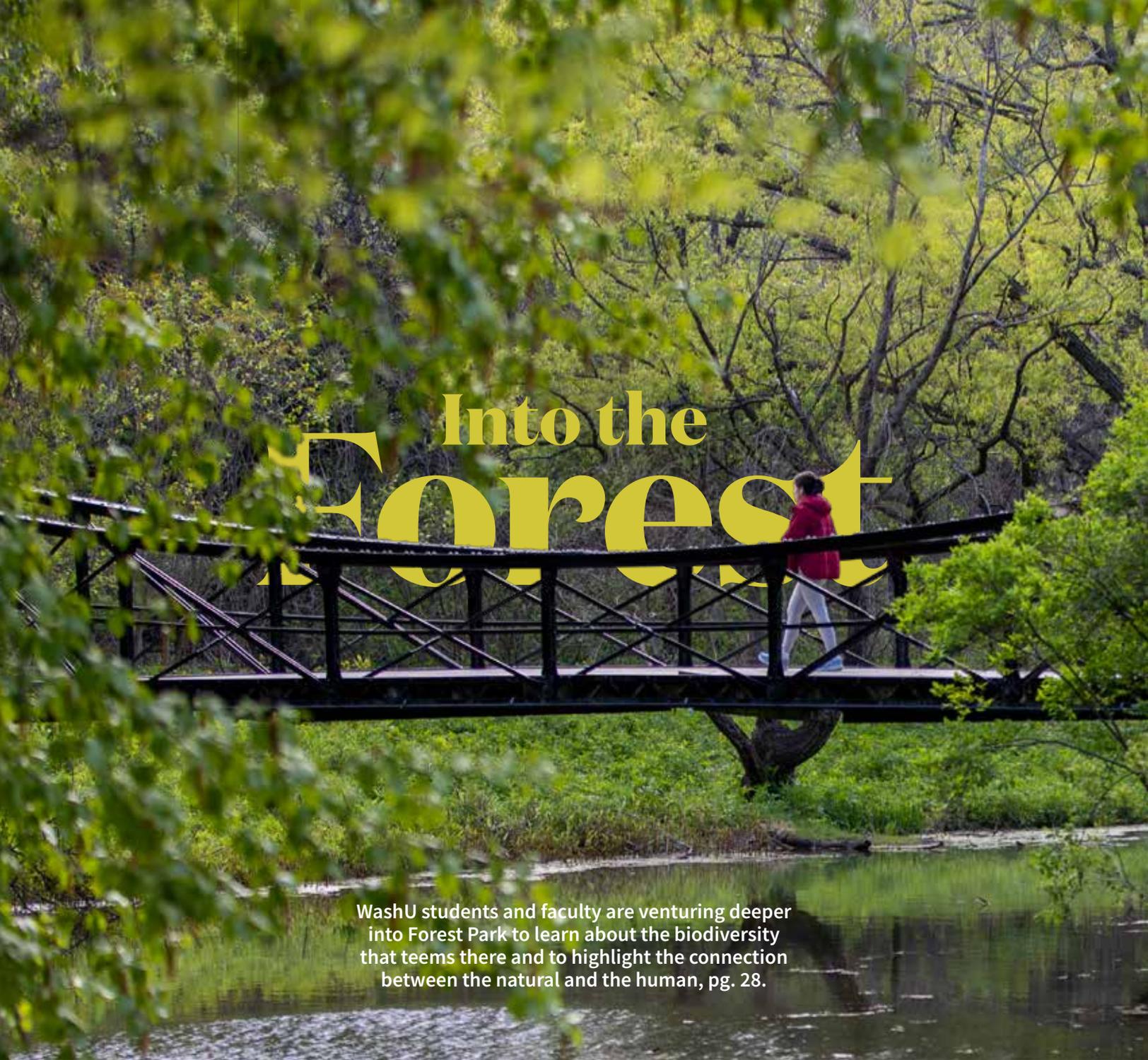


Washington



Into the Forest

WashU students and faculty are venturing deeper into Forest Park to learn about the biodiversity that teems there and to highlight the connection between the natural and the human, pg. 28.

New Era for Adult Education

The new School of Continuing & Professional Studies has the freedom and flexibility to better focus on the needs of St. Louisans, pg. 18.

Paths Cleared, Futures Revealed

WashU seeks to remove barriers to success for every student through Make Way, pg. 20.

Sporting Life

Shaun Koiner, BSBA '04, leads an international sports media company by being innovative and adaptable, pg. 46.

Contents



“Our officers will say, ‘The students don’t really talk to us.’ And I say, ‘When you were 18, did you want to talk to a cop?’ So already, we’ve been able to have conversations with students we wouldn’t have had without the puppies. They are great icebreakers!”

– ANGELA COONCE, CHIEF OF CAMPUS POLICE, LAUNCHED A PROGRAM TO TRAIN COMFORT DOGS TO SUPPORT THE MENTAL HEALTH OF STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES EXPERIENCING TRAUMA OR A CRISIS. THE PROGRAM IS PATTERNED AFTER SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS AT OTHER UNIVERSITIES.

On the cover: The Forest Park Living Lab and the “Sustainability Exchange” book project, both sponsored by the Living Earth Collaborative, allow students and faculty to meaningfully engage with Forest Park in new and unexpected ways, pg. 28. (Photo: Joe Angeles)

This spread: After a “ruff” start, rescue puppies Bear (right) and Brooke, aka Brookie, are settled into their new home at WashU, where they’ve been training to be comfort dogs. Since reporting for duty in February, the pups have made hundreds of human friends and have their own Instagram account, “Comfort Dogs of WUPD.” (Photo: Sherry Haines)



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DEPARTMENTS

IN EVERY ISSUE

FROM THE CHANCELLOR 2
FEEDBACK 3

IN ST. LOUIS 4

NEWS FROM AROUND THE UNIVERSITY

CAMPUS NEWS 6
RESEARCH ROUNDUP 8
ON TOPIC 10
QUOTED 11
COURSEWORK 12
BOOKSHELF 14
POINT OF VIEW 16
BIG IDEA 18

NEXT 42

THE WORLD OF OUR WASHU ALUMNI

ALUMNI PROFILES 44
FIRST PERSON 49
MY WASHINGTON 50
ALUMNI ACTIVITIES 52
CLASS NOTES 54
IN MEMORIAM 60
LASTING IMPRESSION 64

FEATURES

20 Paths Cleared, Futures Revealed

Through Make Way: Our Student Initiative, WashU seeks to remove barriers to success for every student, now and in the future.

28 Into the Forest

Forest Park has enticed generations of WashU community members with its top-rated attractions and miles of pathways. Today, students and faculty are venturing deeper into the woods to learn more about the biodiversity that teems there.

36 AI + Design

WashU students and faculty are cutting through the hype and grappling with artificial intelligence's actual capabilities.



Photo: James Byard

A place of possibility

“Academic freedom is the cornerstone of discovery. When scholars are free to follow the curiosity of their intellects and ask difficult or controversial questions, they push the boundaries of current knowledge and societal practices that may no longer serve the truth,” writes Chancellor Andrew D. Martin.

Each April, the Danforth Campus thaws out, literally and metaphorically. Students slow their pace to enjoy warm rays of sun, and their happy greetings can be heard through my open office window. The Tisch Park fountains bubble once again, and at the end of the month, a treasured Washington University tradition transforms the campus: Reunion at ThurtenE Carnival.

At ThurtenE Carnival, the nation’s longest-running student-led fair, we’re able to welcome even more people into our community through fun, food and music, with proceeds benefiting our St. Louis neighbors. And as classmates reconnect and reminisce at Reunion, they honor the role that Washington University and the city of St. Louis have played in their life stories, and they share that proudly with their families.

Much of the conversation at Reunion is about what has changed on campus. Classmates marvel at the beauty of the East End and lament the closure of the Rat. They are impressed by Knight and Bauer halls and are perhaps just a little bitter about how the South 40 has been transformed since their day. And it’s not just the physical campus that has changed. Students today are studying topics that would have seemed like science fiction to those attending the first ThurtenE Carnival in 1908.

But much of what we know and love about this university has not changed. The curiosity and drive of our students. The passion and engagement of our faculty. The energy and sense of possibility one feels upon returning to this epicenter of discovery, learning and service.

The core of who we are as an institution remains unchanged, and that is by design. In fact, it is why we endure. When our charter was amended in 1857 to change our name from Eliot Seminary to Washington University, it was also amended to disallow “instruction either

sectarian in religion or party in politics ... and no sectarian or party test shall be allowed in the election of professors ... or in the admission of scholars.” It was our first policy of academic freedom, or freedom of expression, on campus. And our commitment to free inquiry has only been strengthened as our institution has progressed.

Academic freedom is the cornerstone of discovery. When scholars are free to follow the curiosity of their intellects and ask difficult or controversial questions, they push the boundaries of current knowledge and societal practices that may no longer serve the truth. In 1857, in 1969, during the Cold War and in the divided landscape of 2023, WashU has fiercely protected our students’ and professors’ right to speak the truth as they see it, without criticism or punishment from the university — because, in a democracy, they are the agents of social change and innovation. Dissent, tough conversations and disagreement are part of that process. And at WashU, they always will be. To that end, we work to develop minds that can be comfortable navigating uncomfortable ideas.

In 1853, our founders certainly could not have imagined the world we’re living in today. And yet, they gave us a reliable road map when they claimed the motto *Per Veritatum Vis*, or Strength Through Truth. Academic freedom is the foundation of our search for truth, and it is the reason that, when today’s seniors attend their 50th Reunion in 2074, our campus will still be a place of passion and possibility.

Andrew D. Martin
Chancellor



@WashUChancellor

FEEDBACK



THE APRIL 2023 ISSUE

"I was disappointed to see a thoughtful magazine publish a talented journalist reporting on the current crisis in American democracy in terms of populism. This vague term cloaks anti-democratic, racist, xenophobic, misogynist and other dangerous ideas in innocuous language suggestive of 'the people,' when what is described as 'populist' devalues and targets many specific kinds of people. The careless use of the term 'populist' in this way unthinkingly whitewashes hate. Let's study and report on anti-democratic, racist, xenophobic, misogynist, gay-hating — and, yes, anti-elitist — ideas and movements for what they specifically are in every instance and not obscure them with a vague, generalized, unthreatening term.

"Otherwise, great issue. I tore out many pages of the April 2023 edition intending to pursue various people, projects and books!"

CHRIS KING, AB '88, MA '89

"The April mag is the first in 67 years that I read cover to cover — fabulous. All the personal stories are so interesting — good job."

SUZANNE POTTHOFF, BSBA '56

"From fall 1971 until spring graduation 1975, I attended Washington University, enrolled in what was then called the School of Fine Arts. On our lunch hour, my pal and I would scoot up to the pool, swim a mile and fly back to afternoon classes at the other end of campus.

"As a well-experienced life-guard and swimming instructor, I attempted to get hired at WU's pool, then called Wilson. Unfortunately, I ran into a 'Catch 22' situation that entailed being told one had to be on the swim team to be employed as a life-guard. The only problem was that in that era Washington University only had a male swim team.

"It might strike current students as strange to learn that in the 1970s sex discrimination existed on campus. My fierce determination finally persuaded those in charge to change the unjust policy. And at long last I was hired. In retaliation for being put through the hoops for over two years, I secretly 'got back' at the athletic director. This is the first time I am divulging that my bff, Margaret (Krebs) Edelman, and I unlocked the pool in an off hour. Once there, we stripped down, neglecting to put on swimsuits, and swam naked in Wilson Pool. Margie went so far as to practice her diving off the board.

