clinic.

Tricia Rojo Bushnell, executive director of the Midwest Innocence Project, and **Megan Crane**, co-director of the Missouri office of the MacArthur Justice Center, began the clinic at the School of Law in fall 2021 to help budding lawyers — including future prosecutors — understand the strengths and weakness of the criminal justice system. The only check on the system, Bushnell says, is provided by nonprofits like theirs and initiatives like the Wrongful Conviction Clinic.

"This is how the criminal legal system works," Bushnell says. "The check isn't something the state has provided; it's what we're providing, with the help of students. They're critical to it, and they'll go into the world knowing that the safety valve is them."

Kevin Strickland was convicted in the 1978 murder of three people in Kansas City, Missouri. The lone witness later said she had made a mistake, the other men convicted in the deaths said Strickland was not involved, and there was no physical evidence tying him to the crime. Thanks to a new Missouri law that allows prosecutors to correct wrongful convictions, the Jackson County prosecutor asked for a judicial review of Strickland's case. Strickland was freed in November 2021 after more than 43 years in prison.

Clinic students contributed to Strickland's release by listening to hundreds of hours of recordings dumped on the defense team just days before a hearing and helping draft the closing argument. The law students also got to know Strickland while working on his case.

"They met him at the hearing while he was incarcerated and still in shackles," Bushnell says. "And they spent four days with him at the hearing, talking to him and being there with him through that whole process. And when he went home, they were able to connect with him as well."

In Michael Politte's case, clinic students are working to prove his innocence; but in the meantime, they were able to use a new Missouri juvenile justice law to secure his parole. In 1998,

police accused 14-year-old Politte of killing his mother. She'd been struck in the head with an unknown object and lit on fire in the home they shared 75 miles south of St. Louis. He was sentenced to life in prison, but the new law makes all juvenile offenders eligible for parole after serving 15 years, in recognition that youth should not be sentenced to lengthy prison terms.

"It was very lucky timing that students were able to work on the Politte case extensively last semester [fall 2021]," Crane says. "Students helped prepare him for parole and prepared the materials for his hearing." Politte was granted parole in January and released April 22.

Clinic student **Madeleine Denny** says Politte's parole was the most rewarding moment of the clinic for her. "Victories can be hard to come by in this line of work, and, though we're still fighting for his exoneration, I was beyond relieved to hear that he would be with his family again soon," she says.

As part of their work to prove Politte's innocence, students interviewed jurors from his original trial in Washington County, Missouri, and several jurors signed affidavits declaring that Politte shouldn't have been convicted.

"This class has taught me to think outside of the box, to strain for solutions even when they seem impossible," Denny says. "The cases we take will most often both predate and outlive our time in the clinic. To enjoy this work, we have to accept that we will have to wait, most likely years, to see the ultimate outcome."

As they gain real-world experience with litigation, parole work, clemency cases, media and policy, students tell Crane and Bushnell that the clinic is making the law come alive. "This is what they came to law school to learn how to do," Bushnell says.

Politte is grateful to the WashU students and other law students who helped secure his freedom. "It's been a blessing to work with so many law students over the years," he says. "I want to share my story with the next generation — law students and others — who will have the power to change the process and make sure that criminal procedures are fair and just."

■ JULIE KENNEDY



Wrongful Clinic Stats



8 STUDENTS OVER
TWO SEMESTERS



255 OR MORE HOURS WORKED
PER STUDENT PER SEMESTER



10 CLIENTS ASSISTED;
2 RELEASES SECURED



5 STATES: ARKANSAS,
KANSAS, IOWA, MISSOURI,
NEBRASKA

A cross-continental collaboration

In partnership with dozens of authors around the globe, three Brown School faculty members edited a new, groundbreaking book illuminating child behavioral health in Sub-Saharan Africa.

“We look at the world as a global village,” says **Fred M. Ssewamala**, the William E. Gordon Distinguished Professor, of the work conducted at the Brown School. “We believe in bi-directional learning: There’s a lot the global north can learn from the global south, and vice versa.”

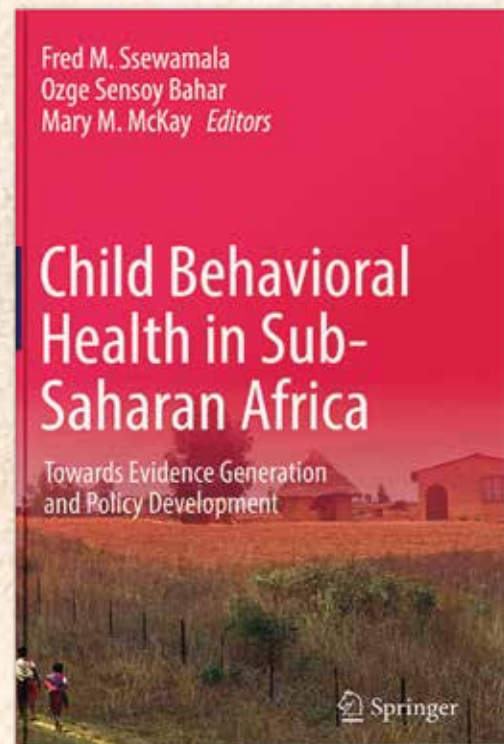
This “it takes a village” mentality was behind publishing a pioneering book co-edited by Ssewamala and two others with Brown School ties: **Ozge Sensoy Bahar**, research assistant professor, and **Mary M. McKay**, the former Neidorff Family and Centene Corporation Dean who is now vice provost of interdisciplinary initiatives.

Featuring the work of more than 40 contributors from North America and Africa, *Child Behavioral Health in Sub-Saharan Africa: Towards Evidence Generation and Policy Development* epitomizes a word the three editors use in describing its creation: collaboration.

“This would not have happened without the commitment of our authors on the continent,” Sensoy Bahar says.

The book is the first to focus exclusively on child behavioral health in Sub-Saharan Africa, a region that has long been under-researched. Since the majority of Sub-Saharan Africans are under 21, Sensoy Bahar says this “youth bulge” merits study to better understand the social and behavioral landscape of African children and adolescents, which will, in turn, dictate how this impressionable population becomes economic drivers and global leaders. The new book highlights the current state of policy and research evidence both in the region as a whole and in country-specific contexts.

“The seed for the book started at the Brown School and grew out of our longstanding relationships with researchers in the global south, specifically Sub-Saharan Africa,” Ssewamala



Interest was further strengthened by the editors’ research portfolio on the continent funded by the NIH and research from authors in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and Rwanda. “They did a fantastic job in focusing on more specific aspects of child behavioral health in their respective countries,” Sensoy Bahar says.

“Our focus on collaboration across disciplines, across roles with community partners is a hallmark of the Brown School, and that was by extension how we approached writing this book,” McKay says. For a book of this scope, “You can’t do it by yourself as a single scholar,” she adds. “You have to bring networks together — and what we learn across the globe gets applied in our region, and what we learn in our region gets applied across the globe, respectfully and in culturally conscious ways.”

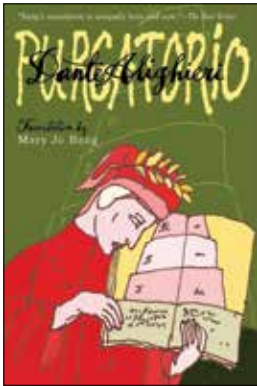
Ssewamala calls these continent-spanning efforts “an extension of the academic and ethical values of the Brown School and of WashU. Our work is also about impact, using rigorous research that is people-centered and sensitive to issues of diversity, equity and inclusion.”

Sub-Saharan Africa has a long history of colonization and exploited resources, which have impacted how much time and funding has been spent studying its vital populations — specifically its youth, who will inherit the region and become drivers of global culture, commerce and policy. This book, and its synergetic inception, holds a promise to ignite further research and advocacy.

Child Behavioral Health in Sub-Saharan Africa can “inspire a whole new generation of young researchers to advance the field and inform policy and practice, especially those from the continent,” Sensoy Bahar says.

■ BILLY MCENTEE

FACULTY



Purgatorio

DANTE ALIGHIERI,
TRANSLATED BY MARY JO BANG

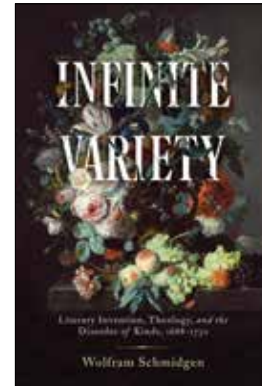
Her translation of Dante's *Inferno* was deemed "transformative." Now, Mary Jo Bang, award-winning poet and professor of English, does it again with Dante's *Purgatorio*. This lyrical translation of the original includes notes that bring the poem into the 21st century by referencing Usain Bolt, the MGM logo, Amy Winehouse, Gertrude Stein and more.



The Art of Scenic Design: A Practical Guide to the Creative Process

ROBERT MARK MORGAN

Robert Mark Morgan, teaching professor of drama and director of Beyond Boundaries, takes early career designers and creative entrepreneurs who want to nurture collaborative environments inside the theatrical design process. Morgan has more than 30 years of experience in stage design, art direction for film and theme park design.

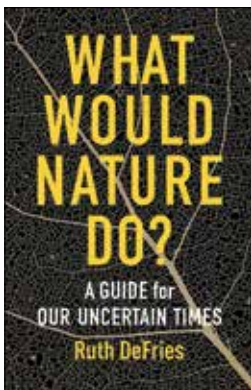


Infinite Variety: Literary Invention, Theology, and the Disorder of Kinds, 1688-1730

WOLFRAM SCHMIDGEN

English writers of the 17th century such as Hobbes, Locke and Defoe came to believe in voluntarism. This theology denied that nature embodied truth and beauty, and emphasized a willful creator. These beliefs allowed writers to move beyond the natural to the counterfactual. Wolfram Schmidgen, professor of English, reconstructs this voluntarist tradition of literary invention.

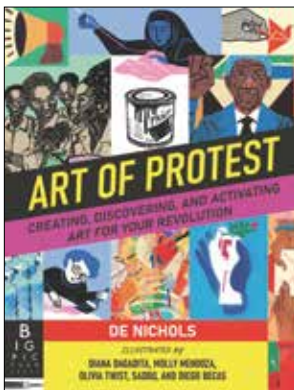
ALUMNI



What Would Nature Do? A Guide for Our Uncertain Times

RUTH DEFRIES, AB '76

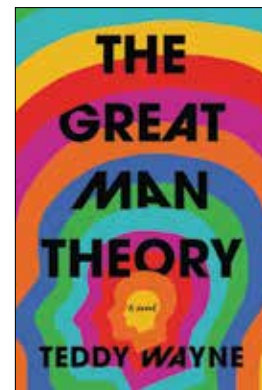
According to Ruth DeFries, a professor in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology at Columbia University, humans could learn a lot from nature about weathering a crisis. Fundamental strategies — such as investments in diversity, redundancy over efficiency, self-correcting feedbacks and decisions based on bottom-up knowledge — are time-tested methods used in the natural world to survive.



Art of Protest: Creating, Discovering, and Activating Art for Your Revolution

DE NICHOLS, AB '10, MSW '14

De Nichols has designed many examples of protest art since her days at WashU, including The Mirror Casket project, a sculpture that is in the Smithsonian. As an "artist," Nichols was the perfect person to write *Art of Protest*, which reveals some of the most striking protest art from around the world. Accompanied by vibrant illustrations and a powerful narrative, the book also offers advice for budding artists.



The Great Man Theory

TEDDY WAYNE, MFA '07

Recently divorced and demoted dad Paul is on a mission: to save America. The self-described "curmudgeonly crank" wants to let people know that today's society is a mess. So he writes *The Luddite Manifesto* and regularly goes on diatribes in the freshman comp classes he teaches. Unfortunately, no one cares, so Paul concocts a dramatic plan to save America from itself in this "dyspeptically funny" new novel from Whiting Award-winning author Teddy Wayne.



Photo: Joe Angeles

Kurt Dirks: The type of leaders the world needs today and how WashU can develop them

Anyone can be a leader. Here are three ways WashU can help transform the concept and create leaders who can make positive change.

What is required to address the great challenges facing society, such as climate change and the environment, economic opportunity, and health care? Knowledge and technology are certainly necessary. These alone, however, seem insufficient given that problems have gotten worse at the same time that science and technology have advanced. To use that knowledge to enact change, you must energize people to set aside their personal interests and work collaboratively for the common good. To address these challenges, then, also requires leadership.

But unfortunately, it appears we don't have enough of the type of leadership needed to make positive change. Data from multiple sources reveal a large decline in public trust in institutions and their leaders (e.g., government, business, religious institutions, legal institutions, media) over the past decade. Likewise, a recent poll, reported in the Edelman Trust Barometer 2022, shows almost two-thirds of respondents believe that it is no longer possible to have constructive and civil debates about issues.

How do we address this situation? WashU can develop the type of leadership the world needs by focusing on three factors.

First, we must reframe the concept of leadership. People often think of leadership as coming from a person in a formal position who wields power, such as a CEO or president. This notion causes people not to see themselves as leaders, and it holds them back from stepping forward to address a problem.

We need a different way of thinking about leadership: Leading is about the positive change any person can effect and the way in which they do so, not about the position they hold. *Anyone* has the potential to influence and energize others to work together toward a common goal, whether in the workplace, the community or even the family. Adopting this conceptualization provides individuals with a sense of empowerment. It unlocks energy and ideas that people would otherwise hold back, waiting for someone — a formal “leader” — to ask them to contribute.

Second, leaders must consider the importance of values. Through the Bauer Leadership Center, Stuart Bunderson and I advance the notion of values-based leadership based on the model lived by WashU alumni George and Carol Bauer — that leaders must understand their own unique values and purpose, and strive to act according to those values each day. Doing so helps to earn and maintain trust, which make individuals willing

to work together toward a common goal. Former Chancellor Bill Danforth is also an example of someone who earned trust and inspired people to work together to achieve great things at WashU and in the community, in part through the values he modeled. Providing students the opportunity to deeply consider purpose and values as they go through the transformative college years — as championed by Chancellor Andrew Martin — will have benefits for them and society.

In addition to knowing one's *own* values, leaders must also appreciate and respect *others'* values, particularly when those values are different from their own. Today, it seems common to view others who hold different values as enemies and as unworthy of having a voice. We will be unable to make progress on broad societal problems with this mindset. The next generation of leaders must be able to unite diverse groups of people in service of a common good.

The McDonnell International Scholars Academy is an example of this kind of unity-in-diversity. The academy comprises students from 25 different countries, who represent many different values, identities and areas of expertise. By creating the conditions for trust, respecting others' viewpoints and emphasizing commonality, the students develop a mindset and relationships that will help them make a difference in communities around the globe when they graduate.

The **third factor** is to equip people with not only technical knowledge about what needs to be done, but also with skills and behaviors to get things done. While people differ in their natural capabilities in the key domains of informal leadership (e.g., emotional intelligence, persuasion), research suggests that people can accelerate and improve these skills with self-awareness and focused coaching and training. Doing so will help them become more successful in many facets of life.

WashU is positioned to solve problems facing humankind. Each day, our administration, faculty, staff and students are developing ideas and knowledge to address these problems. Our students have incredible talent and a long horizon in front of them. Imagine the impact WashU could have if we develop a new generation of values-based leaders. This effort could be a catalyst to help every member of our community reach their full potential and contribute their unique gifts to create a better university, region, nation and world.

■ KURT DIRKS

WHO

Kurt Dirks

TITLES

The Bank of America Professor of Leadership; director, the George and Carol Bauer Leadership Center; senior adviser to the chancellor for leadership

FORMERLY

Vice chancellor for international affairs; director, the McDonnell International Scholars Academy

EXPERTISE

Trust

Leadership

International affairs

A helping hand

Meet the two scientists behind the IpsiHand, an innovation approved by the FDA in 2021 that is helping patients debilitated by stroke move again.

Collaboration across disciplines is integral at WashU, often yielding life-changing discoveries. In 2002, when **Eric Leuthardt, MD**, and **Dan Moran** were introduced to each other by their department chairs, no one could have predicted it would lead to a collaboration that is reshaping the future of neuroscience.

Moran, professor of biomedical engineering at the McKelvey School of Engineering, was then a new faculty member; and Leuthardt, now a professor of neurosurgery, was a resident at the School of Medicine. What started as a mentorship quickly evolved into a research partnership and a lasting friendship.

“Collaboration is key,” Moran says. “Eric and I feed off each other, and then you get a gestalt. It’s not like, ‘Oh, you go do x, I’ll go do y, and we’ll put these two things together.’ It’s daily interactions and epiphanies.”

Leuthardt says he’s learned engineering principles from Moran, such as bioelectric phenomena in the brain and analytical analysis. “And as a neurosurgeon,” Leuthardt says, “I think I contribute to Dan’s insights when we think about clinical applications.”

This shared learning led the two researchers to their big idea, the IpsiHand, which makes movement possible again for patients debilitated by stroke. And that’s just the beginning. The device is also unlocking new possibilities in neurotechnology, including the reforging of neural networks once thought lost.

DEVELOPED THROUGH NEUROLUTIONS, the company Leuthardt and Moran co-founded in 2008, the IpsiHand is the first brain-computer interface to receive FDA approval for stroke, and the first FDA-approved thought-controlled device. “Other brain-computer interfaces can stimulate a part of the brain,” says Leuthardt, “but this is the first to decode a patient’s intentions.”

The idea for the IpsiHand, which the FDA green-lighted in April 2021, came out of a groundbreaking discovery. The brain has long been known to operate laterally, with one side of the brain controlling movement in the opposite side of the body. So, when a stroke injures the left side of the brain, motor control can be lost in the right side of the body. Leuthardt’s lab was the first to demonstrate that *ipsilateral* movement, where movement in one side of the body is controlled by the *same side* of the brain, could be achieved.

The breakthrough came as Leuthardt and Moran were studying motor movement in patients.