"If you're able to get a copy of Student Life dated Friday, Sept. 29, 1972, you'll find an article about it."

WENDY R. FRIEDMAN, BFA '75



"I graduated from the College of Arts & Sciences in 1982. While a student at WashU, I played on the tennis team.

"A Sigma Chi fraternity brother forwarded me this pic from the April issue. And I am standing next to our coach in the picture (I had blond hair back then). I attended my 40th Reunion in June 2022, so this picture just added to my fond memories of my years at WashU."

TOM CROWLEY, AB '82

"Seeing my teammates, Katie Atkinson Overberg and Alison Wilson (if I'm remembering correctly), in the photo in the April issue's Class Notes section brought back so many wonderful memories of playing on the women's soccer team from 1990 to 1993.

WashU provides such a good balance for student-athletes. Not only was I able to play my sport at a high level of competition, but I was able to develop lasting relationships with accomplished women — all while receiving a world-class education, being heavily involved in community service and serving on the editorial board of Student Life. I'll be forever grateful for the diverse opportunities WashU provided me!"

JENNIFER HADDAD LANGEN, AB '93 (W CLUB HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 1998)

"I enjoyed the recent edition of WU's alumni magazine, but I have a quibble. On pg. 52, you refer to three recent grads as alumni when, in fact, all three are women. The proper term for a group of women is alumnae. If only one had been a man, alumni would have been correct for a sexually mixed group."

JIM DEVOTO, MA '72 (CLASSICS) The editors regret the error.

We want to hear from you!

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ST. LOUIS

In



Celebrating Native American culture

Dancers, vendors and community members gathered in the Field House on April 22 for the 32nd annual Powwow, sponsored by the Brown School's Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies. The free, public event included dance contests in adult, teen and junior categories, as well as opportunities to learn about Native American history and culture. This year's theme, "Connectedness Is Medicine," highlighted the value of human connections with one another and with the natural world.

Photo: Jerry Naunheim



Photo: Courtesy of Athletics

INDOOR TRACK CHAMPS

At the 2023 NCAA Division III Indoor National Championships in Birmingham, Alabama, WashU's distance medley relay team of (from left) **Emily Konkus**, **Ally Sarussi**, **Aoife Dunne** and **Kathryn Leighty** won the national title, racing a combined 4,000 meters in 11:35.09. Junior **Emma Kelley** also captured the national title in the 800 meters, racing to a time of 2:06.62. Kelley's title is the 37th individual championship in WashU history.

LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE LAUNCH

The new Institute for Leadership Excellence, created as part of WashU's "Here and Next" strategic plan, provides immersive professional development opportunities for employees across the university. Beginning this fall, offerings will include nine-month programs for selected cohorts of emerging and established leaders on campus. Participants will have the chance to learn new and enhanced skills by taking part in video conferences and webinars, coaching sessions, cohort meetings, practicums and community-service projects.

COOKING UP A BUSINESS PLAN

A group of Olin undergraduates cooked up a sweet selection of recommendations for a St. Louis-area bakery that provides a second chance for individuals who have been released from prison. In their Small Business Initiative consulting project – through Olin's Center for Experiential Learning – the students consulted with Laughing Bear Bakery, a mostly wholesale business located in St. Louis' Tower Grove South neighborhood. The students – **Grace Shen**, **Gavri Steiger**, **Jake Wolf**, **AJ Sann** and **Oliver Every** – were charged with working with the bakery's founders to suggest ways to make the nonprofit more sustainable. "Being able to give insights to people who may not have a business background, but who could benefit from something I learned in class, was really exciting for us," Sann says.

WOMEN & ENGINEERING

The Women & Engineering Center at the McKelvey School of Engineering welcomed students, faculty, staff and alumni for its fifth annual leadership summit, the first in-person summit since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 120 participants came together for an opportunity to connect through conversation, learning opportunities and service. **Dwana Franklin-Davis**, MSIM '09, who is CEO of Reboot Representation and based in New York City, gave an address at the summit's welcome reception March 3, and **Cheryl Stoddard**, MEM '16, delivered the event's keynote lecture. Stoddard is president of Technology Integration Engineering, in St. Louis.



Access
StL

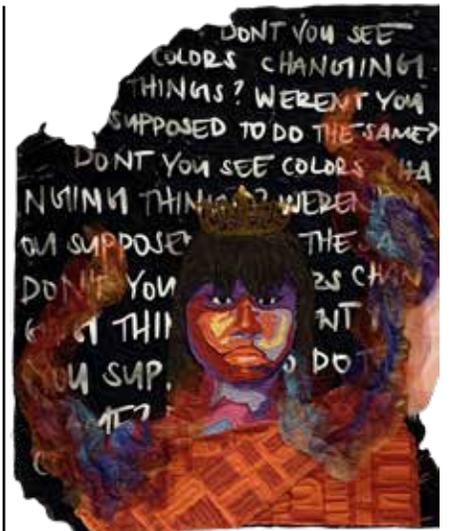


All about transit

The WashU Bear hopped on St. Louis' MetroLink this March with juniors **Ben Standaert** and **Jason Zhang**, both members of the student group Access StL. Zhang spoke in March at the kickoff of the College Transit Challenge, an event that invites students across St. Louis to track their transit usage. He shared how his Metro U-Pass, a WashU-provided pass for unlimited rides on local buses and the MetroLink, has been his ticket to St. Louis attractions and neighborhoods. "Transit is the key to our independence and freedom," Zhang says. "Give it a try. See where it can take you."

PULITZER FOR POETRY

Celebrated writer **Carl Phillips** has become the third WashU faculty member to earn the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. Phillips received the Pulitzer for his latest collection, *Then The War: And Selected Poems, 2007-2020*, which brings together numerous poems, the 2018 chapbook *Star Map with Action Figures* and Phillips' lyric prose memoir "Among the Trees." Previous Department of English faculty members Howard Nemerov (1920-91) and Mona Van Duyn (1921-2004) won the coveted prize in 1978 and 1991, respectively.



First-year student Mac Barnes used quilted and appliquéd cotton and polyester to create "T.S. 03/02/2021."

'THE LITTLE THINGS'

What do you think about when you hear "The Little Things"? Love? Grassroots organizing? Microplastics? When curating the first-ever art exhibition hosted by the Gephardt Institute for Civic and Community Engagement, junior **Laura Weil** invited student artists to respond to this open-ended prompt as they saw fit. The response was diverse and eclectic. Art pieces included quilting, interactive sculpture and photography, and topics included reflections on mental health, small moments of joy and personal action in communal impact.



DEANS APPOINTED

Both the Brown School and Olin Business School have recently named new leaders. **Dorian Traube**, from the University of Southern California, became the new Brown School dean this August, and **Michael Mazzeo**, of Northwestern University, will take the helm of Olin Sept. 1. Traube's research agenda focuses on the use of technological solutions to provide early childhood health, education and parent support services. She has expertise in children's mental health, child maltreatment prevention, family support interventions and home visitation. Mazzeo's research focuses on empirical industrial organization. His work spans a variety of industries including airlines, banking, health care, lodging, retail and telecommunications.

Doing the math on a solar-powered future

Anders Carlsson, a physicist in Arts & Sciences, examined 40 years of solar data from the St. Louis region and found that with modest system improvements, a solar-powered grid could be extremely stable. In a new mathematical model, Carlsson and collaborators ran calculations over millions of hypothetical years to determine the optimal mix of power generation and storage. Their findings show that in St. Louis, reducing the costs of solar panels could have a relatively greater impact on system efficiency than battery improvements. Carlsson also says that a hypothetical system that runs exclusively on renewable power would be significantly more expensive than a system that used small amounts of natural gas as a backup.

'THE CHILDREN DESERVED NOTHING LESS'

Mark Manary, the Helene B. Roberson Professor of Pediatrics, has scored a major victory in his quest to help millions of malnourished children around the world. In a large-scale clinical trial in Malawi, Manary and collaborators found that tweaking the fatty acid composition of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) had dramatic benefits for malnourished kids, including boosting IQ and enhancing language proficiency. Based on these findings and Manary's persistent advocacy, a global commission that sets food-safety standards adopted new guidelines calling for RUTF to contain less linoleic acid and to include the omega-3 fatty acid DHA. "Our ultimate mission was to change global policy, and that's what we did," Manary says. "The children deserved nothing less."

T-CELL DISCOVERY HOLDS PROMISE FOR ALZHEIMER'S TREATMENT

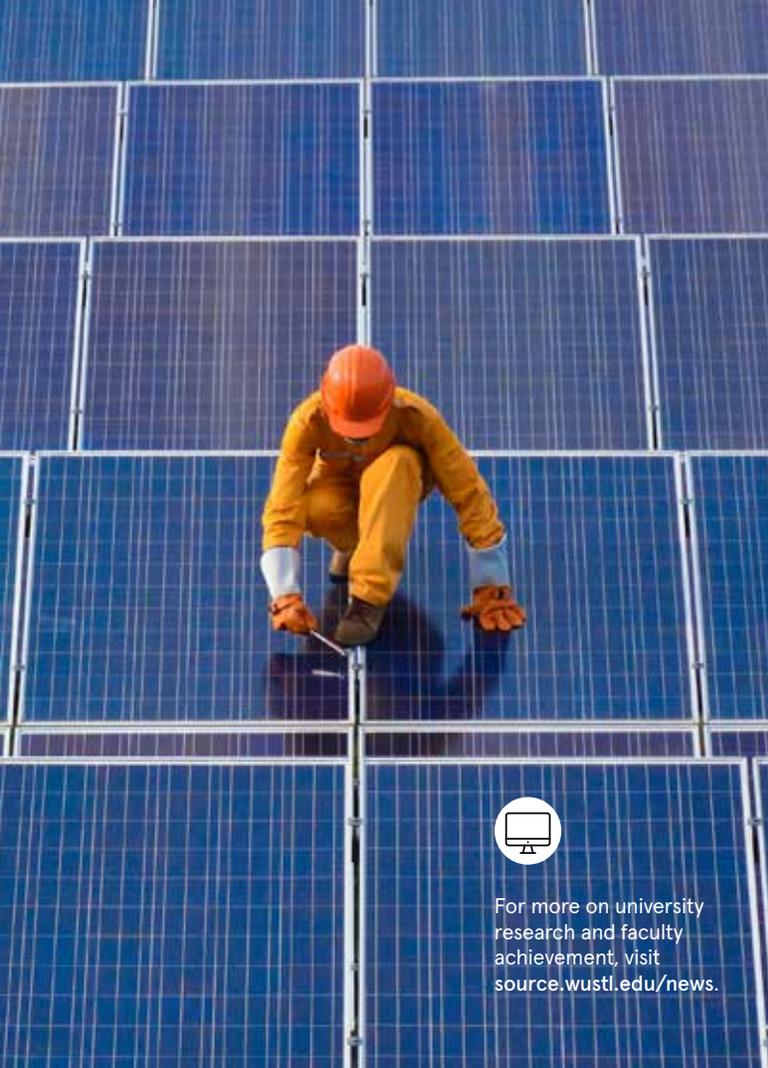
In Alzheimer's and related diseases, the brain protein tau is closely linked to brain damage and cognitive decline. A new study from the School of Medicine indicates that T cells, which are part of the immune system, play a key role in tau-related neurodegeneration. By studying mice with Alzheimer's-like damage, the researchers discovered that most neurodegeneration could be avoided by blocking T cells' entry into the brain. The findings open up new drug development possibilities for Alzheimer's and related diseases.