“Historically, if you have an electrode array on one side of the brain, you have subjects do opposite-sided movements,” Leuthardt says. “But as a control, we said, ‘Let’s do movements on the same side,’ not expecting anything quite honestly. The first glimmer that something important was there came when my graduate student called and said, ‘We’re screening this patient, but it’s the strangest thing. We’re having them use the same-sided limb, and we’re seeing signal activations.’”

The discoveries cascaded from there. Leuthardt’s lab identified how those low-frequency ipsilateral signals could be encoded. And at Neurolutions, the next leap was the development, in collaboration with Oak Ridge National Laboratory, of an exoskeletal device — the IpsiHand — that fits over a patient’s hand and activates when those ipsilateral signals occur.

HOW DOES IT WORK? The IpsiHand is not an aid to grip or hold things; instead, a grander idea is at play. When a patient who has lost movement in one side of the body uses the uninjured, same-sided part of the brain to think about, say, moving a finger, low-level ipsilateral neural signals occur, instantaneously activating the IpsiHand to move the finger for them. This produces a neural response from the finger that connects back to the brain’s original signal, forging a new neural network for movement. “When neurons fire together, they wire together,” Moran says. “It’s a way to train the brain.”

The invention’s success has been humbling, even poignant, for Leuthardt and Moran. A case in point is a firefighter who had lost movement due to stroke. After four years, he was well past the six-month threshold where motor recovery was believed possible. “He used our system,” says Leuthardt, “and after four weeks, he could put his pants on again by himself, which he hadn’t been able to do for four years. And he told me, and this still gets me a little choked up, that he wanted to hold his wife’s hand again — and now he can.”

LEUTHARDT AND MORAN’S BIG IDEA may lead to greater discoveries in the future. They’re applying what they’ve learned to spinal cord injury and ALS. They also hope to move from motor function — the most eminently decodable physiology — to brain-computer interfaces that treat psychiatric disorders such as depression. But even now, their discoveries are opening a brighter future for all of us, one patient at a time.

■ RYAN RHEA, AB ’96, MA ’01



ERIC LEUTHARDT, MD



DAN MORAN

Courtesy Photos

FEELS LIKE



Photo: James Byard

Photo: James Byard

HOME

WashU creates exceptional residential experiences for undergrads and grad students by building living and learning communities that cultivate a sense of family and fun — and that have been recognized as being second to none.

■ BY DIANE TOROIAN KEAGGY, AB '90



Photo: James Byard



Photo: Danny Reise

ROB WILD, AB '93, LOVED HIS FIRST-YEAR DORM: RUBELMANN HALL, AKA RUBY. One of the first four dormitories built on the South 40 in the late 1950s, Ruby had cinder block walls, communal bathrooms and sliding windows that opened onto the Swamp.

“Some of my best WashU memories happened on Ruby 1,” recalls Wild, who went on to serve as a resident advisor (RA) in Wydown East, now Mudd House, and in the original Umrath Hall. “But Rubelmann was built to meet the needs of a different time, back when WashU needed to add beds if it was going to be more than a streetcar school.”

Fast forward to today. Wild is still here, serving as associate vice chancellor for student affairs and dean of students. But Ruby is long gone, razed in 2015 to make way for Umrath House, one of 21 new or renovated residential halls on the South 40.

Today’s campus housing boasts private bathrooms, high-end memory foam mattresses, kitchens and spaces to meet and play. In addition to comfy amenities, Washington University Student Associates (WUSAs) and RAs help students acclimate academically and socially, and faculty associates and fellows introduce students to university resources and St. Louis’ sites and culture. Students can get their bangs trimmed or pick up a bag of Sour Patch Kids from a student-owned business, catch a comedy show at Black Box Theatre or shoot hoops on the Swamp. Both *Princeton Review* and *Niche* have named WashU’s residence halls the best in the nation. But rankings tell only part of the story, Wild says.

“It’s the community that matters,” Wild says. “The Faculty Fellows who invite students over for pancakes, the university staff who deliver programs and services, the students who run the STEP businesses and perform the shows and plan the events — these are people who make WashU feel like a home.”

James Kolker, university architect and associate vice chancellor, says every study nook, pathway and courtyard is designed in service of this greater mission. Take, for instance, “the Spine,” which travels from the South 40 sculpture “Swamp Creature Friends,” across the Bear’s Den courtyard up to the Clocktower, along the STEP storefronts and past McLeod’s Way benches, through the Underpass and on to the Danforth University Center.



Photo: Danny Reise



**“It’s the community that matters,”
Rob Wild says.**

Last year, junior Matthew Inman (at right, center photo) served as the Congress of the South 40 director of services, and he oversaw the return of WUstock, which showcased four campus bands, and Residential College Olympics, where hundreds of South 40 and Northside residents competed in flag football, sand volleyball, basketball, chess and other games. Such events build community among students.

“These are the elements of a small town,” explains Kolker, noting that the Spine is the most traveled route on campus. “Whereas once the South 40 felt like a commuter suburb — a place where you go to sleep and study — now it’s a vibrant, pedestrian community.”

The same is true of the Village on the northwest corner of the Danforth Campus; and off-campus residences such as the Lewis Collaborative, which features 93 graduate student apartments on Kingsland Ave., in University City; and the Lofts, the newest Residential Life community located on Delmar in the heart of The Loop.

Washington University guarantees housing for all undergraduates. All 1,800 members of the Class of 2026 will live on the South 40. And some 3,030 returning students have chosen to live in university housing. WashU also has expanded housing options for graduate students.

Soon, WashU will begin to plan the next generation of university housing. Traditional dorms like Beaumont and Lee, and first-generation suites like Shanedling, Dauten and Rutledge, are showing their age.

“Now it’s time to think about the next 50 years,” Kolker says. “The world has changed — the student body has changed, expectations have changed, sustainability aspirations have changed. So, we are taking a step back and studying the ways residential life connects to academics, health and wellness, and all the other elements of campus life so that the residential experience can better contribute to the overall WashU experience.”



Photo: Whitney Curtis



Photo: Danny Reise



Finding your place

Raised in Stark, Kansas, population 74, junior Matthew Inman is a first-generation college student. He didn't know a lot about dorm life when he arrived at WashU in 2020, but he had some ideas.

"You hear these stories about that amazing first-year experience — meeting your roommate, finding your best friend, having that first romantic relationship," Inman says.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Inman got none of that. He didn't get to tour campus before moving into Liggett-Koenig Residential College. He didn't get a roommate, because all students were assigned single rooms. And relationships — well, it's hard to get to know someone over Zoom.

But Inman did find an outlet in Congress of the South 40 (CS40), one of the largest programming organizations on campus. CS40 hosts events like WUStock and helps Residential College Councils organize their own programs, meet sustainability goals and advocate for students.

"I was involved with student government all four years in high school, so when I learned about CS40 and the college councils, I thought, 'That sounds pretty cool. I'll give it a try,'" Inman says. "More than anything, I was just happy for an excuse to talk to people for an hour a week on Zoom."

This year, Inman served as the CS40 director of services and oversaw the return of WUStock, which showcased four campus bands, and Residential College Olympics, where hundreds of South 40 and Northside residents competed in flag football, sand volleyball, basketball, chess and other games. This year's winner was Brookings Residential College (aka the Bees).

"It was just a phenomenal feeling watching everyone together, cheering," says Inman, who lived in the Village last year. "These traditions are a big part of the WashU culture, and bringing them back has been an important step toward getting back to our roots."

Inman, who is studying political science in Arts & Sciences, also serves as an aspirational peer mentor for the Deneb STARS, a cohort program for first-generation and lower-income students. That experience, along with his service in CS40, prompted him to apply to be an RA. He was accepted and has been assigned to Hitzeman, Hurd and Myers Residential College.

"I know what it's like to come to WashU and have no idea what's going on," Inman says. "As an RA, I'd like to give first-years the confidence to go to office hours for help with courses, introduce them to all of WashU's fun traditions, and tell kids like me that they will find their place."



Exploring shared interests

Junior Zainab Mairaj came to WashU to study statistics and environmental analysis. But she also wanted to learn more about her Muslim faith.

“Growing up in a predominantly white town, I didn’t know many other Muslims,” Mairaj says. “So, living with other Muslims and learning about their cultures and traditions has been a really important part of my time at WashU.”

Mairaj is a member of Sakeenah, a Residential Life Living Learning Community (LLC) for Muslim students located in the Village. Sakeenah’s 16 members pray in the Lopata Reflection Room, play Mario Kart in the common room and celebrate holidays with adviser Younasse Tarbouni, a teaching professor of Arabic in Arts & Sciences. Mairaj and her two roommates were the first women to join Sakeenah since its founding in 2019.

“It isn’t always easy to be a Muslim in America, especially if you wear the hijab,” Mairaj says. “But here, I feel supported and understood.”

To junior Ilyas Mehkri, a neuroscience major in Arts & Sciences, the Sakeenah Living Learning Community is more than a collection of suites. It’s the scent of samosas and biryani at Iftar, the evening meal shared during Ramadan, and the colors of kurtas and thobes, types of Islamic clothing.

“You walk into the common room and smell all the scents. Everyone is like, ‘Ooh, what’s that? Where’s that from?’” Mehkri says. “All the different foods, ways of dressing, ways of praying — it has really opened my eyes to the fact that there’s no one way to worship or live life.”

“It isn’t always easy to be a Muslim in America, especially if you wear the hijab,” Zainab Mairaj says. “But here, I feel supported and understood.”

Residential Life started the LLC program in 2018 to support groups of sophomores, juniors and seniors who wanted to explore a shared interest or culture in a residential setting. And Residential Life provides LLC residents advising from university faculty and funding for programs such as retreats, lectures and meals.

In the past, female STEM majors and members of the Beta Omicron Kappa literary honorary have formed LLCs in Millbrook Apartments and the Lofts, respectively. And this academic year, Hasami LLC, located in a former fraternity house, will welcome students who are interested in exploring the history and culture of the African diaspora. Residents will gather for Sunday dinners and participate in programming from the Department of African and African American Studies.



Graduate housing builds affinity

Back in 2016, Mary Campbell, associate vice chancellor for real estate, set out to re-create the South 40 experience for graduate students — and why not, WashU undergraduate housing is among the nation’s best. But when she pitched the concept to students of the McDonnell International Scholars Academy, they took a hard pass.

“They told us flat out, ‘We don’t want anything like you have on the South 40. Our housing should be different because we are different,’” recalls Campbell, who oversees the university’s portfolio of 1,400 off-campus apartments.

So, Campbell asked architecture students in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts to work with McDonnell Scholars to transform two neighboring apartment buildings into affinity housing that would meet their unique needs. The results surprised her.

“We got out of their way, and it was a good thing because we never would have come up with what they designed,” Campbell says. “We had imagined a giant gathering room with glass walls for programming. But what they wanted was a variety of spaces throughout the buildings, a community kitchen and big outdoor space. That’s what we gave them, and it’s been a success.”

In 2017, McDonnell Scholar Weiyi Pan moved into the complex located just north of campus. He’d enjoyed dorm life in China but was ready for some privacy.

“I was so excited to finally have my own bathroom,” says Pan, who graduated in May with a doctorate in environmental and chemical engineering from the McKelvey School of Engineering. “That was one of the appeals of the program — that I could live with other scholars from all over the world but have my own space.”

Pan says scholars come together in all sorts of ways in the building: They use the community kitchen to make dumplings and birthday cakes,

the sunny courtyard to study, and the common rooms to throw happy hours.

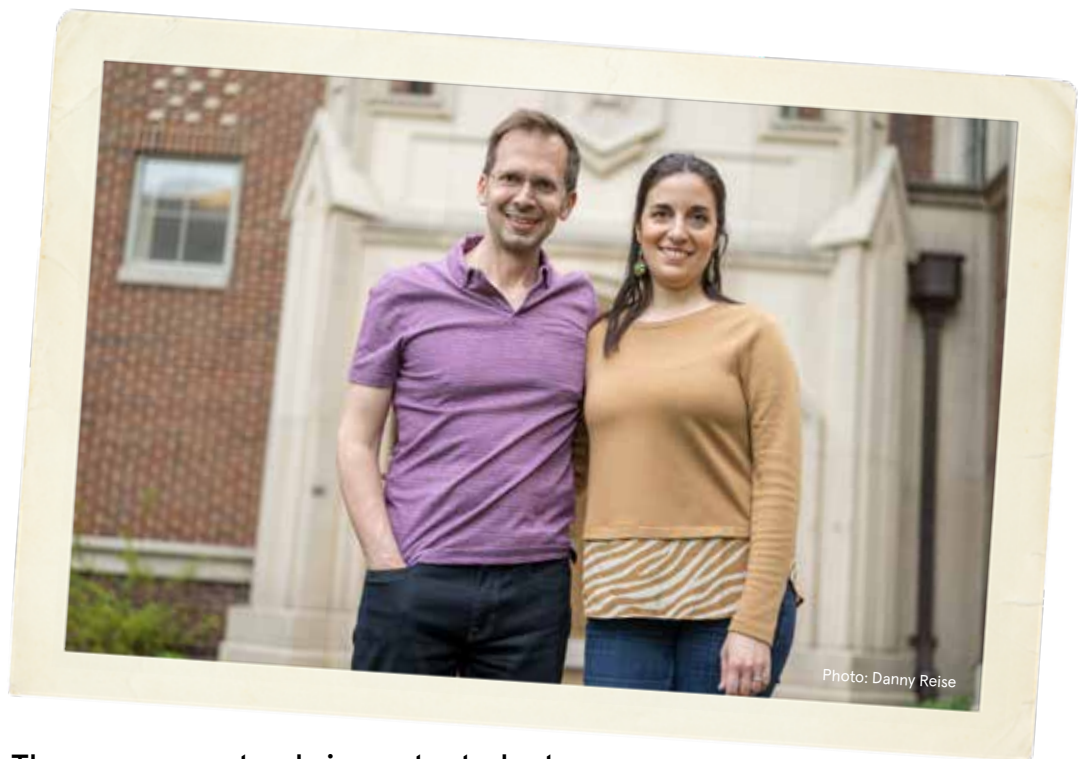
“It’s fun because we have MBA students, students studying literature, students studying medicine,” Pan says. “I hear opinions different from mine, and that expands my vision as a student, as a person.”

The university has since created similar affinity communities for the Chancellor’s Graduate Fellows and the Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Fellows, and offers affinity housing for graduate students in chemistry, political science and other academic programs.

More recently, WashU unveiled Core Apartment Residences, located in the former Shriners hospital near the School of Medicine, and the Lewis Collaborative, located in the Lewis Building off the Delmar Loop. Core boasts 60 apartments and offers a fitness center and library and a fourth-floor terrace with beautiful views, while the Lewis Collaborative features 93 residential units, a coffee shop, a communal kitchen and flexible classroom space for use by the Center for the Humanities in Arts & Sciences. Once an afterthought, graduate affinity housing is an important way to recruit and support students, Campbell says.

“Students want experiential graduate housing. They’ve always wanted it,” Campbell says. “And now we’re finding exciting ways to deliver.”

Opposite page: Sakeenah, a Residential Life Living Learning Community (LLC) for Muslim students, is located in the Village. Residential Life started the LLC program in 2018 to support groups of sophomores, juniors and seniors who wanted to explore a shared interest or culture in a residential setting. This page: McDonnell International Scholars Academy graduate students transformed two neighboring apartment buildings into affinity housing that would meet their unique needs.



The program not only impacts students; it changes the faculty, too, says Weiskopf.

William Acree (above, left), professor of Spanish in Arts & Sciences, is the faculty fellow for the Liggett-Koenig (LK) Residential Colleges. For three years, Acree and his wife, Cecilia Hanan Reyes (above, right), have lived with undergraduates in LK as part of WashU's residential faculty program, which aims to break down barriers between faculty and students.

Faculty as family

As every parent knows, living with a teenager can be tough. Now imagine living with 270 of them.

That's life for William Acree, professor of Spanish in Arts & Sciences and faculty fellow for the Liggett-Koenig (LK) Residential College, and his wife, Cecilia Hanan Reyes, who serves as project coordinator for the Office of the Provost. For three years, the couple, along with their 8-year-old daughter, Sophia, have hosted taco dinners, delivered care packages, led trips to the Sheldon Concert Hall and drawn messages of support for students in sidewalk chalk.

Acree volunteered to be a faculty fellow after traveling with first-year students to Argentina and then organizing outings for a South 40 floor as a faculty associate.

"I could see how an outsider would find it strange that there is an actual waitlist to live among college students," Acree says. "But our students are so eager to drink up the college experience, and it's been amazing to be part of that and to get to know them more fully. As professors, we see bits and pieces of students in the classroom. But as fellows, we can see the whole student."

Among the first universities to establish a residential faculty program, Washington University launched its initiative in 1997. Today, nine residential colleges have faculty fellows living in their communities, hosting programs that include career panels, yoga classes, bonfires and more. Stephanie Weiskopf, associate director of residential faculty engagement, says the program breaks down the barriers between faculty and students.

"The idea is if students are experiencing faculty as real people with real lives in the

residence halls, then they will experience them as real people in the classroom — people whom they can approach with questions or ask for help," Weiskopf says. "Students also tell us that, quite frankly, they feel a little better knowing the fellows are there. Yes, there are the RAs and the college directors, but the fellows make them feel as if they have a family here looking out for them."

The program not only impacts students; it changes the faculty, too, says Weiskopf.

"Every single faculty fellow says they have a clearer understanding of students and their intricate lives and the challenges they face," Weiskopf says. "It also has made the fellows champions for students in department meetings and among their peers."

That certainly has been the case for Acree, who says his years as a faculty fellow have transformed his teaching and made him a more empathic educator. It also has changed the way he thinks about higher education and the university's mission.

"Whenever discussing course planning or new course ideas, I often think of what students in LK have told me about classes they've loved or would like to see taught, or some of the big problems they're eager to explore in the classroom," says Acree, who was also a part of WashU's strategic planning process.

"My residents also tell me how important it is for them to connect with faculty through research. So, when thinking about questions of undergraduate research support, how we encourage our students to take the WashU mission out into the world, or the literacies we would like them to cultivate, I always have LK students in mind."