CHANGING MINDS — BUT NOT BEHAVIOR

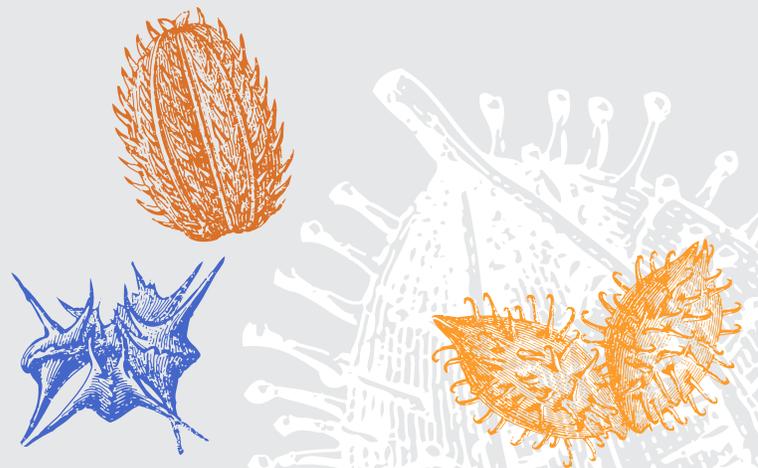
In response to calls for police reform, many police departments across the U.S. now offer daylong training programs focused on implicit bias. Research from **Calvin Lai** in Arts & Sciences suggests that such programs are unlikely to reduce racial inequity in policing. Lai and collaborators surveyed 3,764 police officers before, immediately after and one month after a one-day interactive training session. Though many officers developed a lasting awareness of bias and described the workshops as "surprising" or "insightful," the trainings had little effect on policing behaviors. The research suggests that police departments can boost program effectiveness by ensuring that trainings are reinforced by managers and evaluated as a part of job performance, among other recommendations.

FROM WASTE TO RARE EARTH ELEMENTS

Rare earth elements (REEs), a group of 17 metallic elements, are found in cell phones, computers and almost every part of a vehicle. **Young-Shin Jun** and her team at the McKelvey School of Engineering have created a proof-of-concept method to extract valuable REEs from coal fly ash, a fine, powdery waste product from the combustion of coal that typically ends up in landfills. Jun and a former doctoral student, **Yaguang Zhu, PhD '22**, developed this novel extraction process using supercritical fluid, commonly used to decaffeinate coffee. "We wanted to use a greener process to extract REEs than traditionally more harmful processes," Jun says.



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



Hitchhiker plants inspire new suturing techniques

Many surgical procedures require tendon-to-bone reattachment, but current suturing methods fail to distribute stress evenly, leading to failure rates as high as 94%. A team of researchers led by **Guy Genin**, the Harold and Kathleen Faught Professor of Mechanical Engineering, found inspiration from nature to develop a better approach. The burrs of hitchhiker plants use a unique array of stiff hooks to attach to soft materials like hikers' socks and animal fur. The mechanics and spacing of these hooks provided researchers a key for how to effectively connect hard bone to soft tissue. Preclinical testing of the new suturing methods is already underway, and the techniques may be used in surgical practice within two years.

SECRET LIVES OF SALAMANDERS

In early March, spotted salamanders emerged by the hundreds from their underground burrows to gather at breeding ponds at Tyson Research Center, WashU's environmental field station. This year, scientists at Tyson joined a network of institutions in a pilot effort to carefully track the timing of such breeding events. "By examining how the timing of major life events for these species may be shifting, we can begin to understand some of the environmental drivers behind those shifts," says **Elizabeth Biro**, Tyson's natural resources coordinator and staff scientist.

DEPRESSION IN COLLEGE-EDUCATED BLACK AMERICANS LINKED TO DISCRIMINATION

Racial discrimination was found to be a significant force behind higher levels of depression among college-educated Black Americans, finds a new study led by **Darrell Hudson** at the Brown School. Hudson and his co-authors surveyed 526 Black Americans who were 24 years or older and had earned at least a four-year college degree. Nearly 40% of the sample reported symptoms that were indicative of significant depressive symptoms that would warrant follow up. Everyday discrimination alone accounted for 22% of the variance in depressive symptoms.

"The experiences respondents have described are deeply hurtful and impactful. They carry these wounds throughout their lives, and some leave the very positions they have trained their entire lives for due to experiences of discrimination," Hudson says.



RIISING PARTISANSHIP AMONG SEC COMMISSIONERS

Most Americans believe the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Federal Reserve should be politically independent. New research from Olin Business School, however, finds partisanship among SEC commissioners recently rose to an all-time high. **Asaf Manela** and collaborators used a proven language-based approach to review regulators' usage of partisan phrases. They found that the Federal Reserve was relatively nonpartisan from 1920-2019, but partisan language and voting behavior have dramatically risen at the SEC over the same period. The most partisan phrases suggest that Republican regulators favor less regulation than their Democrat counterparts.



Why pay transparency laws alone are not enough

Sociologist Jake Rosenfeld has a lot to say about the taboo subject of pay.

Why, on average, do elementary school teachers earn \$61,400 per year while mechanical school engineers can expect to make \$95,300 per year, according to *U.S. News & World Report*? Are engineers' skills inherently more valuable? The obvious answer is no, but it's a question that has long intrigued **Jake Rosenfeld**, professor of sociology in Arts & Sciences.

"I've always been fascinated by the question of who gets what and why, and how the various factors influencing our pay have changed over time," says Rosenfeld, author of *You're Paid What You're Worth and Other Myths of the Modern Economy*.

"Most of us assume the number on our paychecks is a natural reflection of our skills and the job we have. What I love about the study of pay determination is all the ways it allows me to question that assumption and dig into the messy real world of pay-setting."

In recent years, workers' rights have experienced a cultural awakening fueled by the aftermath of the Great Recession and, more recently, the COVID-19 pandemic. Both events exposed real inequities in the U.S. economy, Rosenfeld says.

There's also been a dramatic shift in how major political parties discuss issues related to low-wage work and rising inequality in this country. "For the first time in my lifetime, we have a presidential administration that is unequivocally pro-union and has used numerous opportunities to extol the virtues and necessity of a strong labor movement. This is new!" Rosenfeld says.

One of the ways in which legislators have tried to bolster workers' power is by enacting pay transparency

laws, which make it illegal for workplaces to prohibit workers from discussing wages and salaries. This year, California, New York, Rhode Island and Washington joined the growing roster of states that have enacted such anti-secrecy legislation.

Having more information about salaries, in theory, should increase employees' ability to negotiate fair salaries and be key to closing the gender wage gap. In practice, however, these policies — in their current form — do not appear to work well, Rosenfeld says. That is an early finding of a forthcoming article, co-authored by Rosenfeld, that assesses the effectiveness of these new state- and city-wide pay transparency laws.

Previous research by Rosenfeld suggests legislation alone might not be enough to shift entrenched workplace norms and practices regarding pay secrecy.

"Many workers who are subject to a pay-secrecy policy may not know that these policies are illegal, and employers imposing illegal restrictions may not believe that there is a realistic threat of enforcement. Legislation needs to be backed up by enforcement and information," Rosenfeld says.

Current anti-secrecy laws could be more effective if complemented by other approaches, such as limiting employers' reliance on salary history during recruitment and mandating that employers provide applicants with the salary ranges for advertised positions, Rosenfeld says. These transparency practices also shift the burden of ensuring fair pay from individual employees to employers.

■ SARA SAVAT

QUOTED

WASHU IN THE NEWS

WashU experts weigh in on major topics of the day.

“We think these highly educated, hard-working high-earners are cutting back on hours for better work-life balance.”

YONGSEOK SHIN, THE DOUGLASS C. NORTH DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR IN ECONOMICS, IN “HIGH-EARNING, WORKAHOLIC MEN ARE CUTTING THEIR WORK HOURS THE MOST RIGHT NOW” ON BUSINESS INSIDER, APRIL 6.



Photo: Sean Garcia

“I’m a St. Louisan, born and bred. I have a deep love for this region. And as someone who has benefited from what higher education can bring – the economic mobility, the opening doors to opportunities I never would have dreamed of – I’m going to bring that perspective to this role.”

LISA WEINGARTH, SENIOR ADVISER FOR ST. LOUIS INITIATIVES, IN “WASHU BEGINS NEW ‘IN ST. LOUIS, FOR ST. LOUIS’ INITIATIVE” ON KMOV-TV, MARCH 21.



Photo: Joe Angeles

“It’s unique individuals oftentimes that really provide us with breakthroughs. They just think it’s luck of the draw, and it may in fact be that they’re resilient.”

ERIC MCDADE, DO, PROFESSOR OF NEUROLOGY, IN “SEEKING ALZHEIMER’S CLUES FROM FEW WHO ESCAPE GENETIC FATE” IN THE ASSOCIATED PRESS’ AP NEWS, MARCH 16.



Photo: Matt Miller

“A lot of people say, ‘Oh, I teach my child not to touch a firearm if they see it.’ But we know through data that is not enough. Children are curious, and it’s developmentally appropriate to touch things, to feel things and to get into things.”

LINDSAY CLUKIES, MD, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PEDIATRICS, IN “BJC EXPANDING FREE GUN LOCK PROGRAM AFTER TREATING RECORD NUMBER OF CHILDREN SHOT” IN THE ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH, APRIL 10.

“He liked to laugh at himself, so this could be a hint.”

WILLIAM WALLACE, THE BARBARA MURPHY BRYANT DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR, IN “IS THAT A SECRET MICHELANGELO SELFIE AT THE SISTINE CHAPEL?” IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, APRIL 19.

ARCH 490 Explore and Contribute

Building bonds with cardboard and glue

WashU students create hands-on design curricula for St. Louis-area elementary students.

Each Thursday last spring, kids excitedly cut cardboard and glued construction paper as Washington University students guided and encouraged them to investigate, experiment and build.

In “Explore and Contribute,” students from across the university create curricula and then teach elementary students hands-on problem-solving projects revolving around issues like climate change and homelessness. During the 2023 spring semester, WashU students worked in pairs with small groups of students at Blossom Wood Day School, a private school in Hazelwood, a suburb of St. Louis.

“The WashU students are very nice, very helpful, very kind,” says sixth grader Shane Robinson, as he was working on a cardboard house. Fellow sixth grader Jeremiah Phillips was building a grocery store. “I enjoy building things, and the WashU students are fun to interact with,” Jeremiah says.

The elementary students shape projects based on their interests. During one visit, third graders built a LEGO Easter house for a clay bunny named Carrots. A fifth grader wielded a glue gun as he proudly pointed out the wooden TV and sofa in his two-story cardboard house. First graders made and tested different types of paper airplanes. Second graders colored in the floorplans for their houses. And a girl concentrated on drawing jellyfish and stingrays that she intended to turn into a sculpture.

“Our students are really, really excited to work with college students. It’s the highlight of their week,” says Mikia Pollard, head of school at Blossom Wood Day School. “It’s a great partnership for WashU in North County.”

“Explore and Contribute” is one of several courses taught by **Gay Lorberbaum, AB ’66, MA ’67**, that have reached into St. Louis-area schools over the years. In the past, she has brought WashU students into Adams Elementary and Compton-Drew ILC Middle School in the Saint Louis Public School District.