Washington University was among the first universities in the country to establish a residential faculty program, launching its initiative in 1997. Today, nine residential colleges have faculty fellows living in their communities.

Photos: Danny Reise

A look inside the South 40 — feeling at home

STUDENT:

Johnny Yeldham, a fourth-generation WashU student

MAJOR:

Political science in Arts & Sciences

RESIDENCE HALL:

Shanedling House

Why WashU? WashU had everything I wanted as far as academics, extracurriculars and social life. Also, growing up in St. Louis, I knew many people who had attended WashU, and every single one of them had a great experience here. With all of this in mind, I knew WashU would be the perfect fit.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in? This year, I competed at multiple tournaments as part of the WashU Mock Trial team as both a lawyer and an expert witness. Additionally, I was elected to be the EcoRep for the JKL Residential Community, so I oversee sustainability efforts in the dorms and help organize events with the other College Council members.

What's your go-to campus meal or drink? I love going to the Taste of St. Louis and trying dishes from different local restaurants.



Photos: Danny Reise

STUDENT:

Will Smith

MAJOR:

Biomedical engineering in the McKelvey School of Engineering

RESIDENCE HALL:

Danforth House

What's one thing you've discovered you love since coming to college? I've discovered that I love studying in groups. In high school, I didn't study with others, especially during the start of the pandemic. At WashU, I've learned that studying in groups is beneficial — you can learn from others and teach others. If you aren't particularly strong in one subject, find people who are and study with them!

What's one goal you have for your time in college? To conduct research under a professor or start my own research project. Through research, I hope to advance the field of cancer detection and treatment.

What advice would you give to an incoming first-year student? During move-in week, don't stay in your dorm all the time. Meeting new people and building bonds are really important for college.





Photos: Joe Angeles



STUDENT:
Chloe Timmons

MAJOR:
Educational studies
in Arts & Sciences

RESIDENCE HALL:
Rutledge in JKL Residential College

What is the best thing about your res college?
Definitely my RAs, Marc and Emille. They worked really well together and were always finding ways to connect with us and get us involved in the greater WashU community.

What is your favorite South 40 memory?
Participating in the Res College Olympics. I helped JKL win first place in flag football and second place in basketball. It was a ton of fun meeting people from other res colleges while also cheering on my friends from my own.

What are your favorite co-curricular activities?
I've joined a few clubs such as ABS (Association of Black Students), QUEENS and WMNA. I also was on the cheer team fall semester. I love getting to meet new people and learning from others' experiences. I think the best parts, though, are the socials each club throws for the members; my favorite ones were the QUEENS Sleepover and ABS Kickback in the fall.







climate of **opportunity**

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY TAKES A
LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE MIDWEST CLIMATE
COLLABORATIVE TO HELP ADDRESS SPECIFIC
CLIMATE CHALLENGES IN THE 12-STATE REGION.

■ TALIA OGLIORE

MIDWEST CLIMATE COLLABORATIVE



(Top, from left) The Great Lakes (Green Bay at Lake Superior above) contain 84% of North America's surface freshwater and provide drinking water for 40 million people. • Certain wide-open spaces in the Midwest are ripe for wind and solar energy installation. • Alumna Heather Navarro is the inaugural director of the Midwest Climate Collaborative, whose goal is to develop a cohesive Midwestern response to the climate crisis. (The Midwest includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.)

THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE WILL BE FELT AROUND THE WORLD, NOT ONLY IN ARCTIC AND ANTARCTIC REGIONS OR ALONG THE COASTS.

In fact, things are already changing locally. In the 12 states that make up the Midwest, temperatures have been warming at an accelerating rate in recent decades, particularly nighttime and winter temperatures.

Midwest winters are becoming warmer and wetter. Future springs may feature heavier precipitation and related flooding. Summers are likely to be hotter, with longer dry periods between rains.

While some of these changes could lead to higher yields of certain crops in the short term, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and others believe that these and other climate-related stressors are likely to decrease yields of important agricultural crops over time.

Climate change is expected to negatively affect human health in the Midwest in a variety of ways, including exacerbating existing health challenges. We will see more heat waves and related heat stress, reduced air quality and increased allergens.

To counter these effects and help build a more climate-resilient future, Washington University in St. Louis has taken a leadership role in developing, launching and implementing the Midwest Climate Collaborative.

Launched in spring 2022, the Midwest Climate Collaborative and its members are developing a cohesive Midwestern response to the climate crisis. The collaborative includes influential city governments, large research universities and small liberal arts schools, nonprofits focusing on human health and the environment, private companies and others.

No such alliance exists along the coasts, in the South or in New England. The approach is unique

in the nation. But so are the climate-related challenges and opportunities for the Midwest.

Heather Navarro, appointed this year as the inaugural director of the Midwest Climate Collaborative, says: "Issues of climate change aren't defined by city or state boundaries. I can't think of a better way to address the climate crisis than from a regional perspective, with diverse partners collaborating from the idea stage to design and implementation."

A former St. Louis alderwoman, Navarro is a WashU graduate who earned a bachelor's degree in environmental studies from Arts & Sciences and a JD from the School of Law.

"The only way we will protect our communities for the long term from climate change is through interdisciplinary collaboration," says Navarro, AB '01, JD '08.

A Midwestern focus

If the 12 states making up the Midwest were a country, they would be the fifth-largest greenhouse gas-emitting nation in the world. The vast majority of these emissions come from burning coal for energy. Agriculture — one of the biggest drivers of local economies in the Midwest, accounting for billions of dollars' worth of exports and thousands of jobs — also contributes to regional greenhouse gas emissions.

Many Midwestern cities — current and former manufacturing hubs — now suffer from aging and energy-inefficient infrastructure. And longstanding racial and economic inequalities mean that minority communities bear a disproportionate share of the negative impacts of climate change in the Midwest.

But there are also many bright spots and areas of strength. One example: The Great Lakes contain 84% of North America's surface freshwater and provide drinking water to more than 40 million people. It's crucial to protect such Midwestern natural resources. The region



Photo: Jin Park

is also home to hundreds of thousands of acres of climate-preserving forests, and certain of its wide-open spaces seem ripe for wind and solar energy installation.

The human capital is here, too. Universities such as those that make up the Big Ten Academic Alliance as well as major private universities like Washington University contribute to the Midwest's academic research punch. And for private industry, nearly 150 Fortune 500 companies were founded or have headquarters in the Midwest.

The idea for the Midwest Climate Collaborative was born against this backdrop. And with a strong leader at its helm, this cross-sector collaborative is poised to accelerate climate action and research for the good of the region and the world.

Accelerating change

The desire to bring together a Midwest-based group of partners with shared interests in climate research and action was born more than three years ago.

In fall 2020, Washington University, with the support of Bloomberg Philanthropies, led the charge in planning and convening the Midwest Climate Summit, a first-of-its-kind event. An estimated 1,300 people, including many undergraduates, participated in the summit and its accompanying think tank sessions.

The summit incorporated cross-sector, high-level discussions involving a key group of organizations committed to advancing climate measures in the Midwest. Over the next months, several additional think tank sessions followed, with members networking with one another in between meetings. It became clear that there was a strong interest in long-term collaboration to pursue further climate work.

All these efforts culminated in January 2022 with the Midwest Climate Collaborative (MCC)

during a virtual event. Washington University was among the 30 founding members announced at the event (members number more than 40 now).

"We can't wait to see the measurable steps this group will take, together, to make the Midwest a more resilient, sustainable and prosperous place to live, work and play for everyone," says David Fike, director of the International Center for Energy, Environment and Sustainability (InCEES), director of the environmental studies program, and professor of earth and planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences at Washington University.

Collaborative members include universities like Ohio State, Indiana University and Carleton College; the cities of Ann Arbor (Michigan), Columbus (Ohio) and Kansas City; nonprofits like The Nature Conservancy in Illinois; and private companies like MilliporeSigma. About one-third of them hail from the St. Louis region, including the Saint Louis Zoo, Missouri Botanical Garden and Missouri Historical Society.

"In this first year, the No. 1 priority is connecting," Navarro says. "We are a collaborative, and this networking function is going to be very important. People have to feel invested in the relationship, not just with me and with the collaborative, but also with one another."

Coming home to climate advocacy

Washington University was Navarro's first choice — three times.

Neither of her parents attended a four-year college. But Navarro, who grew up in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois, wanted to pursue a degree and was interested in environmental work, even as a teenager. When she heard about the Hewlett Program (now called the Pathfinder Fellows in Environmental Leadership Program), she decided that Washington University was the school for her.

WashU is among 30 founding members of the Midwest Climate Collaborative, which has four key aims:

- 1 Leveraging science and research to address climate issues
- 2 Shaping public understanding and policy
- 3 Accelerating climate solutions
- 4 Developing future leaders to drive climate action



Photo: James Byard

(Top, from left) Abigail Aderonmu, a post-doctoral research associate with WashU's International Center for Energy, Environment and Sustainability, is MCC's point person working on developing a shared climate research agenda. • Education is also critical in helping enable the Midwest to lower emissions, create a thriving green economy and ensure a just and equitable transition to a more climate-friendly way of living – without leaving rural, suburban, urban or indigenous communities behind.

Photo: Sid Hastings

“Heather is an excellent choice to head the Midwest Climate Collaborative,” says Bill Lowry, emeritus professor of political science in Arts & Sciences and a former leader of Washington University’s Sustainability Exchange program, who served as Navarro’s undergraduate adviser. “I’ve known her for a long time, and she has always shown strong leadership skills as well as a sincere concern for the larger community.”

Navarro was only four days into her new job when she first addressed collaborative members and other interested parties at the launch event.

“It feels very much like coming full circle,” says Navarro, who also mentions Ray Arvidson, the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor Emeritus, who designed and led the Pathfinder Program, and Glenn Stone, professor of sociocultural anthropology and environmental studies, both in Arts & Sciences, as teachers who played influential roles in her undergraduate career. “It was an interdisciplinary approach to the environment that launched everything for me. And now, here I am, leading an interdisciplinary climate collaborative.”

The second time Navarro picked WashU was for law school. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in 2001, Navarro spent a year volunteering as a social justice coordinator with the Catholic Student Center on campus and then traveled to Guatemala. She moved back to St. Louis to start her family. Navarro then enrolled in the School of Law and graduated in 2008.

Prior to her work with the Midwest Climate Collaborative, Navarro served four years on the St. Louis Board of Aldermen, where she supported climate initiatives, including working with Washington University to help achieve the city’s ambitious clean energy and energy efficiency goals made through Bloomberg Philanthropies’ American Cities Climate

Challenge. Navarro sponsored successful city ordinances implementing solar-ready and EV-ready requirements for new construction and Building Performance Standards.

Previously the executive director of the Missouri Coalition for the Environment – a statewide environmental advocacy organization – Navarro is energized by the new opportunities the MCC offers for working with people in many different spheres and locations across the entire Midwest.

“One thing I hope I can bring to folks is to say, ‘You’re not alone,’” Navarro says. And she hopes to share a sense of the promise and possibilities: “I want you to see what I see – to see what’s possible if we’re able to tell this collective story,” she adds.

WashU’s Lowry agrees. “The Midwest Climate Collaborative could be an important organization for at least two big reasons,” he says. “First, much needs to be done in the Midwest. So much Midwestern activity, such as reliance on coal, affects the climate. Second, there is great potential to encourage collaboration throughout the entire Midwest between scientists, researchers, stakeholders and institutions like Washington University.”

Empowering groups to act on research

One of the first things that MCC organizers are doing is working to develop a cohesive and shared climate research agenda.

Abigail Aderonmu, a postdoctoral research associate with WashU’s InCEES, is the point person for this effort.

“The research agenda aims to bridge the gap between research and practice, as well as listening to and understanding questions and challenges from practitioners and researchers,” Aderonmu says.



Aderonmu is reaching out to other scientists, municipal leaders, academics, farmers, business leaders, NGOs and others to explain what the Midwest Climate Collaborative is doing and to encourage people to describe their climate-related research questions. She is collecting these questions using an online portal that she helped develop. And she's been hitting the road to outreach events this summer to help get the word out.

Consider just a few examples of the range of questions the team will evaluate as they work to develop the larger, cohesive research agenda:

- How can we do a better job of opening market access to historically marginalized communities that wish to participate in the advanced energy economy (e.g., rooftop solar, electric vehicles, energy storage)?
- How effective are ecological corridors, such as those that now exist or are proposed, at facilitating the migration of a range of native species?
- What are the most effective strategies to reduce carbon emissions in the Midwest, as evaluated by potential impact (total carbon reduction potential), cost per unit of carbon, ease of implementation, etc.?

MCC organizers also want to know what it will take to empower community groups and local governments to act on existing or future research findings.

Aderonmu plans to organize a workshop to review the questions generated over the course of months of outreach. The third and final phase of this project is the publication and distribution of the key questions.

"One thing that's standing out in the process of developing the research agenda," Aderonmu says, "is the enthusiasm and interest of a variety of stakeholders in having a bottom-up, collaborative approach to addressing climate-related issues in the Midwest."

Climate and community

The Midwest Climate Collaborative is also initiating other local projects.

Education is a critical piece of the puzzle that will help enable the Midwest to lower emissions, create a thriving green economy and ensure a just and equitable transition to a more climate-friendly way of living — without leaving rural, suburban, urban or indigenous communities behind. The MCC is developing an educator community of practice to share effective practices, models and materials for creating this future.

Beth Martin, teaching professor in environmental studies in Arts & Sciences and director of WashU's Climate Change Program, helped organize and lead workshops for educators in the Midwest, just held in the spring. A student-focused Midwest climate and sustainability conference also was held in the spring.

Another initial project is focused on developing an asset map and interactive database of Midwestern climate work. The map project will help users easily access, use and contribute to local information around climate action.

Finally, a new climate ambassadors program aimed at faculty, postdoctoral fellows and professional and graduate students will provide training in science communication and community engagement.

Taken together, these initial projects represent an ambitious start for the Midwest Climate Collaborative, with much more work to come. Organizers say they are up for the challenges ahead.

"Success in the Midwest will look different from success in other parts of the country, and that's what makes this collaborative one of a kind," Navarro says. "Here, we are poised to take on the climate crisis, and we only have to look around at one another to start seeing what's possible when we act collectively."

The Midwest Climate Collaborative's primary list of projects:

- 1 Midwest-wide climate research agenda
- 2 Asset map and interactive database of Midwestern climate work
- 3 Climate ambassadors program
- 4 Educator community of practice
- 5 Student-focused Midwest climate and sustainability conference
- 6 Climate commitments



'FELLOWSHIP'

HOW JASON GREEN WENT FROM WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL TO DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER, AND WHY HE'S JUST BEGUN TO TELL THE STORIES WE NEED TO HEAR — IN THE WAY WE NEED TO HEAR THEM.

■ LESLIE GIBSON MCCARTHY

The Rev. Dr. Gerard Green Jr. (left) and his son, alumnus Jason Green, stand at the Pleasant View Historic Site, one of the churches featured prominently in *Finding Fellowship*, a documentary Jason co-produced with his sister about the history of the small town in rural Maryland where they grew up and those who came before in shared community and fellowship.

Photo: Andres Alonso



When Jason Green, AB'03, was growing up in Gaithersburg, Maryland, he knew he'd go to college, but his mother's only caveat was that he attend a college east of the Mississippi.

How he landed at Washington University in St. Louis — 7 miles west of that big river in the middle of the country — is a good story. So is how, at the age of 28, Green landed in the Obama White House as associate general counsel after serving as the campaign's national voter registration director — while still managing to get a law degree from Yale. So is the story of how the White House lawyer became a tech entrepreneur and documentary filmmaker. And the story of how that documentary, *Finding Fellowship*, took more than 7 years to make and has now led him back to the community where it all started.

But Green's story begins much earlier, in the early 1980s, when he's a 5-year-old accompanying his grandmother, Ida Pearl Green, to the local hospital where she was a volunteer. It's the origins of a story that in many ways has defined his life, a living example of the power of both words and deeds.

"She showed me how you can make someone's life better, more equitable, more dignified simply by being present," Green says. "And I just kind of knew that was the walk I wanted to be on. I don't end up being an aide to President Obama if my grandmother doesn't open my eyes to the capacity of service when I was 5, volunteering at a hospital with her.

"Fast forward many years, she happens to be 95 years old in that same facility, and we don't know whether she's going to come out," Green recalls. "It just made sense that I come home to sit with her and hold her hand in the same way I saw her hold so many others' hands. And in that time, she shares this story with me that, frankly, I'd been too busy to hear for 30 some years."

A PERSONAL STORY

That story is the heart of *Finding Fellowship*, a 57-minute documentary film of how three racially segregated churches — two white congregations and one Black — came together in rural Maryland in the late 1960s in the wake of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and how the three churches have stayed together for more than 50 years.

It's a story inspired by the community in which Green grew up, and it stars the cast of characters that molded him and his sisters, including his grandmother; his parents; and members of the rural Maryland community connected with his family's church, Fairhaven United Methodist.

But before there was Fairhaven, there were three other churches. And this was the story Jason Green, the White House aide, finally slowed down long enough to hear: By the late 1960s, it was becoming apparent that these three rural, segregated congregations lacked the financial resources to survive on their own, and the very night the Black church gathered

to discuss a potential merger was April 4, 1968. One of the film's many dramatic moments occurs early on with the description of how the news of the King assassination was disseminated, a report on the radio that many were hearing just as they were arriving to the meeting. At a loss for what to do, the community members did the only thing they knew for sure how to do: pray.

Green's father, the Rev. Dr. Gerard Green Jr., was 17 at the time and remembers the white pastor who facilitated the gathering leading the prayer with tears streaming down his cheeks. "And in that moment," Rev. Green says in the film, "I realized Dr. King's death wasn't about Black folk or white folk. It was about relationships between human beings."

It's one of many poignant scenes in the documentary, which has threads both universal and deeply personal for Jason Green. At its core, it's a film, says Wayne Fields, the Lynn Cooper Harvey Distinguished Chair Emeritus in English in Arts & Sciences, "anchored in honoring his family." Fields served as teacher and mentor to Green as a student and continued to maintain close ties through his White House years and up to the present. With the idea of the documentary still germinating, Green visited Fields at his Iowa home to workshop a script and talk through its themes.

"Jason wasn't just somebody who found a good subject and did the research and produced a film," Fields says. "He was so deeply involved, and so concerned that his family understand his respect and love for them. It made the film a more profound experience in the end."

After that fateful night in April 1968, the three congregations eventually merged into one and became known as the Fairhaven United Methodist Church. The community known as Quince Orchard, however, became a victim of suburban sprawl, remembered mostly by the name of a road that remains and a high school incorporated in the late 1980s.

The story about the fight to keep the name "Quince Orchard" alive in the naming of the school is yet another facet to this tale — and another reason why this documentary came to be. In the wake of his White House experience, Green was invited to share his story with students at Quince Orchard High School. When the students, who had never known the origin of their school's name, expressed interest in helping him discover more about the history of the community, he says he told them of his plan to write a book. "Do you guys want to help?" he asked them.

"And they said, 'Absolutely not.'"

"They asked, 'What about a film?' And I said, 'Sure,' thinking they'd forget about it over the summer," he says. They didn't. "By the time the fall semester came around, they had recruited some 50 students to be part of a club that was committed to uncovering and preserving community stories through history."

The past, the present and the future had converged to uncover the history of a dirt road in rural Maryland — by way of WashU.

"HE WAS ... SO CONCERNED ... HIS FAMILY UNDERSTAND HIS RESPECT AND LOVE FOR THEM. IT MADE THE FILM A MORE PROFOUND EXPERIENCE."

— WAYNE FIELDS

Opposite page, top left, clockwise: Jason Green was deeply influenced by his grandmother, Ida Pearl Green. Her example set Jason on a path of public service, including a stint in the Obama White House. Years later Jason would learn a story from his grandmother of the merging of a Black church (bottom) with two white churches that inspired him to delve more deeply into the history of his Maryland community.





Photo: Andres Alonso

A STORY OF THE POSSIBLE

A “story of the possible” is how Jason Green, AB ’03, describes the PBS documentary, *Finding Fellowship*.

Green directed the film, and along with his sister, Kisha Davis, MD, served as a co-producer. It debuted nationally in January of this year on PBS and has appeared in film festivals from Baltimore to New Orleans to Los Angeles. It has earned a “best documentary” distinction from the Silk Road Film Festival Cannes, as well as a Best Director award from the Columbia Film Festival.

It’s the kind of storytelling PBS does best: deep, detailed and personal. In addition to taking a deep dive into the history of the community’s congregations, the film is also about the power of people coming together in a shared interest.

But Green points out that this film is an honest take on how communities can come together: It requires real work, and it requires people to see each other and be able to set a common goal, understand the dynamics of power sharing, and commit themselves vigilantly about working toward that goal. That type of intentionality, dedication and sacrifice are rare, and their absence often dooms these experiments.

“*Finding Fellowship* has its roots in this idea of generational storytelling and exchange,” says Green, who, earlier this summer, led a virtual discussion of the film for the WashU community. “Churches weren’t just the religious centers of the day. They were social centers; they were educational; they were cultural components of everyday life.”

The film can be viewed online through January 2024 at pbs.org. To learn more about the documentary, as well as the efforts to preserve the original Pleasant View Historic Site, visit findingfellowship.film.



Courtesy photos

A WASHU STORY

Green's story as an Ervin Scholar and a political science major in Arts & Sciences, who also studied finance, has been well-documented at WashU. But how he found his way to the university is a good story, too.

As a young high school student in Gaithersburg, he remembers going to a college fair unprepared and overwhelmed. "But I was smart enough to know who would be prepared," Green says. So he followed those three or four folks around the college fair; every booth they visited, Green was just steps behind. And one of them was WashU, to which Green happily turned over his home address for swag.

Admissions did its thing, so by the time Green was applying for college, WashU was a household name. His acceptance as an Ervin Scholar prompted him and his parents to make the visit — even though his mom was still insisting on the "east of the Mississippi" rule. What made the difference for him and his family: meeting a man named Jim McLeod, who served as vice chancellor for students and dean of the College of Arts & Sciences.

What McLeod did for Green while he was a student was life-changing. "He was that person who could lift your head up a little bit," Green says of McLeod. "So you were always setting your sights higher than you'd set them yourself."

But it was the community that the late-McLeod had created at WashU for generations of students — even decades before Green matriculated here — that also played a role in the creation of *Finding Fellowship*. It was McLeod, Fields says, who had championed a community on campus that had many of the same characteristics of a church community — one of care and concern for one another, and the idea that if an individual succeeds, all succeed. McLeod's mantra, knowing students "by name and by story," is immortalized on a walkway, which bears his name, into the South 40.

"Jim McLeod never talked much about his own origin story, but he, too, was the son of a pastor at a church in Alabama not far from where the Birmingham bombings took place," says Fields, who became close friends with McLeod after years of working together. "He would talk about his family, but he never went back and revisited that turmoil of growing up Black in the South in the 1960s. Instead, he put all his energy into creating a community on campus much like a congregation, where you know everyone and you look out for each other."

McLeod's influence was very much part of the WashU experience when Green arrived in the fall of 1999, not knowing a single person, but jumping into a contained environment that felt somewhat familiar. And one in which Green ultimately thrived.

"Jason had already been brought up in that tradition in which you take care of one another, a product of churches and schools in a community served over and over again by the family unit,"

Fields says. "That's representative for all of us, as a kind of model for how things come together. I think, in some small part, this documentary could also be a tribute to Jim McLeod and the story he was trying to draw out of all of us, so that we know one another better."

A UNIVERSAL STORY

There's that word *story* again. What Green has done with *Finding Fellowship* is take a story that is so deeply personal for him and turn it into one to which we all can relate — and need during our current times. "Ours is a legacy of the possible," Rev. Green says to the Fairhaven United Methodist congregation in 2018 at the church's 50th anniversary celebration depicted near the end of the film.

"Storytelling takes time. It takes proximity. It takes place," says Jason Green, who, for now, is maintaining close ties to his Maryland community. In addition to being a co-founder and senior vice president of a firm called SkillSmart, a technology company working to ensure infrastructure development is equitable and inclusive, he is also leading an effort to raise money for the Pleasant View Historic Site, the only church that remains of the original three churches. That has also led him to join and chair a commission in Montgomery County, Maryland, focusing on the region's history with racial terror lynchings and promoting greater community understanding to lead toward reconciliation.

Green is essentially collecting more stories. "We don't have time or proximity or place anymore," he says. "Generations aren't living close enough to one another where we can sit at the knees of our ancestors and hear their stories. And when I talk about time, these stories take multiple tellings to resonate. We don't have the capacity to hear the stories from the elders over Sunday dinner anymore."

So Green is doing his best to use the methods available now, in 2022, to impart a message. The film ends with a simple placard that reads, "The cost of liberty is constant vigilance/The cost of community is the same." A charge to keep going?

"It would be a shame to have gone through all of this and learn the skills and not tell more stories," Green says. "I'm really moved by this idea of place-based reconciliation. So we're working on the early stages of a project where we can source more stories that highlight the storytelling ability of ordinary people."

"You know, in 1967 Martin Luther King wrote a really prophetic book asking, 'Where Do We Go From Here? Chaos or Community?' And I think we've seen a lot of examples of the chaotic — so many years of mayhem. We haven't necessarily put forward enough examples of the community. But they're out there. And now it's our responsibility to lift up these community-based stories because they help remind us of who we are and what we are capable of."

"NOW IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO LIFT UP THESE COMMUNITY-BASED STORIES BECAUSE THEY HELP REMIND US OF WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE ARE CAPABLE OF."

— JASON GREEN

Opposite page, top left, clockwise: Fairhaven United Methodist Church became the new congregation for whites and Blacks after three segregated churches united in a small town in Maryland in the late 1960s. Jason Green's father, the Rev. Dr. Gerard Green Jr., shares history of the community and merger in the documentary.

Next

Art imitates life

Paul Banda, BS '15, MA '17, is a multimedia artist who is widely known for his paintings that depict his memories of growing up in Lusaka, Zambia, Africa. Inspired by Van Gogh and Picasso, Banda's acrylic works depict everyday scenes such as kids playing soccer or folks going to the market. Yet Banda also addresses the theme of education in his paintings by creating these images out of numbers, songs and letters. Learn more about Banda and his work at source.wustl.edu/2022/08/art-as-healing/.



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Photo: Jeff Fitlow Photography

Learning from the best

Arts & Sciences alum David Rogier created MasterClass as an online school for the rest of our lives.

It's the 2022 Academy Awards. Samuel L. Jackson and John Travolta are onstage presenting the award for best actor. Jackson gives a brief analysis of Quentin Tarantino's film *Pulp Fiction*.

"Did Quentin help you write that?!" Travolta jokes. Then he continues, "You know what you should do? You should teach a MasterClass." Jackson responds, "Well, actually, I do!"

Hearing this, **David Rogier, AB '05**, smiles.

Rogier's company, MasterClass, is an online-learning platform allowing members to take classes from luminaries such as Jackson. "I'm glad that Sam is proud of his class," Rogier says, "but for me, it's not that the instructors are well-known or celebrities. It's that they're the best in the world."

With more than 150 course offerings, members can learn filmmaking with Martin Scorsese, writing and performing poetry with Amanda Gorman or cooking with Gordon Ramsay. "It's also about making it possible," Rogier continues, "for anybody to learn from the best."

Rogier, who serves as CEO, didn't set out to create a breakout startup within the lifelong learning landscape — or to make *Fortune's* "40 Under 40" most influential leaders in media and entertainment.

Growing up in Los Angeles, he was close to his grandmother, Yanka. She had escaped the Nazis and fled to the U.S., later becoming a pediatrician. "She always told me," Rogier says, "education is the only thing that someone can't take away from you." And the idea that knowledge is power has stayed with him ever since.

As an undergraduate at WashU majoring in political science, Rogier served as a resident advisor; speaker of the student senate, where he helped students get free access to newspapers like *The New York Times*; and TV show host, where he'd interview professors. One day, he recalls going to Delores Kennedy, then associate dean and dean for freshman, to let her know that he wasn't learning enough from his courses. "She looked at me calmly and said, 'Oh, really? How about you let me pick your classes next semester?'" Rogier laughs. The next semester was one of his hardest. From then on, he would seek Kennedy's guidance for course recommendations.

"Delores taught me it's not just about the class; it's about the instructor," Rogier says. "No matter the field, if the instructor is amazing, you'll be interested and learn."

Rogier would go on to earn an MBA from Stanford, where he also conducted "Lunch and Learn" chats

with Silicon Valley luminaries. He would return to Los Angeles and try his hand at investing.

But something made him pause: "In America, we often think that education stops when school stops," he says. "For our grandparents, everything they learned in school could last them for most of their lives. But that's no longer the case."

In an increasingly changing world, Rogier kept going back to one question: "How do we create the school for the rest of our lives?" He thought long and hard about how to create lifelong learning in a way that's affordable and enjoyable.

His pilot classes were with his mom and dad. It would take a few years to get the best in the world to teach. "There were some dark days," Rogier recalls, "hundreds of cold emails with no response. And then I got a call from bestselling author James Patterson." He agreed to teach a class about writing.

In 2015, MasterClass launched with Patterson and four other instructors: Dustin Hoffman, Serena Williams, Usher and Annie Leibovitz. Today, MasterClass has more than 150 instructors, offers more than 540 hours of content and more than 2,600 lessons. And it has been recognized by *Fast Company* magazine as one of the "brands that matter."

Rogier scaled back on creating courses during the COVID-19 pandemic, but MasterClass saw a surge in popularity. "One of our most-watched chapters was with Chris Voss," Rogier says. Voss, a former FBI hostage negotiator, teaches a negotiation class on tactical empathy. "We found that people wanted to know how to negotiate with their spouses on stuff like who gets internet access tonight." His team also saw a spike in CEOs signing up for classes, in search of leadership skills during a time of crisis.

Looking ahead, Rogier plans to expand these lifelong learning opportunities with new offerings to business employees. Sessions by MasterClass, for example, will provide a structured, 30-day curriculum where members can learn meaningful new skills by guided instruction. And international outreach is important, too; the company has committed to distributing MasterClass programming — for free — to at least one million people around the globe in 2022.

Rogier sums it up: "Imagine if you could go back in time and take a class from the Wright brothers. Part of our mission is to create that legacy knowledge, so in the future, you can still learn from the best of our time."

■ ANNE DAVIS CLEARY



WHO

David Rogier, AB '05

STUDIED

Political science

LOCATION

Los Angeles

CURRENTLY

MasterClass Founder and CEO

AT WASHU

Hosted a program on WUTV focused on interviews with faculty

NOTABLE

Named by *Fortune's* "40 Under 40" most influential leaders in media and entertainment



@drogier

Photo: Courtesy of MasterClass



Courtesy illustration



Courtesy photo

The healing power of drawing

Leah Nixon survived a construction accident that severed her spinal cord. Illustrating a children's book became part of her recovery.

WHO

Leah Nixon, BFA '11

WASHU BEGINNINGS

During her sophomore year at WashU, Nixon won a contest to design the annual holiday card sent out by then-Chancellor Mark Wrighton. The card featured a squirrel sleeping in a tree overseeing Brookings Hall. She didn't know then that it would be her first of many card designs. See more designs at tinyandsnail.com.

FUN FACT

"Besides my dog Lucy, I have 40 chickens, two goats, a donkey, another dog and a cat."

Each Aug. 14, **Leah Nixon, BFA '11**, and her family celebrate "Leah Lived Day" to commemorate the day she survived the construction accident that fractured her spinal cord.

"Working for Habitat for Humanity, we were putting up rafters using a machine called a telehandler, which is like a forklift with a long arm," she recalls. "I was in charge of the guide rope tied to the rafter." The last thing she remembers thinking is, "I feel like a mouse leading a brontosaurus."

When Nixon woke up in the hospital a few days later, she finger-spelled a question into her sister's hand: "Can I still draw?" The burst fracture paralyzed her at armpit level, and she'd lost a leg. Miraculously, she retained full use of her arms. "I've been drawing ever since I could hold a pencil or crayon in my hand."

As part of the celebration, Tiny & Snail, the stationery company she co-founded with her sister Grace, launches a new collection to mark the day every year. The first collection, titled "Keep Dancing," launched in 2019, a year after the accident. "That was a theme I came up with in rehab, partly because we started doing dance parties in the intensive care unit. For me, *keep dancing* means keep doing what brings you joy, even though it might be hard."

Best Day Ever! is Nixon's debut as a children's book illustrator. The book,

written by Marilyn Singer and published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, follows a boy in a wheelchair as he spends an adventure-filled day with his slightly mischievous yet utterly charming dog.

The vibrant illustrations are partly based on reference photos of Nixon and her own dog, a chihuahua-terrier mix named Lucy. Each colorful page is full of captivating details.

Although she started illustrating the book in 2019, pandemic delays pushed the publication date to 2021. "I think I was pretty much done illustrating when I got pregnant, and so it was sort of a race between the book and the baby to see which one would come out first."

As if to honor the book's title, Nixon got to take her firstborn, Ellie Grace, home on the same day that the book hit the shelves (June 29, 2021).

Though she expects to illustrate more children's books in the future, Tiny & Snail is still at the center of her creative life. She thinks of her cards, which are purposefully left blank inside, as a collaboration with the sender. The cards are unfinished until someone writes a message inside. "I want to encourage people to tell other people that they love them, because you never know when your last day is going to be. I can't really think of a more fulfilling way of using my art."

■ SARA BRENES AKERMAN



Photo: Carey Pace

Making chocolate for a cause

Alumna Brenda Barnicki parlayed a candy-making hobby and job loss into a nonprofit for children's charities.

WHO

Brenda Barnicki, BSChE '86

HOLIDAY RUSH

When Barnicki first started out, 50 chocolates was a big batch. Now, Bellafina can make up to 3,000 each morning during the holiday season.

FRESH AIR

"East Tennessee is beautiful," Barnicki says. "We're just up the range from the Smoky Mountains and love anything outdoors."



@bellafinachocolates

While working as a chemical engineer, **Brenda Barnicki, BSChE '86**, made chocolates as Christmas gifts for the colleagues who reported to her. By the time she became vice president of technology at Eastman Chemical Co., the culmination of a 25-year career, the batches of chocolate had grown. So when her position was eliminated during a restructuring in 2010, she had an idea of what she wanted to do next.

"People would say, 'These are wonderful; you should do this as a business,'" Barnicki recalls. And when she left Eastman, Barnicki had already started Bellafina Chocolates as a hobby on the side to raise money for kids in need.

"I've always felt that people should give back in whatever way they can, using the unique gifts they have," Barnicki says. "From day one, 100% of our profits have been dedicated to children's charities."

Barnicki started Bellafina out of her kitchen, hand-dipping truffles in a bowl. Eventually, the business expanded into her dining room, where she and her husband, who also works as a chemical engineer, installed commercial-grade chocolate-making equipment. Then, in 2016, Barnicki opened Bellafina in a downtown storefront in Kingsport, Tennessee, where the company sells chocolate in person and operates a robust mail-order business.

"There's actually a decent amount of chemical engineering involved in chocolate manufacturing, which I hadn't expected," Barnicki says. "Skills like quality management and continuous improvement, which I was introduced to at WashU and then developed throughout my career, have surprisingly wound up being relevant." Barnicki also trained in advanced chocolate making at the Culinary Institute of America.

Bellafina specializes in truffles that are made to order and contain no preservatives or added sugar, in flavors such as mint, espresso and moonshine, as well as other chocolate-covered treats. True to Barnicki's origins as a chocolatier, Bellafina makes custom-order truffles for corporate gifts and other occasions, with logos and artwork printed on the packaging or even embossed on the chocolates.

Now an official 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Bellafina is run by two dozen volunteers who chip in at various times of year. The company also has a few paid staff positions that Barnicki fills with women who are in recovery or otherwise need a helping hand. Barnicki continues to volunteer herself and now holds a position on Bellafina's board, as she and her husband look to their next endeavor.