“So many of the WashU students want to learn more about what’s really happening in St. Louis and the world and want to come up with ways to help,” says Lorberbaum, a senior lecturer in the College of Architecture in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts.

Lorberbaum says courses like hers allow students to think outside the box. In an effort to get to know each of their gifts and challenges, she requires two individual conferences with each student during the semester.

“I try very hard to help them with each of their journeys. In their majors, they have so many requirements, they don’t get to study some of their other interests,” she says. “So, in this course, they can develop a curriculum with the kids that encompasses all of their intellectual interests — not just their major. I think that’s important.”

Lorberbaum also says collaboration is key among her students, who represent areas of study as diverse as business, computer science, physics, economics, biomedical engineering and architecture.

“They’re in this course with students from different disciplines, so they can benefit from the knowledge base of all of these other WashU students,” she says. “We all help each other in creating curricula.”

And her students appreciate the opportunity to flex their creativity while getting out of the WashU bubble.

“This course is a unique opportunity to explore my interests and teach young students at the same time,” says **Will Simon, BArch ’23**, an architecture student who graduated in May.

“It’s a way for WashU students to engage with the St. Louis community,” says **Vanessa Nasser, AB ’23**, who majored in psychology and minored in writing and organization and strategic management. “It allowed me and my peers to channel our creativity while simultaneously helping those around us.”

■ JULIE KENNEDY, MA ’22



“Gay’s legacy at the school is extraordinary. She has a lifetime of commitment to St. Louis, to tackling poverty and K-12 education disparities, and to sustainable thinking through the arts and our environment. The list goes on.”

— Heather Woofter
Former Director of the College of
Architecture and Graduate School of
Architecture & Urban Design in the
Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts



**GAY LORBERBAUM’S
DECADES OF SERVICE**

“Explore and Contribute” is a product of Gay Lorberbaum’s passion for bringing design education to under-resourced communities.

- In over four decades at WashU, Lorberbaum has created several outreach courses working with St. Louis-area schools — first through American culture studies in Arts & Sciences and now through architecture.
- In 2007, Lorberbaum began directing the Alberti Program. Through the initiative, WashU architecture students lead free workshops for students age 6–18 on Saturdays during the academic year and in a three-week summer camp.
- In 2012, she helped found Building Futures, a design-build nonprofit workshop that serves over 1,000 students in weekday in-school classes, after-school programs and summer programming.
- For her years of service to the St. Louis region, she received the 2009 Gerry and Bob Virgil Ethic of Service Award from Washington University.

Akiva Groener, a student in the College of Architecture, works on a project with kindergartner Ava Protrho at Blossom Wood Day School.

Photo: Joe Angeles

A long night of the scholarly mind

Martin Riker on fear, imagination and delivering *The Guest Lecture*.

"It's difficult to talk with Martin Riker and not feel hopeful." — *Los Angeles Times*

"The key was the voice," says **Martin Riker**. "I've had the idea of writing a book that takes place over the course of a single night for probably 15 years. But until Abby's voice came into my life, this book wasn't possible."

Riker, who directs the new publishing concentration in the Department of English in Arts & Sciences, is discussing his second novel, *The Guest Lecture*. Released by Grove Atlantic, the book is among the best-reviewed of the year, with glowing notices in *The New York Times*,

The Washington Post, *The New York Review of Books* and many others.

The story centers on Abby, a young scholar preparing, if not sufficiently prepared, to deliver a talk on economist John Maynard Keynes. In her hotel room, lying still beside her sleeping daughter and husband, Abby organizes her thoughts while wandering the memory palace of her mind.

The "memory palace," sometimes known as the "method of loci," is an ancient system of memorization that pairs information with specific imagined spaces. The device can lend Abby's ruminations a stream-of-consciousness urgency. And yet, says Riker, "this is a highly plotted book. Before I started writing, I had a schematic of all the different rooms and all the topics and anecdotes that would come up in each."

Accompanying Abby is the daunting figure of Keynes himself. With his dry humor and push-broom mustache, Keynes is at once guide and destination — the Virgil and Beatrice to Abby's tenure-less Dante. He's also critic and review committee, offering advice and chiding Abby's procrastinations.

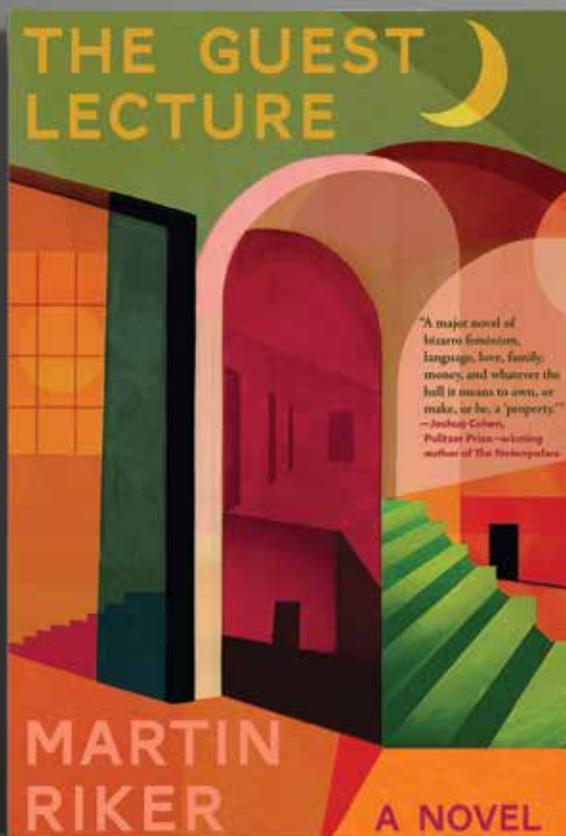
"Abby's not good at public presentation," Riker says. "But she is courageous, and she has a strong sense of the imagination, which I think gets to the heart of the book. The struggle is in her mind. She's fighting fear with creativity."

Biographical details emerge slowly, through flashbacks and asides. What unifies *The Guest Lecture* is the seriousness with which it explores Abby's thinking and the respect it accords to her scholarship. For example, though Abby's talk about Keynes gets off to a comically bumpy start, at its core is an engaging argument about the nature of economics, the privileged role it plays in measuring success and the importance of maintaining space for utopian ideals.

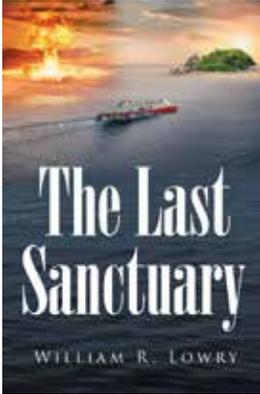
"Economics contains some of our most powerful cultural narratives," Riker says. "When we ask, 'How are we doing as a country?' we often outsource the answer to a number like GDP. But there's nothing magical about GDP. It's just based on criteria that economists set."

"Abby is less interested in what people think than in the way they think," Riker says. "The book is largely about the stories we tell ourselves — especially the stories that we don't even realize are stories."

■ LIAM OTTEN, BFA '93

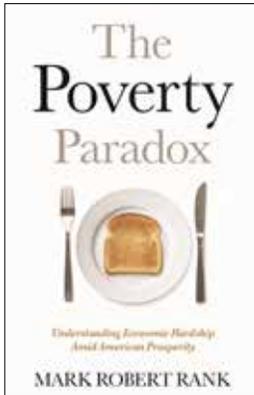


FACULTY



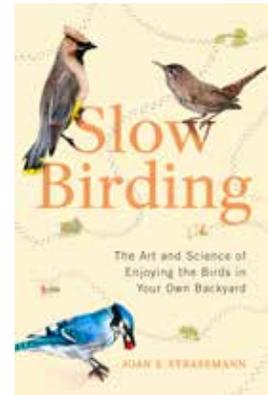
The Last Sanctuary WILLIAM R. LOWRY

In his first novel, William Lowry, professor emeritus of political science, tells the story of a small group of survivors who search for a new home in a world that has been nearly destroyed. *The Last Sanctuary* is a warning about the possible consequences of severe climate change but also ultimately a reflection on courage, love and redemption in a changing world.



The Poverty Paradox MARK ROBERT RANK

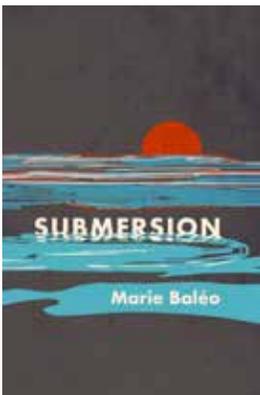
The paradox of poverty amidst plenty has plagued the United States throughout the 21st century. Based on his decades-long research and scholarship, Mark Rank, the Herbert S. Hadley Professor of Social Welfare, examines the structural causes of poverty and provides the essential blueprint for finally combatting economic injustice in the years ahead.



Slow Birding JOAN E. STRASSMANN

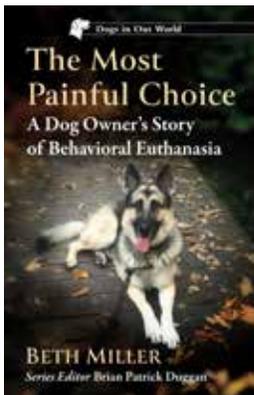
Joan Strassmann, the Charles Rebstock Professor of Biology, invites readers to appreciate the beauty of the birds in their own backyards and observe clues to the reasons behind specific bird behaviors. *Slow Birding* includes colorful stories of the most common birds to be found in the United States and the scientists who have discovered and observed them.

ALUMNI



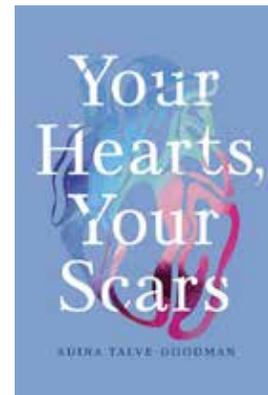
Submersion MARIE BALÉO

In her first chapbook, Marie Baléo, AB '10, explores her family's exodus from Beirut, Lebanon, through a collection of narrative and lyric poems. A selection of poems from *Submersion* was featured in the 2022 issue of *Poetry International*, and the Poetry Society recognized the included poem "Peregrines" in a national competition. Baléo was raised in France, Norway and Lebanon and now lives in Paris.



The Most Painful Choice BETH MILLER

When Beth Miller, MA '17, adopted Champ, a German shepherd, her family hoped and expected to spend many fun-filled years with him. However, Champ suffered from neglect and trauma from his first years of life, and despite numerous treatments, he never fully recovered. This work serves as a resource on behavioral euthanasia, which is a compassionate choice for unmanageable aggression, reactivity, biting or severe anxiety.



Your Hearts, Your Scars ADINA TALVE-GOODMAN

In seven posthumously published essays, Adina Talve-Goodman, AB '09, tells the story of her chronic illness and her search for meaning and love, never forgetting that her adult life is tied to the loss of another person – the donor of her transplanted heart. Edited by her sister, Sarika Talve-Goodman, MSW '20, *Your Hearts, Your Scars* is a testament to hope and kindness.

In

POINT OF VIEW



Photo: Roberts Creative LLC

Leila Nadya Sadat: Forging a convention for crimes against humanity

Law professor and international criminal lawyer **Leila Nadya Sadat** explains why she'll 'never give up' in the pursuit of a global treaty to prosecute mass crimes taking place in Ukraine and around the world.