"I always wanted to make sure that Bellafina would become a sustainable nonprofit. If the company were just going to last the course of my own career, I could have gotten another big job and donated my paycheck," Barnicki says. "The reason I chose to do this — besides that it's way more fun — is I believe that Bellafina can grow and stay dedicated to giving back for the long term." Barnicki's goal is to one day write \$1 million checks to children's charities.

Next up for Barnicki and her husband is a fruit and berry farm, profits from which will also go to benefit kids in need. The couple is beginning to plant now and hopes to have the operation up and running within a few years.

"Being able to run your own business because you believe in its mission puts a whole different spin on your life," Barnicki says. "It's so rewarding."

■ **NAVEEN KUMAR**



Courtesy photo

From the Field House to the front office

WHO

David Fatoki, BSBA '15

SHEEPSKIN

Degree in finance and entrepreneurship

LOCATION

Santa Cruz, California

FAVORITE PODCAST

ESPN's The Lowe Post

When **David Fatoki, BSBA '15**, graduated in 2015 with a degree in finance and entrepreneurship from Olin Business School, he was “gung ho” about starting his career as a consulting analyst at Accenture. But a few months later, Fatoki “got an itch,” he says. “I wanted to play basketball again.”

Fatoki had played the game his whole life, including as a point guard with the WashU Bears, where he earned Division III honorable mention All-America honors and was fourth in the country in assist-to-turnover ratio. During his time at WashU, the Bears won three consecutive University Athletic Association Conference titles.

One of Fatoki's teammates was Kent Lacob, AB '15, who works in the front office of the NBA's Golden State Warriors, winners of the 2022 NBA Championship, the team's fourth in eight seasons. When Fatoki told Lacob

he wanted to play ball again, Lacob invited Fatoki to a tryout with the Santa Cruz Warriors, the Golden State Warrior's NBA G-League affiliate.

“It was kind of a joke,” Fatoki recalls, but he took on the challenge. The tryout went so well that Fatoki started looking for an agent. By October 2015, he was playing for a junior-league team in Murcia, Spain, where he stayed for one season.

“It was the study abroad opportunity I never had,” Fatoki says. In addition to taking Spanish and sports management courses, he also spent a lot of time with coaches and front-office folks with Liga ACB, the top pro basketball division of the Spanish basketball league.

“I was kind of getting a master class in international basketball just by being there,” he says.

In May 2016, Fatoki returned to Accenture. But later that summer, he attended the NBA Summer League, a tournament in Las Vegas featuring young players, coaches and executives from the NBA. Fatoki networked extensively, and by October 2016, he was working for the Santa Cruz Warriors in an entry-level position.

Fatoki steadily climbed the ladder within the organization. Along the way, NBA great Klay Thompson frequently joined the Santa Cruz Warriors as he recovered from major injuries to his ACL and Achilles. Thompson became a big Fatoki supporter.

“I love his demeanor,” Thompson told *The Athletic*. “He's always calm, cool and collected. He just has this ability to relate to people, and that's what it takes. You have to interact with so many people when you're dealing with an NBA team. Whether it's rookies, summer-league team, G League — it's like a revolving door. And everybody loves Fatoki.”

In June 2021, the Santa Cruz Warriors made Fatoki their general manager. With 12 direct reports and a team of 10 to manage, Fatoki is busy, but he still makes time to stay abreast of business matters. In fact, Thompson says he still remembers Fatoki's financial advice.

“I get to scratch all of those business-related itches that I have while staying with the Warriors,” Fatoki says. Plus, he gets to watch a lot of basketball.

“Scouting takes a lot of my time,” he says. “And that's what I enjoy. I'm always watching basketball and looking for hidden gems and talent. Whenever there's a ball bouncing, I'm interested.”

■ ROSALIND EARLY, AB '03

Winning an unconventional pageant

Shortly after graduation, **Tiffany Yao, BFA '19**, took an unusual step. She entered a beauty pageant with her mother, **Michelle Wu, EMBA '12**, and both took home top prizes. What started as a chance to try something new with her mom led to another competition that was far less conventional.

Yao went on to compete in the 2021 Miss Asian Pageant, which held its opening ceremony at U.N. headquarters in New York City. Each contestant was asked to give a speech on one of the U.N.'s 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which include eliminating poverty and building sustainable communities around the globe.

Out of 160 applicants, 63 contestants were selected to compete in five categories, including a fashion walk and talent portion. Yao finished as first runner-up overall, won the Champion of Speech award for her keynote about the importance of quality education and was named an advocate for the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals.

Yao was born in Hawaii, where her parents met studying architecture, and then spent 10 years growing up in Hong Kong and China. She moved with her mother to St. Louis, where both eventually attended WashU. Here's how she became a pageant winner:

► **The Miss Asian Pageant stood out to me because it placed so much value on academic research and presentation.** I first started preparing for it while everything was halted during the COVID-19 pandemic. I didn't want to spend any more time waiting for things to return to normal to feel productive, and I thought it seemed like a great opportunity to get involved and learn more about the U.N., especially in a time of global crisis.

► **The focus of my keynote speech was Sustainable Development Goal No. 4: the importance of quality education, including the obstacles and efforts being made for improvement.** I learned a lot of unsettling statistics, and it definitely gave me a sense of the

urgency around the issue. As part of a news conference during the opening ceremony at the U.N., contestants could potentially be asked about any of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, so I prepared thoroughly for all of them.

► **For me, being an advocate means making an effort to spread awareness about these issues at a molecular level.** I've had some profound conversations with my friends, my family and my community about what I learned from this experience. The pageant gave me a glimpse at this much bigger picture and helped me see how everything is connected, like I'm one droplet in this vast ocean. There's so much more to learn, and I don't ever want to stop being a student.

► **Right now, I'm taking courses to continue my career in creative and design work.** I've mostly done graphic design and brand consulting, and I'd like to add more skills to my toolbox. User experience is a very popular and growing field, so I'm diving into that. I've also been invited to compete in upcoming international pageants, which could be a great future opportunity at the right time.

■ NAVEEN KUMAR

TALENT

Yao has performed international forms of dance in pageant competitions, including Latin, Vietnamese and Chinese folk dance. She enjoys all kinds of dance and sports.

MULTILINGUAL

Yao grew up speaking Cantonese and Mandarin Chinese, which she still practices at home.

THINK (AND TALK) FAST

Contestants were advised not to exceed two minutes for their keynote speeches, and Yao's award-winning speech about quality education did not exceed the limit.



Courtesy photo



Photo: Whitney Curtis

Lasting leadership

In the 1960s and '70s, P. Roy Vagelos, MD, brought together scientists in biology and biomedicine from across the university and created two pioneering training programs. Over a half-century later, MSTP and DBBS continue to train physician-scientists, improve human health and advance medicine.

Physician turned internationally renowned biochemist and pharmaceutical executive P. Roy Vagelos, MD, never planned his career path. “Each step led to the next,” he says. “Recognition was never my motivation. I wanted to work where I could be productive and make important things happen.”

Following a decade at the National Institutes of Health, Vagelos joined the faculty of Washington University School of Medicine in 1966 as head of the Department of Biological Chemistry, now called the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics. During his nine years at WashU, he founded two pioneering programs: the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP), combining elements of the MD and PhD programs into a rigorous curriculum for future physician-scientists; and the Division of Biology & Biomedical Sciences (DBBS), a transformative model for interdisciplinary education and research across the life sciences that united WashU’s main and medical campuses. He also was instrumental in recruiting a cohort of Black medical students from historically Black colleges and universities to diversify the student body and advance racial equity in health care.

Vagelos left WashU in 1975 to direct research at Merck & Co., where he eventually became CEO and chairman. Since then, both MSTP and DBBS have risen to top ranks nationwide. Graduates of these lauded programs are advancing medicine and improving health across the globe.

In 2021, Vagelos and his wife, Diana (at left), contributed \$15 million to DBBS to fund graduate fellowships and bolster undergraduate programs. Their gift honors the late Chancellor Emeritus William H. Danforth, who recruited Vagelos to WashU, supported his visionary ideas and became a longtime friend. The university renamed DBBS the Roy and Diana Vagelos Division of Biology & Biomedical Sciences in recognition of the couple’s generosity.

HOW DID YOU BECOME A SCIENTIST?

After I graduated from medical school in 1954, I was assigned to the National Institutes of Health to complete two years of required service to the federal government. There, I met Earl Stadtman, a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, who was one of the outstanding biochemists of the world. Although he had never worked with an MD and I had never worked in a laboratory, he agreed to take me on. For two years, he led me through biochemistry. With his encouragement, I stayed at the NIH eight more years, conducting research independently and starting my career as a scientist.

Every successful scientist has had a mentor like Earl, who turned him or her on to science. Colleagues at the medical school and I introduced the idea of giving training and research opportunities to undergraduates through DBBS for this reason. Getting these students into laboratories so that they can participate in real experiments, not just learn from a textbook, is so important. This access sparks an interest in the sciences early on in a young person’s life and helps build the pipeline of future scientists.

HOW DOES BASIC SCIENCE ADVANCE HEALTH CARE?

Nearly every improvement in health care in the last 50 years began with a basic science breakthrough. When a scientist makes a discovery at a molecular level, others leverage that knowledge to learn even more, as we recently saw with messenger RNA and the development of COVID vaccines. Answering fundamental questions about the body and disease is key to identifying therapeutic approaches.

The critical importance of basic science to medicine underlies the role of the physician-scientist, who is both investigator and clinician. Physician-scientists are aware of the potential applications of the science. At the same time, clues from studying disease can open new avenues for research. The two realms are stronger together than alone,

which was the impetus for establishing the Medical Scientist Training Program.

WHY DID THE PROGRAMS YOU FOUNDED AT WASHU SUCCEED?

We had the world’s greatest faculty — people who were terrific scientists themselves and worked well with students.

In the case of MSTP, WashU was not the first to offer the combined degree program. But we were able to take the lead very quickly because few medical schools had the level of basic science expertise in their clinical departments that we did.

When I arrived at WashU, the six basic science departments recruited their own graduate students with varying degrees of success and did their own teaching. I was confident that we would be more effective together and that undergraduates would benefit greatly from taking courses led by basic science faculty from the med school. Within one year of its creation, DBBS greatly enhanced the quality of the undergraduate and graduate programs in the life sciences. The division also gave grad students the chance to complete their first year before choosing a discipline. To my astonishment, this structure became known as the WashU model, and it remains the standard for biomedical education today.

WHAT IMPACT DID WASHU HAVE ON YOU?

I come from a very humble background. My parents were immigrants from the small Greek island of Lesbos who only completed sixth grade. I learned everything along the way, beginning with English as a second language so I could go to elementary school.

At WashU, I gained the confidence to implement new ideas and lead an organization. I was able to continue building the strong biochemistry department and to start several programs that were new and different. Although I didn’t know it then, what I learned and accomplished at WashU prepared me for leadership.

■ TRICIA HENDRICKS



A friendship for the ages

For seven Class of 1997 grads, first-year friends turned into lifelong family.

There's no place like home. Each year, that expression becomes real to a new class of students, for whom Washington University will become a second home. The sense of community and belonging experienced at WashU, however, endures long after the midnight runs to Bear's Den and all-nighters in Olin Library have ended. After graduating, many WashU alumni come to realize the home they found here cannot be reduced to a physical building. Rather, it resides in the people — the friends, professors and mentors — whose presence filled those spaces with color and life.

This is the case for seven alumni from the Class of 1997. As incoming students, they were each assigned to live on the second floor of Liggett Hall on the South 40 and formed a close friendship. Their story might have ended after that first year. But from their random assignment emerged a chosen family. Through moves and marriages, careers and children, they can still count on one another nearly 30 years later.

The first-year rooming selection process was decidedly low-key in 1993. **Cindy Samuel Kalachek, AB '97**, recalls filling out a questionnaire with four questions: Morning or night person? Messy or neat? Hot or cold? Favorite music? At 18, Kalachek was a less-than-tidy night owl who proclaimed she loved jazz

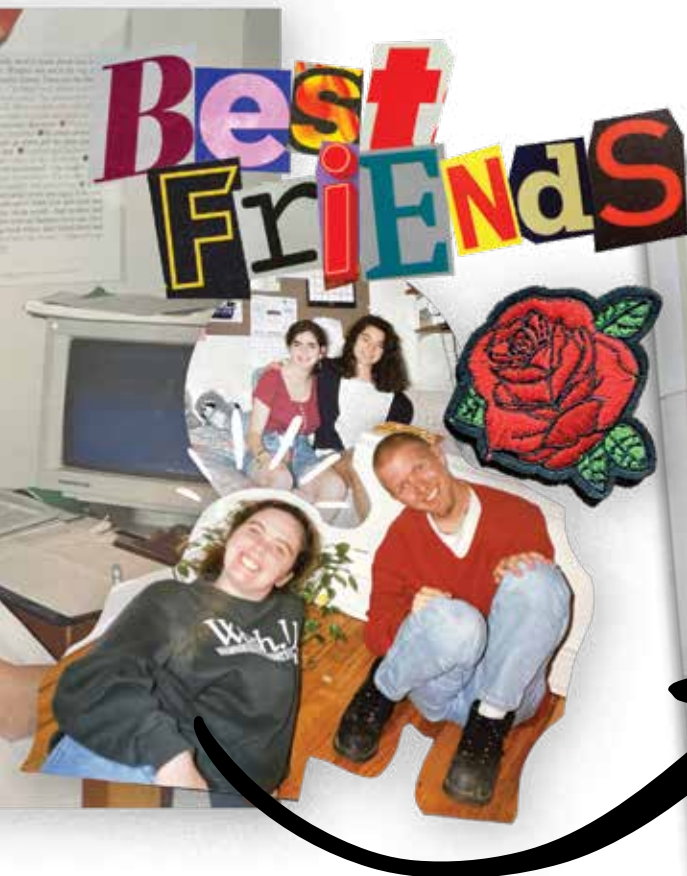
because it sounded cool. Her answers led to roommate **Beth Haydon Bodan, AB '97**. They spoke once or twice by phone during the summer, mostly to determine who would supply a mini fridge and microwave. Kalachek, an only child, was nervous. This would be her first time living away from home and cohabitating.

Raised with two sisters, **Karen Seelig Miller, AB '97**, was less concerned about sharing space. Her roommate, **Erin Gleason Leyba, AB '97**, has three sisters, and the pair bonded over these and other similarities during several phone conversations. They also wrote each other letters, tucking in wallet-size yearbook photos so they would recognize each other in the fall.

When Miller and Leyba arrived on campus, they met their next-door neighbors, Kalachek and Bodan. The four quickly became friends and added several more floormates to the mix. Though others floated in and out, the principal players included **Heidi Spear, AB '97**, **Erin Mashburn Moulton, AB '97**, and **Joel Emery, AB '97**.

That year, the seven friends got into the kinds of antics expected from newly independent teenagers. The group's first week of classes coincided with what is now known as the Great Flood of 1993. Although the Mississippi River's wrath did not directly affect the WashU campus, the weather generated enough rain for the South 40 Swamp to briefly live up to its name. The conditions were ideal for mudsliding, which left the friends with dirty clothes and indelible memories.

Another favorite story among the group is their ill-fated first fall WILD concert. With the band They Might Be Giants set to perform, the friends wanted to stake out a good spot, so they decided to camp out overnight in Brookings Quadrangle. "It was just us and a bunch of fraternity brothers who brought couches with them,"



All photos courtesy images, except above photo by Danny Reise

“WASHU ENCOURAGES PEOPLE TO BECOME THEIR INDIVIDUAL SELVES WHILE ALSO VALUING AND DEEPENING CONNECTIONS WITH OTHERS.”

— HEIDI SPEAR, AB '97

Miller says. “We barely had sleeping bags, which was stupid because it got really cold.” By morning, only she and another student had stayed through the night.

During their first year and beyond, the Liggett Hall seven not only got an education in true friendship but also in experiences distinct from their own. They came from different parts of the country and had diverse interests and religious affiliations. Kalachek, Miller and Spear are Jewish, while Bodan is Presbyterian, Emery is Methodist, Leyba is Catholic, and Moulton is Russian Orthodox Christian. None of them had interacted significantly with people of other faiths prior to college, but they learned by sharing their values and traditions. “I spent more time going to InterVarsity Christian Fellowship events than Hillel that year,” Kalachek jokes.

Free of judgment or tension, the rapport among the seven felt natural and uncomplicated. They also had rich lives and relationships outside of the group. Bodan, Kalachek, Leyba and Spear joined sororities, and, in a pinch, Emery would swoop in as a plus-one at formals. “We all went out and did our own thing but then came home to each other at the end of the day,” Moulton says.

After their Liggett Hall days were over, the group continued to remain a home base for one another, a dynamic that has persisted into adulthood. Consumed with work and family in the first decade after graduation, they lapsed in communication at times but never truly lost touch.

Although their friendship was forged in an era of letters and landlines, it has survived with the help of technology. Much of the credit goes to Emery, who encouraged his friends to reconnect via Facebook nearly 15 years ago. They now have a robust thread on Messenger. “No exaggeration, we post on it *every day*,” Moulton says.

“For me, the narrative isn’t really how our friendship began but rather where it is today and the depths of support, affection and care we have for each other,” Emery says. Over the years, they have been there for one another through triumphs, tragedies and the mundane in-betweens. The past two years have been especially rough for the friends. They weathered not only a global pandemic but also the loss of parents and two separate house fires. Despite these difficulties — or perhaps because of them — their friendship has grown stronger.

For her part, Miller is grateful for her WashU friendships but not surprised by them. She has watched her mother, a fellow alumna, maintain close ties with the same group of WashU friends for more than 60 years. She and the others realize their bond is special to them but perhaps not unique to the culture of WashU. Even so, their friendship remains somewhat of a marvel. In Miller’s words, it is “totally random, yet life-changing.”

■ EMMA DENT, AB '09

(Above photo) “Friendship has no time limit or geographic boundary,” Beth Bodan says. Bodan (center) revisited the South 40 with friends (from left) Cindy Kalachek, Erin Moulton, Joel Emery and Karen Miller during their 25th Reunion, held June 10-12.

Next

Class Notes



Undergraduate students in 1973 found community on the South 40 much like today's students. But unlike the '70s, the South 40 today features 10 residential colleges. It's like a "small town" with its own fitness center, dining facilities, technology center, meeting rooms, intramural fields, basketball and sand volleyball courts, recreation and game rooms, and music practice rooms. And WashU living and learning communities are not limited to the South 40. To learn more, see "Feels Like Home" starting on pg. 20.

Photo (from 1973): Washington University Archives

What's New?

Let us know about recent honors, promotions, appointments, travels, marriages and births, so we can keep your classmates informed of important changes in your lives.



SEND NEWS:

Class Notes, *Washington Magazine*
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EMAIL:

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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.

ALUMNI CODES

AR	Architecture
BU	Business
DE	Dentistry
EMBA	Executive MBA
EN	Engineering
FA	Art
GA	Graduate Architecture
GB	Graduate Business
GD	Graduate Dentistry
GF	Graduate Art
GL	Graduate Law
GM	Graduate Medicine
GN	Graduate Nursing
GR	Graduate Arts & Sciences
HA	Health Care Administration
HS	House Staff (Residency)
LA	Arts & Sciences
LW	Law
MD	Medicine
MT	Manual Training
NU	Nursing
OT	Occupational Therapy
PMBA	Professional MBA
PT	Physical Therapy
SI	Sever Institute
SU	Sever Institute Undergraduate
SW	Social Work
TI	Technology & Information Management
UC	University College

1950

Byron Roe, LA54, and his wife, Alice, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last August and moved to Acadia Creek Retirement Community in Union City, Calif. The third edition of his textbook, *Probability and Statistics in the Physical Sciences*, was released in October 2020 (Springer). Roe has been involved in a neutrino (MiniBooNE) experiment run by a former graduate student since 2000.

1960

Marc J. Sternbaum, LA68, joined the Miami office of Stearns Weaver Miller as of counsel in the real estate and affordable housing practice groups.

John Herzing, EN69, GB69, was unanimously elected to the St. Louis Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame, class of 2022, and inducted as an outstanding left-handed pitcher for WashU and for the St. Louis County leagues. Selected three times as a College Athletic Conference All-Star and named the Bear's Most Valuable Player in 1969, he was drafted by four professional teams, including the St. Louis Cardinals, but didn't sign with a team.

1970

Fred A. Blumenthal, GR70, GR83, is classical music critic for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

Gary Feder, LA70, LW74, GL80, retired from the St. Louis office of Husch Blackwell Dec. 31, 2021, after a 48-year career in the law. He was elected to the Clayton, Mo., Board of Aldermen in August 2021. An adjunct professor at WashU's School of Law since 2013, Feder served as chairman of the Washington University Law Eliot Society from 2016-19. His wife, **Robin Feder**, LA72, GR74, recently retired after 50 years at Central Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis, where she had been executive director for 18 years.

Linda (Waring) Johnson, EN70, SI72, was named professor emerita at University of Texas Health San Antonio, where she has taught anatomy and neuroscience to medical students for over four decades.

Albert Yuk Keung Ip, EN73, was named an Honorary Fellow and appointed as University Court Member of City University of Hong Kong. He is also an adjunct professor of business and economics at the University of Hong Kong, an adjunct professor of business at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and an audit committee member of Eagle Asset Management.

Alan Curtis, EN75, now retired and living in Walnut Creek, Calif., had a long and successful career in engineering, construction and real estate. He served many years with AT&T, with various construction companies and as management of his own real estate investments.

Warren Ashworth, AR79, wrote his first historical novel, *We, the House* (Blue Cedar

Press, October 2021), with his wife, Susan Kander. The novel is set in the Italianate balloon-framed house that Ashworth's great-grandfather built in Newton, Kan., in 1878. A professor of design and architectural history at the New York School of Interior Design, Ashworth continues to research American wood-framed domestic architecture.

Gary Feldman, LA79, a shareholder with Boston law firm Davis Malm, was named to the 2021 Massachusetts *Super Lawyers* list.

David McLain, HS79, was awarded the master designation by the American College of Rheumatology, one of the highest honors bestowed on members who have made outstanding contributions to the field. He originated and continues to be the symposium director of the Congress of Clinical Rheumatology, the second-largest annual rheumatology meeting in the United States. McLain completed training in internal medicine and rheumatology at WashU's medical school and was on the faculty from 1979-81.

1980

Steven Beer, LA81, LA81, created and is executive producer of "Reading Rainbow Live," an updated version of the beloved educational show "Reading Rainbow." Designed to keep children engaged in learning activities during the challenges of COVID-19 quarantines, the virtual events debuted early this year. As a national chair of law firm Lewis Brisbois' entertainment, media and sports practice, Beer represents industry-leading film, television and music companies.

Donald E. Burdett, UC82, self-published *No Greater Love and Other Stories* (May 2021) under the name D.E. Burdett as he'd done for his earlier book, *Sometimes with Malice: Years Before the Civil War, the Conflict Had Already Begun* (2011).

Cynthia (Scott) Treece, LA82, SW83, after 35 years as a professional fundraiser in Dallas, retired as the vice president of development for Parkland Foundation, the fundraising entity affiliated with Parkland Health, Dallas County's public health system. Treece helped lead fundraising for the construction of a new Parkland hospital and a new breast-imaging center. In April, she and her husband, Alan, moved to a lakefront home in east Texas.

Dana Regan, FA83, wrote *The Duck Is Stuck*, the second book in the Mike Delivers beginning reader series (Simon & Schuster, December 2021). Regan's inspiration for her book — about a trash truck that spews garbage because a rubber duck is stuck in the door — was a news item on National Public Radio about the OSIRIS-Rex spacecraft, whose door wouldn't close because a rock was stuck in the frame.

Frank Gilbert, LA87, TI90, HA90, is a project executive with Erdman, based in Madison, Wis., where he manages consulting, planning, design and construction projects for health-care and senior living facilities. Previously, he was with Proliance Surgeons for more than 14

years. Gilbert also operates his own company, H.O.P.E. Healthcare Consulting, working in the areas of health-care operations, facilities and real estate development.

Chuck Munson, BU88, GB95, GB98, co-authored the 14th edition of a textbook, *Operations Management: Sustainability and Supply Chain Management* (Pearson, January 2022).

Sandra (Fullerton) Joireman, LA89, who studies post-conflict property restitution, interviewed people in Oman whose families had lost property in the Zanzibar Revolution of 1964. One of the interviewees for her research project was a WashU grad, and the two had an enjoyable conversation about their great experiences at the university. Joireman is the Weinstein Chair of International Studies and professor of political science at the University of Richmond.

1990

Jeffrey Woodruff, LA90, completed a master's degree in architecture at the University of Colorado and an apprenticeship with Harry Teague Architects in Basalt. Woodruff launched Cloud Hill Design in Snowmass, Colo., which focuses on a healthy built environment and biodiversity, with both the shelter and the land complementing mountain living and nature.

Eric Heist, EN91, GB92, a colonel in the U.S. Army, retired after 30 years of service. He led and cared for soldiers, civilians and families in units from platoon to brigade, and served as a staff officer in various Army and NATO headquarters. His career included deployments to Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan. He was inducted into the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps Hall of Fame representing Washington University. He and his wife of 27 years, **Amy (Chapline) Heist**, LA92, reside in Northern Virginia.

Lauren H. Kerstein, LA93, SW95, has earned plaudits for her latest picture book, *Home for A While* (Magination Press, February 2021), which offers a realistic depiction of a child entering a foster home. The book, illustrated by Natalia Moore, was nominated for the 2022–23 South Carolina Book Awards, a division of the South Carolina Association of School Librarians. The book is also included on Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices 2022, the University of Wisconsin-Madison's annual best-of-the-year list.

Chris Kunard, EN93, EN93, was promoted to senior director, open innovation customer collaboration, at Illumina. His team works with a strategic set of Illumina's customers, helping them achieve novel end-to-end solutions in the genomic space using next-generation sequencing instruments and bioinformatics tools. An example of this work was recently published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in collaboration with Rady Children's Hospital in San Diego, where Kunard lives with his wife, Amanda.

Virginia Wasiuk Lay, LW93, in November was appointed judge for Division 16 of the

21st Judicial Circuit in St. Louis County by Gov. Mike Parson. Lay previously served as an associate judge for the 21st Judicial Circuit.

Beronda L. Montgomery, LA94, began her appointment as vice president for academic affairs and dean of Grinnell College July 1. Previously, Montgomery was a professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Michigan State University, East Lansing, as well as in the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics. She also served as assistant vice president for research and innovation at the university.

Darla Hedrick Quinn, EMBA94, wrote *Letters from Sadie: Letters Written by Sadie Claire (Marcum) Montgomery from the Norton, Kansas, Tuberculosis Sanatorium, 1932–1933* (Westbow Press, November 2021). The book — which shares the feelings of faith, separation, fear and love that a wife and mother experienced while suffering from a debilitating illness — is based on a collection of photographs and letters that Quinn's grandmother, a resident at Norton State Tuberculosis Sanatorium, wrote to Quinn's mother's family during her stay at the facility.

Nina Nin-Yuen Wang, LA94, was nominated by President Joe Biden to be U.S. district judge for the District of Colorado. If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, she is scheduled to fill an occupancy occurring on July 15, 2022. Wang has been a U.S. magistrate judge for the District of Colorado since 2015. From 2008–15, she was a partner at Faegre Baker Daniels LLP.

Michelle Landau Brooks, LA95, was awarded an honorary doctorate from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's Zelikow School of Jewish Nonprofit Management. Brooks has spent much of her career working for organizations in the St. Louis Jewish community and has been an active board member of the National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis.

Bridget Richardson, BU95, was elected to the board of directors of the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia, one of the oldest and largest voluntary bar associations in metropolitan Washington, D.C. She continues her work as a regulatory and government affairs attorney in the food industry and her streak as the slowest runner in Georgetown.

Gregory Bradburn, LA96, retired.

Jeffrey E. Atkinson, LW98, a trial attorney with Lashly & Baer, P.C., since 2019, was named a shareholder effective Jan. 1. Atkinson concentrates his practice in civil litigation and medical malpractice defense.

Johanna Schiavoni, LA98, was honored with a Bernard E. Witkin Award for Excellence in the practice of law and as a community changemaker by the San Diego Law Library Foundation. The award recognizes Schiavoni's excellence in practice as an appellate attorney and her extensive community service, including terms as chair of the board of the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority (2021) and as president of the San Diego County Bar Association (2020).

Nancy A. Johnson, LW99, an attorney in the Orlando office of Littler Mendelson, P.C., was promoted to shareholder effective Jan. 1. Working with in-house counsel through all phases of labor and employment litigation in state and federal courts and at the administrative agency level, Johnson advises and defends employers confronted by complex workplace challenges and the evolving labor and employment landscape.

Sapna Kudchadkar, LA99, a pediatric critical care physician and pediatric anesthesiologist at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, was named anesthesiologist-in-chief of the Johns Hopkins Charlotte R. Bloomberg Children's Center and vice chair for pediatric anesthesiology and critical care medicine at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She lives in Ellicott City, Md., with her husband, Raj, and two children, Kishen and Asha.

Ben Westhoff, LA99, is an award-winning investigative journalist, who has written five books, including *Original Gangstas: The Untold Story of Dr. Dre, Eazy-E, Ice Cube, Tupac Shakur, and the Birth of West Coast Rap* (Hachette Books, 2016); and, most recently, *Little Brother: Love, Tragedy and My Search for the Truth* (Hachette Books, May 2022). *Little Brother* tells the story of Westhoff, a volunteer with the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, and his mentee, Jorell Cleveland, who in 2016 was killed in broad daylight near his home in Ferguson, Mo. The book details Jorell's life and Westhoff's quest to learn the facts of his death.

2000

Tobias T. Gibson, GR01, GR06, is the co-editor, with Kurt W. Jefferson, of *Contextualizing Security: A Reader* (University of Georgia Press, August 2022). A collection of original essays, primary source lectures and previously published material in the overlapping fields of security studies, political science, sociology, journalism and philosophy, the textbook offers graduate and undergraduate students a grasp on both foundational issues and more contemporary debates in security studies.

Cory Kamholz, AR01, joined FGM Architects as design principal, focusing primarily on the firm's higher education and municipal practice areas. Previously, he was at HED (Harley Ellis Devereaux) as Chicago design leader and associate principal.

Christopher Stetler, LA01, returned to Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP as a partner in its litigation department. He previously served for one year as a law clerk to the Hon. Amy J. St. Eve, who was then a U.S. district court judge, and for 11 years as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Northern District of Illinois, most recently as deputy chief.

Aaron Cohn, GR02, GR03, competed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in couple and family therapy at the Family Institute at Northwestern University, where he is now a staff therapist and clinical supervising faculty for the master of science in marriage and family therapy program. Cohn is also an associate editor of the *Encyclopedia of Couple and Family Therapy* (Springer, 2018).



During my general surgery rotation as an intern at Barnes, I was assigned to scrub in for one of Dr. Bricker's pelvic exenteration procedures. Back in the day, these were complicated, tedious and long procedures, but I was very excited to be not just in the same room but on the same case with Eugene Bricker (pictured at right). About an hour into the case, Dr. Bricker asked, 'Bela, how is the patient doing?' I was shocked that he would ask me, a lowly intern, how the patient was doing when the chief resident and the senior and junior residents were scrubbed on the case, so I mumbled something in my surgical mask, and the case went on. About an hour later, he again asked, 'Bela, how is she doing?' This time I was a bit more assertive and responded, 'Dr. Bricker, she seems to be doing fine, vitals look like they are stable!' All of a sudden, he dropped his instruments, turned to me and said, 'Who the heck are you?' I responded that I was Bela Denes, an intern in general surgery, at which he started laughing. It turns out that the anesthesiologist on the case was Dr. Bela Hatfalvi, and he had been asking Dr. Hatfalvi for the patient status reports. We all started laughing because what were the odds that two Hungarians, both with the first name Bela, would be on the same case at the same time with Eugene Bricker? I became close with Dr. Bricker after that, and we had many memorable conversations. He also gave me some of his early publications, which I still treasure, but it was a very memorable introduction."

BELA DENES, AB '69, MD '73

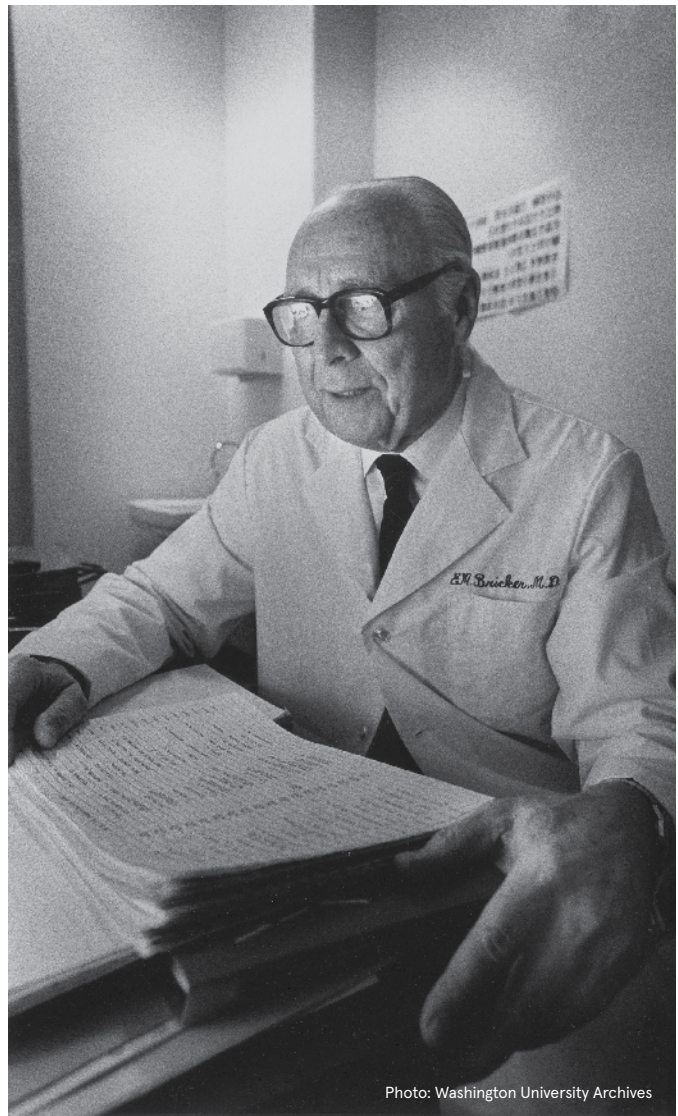


Photo: Washington University Archives

Jeffrey Henderson, GM02, MD02, was awarded the AABB's (Association for the Advancement of Blood & Biotherapies) 2021 President's Award in recognition of his critical work as part of the COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma Project Group, which helped advance the science regarding therapeutic options for convalescent plasma. Henderson was a co-founder of the group with colleagues from Johns Hopkins University, the Mayo Clinic, Albert Einstein Institution and Michigan State University.

Rachel Permut, LA02, joined Gridiron as chief strategy officer in Houston, working on the development of a portfolio of distributed energy companies.

Sarah J. (Kocinski) Luem, BU03, a shareholder with Capes Sokol, was recently named chair of the firm's business and finance practice group as well as the real estate practice group. She also was named to *St. Louis Small Business Monthly's* 2022 list of Top 100 St. Louisans You Should Know to Succeed in Business. Luem implemented a program providing for Capes

Sokol's attorneys to collaborate with Legal Services of Eastern Missouri to staff a clinic at Grace Hill Women's Business Center and provide counseling to minority entrepreneurs.