In 1994, I was asked to chair and convene an expert committee on the proposed new International Criminal Court (ICC). Negotiations were ongoing, and I arrived at United Nations Headquarters in New York to attend them. Proudly credentialed, I wandered about the UN's beautiful spaces, where I met a diminutive man in a blue suit and jaunty cap, who introduced himself as Ben Ferencz, former Nuremberg prosecutor. He asked me if I had read his books and walked me over to the ICC meetings. Thus began a lifelong friendship and introduction to one of the founders of the modern international criminal justice movement.

I followed the ICC negotiations, went to Rome to participate in the negotiation of the ICC Statute in 1998 and began a career as an international criminal lawyer and scholar. I developed a particular expertise on the subject of crimes against humanity, a term coined during the Second World War to describe the atrocities committed by the Nazis against the Jewish people and those who opposed the Nazi regime.

From 2007-21, I served as director of the Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute at WashU's School of Law, named for another prominent Nuremberg prosecutor and dear friend. And in 2012, ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda asked me to be her special adviser on crimes against humanity, a position I continue to hold, having been reappointed by the current ICC prosecutor, Karim A.A. Khan.

The work I do is not easy. Crimes against humanity are among the worst international crimes. They involve widespread or systematic attacks on the most vulnerable members of society — civilians — and take various forms in different conflicts: murder, extermination, torture, deportation, sexual and gender-based violence, disappearances, apartheid and persecution. They afflict every region of the world — think of Syria, North Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ukraine, Myanmar and Venezuela — and can be committed by states and private organizations, during wartime and during peace.

The Ukraine situation has been heartbreaking, not only in terms of attacks directed against civilians and the loss of life that has entailed, but in the commission of rape and sexual violence, torture, arbitrary detention and destruction of the infrastructure necessary to support the civilian population including the power grids, water supplies and telecommunications networks. Some of these are war crimes; others are crimes against humanity; and many are both.

At the ICC, we have seen that the prosecution of crimes against humanity is critically important. Yet the ICC takes very few cases and can act only where it has jurisdiction. Seventy-six years after the Nuremberg trials that Ferencz and Harris conducted, there is still no global treaty on crimes against humanity, even though there are more than 325 international criminal law treaties on topics ranging from terrorist financing to the cutting of submarine cables. None, however, except the ICC treaty with its various limitations, addresses mass crimes along the lines of what we are today witnessing in Ukraine and other places in the world filled with despair.

Since 2007, I have dedicated myself to filling this gap in international law, by writing, along with distinguished colleagues, the world's first global treaty on crimes against humanity, published in 2010; and by founding the Crimes Against Humanity Initiative. This project has had a global impact, and, along with my students, I have been following negotiations of a new treaty on crimes against humanity, which are ongoing at the UN.

Fighting for the rights of civilians, given the rise of authoritarianism in the world, is a daunting and sometimes overwhelming task. I am grateful for the support of Washington University and my colleagues around the world, for the talent of my students, for the encouragement and example of Whitney Harris, and for the inspiration and friendship of Ben Ferencz who, until he passed this spring at 103 years old, continued to give me three important pieces of advice: "Never give up. Never give up. Never give up."

■ LEILA NADYA SADAT

WHO

Leila Nadya Sadat

WASHU TITLE

The James Carr
Professor of
International Criminal
Law

SELECTED ROLES & AFFILIATIONS

Special Adviser on
Crimes Against
Humanity to the
International Criminal
Court Prosecutor

Fellow, Schell Center
for International
Human Rights at Yale
Law School

Chair and Former
President, International
Law Association
American Branch

Member, Council on
Foreign Relations

SELECTED RECOGNITIONS

Arthur Holly Compton
Distinguished Faculty
Award, Washington
University

Honorary Doctor of
Laws, Northwestern
University

A new era for adult education at WashU

The new School of Continuing & Professional Studies has freedom and flexibility to better focus on the needs of St. Louisans.

The St. Louis economy is changing fast, and so is the new School of Continuing & Professional Studies at Washington University. Formerly known as University College, the School of Continuing & Professional Studies (CAPS) is launching new programs to help St. Louisans of all ages and backgrounds gain the skills needed for high-demand, high-paying jobs in data, health care and management.

“We are committed to meeting educational needs and providing career pathways for St. Louisans who have historically not had access to a WashU education,” says **Sean Armstrong**, dean of CAPS. “That’s not to say the work will be easy. But if a student makes a commitment to an education, we’ll make a commitment to their success.”

CAPS is introducing a variety of new programs, from short apprenticeships to advanced degrees, each tailored to meet the needs of both adult learners and employers. One early initiative is a collaboration with the nonprofit BioSTL, which has obtained a grant from the Missouri Department of Economic Development to train a new generation of lab technicians and bioscience workers. Students will learn on the job, earning a paycheck while gaining needed skills.

The school is also introducing more programs like its successful pre-nursing program, which was developed in partnership with the Goldfarb School

of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College. Currently, 100 School of Medicine employees are using their tuition benefit to take classes in anatomy, algebra, psychology and other prerequisites. Upon graduation, students are eligible to enroll in the Goldfarb Weekend/Evening Option, a three-year bachelor’s of nursing program.

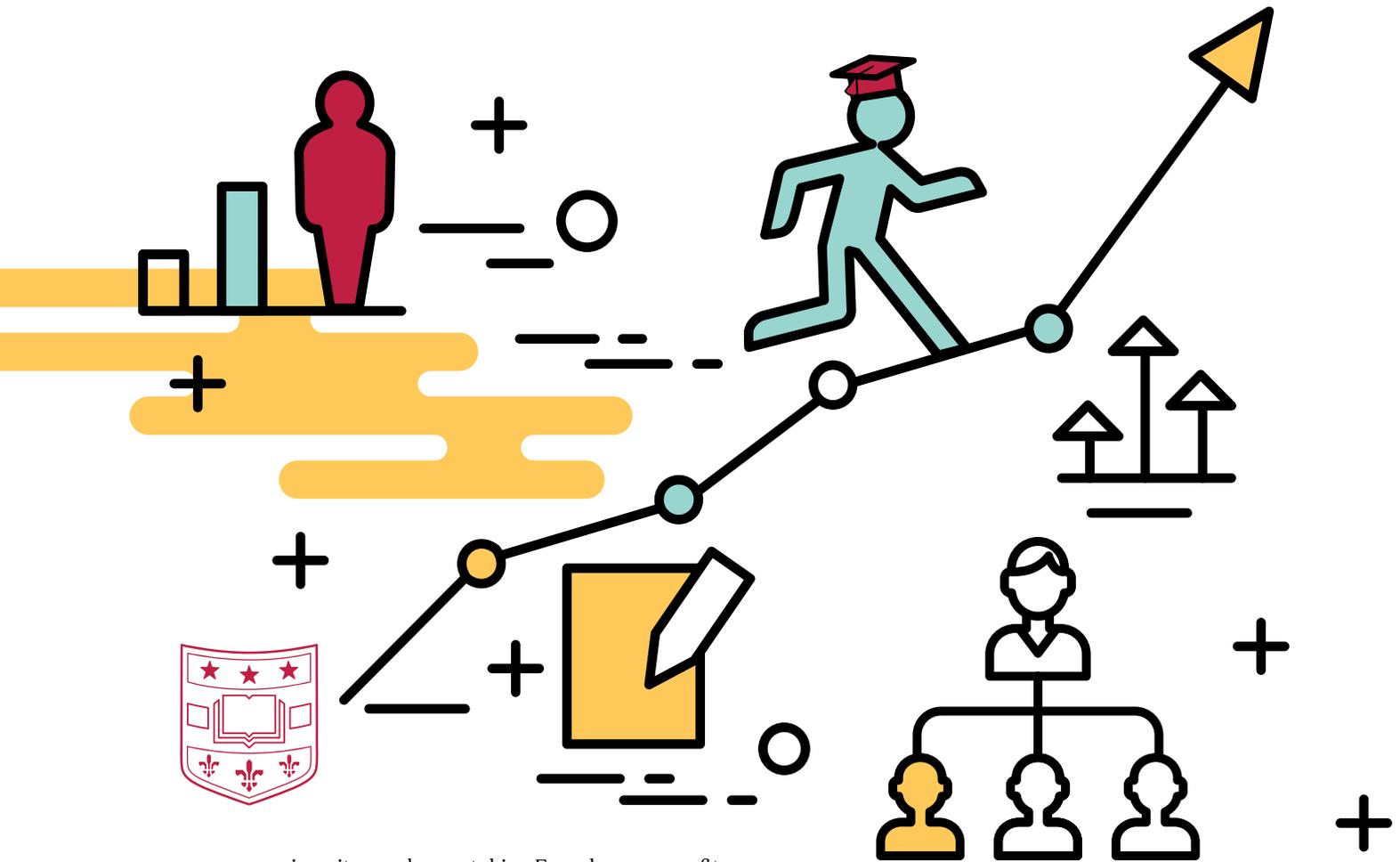
Elizabeth Fogt, director of advising and student services at CAPS, says the program addresses two big challenges: the region’s nursing shortage and the lack of affordable pathways into the field.

“For so long, we heard our employees say, ‘I want to provide better for my family, but there isn’t a way for me to do it without quitting my job,’” Fogt says. “Our partnership with the Goldfarb School of Nursing gives people the opportunity to move forward and serves as a model for community partnerships we can develop in the future.”

The new School of Continuing & Professional Studies is part of **Chancellor Andrew D. Martin’s** broader mission to make WashU “in St. Louis, for St. Louis.” And CAPS has the freedom and flexibility to better focus on the needs of St. Louisans, whether they are inmates studying statistics through the Prison Education Project, retirees exploring Hindu art at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, teachers from the St. Louis Teacher Residency earning their master’s degrees in teaching and learning, or, for that matter,



De’Ona Hardy (left) and Erica Jenkins, both from Illinois, are certified medical assistants at the School of Medicine who graduated with associate’s degrees from Washington University in May through the pre-nursing program.



university employees taking French or nonprofit management. Some 1,150 students are currently enrolled in CAPS.

“St. Louis has some of the most talented, brightest people I’ve ever met,” says Armstrong, himself a product of the continuing education program at UMass Dartmouth. “The potential for talent development here is generational.”

Recent WashU graduate **Jamie Kenyon, BS ’23**, exemplifies that potential. In a few years, Kenyon will retire from Metropolitan Saint Louis Transit Agency, where he has served as a mechanic for more than two decades. His degree in sustainability has prepared him for the next phase of his life as a public transit advocate.

“The work was hard, but I was able to do it on my own time and with every resource I needed,” says Kenyon, whose coursework included classes in ecology, law and policy. “I’ll tell anyone who is thinking about going to school to go for it. Because whether you do it or not, time is going to slip by.”

Armstrong expects more and more working adults to enroll in continuing education programs as the economy rapidly evolves and lifespans grow longer. The best programs, he says, will grow with their communities to meet the needs of the modern learner.

“Our goal is to provide on-ramps and off-ramps throughout a person’s life,” Armstrong says. “Some people may come to us to learn a specific skill for a specific job and then come back for a certificate or

degree as their career advances. Others want to study a field that didn’t even exist when they were in school. And then some people want to learn a foreign language or about the history and complexities of jazz music.