Nathaniel Dempsey, BU04, was promoted to enterprise strategy analyst at Minnesota Management and Budget. He and his wife, Julie (Schroeder) Dempsey, have two children, Miles and Isabelle — who are the grandchildren of **Paul Schroeder, LA68**, and **Darlene (Schneemann) Schroeder, LA68**, and the great-grandchildren of **Frederick Schroeder, BU31**, and **Mildred (Maetten) Schroeder, LA31**.

David E. Kronenberg, LA04, has joined Blank Rome LLP as a partner in the firm's finance, restructuring and bankruptcy practice group and as a member of the cross-practice energy industry team. His focus is on the intersection of energy hedging, financing and bankruptcy law. Kronenberg previously was counsel in Sidley Austin's energy group.

Maggie Konich Fiock, LA06, GR08, with her husband, Frank, and their daughter, Susie,

welcomed Rosanna ("Rosie") Bernardine to their family and St. Louis home, Nov. 3, 2021.

Samuel Jaffee, GR06, marked nine years on the Spanish faculty at the University of Washington, which recently honored him with the 2022 Distinguished Teaching Award, the highest university-wide recognition for innovative instruction, curricular development and mentorship. He writes that he'd welcome news from any of his former WashU students, whom he thanks for their generosity, good humor and patience with him in class.

Jessica Pryde, LA07, published her first book, a collection of essays titled *Black Love Matters: Real Talk on Romance, Being Seen, and Happily Ever Afters* (Berkley, February 2022). Pryde writes that her studies in the Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities and the undergraduate honors fellowship at WashU spurred her desire to gather and edit this collection. *Publishers Weekly* wrote about Pryde's book: "The collection's strength is in its thoughtfulness and wealth of perspectives. The result is as unique as it is heartfelt."

Oliver Glen Ancheta, LA08, is the director of geriatric consultation and co-management at University Hospitals, Cleveland (Ohio) Medical Center, and an assistant professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

Stephanie Willerth, SI08, SI08, was elected to the Canadian Society for Senior Engineers. Willerth is a professor and Canada research chair in biomedical engineering at the University of Victoria, Canada.

Jessica Kronstadt, LW09, was recognized by the Los Angeles County Bar Association as one of its Women's History Month Honorees in March. She is deputy district attorney at the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office and immediate past president of Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles. Washington University School of Law recognized her accomplishments with a Distinguished Young Alumna Award in April 2019.

David A. Shapiro, LA09, shifted fields in his legal career, leaving the Maryland Office of the Public Defender after almost seven years to join the Maryland Energy Administration as an assistant attorney general. Shapiro is excited about the opportunity to help combat climate change.

Fiona Turett, EN09, was selected as one of four flight directors for NASA in 2021. Following training in technical information and leadership skills, she will work in the Mission Control Center of NASA's Johnson Space Center to lead teams of flight controllers, engineers and other professionals. Turett will oversee human spaceflight missions to, from and aboard the space station, as well as the lunar missions of NASA's Artemis program.

2010

Peng Lin, GM11, was recently named principal at Fish & Richardson, P.C., a global intellectual property law firm in Dallas. Lin concentrates his practice on patent prosecution and counseling, opinion work, due diligence studies, and patent portfolio development and management.

Dalia Oppenheimer, GR11, recently received the David N. and Roselin Grosberg Young Leadership Award from the Jewish Federation of St. Louis. A board member of the federation and co-chair of its Community Impact Assessment and Planning Committee, Oppenheimer has also served on the executive boards of Bais Abraham Congregation and Epstein Hebrew Academy.

Sarah Kendzior, GR12, wrote *They Knew: How a Culture of Conspiracy Keeps America Complacent* (Macmillan, September 2022). The book unearths decades of buried American history, providing an essential and critical look at how to rebuild our democracy by confronting the political lies and crimes that have shaped us. A co-host of the "Gaslit Nation" podcast and an independent political journalist with over half a million Twitter followers, Kendzior was named by *Foreign*

Policy as one of the "100 people you should be following on Twitter to make sense of global events."

Sarah Buchardt, LA13, is piloting a new role as a corporate financial consultant for Charles Schwab. In this capacity, she has been tasked to build a better connection between the firm's institutional clients and retail branches. Buchardt previously worked for five years at Edward Jones.

Kevin Fritz, LW13, joined Gusto, an automated payroll and employee benefits company, as employment counsel and thought leader on the future of employment technology. Previously, he was an attorney at Seyfarth Shaw LLP for 10 years.

Werner R. Holtmeier, LW13, GL13, was named a partner at Tenenbaum & Saas, P.C., where his practice focuses primarily on commercial real estate and general business transactions. Previously, Holtmeier worked for Crady Jewett McCulley & Houren LLP.

Andy Chen, GR14, shares that his piece titled "Where I Am White" appeared in *Ploughshares* (Winter 2021-22), an award-winning literary magazine that has helped cultivate voices in contemporary American literature. Chen's poems have appeared in *December*, *The Offing* and *Denver Quarterly*, and his reviews appear in *Hong Kong Review of Books*, *Hyphen* and *Colorado Review*. Chen teaches at John Burroughs School in St. Louis.

Olivia Cosentino, LA14, co-edited *The Lost Cinema of Mexico: From Lucha Libre to Cine Familiar and Other Churros* (University of Florida Press, February 2022). The book challenges the dismissal of Mexican filmmaking during the 1960s through the 1980s, an era long considered a low-budget departure from the artistic quality and international acclaim of the country's earlier Golden Age. Cosentino's interest and research in Mexican cinema and culture were sparked by her adviser at WashU, Ignacio Sánchez Prado.

Harry Kainen, LA14, joined I Do It For Her, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides college scholarships to underprivileged young St. Louisans. Scholarship recipients come primarily from single-parent households and typically are the first in their families to attend college. Kainen encourages inquiries from WashU alums who would like to help promising St. Louis students access a college education through individual donations. For more information on the organization, visit <https://idoitforher.org/>.

Abhishek Kothari, GB14, was promoted to senior vice president of U.S. personal banking and wealth management at Citigroup. In his new role, Kothari leads business growth initiatives through partnerships, innovation and new-product development.

Marco Pinheiro, AR19, GA21, is project manager at Studio PHH Architecture PLLC, a growing Brooklyn, N.Y., firm founded by **Pierre-Henri Hoppenot**, AR09, GA12. **Christina Batroni**, GA20, SI20, also is with the firm, and a student at the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts is working as an intern

this summer. The firm was recently honored with a 2022 AIANY Design Award for a school it designed in Ganthier, Haiti.

2020

Jeffrey Czajka, SI21, recently received the 2022 Linus Pauling Distinguished Fellowship. Awarded by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the fellowship supports recent and upcoming doctoral graduates who are performing research in the areas of energy, environment and national security. In 2020, Czajka won a research award from the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science Graduate Student Research Program that allowed him to conduct part of his doctoral research at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Veronica Dols, EN21, a chemical and environmental engineer on paper, says she identifies as an artist, outdoor enthusiast, cook, traveler and much more. She writes that her long-term goal is to be part of the shifting sustainable processes, while her passions include circular fashion and textiles, green building design and sustainable alternatives to items such as paper products and packaging.

Zachary C. Serotte, EN21, SI22, recently joined World Wide Technology as a cloud solutions analyst in the St. Louis office.

Patrick Grindel, EN22, EN22, a member of the Gateway Battalion Army ROTC, was named a Distinguished Military Graduate. Grindel achieved this honor by ranking in the top 20% of Army ROTC graduates nationwide, maintaining high scholastic standards and successfully completing ROTC Advanced Camp at Fort Knox, Ky. In fact, Grindel bested these requirements by ranking fourth among ROTC graduates nationwide.

Kyle Melles, LA22, a member of the Gateway Battalion Army ROTC, was named a Distinguished Military Graduate. Melles achieved this honor by ranking in the top 20% of Army ROTC graduates nationwide, maintaining high scholastic standards and successfully completing ROTC Advanced Camp at Fort Knox, Ky.

Kathryn Porter, LA22, a member of the Gateway Battalion Army ROTC, was named a Distinguished Military Graduate. Porter achieved this honor by ranking in the top 20% of Army ROTC graduates nationwide, maintaining high scholastic standards and successfully completing ROTC Advanced Camp at Fort Knox, Ky.

Zac Styka, BU22, a member of the Gateway Battalion Army ROTC, was named a Distinguished Military Graduate. Styka achieved this honor by ranking in the top 20% of Army ROTC graduates nationwide, maintaining high scholastic standards and successfully completing ROTC Advanced Camp at Fort Knox, Ky. Styka exceeded these requirements, finishing in the top 10% of Army ROTC graduates nationally.



Photo: Joe Angeles

Justin Hardy was a positive force on and off the court. His courage so inspired ESPN's Gene Wojciechowski that the journalist traveled to St. Louis to profile Hardy for ESPN's "College GameDay."

Justin Hardy, BSBA '21, the WashU Bears basketball forward whose courage inspired a nation, died May 29, 2022, of stomach cancer. He was 22.

Raised in the Chicago suburb of St. Charles, Hardy earned his degree in finance and accounting from Olin Business School in December 2021 after learning in April 2021 that he had Stage 4 stomach cancer, a rare diagnosis for someone so young.

Early rounds of chemotherapy left Hardy sapped. He lost 50 pounds and resigned himself to sitting out his final season. But when doctors gave Hardy the go-ahead to play, he decided he would do everything in his power to help the Bears reach the NCAA Division III tournament in 2022. And that's exactly what he did, helping lead the Bears during a 13-game winning streak and scoring 28 points, a career high, in two separate games.

Hardy's courage became a national news story in February 2022 when ESPN journalist Gene Wojciechowski learned of Hardy's remarkable season and traveled to St. Louis to profile him for ESPN's "College GameDay." "I don't know how anyone could fail to be moved by Justin's honesty," Wojciechowski wrote, "by the nature of the medical odds he faces, by the elegance of his iron will, and by an extraordinary brand of courage and inner strength that somehow overpowers Stage 4 cancer for the length of a college basketball game."

But nobody was more inspired than his coach, Pat Juckem, and his teammates. "From the moment he stepped foot on this campus, he has been a pillar both on and off the floor," Juckem said. "No matter what was happening on the scoreboard ... we felt like every day was a win because we were in it together."

"What changed me in so many ways was everything he did off the court," said close friend Jack Nolan. "How, after a life-changing diagnosis, he became a better person, a better friend and a better teammate. He was the most selfless person, always there with a text or a gesture, checking in to make sure you're OK."

To show their support, Nolan, his teammates and Juckem designed #HardyStrong T-shirts emblazoned with the motto "You are stronger." Soon Bears of all sports, fans — and even players representing rival teams — wore the shirts in solidarity. The community also came together to donate more than \$100,000 to Hardy's GoFundMe campaign to cover medical expenses and launch the HardyStrong Scholarship.

Nolan said Hardy struggled with the decision to go public with his diagnosis. He worried the attention would add further pain for his family and closest friends. "But ultimately, he felt as if telling his story could have a powerful and positive impact on a lot of people," Nolan said. "And he was right."

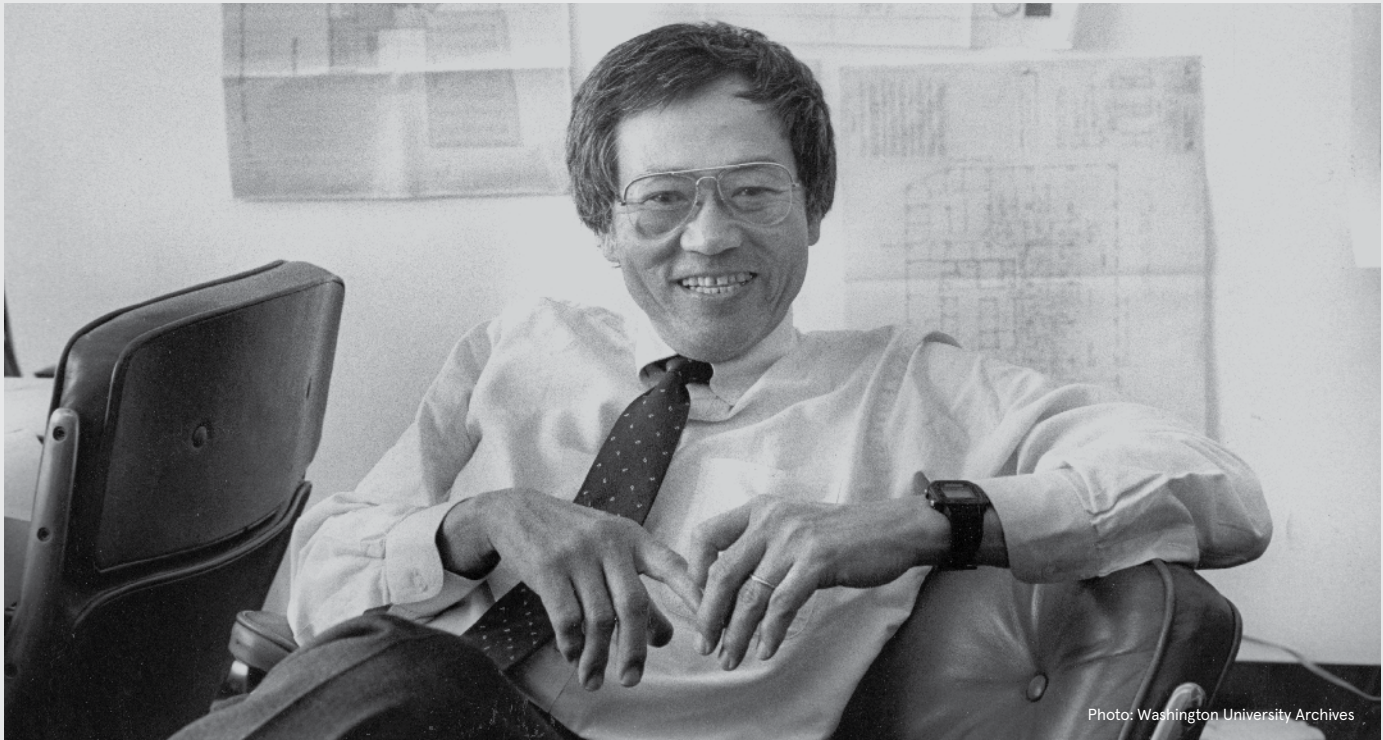
Hardy grew sicker as the season came to a close and was unable to travel. But he did take the court one final time during the Bears' final

regular season game against rival University of Chicago. With less than a minute on the clock, Hardy dribbled to the basket, exchanged a knowing smile with Chicago's Bryce Hopkins and scored his last basket. The Bears and Maroons hugged each other as the final seconds ticked away. The Bears did earn a ticket to the NCAA tournament but were unable to advance to the Sweet 16 after a tough 2-point loss to Wheaton College in the second round.

In April, Hardy was surrounded by his teammates when he received the U.S. Basketball Writers Association Perry Wallace Most Courageous Award in New Orleans. In May, sports announcer Dick Vitale paid tribute to Hardy at his annual gala to raise money for cancer research. And at Commencement May 20, Andrew E. Newman, chair of Washington University's Board of Trustees, honored Hardy before a crowd of 15,000 students and their families and friends. Hardy was supposed to serve as an honorary marshal but was too weak to attend.

In June, an anonymous donor made a pledge of \$500,000 to endow the Justin Hardy Courage Fund to support programs and services that advance the well-being and career development of scholar-athletes at WashU. To encourage support for the fund, the donor also committed another \$500,000 to match tribute gifts made by others. For more information, visit giving.wustl.edu/hardfund.

Hardy is survived by his parents, Bob and Karen Hardy; sister, Jackie; and brother, Nathan.



While his Japanese American family was interned in California during World War II, Gyo Obata, one of the world's leading architects, found a welcoming place to learn and thrive at Washington University. He is pictured above in the HOK offices in 1981.

Gyo Obata, AB '45, Honorary PhD '90, a world-renowned American architect and founder of Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum (HOK), died March 8, 2022, in St. Louis. He was 99.

Born in 1923 in San Francisco, Obata and his family were forced to leave California during the anti-Japanese movement during WWII while he was in his freshman year at the School of Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley. He then reached out and found safe haven at Washington University in St. Louis, one of the few universities to accept Japanese American students at the time.

As a young boy, Obata knew he wanted to pursue a career in the arts, like his parents. While in sixth grade, after a suggestion by his mother that he could combine his love for art and science through architecture, he made the decision that shaped his life and career path.

After graduating from Washington University, Obata received a scholarship to attend graduate school at Cranbrook Academy of Art, in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, where his career was greatly influenced by teacher Eliel Saarinen, the architect and father of Eero Saarinen, architect of the Gateway Arch.

Upon graduation, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and sent to Adak, Alaska, to design bridges. After his military service, he started working at Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill (SOM) in Chicago in 1947. Next, he joined Hellmuth, Yamasaki, and Leinweber in Detroit in 1951. There, he spent most of his time heading up the design of the new St. Louis Municipal Airport (St. Louis Lambert International Airport) as project architect under Minoru Yamasaki.

In 1955, with the vision to create sustainable and optimal environments for people through art and science, George Hellmuth, George Kassabaum, and Obata decided to open their own firm, HOK, in St. Louis. Initially the firm work focused in the area of education. The company's quick success and strong reputation allowed them to expand and diversify their work globally. Today, HOK is one of the largest architecture and engineering firms in the world.

HOK's entrance into sports began with the building of the U.S. Olympic Fieldhouse in Lake Placid, New York, most famous today for the U.S. Olympic Hockey Arena, where the young U.S. men's hockey team upset their seasoned Russian challengers in 1980.

In addition to sports arenas, HOK's work included designing corporate facilities, airports, hotels, research and educational facilities, places of worship, parks, hospitals, criminal justice facilities, shopping centers and museums. Some of the most notable include the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum on the Washington, D.C., Mall; Camden Yards, Baltimore; Bristol Myers Squibb headquarters in New York; the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library; and the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport.

Under his leadership, Obata helped to grow HOK from a one-office firm into an international architectural powerhouse with 32 offices worldwide. He served as chairman of the board and chief of design from 1981-93, co-chairman and corporate design director from 1994 to 2004, and founding partner from 2004 until his retirement in 2012. He continued to serve as a design consultant at HOK until 2018.

Obata is survived by his wife, the artist Mary Judge, and four children by previous marriages, Kiku, Nori, Gen and Max Obata; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Arthur "Art" Jerome Ecker, DDS '57, MSD '62, a retired orthodontist, died Feb. 8, 2022.

Prior to attending Washington University School of Dental Medicine, Ecker spent two years in the U.S. Navy, attended Phoenix Junior College and then Arizona State University. While at Arizona State, he met his wife, Pat Roach. After graduation, the couple married and then moved to St. Louis, where Ecker would earn a doctor of dental surgery degree. He would practice dentistry for two years in Phoenix and serve in the Arizona Air National Guard before returning to Washington University to study orthodontics.

After his graduation, the couple moved to Ventura County, where Ecker practiced orthodontics in Camarillo and Oxnard for more than 30 years.

Roach is survived by his wife, Pat; children Susan (Steve) Hafer, Mary Ann (Eric) Loft, A.J. (Teri) Ecker II, Nancy (Alfonso) PeBenito; 13 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by daughter Patrice "Patty" Ecker Menne.

Sheryl G. Grossman, AB '98, MSW '00, the founder of Bloom's Connect, the only international support group for people with Bloom's Syndrome, died March 28, 2022. She was 46.

Bloom's Syndrome is a rare genetic condition characterized by short stature and a predisposition to multiple secondary conditions including cancers.

Grossman started the group in her junior year at Washington University when she learned that the half brother of a prominent St. Louis clergy member also had Bloom's Syndrome. Together, they were two of the 268 known cases that have been diagnosed since the condition was first identified in 1954.

In 2003, after the death of the first Bloomie (as they call themselves in Bloom's Connect), Grossman threw herself into making the organization the international entity it is today.

Approximately 90 to 100 families are active in Bloom's Connect. The group's first conference took place in 2008, bringing in 35 families from five countries, speaking four languages.

Robert E. Kleiger, MD, a noted, longtime electrophysiologist in the cardiovascular division at Washington University School of Medicine, died of prostate cancer Jan. 21, 2022, at his home in St. Louis. He was 87.

Kleiger, a professor of medicine, was a cardiologist widely known for his deep expertise in electrocardiography, the measurement and analysis of the electrical activity of the heart.

Kleiger earned a bachelor's degree from Yale University in 1956 and a medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 1960.

He is survived by his nieces, Susan Kushner and Nancy Wasserman, their spouses and their children.

Binyam Nardos, PhD '15, an instructor in the Program in Occupational Therapy at Washington University School of Medicine, died Jan. 29, 2022, in St. Louis. He was 39.

Nardos joined the faculty in summer 2021 as an instructor in occupational therapy and neurology.

He earned a bachelor's degree in economics in 2004 from Franklin & Marshall College, in Lancaster, Pa., and went on to earn a doctoral degree in neuroscience in 2015 from Washington University, where he was a Chancellor's Graduate Fellow.

He is survived by his mother, Zewditu Kebede; his sister, Rahel Nardos (Damien Fair); and his brothers Surafel Nardos, Brook Nardos, Kirubel Nardos and Gedion Nardos. He was preceded in death by his father, Nardos Abebe.

Michael Neidorff, a strong leader in the St. Louis business community and generous donor to Washington University, died April 7, 2022, after a lengthy illness. He was 79.

Neidorff led the Clayton-based Centene Corp. for 26 years. Under his leadership, Centene grew substantially, from 40,000 covered members when he took over the helm to more than 12 million members in 28 states today.

He and his wife, Noémi, served as advocates and benefactors for dozens of cultural and educational institutions in St. Louis including the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, the St. Louis Regional Chamber, United Way of Greater St. Louis, Saint Louis Science Center and many other organizations.

In 2016, Neidorff helped open a \$25 million state-of-the-art Centene office in Ferguson with a preschool for employees' children. Centene also donated more than \$1 million to open a health clinic in Ferguson.

At Washington University, Neidorff served as a member of the Brown School National Council for more than 10 years. In 2016, Centene became a partner in the Envolve Center for Health Behavior Change, an industry-academic collaboration between the Brown School and Duke University.

In 2014, the couple established the Neidorff Family and Robert C. Packman Professorship at the School of Medicine. More recently, the Neidorffs joined with the Centene Charitable Foundation to endow the Neidorff Family and Centene Corporation Deanship at the Brown School.

In recognition of their dedication and generosity, the university presented the Neidorffs with the Robert S. Brookings Award during Founders Day on Oct. 28, 2017.

Neidorff is survived by his wife, Noémi Neidorff, son Peter Neidorff, sister Susan Neidorff Reinglass and brother Robert Neidorff. Daughter Monica Neidorff preceded him in death.

Michael J. Noetzel, MD, a leading pediatric stroke researcher at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, died of heart failure Feb. 20, 2022, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. He was 70.

Noetzel, a professor of neurology and of pediatrics, was a respected clinician, researcher, teacher and administrator. He spent his entire 45-year career at Washington University and St. Louis Children's Hospital.

A former two-sport college athlete, Noetzel loved sports, and he was also a voracious reader and devout Catholic active in his local parish. He most enjoyed time with his family.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Mary Noetzel; sons Justin (Janine) Noetzel and Evan (Julia Reardon) Noetzel; daughters Anna (Anthony Gattuso) Noetzel and Katy Noetzel; four siblings, Mary Brevard, Margaret Ellison, Monica Hurley and Mark Noetzel; eight grandchildren; and numerous in-laws, nieces and nephews.

Carter Revard, professor emeritus of English in Arts & Sciences at Washington University, died Jan. 3, 2022, at his home in University City, Mo. He was 90.

Born in Pawhuska, Okla., in 1931, Revard was raised, along with six siblings and numerous other family members, in the Buck Creek Valley on the Osage reservation — a great, extended "mixed-blood family of Indian and Irish and Scotch-Irish folks," as he described it in his 2001 autobiography, *Winning the Dustbowl*.

Revard attended the one-room Buck Creek School while working a series of odd jobs, from harvesting fields to training greyhounds. After graduating from nearby Bartlesville College High School, he won a radio quiz scholarship to study at the University of Tulsa, where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1952. That same year, Revard also won a prestigious Rhodes Scholarship to study at Merton College at the University of Oxford, and he received his Osage name, Nom-peh-wah-theh ("fear inspiring"), from his grandmother, Josephine Jump.

In 1956, Revard met and married Stella Hill Purce Revard while both were pursuing their doctorates at Yale. In 1961, after teaching for two years at Amherst College, he joined the Washington University faculty as an assistant professor of English, rising to associate professor in 1966 and full professor in 1977.

Revard also was an accomplished poet whose work frequently explored Native American themes, beginning with the chapbook *My Right Hand Don't Leave Me No More* (1970). His numerous books include the poetry collections *Ponca War Dancers* (1980), *Cowboys and Indians* (1992), *Christmas Shopping* (1992), *An Eagle Nation* (1993), *How the Songs Come Down: New and Selected Poems* (2005) and *From the Extinct Volcano, A Bird of Paradise* (2014), as well as an earlier autobiography, *Family Matters, Tribal Affairs* (1998).

Revard was named professor emeritus in 1997 but remained a regular presence on the WashU campus — teaching courses, visiting classes and reading from his latest works. In 2003, the journal *Studies in American Indian Literatures* dedicated a special issue to his writing and intellectual legacy.

Revard was preceded in death by his wife, Stella Hill Purce Revard, in 2014. He is survived by his children, Stephen Revard, Geoffrey Revard, Vanessa Roman and Lawrence Revard; brothers, Louis "Jim" Jump and Addison Jump Jr.; and sister, Josephine.

Kathleen Ann Schneider, a longtime administrative assistant in the Department of English in Arts & Sciences at Washington University, died March 1, 2022. She was 73.

Schneider came to Washington University in 1995 as an administrative assistant in University College. She served in several positions before transferring, in 2001, to the English department, as the advising and student record coordinator. She retired in 2014.

Schneider is survived by Michael, her husband of 51 years, as well as three children — John, Katharine and Elizabeth — and two grandchildren.

Orli S. Sheffey, a sophomore in Arts & Sciences at Washington University, died Feb. 11, 2022. She was 19.

Sheffey, of Highland Park, Ill., was a political science major and a member of the Phi Delta Phi legal honor society, Planned Parenthood Generation Action, College Democrats and WashU Votes. Sheffey also served as a senior news writer for *Student Life*, where she covered the university's response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Student Union and other important campus issues. In addition, Sheffey was training to be a member of Uncle Joe's, the university's confidential peer counseling service.

Cora Faith Walker, AB '06, MPH '10, an attorney, legislator and policy chief for St. Louis County Executive Sam Page, died March 11, 2022. She was 37.

Walker, who was from Ferguson, specialized in health-care policy and was an outspoken defender of women's reproductive rights. She was elected to the Missouri House in November 2016 to represent parts of North St. Louis County including Ferguson. She was re-elected in 2018. In 2019, she resigned from the legislature to lead policy direction for Page's administration.

Prior to joining the legislature, she was a faculty member at St. Louis University School of Law and the health law and policy fellow for SLU's Center for Health Law Studies.

The following death notices were submitted from Jan. 1, 2022–April 30, 2022. Please contact Advancement Services at WUADDataChange@wustm.wustl.edu to report the death of an alumnus or alumna. Please submit full obituaries for consideration to wustlmagclassnotes@wustl.edu.

1930-1939

Aubrey A. Yawitz, LA 37; Jan. '22

1940-1949

Rosalie (Raisher) Chod, LA43; Jan. '22
Milton Klein, EN44; March '22
Gyo Obata, AR45, GF90; March '22
Betty J. Callahan, BU46; March '22
Druscilla (Tulper) Katz, BU47; Jan. '22
Laura (Schwarz) Cramer, GR48; April '22
Richard W. Rogers, BU48; March '22
Kernell L. Armbruster, BU49; Jan. '22
Margaret (Powell) Floyd, SW49; Feb. '22
Phillip B. Foreman, LA49, MD55; Jan. '22
Elizabeth C. Murray, BU49; April '22
Robert L. Walker, FA49; Jan. '22

1950-1959

Leonard J. Adreon, BU50; Feb. '22
Robert W. Allen, BU50; Jan. '22
Robert W. Spaulding, SW50; Feb. '22
Myrna (Morganstern) Cohen, LA51; Feb. '22
George Y. Fujimoto, LA51; Jan. '22
Betty (Lovell) Jehle, FA51; Jan. '22
Kenneth D. Serkes, MD51; Feb. '22
Arthur F. Miorelli, LA52, LW54; March '22
Wayne C. Muren, BU52; Jan. '22
George E. Murphy, MD52; Jan. '22
Herschel Price, BU52; March '22
Marilyn (Engel) Crabtree, FA53; Jan. '22
Elaine (Starr) Grohman, LA53; Jan. '22
James L. Hogan, FA53; March '22
Joyce (Praechter) Noxon, LA53; Jan. '22
Merle H. Banta, EN54; Jan. '22
Joan (Thompson) Edgemon, NU54; Jan. '22
Ernest M. Fleischer, LA54, BU54, GB54; Jan. '22
Murry A. Marks, LA54, LW63; Jan. '22
Richard B. Sandefur, EN54, SI61; Feb. '22
Bernard E. Smith, AR54; Jan. '22
Wayne O. Buck, MD55; Feb. '22
Anthony J. Chivetta, AR55; March '22
Gustine (Allen) Crawford, NU55; Feb. '22
Nadia (Kawun) Danett, UC55; Feb. '22
Margaret (Thompson) Fajen, LA55; April '22
George H. Friesen, LA55; April '22
Theodore H. Jagust, BU55; Jan. '22
Marie (Hoyer) Schroeder, UC55; March '22
Gilbert P. Gradinger, LA56, MD56; Jan. '22
John W. Ward, GR56; March '22
Richard M. Baach, AB57; Feb. '22
Arthur J. Ecker, DE57, GD62; Feb. '22
Alan M. Londe, LA57, MD61; March '22
Richard J. Mullen, BU57; April '22

Lorin I. Neving, GR57, GR59; Jan. '22
Anna K. Bradley, SW58; Feb. '22
Donald A. Novatny, BU58, LA58; April '22
Jerome F. Raskas, LA58, LW59; Jan. '22
Howard J. Reasor, BU58; Feb. '22
Marianne (Wolfson) Reichlin, GR58; March '22
Coy L. Schultz, LA58; Jan. '22
James G. Creveling, HS, MD59; March '22
Robert S. Mueller, EN59; Jan. '22
Robert C. Spinzig, UC59; Feb. '22
Eugene J. Tournour, LA59; Jan. '22
Barry Zuckerman, BU59, GB67; April '22

1960-1969

Allan M. Bierman, LA60; Jan. '22
James E. Gaebler, GB60; Feb. '22
Miles O. Hayes, GR60; March '22
Shirley (Havens) Luisi, GR60; Jan. '22
Robert F. Steele, LA60; Feb. '22
Gladys (Eastwood) Wassef, UC60, GR63; March '22
Jerome S. Kraus, LA61, LW63; March '22
Tom McGhee, LW61; Jan. '22
Dennis M. Mueller, GR61, GR64; March '22
Elizabeth (Hellberg) St. Clair, LA61; Jan. '22
Eugene C. Brott, GR62; April '22
Allen J. Eise, UC62; March '22
D. Jerome Kopp, GB62; Feb. '22
Bernard A. Rains, EN62, SI66, TI88; Feb. '22
J. Conrad Allen, GR63; Feb. '22
Michael B. Dalton, LA63; Jan. '22
Stanley M. Davis, GR63, GR67; March '22
Elmer C. Fischer, AR63; March '22
Georgia (Dodd) Henshall, OT63; March '22
Albert H. Kilert, EN63; Jan. '22
Carl W. Bewig, GR64; April '22
Catherine T. Chang, GR64; Feb. '22
Arnold B. Chapin, GR64; Jan. '22
Oliver W. Gerland, UC64; March '22
Philip J. Harris, EN64; Feb. '22
Judith S. Hinrichs-Meckfessel, LA64; April '22
Nancy (Fendell) Lurie, LA64; April '22
Leah K. Littlefield, LA65; May '22
Harvey C. Manhal, EN65; Jan. '22
Robert W. Foster, BU66; Jan. '22
Willis L. Jones, LA66; April '22
Hugh McPheeters, LW67; Jan. '22
Carol (Von Bastian) Richman, LA67; Feb. '22
Renata (Jaeger) Walz, LA67; March '22
Jean (Weil) Wolff, GR67, GR71; Feb. '22
Juliana Y. Yuan, LA67; Feb. '22
Joseph M. Davie, MD68; Feb. '22
William M. Dyer, UC69; Feb. '22
Hun B. Son, GB69, SI77; Feb. '22

1970-1979

Mont Robertson, LW70; Feb. '22
Charles E. Simmons, EN70; Jan. '22
Bruce F. Hertel, MD72; Feb. '22
James J. Sweeney, GR72, GR76; Jan. '22
Howard A. Rau, UC73; April '22
Eric F. Tremayne, LW73; March '22
Edward B. Keaney, GB74; Aug. '21
Donald H. Reitmeyer, UC74; Feb. '22
Gerelyn H. Weil, GR74; Jan. '22
Kenneth G. Bowman, UC75; Jan. '22
San Hla, UC75; Jan. '22
Robert J. Baglan, HS, MD76; Jan. '22
Gregory S. Palermo, GA76; March '22
Lawrence W. Doerr, LA77; March '22
Ernest Rowe, UC77; March '22
Byron C. Thompson, LW77; Feb. '22
Bonnie (Berlman) Weinberg, UC77; Jan. '22
Michelle Kayhoe-Hauspurg, PT78; Feb. '22

1980-1989

Saramina (Silverstein) Berman, GR80, SW83; Jan. '22
Frank Bowler, TI80; Feb. '22
Douglass W. Dewing, LW81; April '22
Gurdeep K. Padda, TI82; April '22
Holly G. Winger, SI82; Feb. '22
Mary C. Palmer, LA83; Feb. '22
Pamela (McNamee) Bauer, TI84; April '22
Marilyn L. Morrison, GR85; Jan. '22
Frank R. Webb, EMBA85; March '22
Richard G. Becker, LA86; May '22
Richard E. Lake, GR87; Feb. '22
Timothy D. Church, LA89; Feb. '22

1990-1999

Barry C. Nelson, SI90, SI91; Jan. '22
David B. Kantor, LA94; Feb. '22
Kirstin T. Bopp, GR98; Jan. '22
Sheryl G. Grossman, LA98, SW00; March '22
Thomas R. McCleery, LA98; April '22
Hong Li, SW99; March '22

2000-2009

Jaipal Singh, AR02, GA09, GA09; May '22
Madeleine K. Albright, GR03 (honorary); March '22
Joseph P. Passanise, GR03; Jan. '22
Cora F. Walker, LA06, SW10; March '22
Katherine Weick, LA04, LW08; Dec. '21

2010-2019

Binyam Nardos, GM15; Jan. '22

2020-2022

Jacob L. Weinstein, EN21; March '22
Anamika Basu, EN22, EN22; April '22
Orli S. Sheffey, LA24, LA24; Feb. '22

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Photo: Washington University Archives



'Echoes of Voices Past'

The Washington University Libraries received a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources as part of their Recordings at Risk initiative to fund "Echoes of Voices Past: Preserving the Public Lectures of Washington University's Assembly Series." The project will digitize more than 1,400 audio recordings of lectures of prominent voices dating back to 1949, much like Muhammad Ali's 1975 lecture that had been previously digitized for the magazine. Look for an upcoming digital exhibit in fall 2022 at library.wustl.edu/spec/assembly-series/.

Rising to the occasion

During the May 20, 2022, Commencement ceremony, Washington University officially bestowed degrees on some 3,800 members of the Class of 2022, the largest number of graduates ever. The excitement of the day literally left some graduates jumping for joy.



Photo: Whitney Curtis