“The School of Continuing & Professional Studies offers all of that. My intent is for the school to become a hub for the St. Louis community where learners can return again and again.”

■ DIANE TOROIAN KEAGGY, AB ’90



Photos: Whitney Curtis





Paths **CLEARED** *and* *Futures* **REVEALED**

Through Make Way: Our Student Initiative, Washington University seeks to remove barriers to success for every student, now and in the future. At five crossroads discussed here and countless more, *funding for students makes the difference.*

■ STORY BY CLAIRE GAUEN

College admissions, classes, co-curriculars, costs. Navigating this intricate map of choices, challenges and opportunities can be daunting for students and families. So today, WashU is laying the groundwork to provide a best-in-class experience for every student at each of these crossroads through Make Way: Our Student Initiative, a fundraising effort launched in October 2022. Starting with the acceptance letter and continuing through post-graduation career choices, the initiative aims to equip WashU to provide the meaningful support that students need to succeed and thrive throughout their college careers and beyond.

CROSSROAD #1: THE LETTER

Richard Lee wanted to wait until he got home to open his Washington University application decision. He tried to ignore the notification that popped up while he was at work so that he could learn the news with his parents in real-time. But then, as he continued to make chewy tapioca pearls for boba tea, a thought popped into his mind as persistent as the notification bubble on his phone: What if WashU accepted him but didn't provide enough financial aid?

Lee's parents never attended college, and their work in the New York restaurant

scene could not finance a WashU price tag. If there was no way to pay, Lee decided he should face that reality right away. He logged onto his WashU Pathway portal.

"And it said, 'Congratulations!' I was in shock. I started crying, totally breaking down in front of customers," he says. "Then I clicked over to the financial aid and started shaking. I was like, 'Is this how much I have to pay or how much I'm getting?'"

Not only had WashU admitted Lee, but his financial aid package meant that his family wouldn't have to worry about the cost of his four-year education.

"It was beyond my wildest dreams that I'd be able to get into this top university and be able to afford it," Lee says. "Without financial support, I wouldn't be here."

Now a junior in Olin Business School, Lee's LinkedIn profile boasts a long tally of majors and minors and a longer list of campus leadership roles. Thanks to his mentors and a particular pair of dress shoes (more on that later), he is interning this summer at Capital One. Lee's also on track to graduate a semester early. He's thriving.

WashU, rightfully, loves to celebrate stories like Lee's. Over the past decade, the university has made dramatic strides in welcoming more students whose families have limited

Photo: James Byard



Photo: Whitney Curtis

Make Way for **RICHARD**

Introduction to WashU: The Olin Fleischer Scholars Program, which brings business-minded high schoolers from first-generation or limited-income backgrounds to campus for a week.

Areas of study: Majors in organization and strategic management, plus operations and supply chain management, with a minor in business analytics.

Busiest week of the year: Leading up to the Night Market in mid-April. As president of the Asian American Association, Richard Lee organizes the popular cultural event.

resources and providing support to help these students succeed on campus. Twenty percent of the Class of 2026 is Pell Grant-eligible, a milestone that speaks loudly to the university's commitment to enrolling talented students from all socioeconomic backgrounds.

Every year, however, a different kind of story lurks within the applicant pool, hidden behind jubilant social media posts sporting graduation-year hashtags. Last year, less than 30% of students who were admitted in the regular decision round chose to enroll at WashU. Every student's situation is different, but recent years have brought a troubling trend. Many of these "students who got away" come from moderate-income families.

The so-called "barbell effect" has hit universities across the country. The barbell describes the composition of the student body, with the majority of students coming from well-resourced households (which can afford to pay tuition in full) and lower-income households (which receive substantial need-based financial aid).

Families with moderate incomes, which Student Financial Services defines as those making \$75,000–\$200,000 per year, must navigate a less clear-cut financial picture — one that often involves a combination of scholarships, out-of-pocket contributions, work-study jobs and loans. As a result, WashU faces a noticeable dip in yield rates from this group, considered the "bar" of the barbell.

The prospect of loans, in particular, has become a sticking point for many families, according to Ronné Turner, vice provost of admissions and financial aid.

"Often, moderate-income families won't choose WashU because we're still giving loans, which most of our peers have eliminated," Turner says. "They're trying to make the best financial decision for their families; they also don't want their children to get into a lot of debt."

"In order for us to be successful in our mission of enrolling the best and brightest students from around the world, we need to make sure that our scholarship and financial aid programs are as competitive as those of our peers. We've made great progress, but we're not all the way there," she continues.

The good news is that we know the path forward. At WashU, more than 65% of need-based undergraduate financial aid in 2022 came from the overall operating budget — money that otherwise could be used to enhance research and teaching. At more than 10 other institutions considered our peers, that figure is lower, and in some cases drastically lower. Instead, these institutions lean on donor-funded scholarships and endowment income to cover most financial aid.

Gateway to Success, an unprecedented investment of endowed funds for undergraduate and graduate financial aid that was announced by Chancellor Andrew D. Martin in 2021, made strides in closing that gap. One of the goals of Make Way: Our Student Initiative is to bring

WashU even closer to fulfilling Turner's dream of becoming a loan-free school, evening out the barbell for good. And that's just the beginning.

"WashU is a great institution, and we can be even better. I love to be at a place that is so forward-thinking and wants to continue the momentum," Turner says. "For me, this initiative is all about our aspirations for how we want to educate students and help them achieve their goals."

CROSSROAD #2: THE MOMENTS OF DOUBT

"Coming into WashU, I was blind to all the challenges I would face in my first semester," says Trinidi Prochaska, AB '23, who majored in biology on the neuroscience track. "Adjusting to the academic culture was a lot to handle. I was worrying about every single point in every single class. And then I didn't know where I should make friends. It's a lot."

Lee had a similarly difficult time in his early days on campus. "I came in during the first year of COVID, so I felt really lost and down. I had a lot of homesickness. Imposter syndrome is real," he says.

Too often for college students from any background, these types of stressors can spiral into mental health struggles. In a 2021 national survey by the Healthy Minds Network, an alarming 41% of college students screened positive for depression and 35% for anxiety.

According to Anna Gonzalez, vice chancellor for student affairs, the mental health crisis on

college campuses stems in part from perennial challenges for newly independent young adults — things like establishing study habits, finding a social scene and getting adequate sleep and nutrition. ("If you're not sleeping, if you're not eating well, if you're not putting oil in the machine, the machine is going to break. It just will," says Gonzalez, better known on campus as "Dr. G.")

Gonzalez also says the sobering statistics reflect challenges faced in the broader culture. "Thinking of how college was for me more than 30 years ago, I had needs, but it was different. The world was not as complex," she says. For one, today's hyper-polarized political climate leads to doubts and anxieties about voicing opinions or even asking certain questions in class.

Gonzalez and her team in the Division of Student Affairs seek to proactively address these emerging areas of concern. Thanks to a gift from the McGowan Family Foundation, this spring students took part in a new eight-week course, "Dialogue Across Difference," that offers concrete tools and practice in how to talk through difficult topics. It's already making a difference.

"Students have come to me and said that they're understanding and appreciating that dialogue and listening require time and investment in one another," Gonzalez says. "This isn't one of those scenarios that you can push a button to fix. It requires patience."

Make Way for TRINIDI

On her future doctoral work:

"I want to study how the brain interacts with the uterus to promote healthy birth outcomes," Trinidi Prochaska says. "I am fascinated by how you can link the brain to so many different systems and study so many different things."

WashU involvement:

Deneb STARS, WUSTL ENDURE neuroscience pipeline, MARC U-STAR PhD pipeline, resident advisor, organic chemistry learning assistant

Go-to advice for mentees:

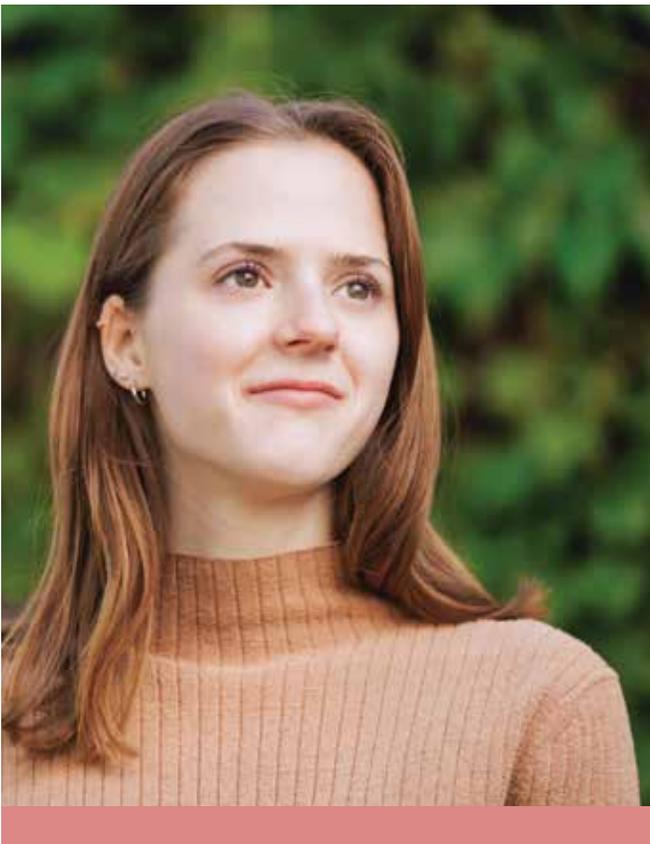
"Try not to stress. Don't compare yourself to anybody else in your class. You're doing fine. Make use of your resources and find things outside of school that make you happy."



Photos: Whitney Curtis



Photos: Whitney Curtis



Make Way for EBEE

First brush with civic engagement in StL:

A pre-orientation program through the Gephardt Institute. “My first three days were just completely focused on St. Louis, with Gephardt guiding us through: What is St. Louis? What are the organizations here? What are the challenges here? I’m from Connecticut and knew very little about St. Louis. It was so informative,” Ebee Grellier says.

Wisdom from days as a writing tutor: “Many students who come to the Writing Center are worried about their ability to succeed in a college environment, so you end up working on a lot more than just the paper. You’re helping them get the confidence to make informed decisions. I think that’s a good model for working with anybody.”

The new course is one of several initiatives spearheaded by Student Affairs focused on building a culture of what Gonzalez calls “healthy excellence.” Plans are in the works for a new, best-in-class health and well-being center, as well as a new course for first-year students focused on building universal skills like balancing priorities, career exploration and financial literacy.

For students seeking mental health services, WashU is also expanding the services offered by the Habif Health and Wellness Center and ensuring wait times for care stay at a minimum. A telehealth option called TimelyCare provides 24/7 access to support. Further, this fall and every year going forward, four psychology doctoral students will complete residencies at WashU, where they will serve as one-on-one student counselors. (For yet more examples, see Gonzalez’s discussion of healthy excellence in the online December 2022 issue, <https://source.wustl.edu/2022/11/helping-students-form-a-solid-foundation-of-health/>.)

For each of these new programs — and for the future needs that will inevitably arise — Gonzalez sees the funding provided by Make Way as key. “We must stay adaptable and vigilant,” she says. For every student like Prochaska and Lee who manages to move beyond moments of doubt, other students continue to suffer.

“At WashU we are working on more than the emergency pieces. We want to do more of the preventative, educational pieces ahead of time as well,” she says. “Individuals supporting Make Way

for these student-centered initiatives will provide us with a way to be creative and innovative in meeting students’ growing and changing needs.”

CROSSROAD #3: THE OPPORTUNITY AND THE DRESS SHOES (AKA THE BILL YOU DIDN’T SEE COMING)

Tuition. Textbooks. Fees. Housing. Food. Shoes? There’s no shortage of bills that come along with a college degree. Sometimes, looking out toward the future requires looking down at your feet and seeing yet another cost. Prochaska and Lee both faced this scenario when accepting professional growth opportunities — something that’s hard to pursue when your closet lacks professional clothing.

Both Lee and Prochaska are active members of Taylor STARS, a program that provides cohort-based mentorship and support for first-generation and limited-income students. Launched in 2016 as Deneb STARS, the program is now housed in the newly established Taylor Family Center for Student Success.

The Taylor Family Center also facilitates the Student Success Fund, a collection of several funding sources that eases the burdens of students facing costs for technology needs, medical bills, emergency travel and more. Recognizing the importance of comprehensive financial security for students to thrive, Emeritus Trustee John Dains, BSBA ’68, made a generous gift in 2021 that greatly enhanced resources for the program.

“The Student Success Fund is there to bridge the gap for those of us who can’t just spit out \$200 or \$300,” Prochaska says. “It was really nice knowing that I had something to fall back on to help me financially.” She used the fund to purchase professional clothing to attend a neuroscience conference and, most recently, for graduate school application fees, which in her field run \$80-\$120 apiece.

The investment paid off. This fall, Prochaska will head to Emory University to pursue a doctorate in neuroscience.

“WashU definitely supported me in growing my love for neuroscience and in helping me realize what I can do. When I came here, I never thought in a million years that I would go on to pursue a doctorate in neuroscience. It’s so cool to look back on my growth, greatly facilitated by all my mentors and WashU’s support,” she says.

Lee faced a similar scenario when he chose to attend a business conference in his home state of New York. Conference organizers covered his travel expenses, but he needed additional funds to feel fully prepared.

“Being able to buy professional clothing gave me confidence,” he says. “It felt important to dress appropriately and to present myself like anyone else there. Coming from a limited-income background, I couldn’t afford dress shoes, ties, suits, belts — all that stuff. It’s really expensive!”

At the conference, Lee met with several employers and walked away with an internship offer in human resources.

“Empowering communities is something I’m passionate about,” Lee says. “I want to do human resources because I want to empower people within their organizations. And I wouldn’t be on this path without WashU’s support.”

CROSSROAD #4: THE INTERNSHIP

Ebee Grellier, AB ’21, knows the importance of landing the right internship. In May 2020, when she faced an empty summer in Connecticut after being abruptly sent home from a study abroad program due to the pandemic, she turned to WashU’s Career Center.

Using the recommended search tools, Grellier found, applied for and was offered a position that married her interests in urban issues and public health — a policy internship with the Greenwich Village Chelsea Chamber of Commerce. There was one problem: The job came with no pay.

Once again, she turned to the Career Center, which currently provides a limited number of stipends to qualified students. After successfully receiving funding, Grellier spent the summer deeply engaged with Greenwich Village residents, businesses and public officials as the neighborhood navigated rapidly changing health guidelines. She says that she still uses knowledge gained that summer in her current work as an operations specialist with the St. Louis County Department of Public Health.

“During my internship, we were thinking about the health of the city and the health of New Yorkers who were hit hardest by COVID-19,

Make Way for PORTIA

People who inspired her: Her mother and an encouraging teacher, as well as an aunt who served as principal of a middle school. “I looked up to her, but I hope I’ve even gone beyond what she did,” Portia Nartey says.

Go-to self-care: “Our program is very intense. So what I do to take care of myself is I cook a lot. I cook almost everything I eat. I try different recipes, and it’s therapeutic.”

On paying it forward: “There are lots of great minds in low-resource settings around the world who need the WashU experience to be able to realize their dreams, who need this bridge to be able to have confidence that something great could come out of their life. So I would encourage WashU to keep supporting more and more people. And in the future, I will also give back to WashU to support other people like me.”



Go to magazine.wustl.edu for more news on Make Way: Our Student Initiative and a short video interview with Portia Nartey.

Photo: Michael Thomas



and we were trying to make sure that people were able to keep their businesses open and had the resources to continue to serve people safely. We were having to rely on local government for every next step,” Grellier says.

“Today, I’m on the other side. I’m in the local public health department, and we’re making those decisions for our businesses and residents. It’s so valuable to have perspectives of both sides,” she says.

The New York experience also complemented Grellier’s on-campus internship with the Gephardt Institute for Civic and Community Engagement, where she managed tens of thousands of dollars of community grant funds, and a previous internship that took her across the world to work on rural health initiatives with Uganda Development & Health Associates.

“My lens for how I view a partnership is so, so different because I had those kinds of hands-on experiences,” she says. “My internships provided learning experiences that I couldn’t have gotten anywhere else.”

And none of it would have been possible, Grellier says, without the Gephardt Institute, the Career Center and, importantly, accessible avenues for funding.

“It can be economically prohibitive to accept an unpaid internship, and the reality is that internships focused on civic engagement or any kind of nonprofit work tend to be the ones that are not funded,” Grellier says. “The fact that the Career Center can support you makes

a huge difference. I would love for every student to have the kind of opportunities I had.”

That is precisely the goal of yet another Make Way priority. Funds from the initiative will support the efforts of WashU’s unified Career Center, which was created last year to establish uniform, comprehensive and effective career services for every student in every school.

The new center will be a hub for bringing employers to recruit at WashU. It will offer a four-year career discovery program for undergrads and tailored advising for graduate students seeking careers beyond academia. And it aims to ensure that every student, like Grellier, has at least two fully funded pre-professional experiences. (For more about Make Way and the importance of internship funding, see “My Washington” on pg. 50.)

“We want to give students either a full stipend or supplemental pay so they can afford to live in the places they’re working or doing research,” Gonzalez says. “And we want to provide these funds for students from all socioeconomic-status backgrounds. Even if you’re a moderate-income student, there’s only so much your family can provide.”

“Internships are so valuable for figuring out what you do and do *not* want to do,” Grellier says. “At the time, it feels as if it’s something you’re doing during one particular summer. But what you learn stays with you and influences what you do moving forward.”

“My lens for how I view a partnership is so, so different because I had those kinds of hands-on experiences. My internships provided learning experiences that I couldn’t have gotten anywhere else.”

– Ebee Grellier, AB ’21



Photo: Jake Huber



Photos: Whitney Curtis

“Individuals supporting Make Way for these student-centered initiatives will provide us with a way to be creative and innovative in meeting students’ growing and changing needs.”

— Anna Gonzalez,
Vice Chancellor
for Student Affairs

CROSSROADS #5: GRADUATE SCHOOL AND BEYOND

With her multiple internships as backdrop, Grellier chose to stay in St. Louis to make an impact. Doctoral student Portia Nartey, MSW ’21, MSP ’22, instead chose to pursue graduate school as a means to make a future impact on a global scale.

As a student at the Brown School, Nartey conducted research and policy-related work with the International Center for Child Health and Development (ICHAD), where she now works full time as a research coordinator. One project focuses on preventing young girls from dropping out of school to engage in child labor.

“I’m very passionate about and interested in women’s and girls’ development,” Nartey says. “So many countries all over the world need this.”

Nartey witnessed this need firsthand in her home country, Ghana, where as a college student she led rural outreach efforts related to menstrual hygiene management — which leads many girls to fall behind or drop out of school.

WashU became Nartey’s first choice for graduate school the moment she saw that the Brown School offered a concentration in international social and economic development through its Master of Social Work program. But she almost didn’t come here — not because she didn’t get in, she did, but due to the cost. In 2018, Nartey had to defer her acceptance. It was a devastating, although temporary, setback.

“Deferring my graduate studies, I felt hopeless. I remember I was so down for some time,” Nartey says. “But my pastor said, ‘Portia, God is going to make a way. You will definitely go to school, though it didn’t work out this year.’”

As with undergraduate applicants, too often talented graduate students miss out on a WashU education because the level of

scholarship and fellowship support offered lags behind what other top-tier universities offer. Especially for Brown School students who seek careers in social work — jobs that have high social impact but often lower pay scales — it just doesn’t make sense to choose a graduate program that doesn’t give the most competitive funding offer.

Thankfully, Nartey secured additional scholarships that brought her to the Brown School in 2019 and helped finance her education, including the Elizabeth D. Ossorio Memorial Scholarship and the Betty Sims Scholarship.

Five years later, with two master’s degrees in hand as well as additional work experience with ICHAD, she is now pursuing a doctorate at WashU and has her sights firmly set on an eventual career at the United Nations.

“The UN is my target, and I want to be in a director position, where I can be doing this international development work on a large scale,” she says. “It’s a big dream, but it’s achievable.”

Across all schools, funds raised through Make Way will clear the path for more graduate students like Nartey. The Brown School has an especially ambitious goal: In the next 5–15 years, the school aspires to go tuition-free.

“I wouldn’t be here without that additional funding,” Nartey says. “It’s going to enable me to do greater things. Because when I go out in the world with my WashU degrees, I know I’ll be able to access so many places that would have been difficult without an education from this institution.”



To learn more and participate in Make Way: Our Student Initiative, visit makeway.wustl.edu.



Photo: Joe Angeles



■ STORY BY TERRI NAPPIER

With its host of top-rated attractions and miles of bike paths and running trails, Forest Park has enticed generations of WashU community members to step outside the university's campuses and explore. Today, students and faculty are venturing deeper into the woods to learn about the biodiversity that teems there and to highlight the connectedness between the natural and the human.

Into the Forest

TALIE JOHNSON, BFA '23, GREW UP ON A SIX-ACRE FARM IN BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS, SURROUNDED BY LARGE NEIGHBORING CORNFIELDS. On her family's property, wild grasses grew aplenty, and Johnson would often hang about in their midst, admiring their wispy surfaces, breathing in the fresh air and generally adopting the pace of nature.

As a communication design major at WashU, Johnson spent a great deal of time indoors seated in front of a computer. Then she enrolled in a "Sustainability Exchange" course with a focus on Forest Park. Over three semesters, she and 30 other students roamed the park to experience firsthand the often overlooked and understudied urban biodiversity there. One crisp morning in fall 2022, for example, Johnson found herself in the park's fish hatchery area, lying on her belly among a patch of cypress knees, admiring their oddly shaped beauty and looking for the most interesting angle to snap a photo.

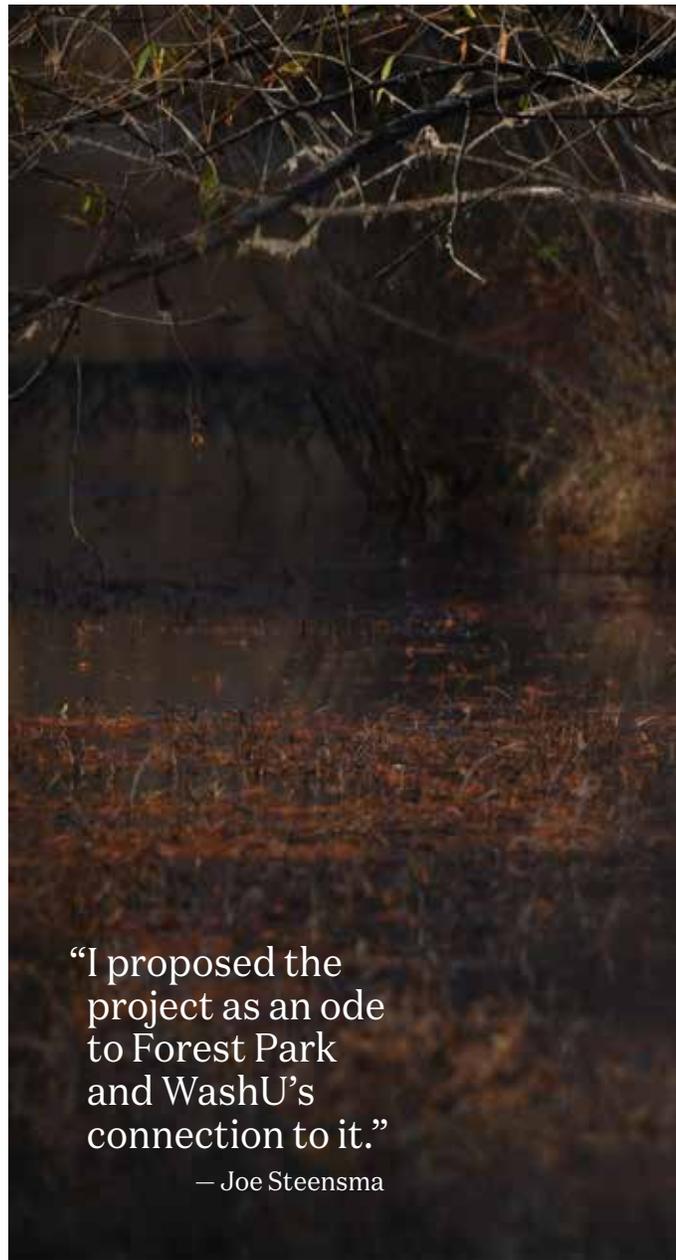
If Johnson's image was compelling enough, it could vie for a spot in the coffee-table book she and her classmates have been producing as the course's final project. The 150- to 175-page book features original student artwork, stories and poems, photography, historical and species accounts, and more. As the book's designer, Johnson's been working closely with Joe Steensma, who taught the "Sustainability Exchange" course, to complete the layout. [At press time, the two hope to have the book printed and ready for sale in fall 2023, with any proceeds going to the "Sustainability Exchange," part of WashU's Environmental Studies program, and Forest Park Forever, a nonprofit that helps sustain the park.]

"I proposed the project as an ode to Forest Park and WashU's connection to it," says Steensma, professor of practice in the Brown School. "I wanted to write a book about the biodiversity of the park — and about its import to the community. And I wanted the project to deeply involve students in the development and production of the book."

It was Steensma, an ardent lover of nature and author of two books on birds, who first discussed the possibility of such a project with Jonathan Losos, the William H. Danforth Distinguished University Professor and director of the Living Earth Collaborative (LEC), and helped secure funding for its production by receiving an LEC grant in 2021.

"This was a dream project for me," Johnson says. "Growing up, I was never outdoors, and I lost a lot of that in college. I went to Forest Park, but it was nice to go and experience it in a different way, to be respectful of nature and the land — all while considering the concept of the book design. I'm trying to do the biodiversity justice and encapsulate as much of a range as possible."

In the soon-to-be-published book *Into the Park* (working title), students from the "Sustainability Exchange" course on Forest Park will provide readers with beautiful imagery, poetry, species accounts and more on the biodiversity in the park. The photos of the heron (above right) and cypress knees (below right) are among the submissions under consideration for the book.



"I proposed the project as an ode to Forest Park and WashU's connection to it."

— Joe Steensma





Photo: Maxine Roeder



Photo: Talie Johnson, BFA '23

“The Living Lab will help us understand the ways in which Forest Park wildlife move through the human-dominated habitat, but it also paves the way with methods, data and general proof-of-concept for similar projects in other cities.”

— Stan Braude



Go to magazine.wustl.edu for more sights and sounds of Forest Park, one of the country's great urban parks and WashU's next-door neighbor.



Photo: Joe Angeles

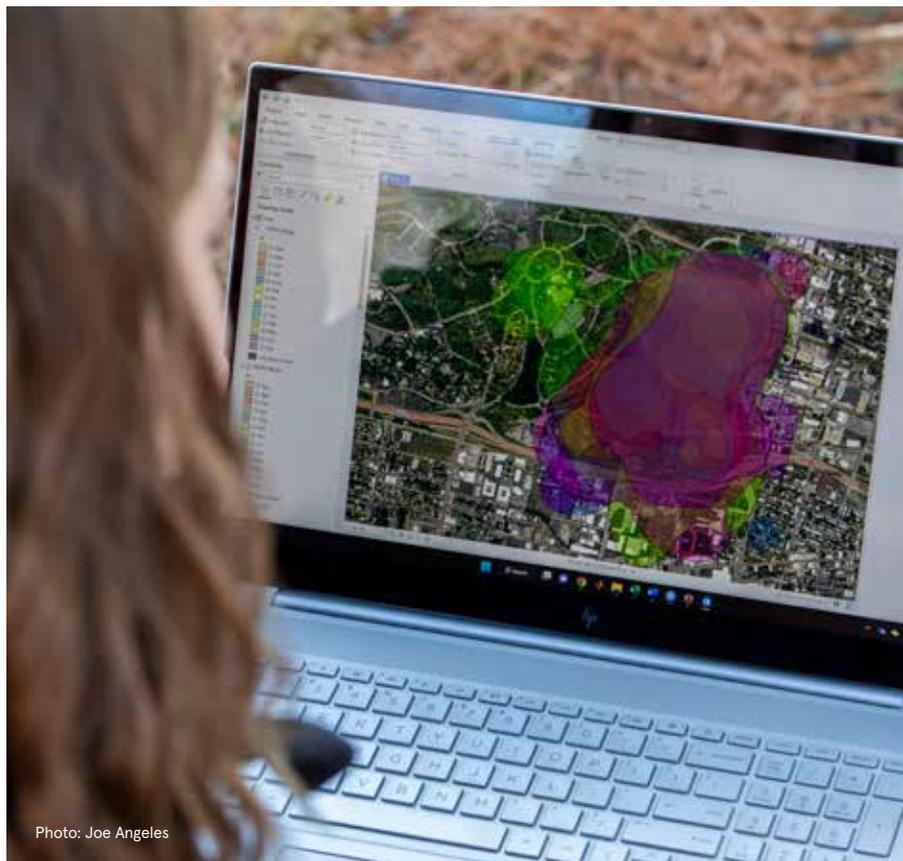


Photo: Joe Angeles



Photo: Joe Angeles

TAGGING AND TRACKING

Stella Uiterwaal, a community ecologist and biodiversity postdoctoral fellow at the Living Earth Collaborative, carries a handheld radio antenna listening for signals as she watches for any movement coming from the leaf-covered ground in Forest Park's Kennedy Forest. On this spring day, Uiterwaal is searching, along with Jamie Palmer, a technician at the Institute for Conservation Medicine (ICM) at the Saint Louis Zoo, and three ICM interns (Katie Handler, Emily Lesniak and Ansley Petherick), for three-toed box turtles previously outfitted with small radio-tracking tags. The research team aims to unearth the turtles and then record their location data points. The information they glean will be added to the yearslong data collection on box turtle movement and space use throughout the park.

Missouri's official state reptile is just one of the critters of interest for scientists within the Forest Park Living Lab (FPLL). A collaborative of six regional organizations — Forest Park Forever, the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center, Saint Louis University, Saint Louis Zoo, Washington University and the World Bird Sanctuary — the Forest Park Living Lab brings together experts in ecology, conservation medicine, education and park management to explore Forest Park's urban ecosystem.

“Steve Blake [assistant professor of biology, Saint Louis University] and Sharon Deem [director of ICM at the zoo] have been studying the turtle population in Forest Park for years, and the Living Lab is an important extension of that work,” says Stan Braude, teaching professor of practice in biology in Arts & Sciences. “The Living Lab will help us understand the ways in which Forest Park wildlife move through the human-dominated habitat, but it also paves the way with methods, data and general proof-of-concept for similar projects in other cities.”

“We are tracking animals in the park to understand how urban wildlife interact with different habitats, with other animals in the ecological community and with the urban environment around them,” says Uiterwaal, a senior scientist for the FPLL. “We want to understand the movement of biodiversity across an entire food web, from herbivores to apex predators.” In addition, the Living Lab is collecting health data on Forest Park wildlife to understand disease dynamics, particularly in connection to movement and the animals' urban setting.

To date, the Forest Park Living Lab, which is also sponsored by the Living Earth Collaborative, is tracking box turtles and snapping turtles, mallards, raccoons and a great-horned owl named Astrid. Researchers plan to tag coyotes, herons and egrets next, with an eventual intention to track some 17 species.

“I was brought in as a mammalogist with experience trapping various rodents in Africa and South America,” Braude says, “but team members of the Living Lab are very collaborative, and we're all learning from one another, whether it's conducting radio tracking, analyzing data or teaching classes in Forest Park.”

The Forest Park Living Lab (FPLL), which currently tracks three-toed box turtles, snapping turtles, mallards, raccoons and a great-horned owl (like the one pictured at left), seeks to understand how urban wildlife interact with different habitats, other animals and the urban environment surrounding the park. The FPLL, which received a seed grant from WashU's Living Earth Collaborative, recently was awarded a generous GISCoR grant from the Taylor Geospatial Institute to continue its work.



Photo: Charles McGrath

THE COUNTRY'S NO. 1 PARK

As a WashU community member, you probably know that Forest Park — the “Best City Park” in the country, so recognized by *USA Today*'s 10 Best Readers' Choice 2023 awards — hosts major cultural institutions: the Missouri History Museum, the Saint Louis Art Museum, the Saint Louis Science Center and, of course, the Saint Louis Zoo. You might have used the park's tennis center, skating rink, golf courses, ballfields, miles of pathways and trails, and much more. What you may not know, though, is that Forest Park is home to more than 600 species of plants, 20 species of native fishes, 20 species of reptiles, 23 species of mammals, 200 species of pollinators (bees, butterflies, moths) and 200+ additional insect species, as well as 222 species of birds. And that's outside the zoo!

The Forest Park Living Lab as well as the “Sustainability Exchange” book project allow for students and faculty to meaningfully engage

with this bountiful biodiversity in new and unexpected ways.

“The Living Earth Collaborative is deeply invested and committed to involving and educating citizen-scientists,” Braude says, “and we have worked closely with the community from the beginning.”

“We had a number of different majors that came together to produce, curate and collate content for the book,” Steensma says. “At a fundamental level, our purpose was to expose students to the process of writing a book, but also more broadly to expose them to the connectness between biodiversity and people.”

Steensma says that he wanted to give students the time to be “in” Forest Park. “When you say you're *in* something, that means you're *in community* with something,” he continues. “I think this project provided a great opportunity to discover how to build community with these things that we're taught are wild.”

Forest Park, for the second year running, was recognized as the No. 1 urban park by *USA Today* in 2023. With its top-rated attractions and bountiful biodiversity, the park provides many ways to engage with others and with nature. On any given day, you might see a monarch butterfly (right), Canada warbler (actually a rare sighting, far right), great white egret (bottom right) and more. The bandstand site (below) dates back to 1876 — the same year Forest Park opened. The original bandstand closed in 1911, and the one below was built nearly 100 years ago.



“When you say you're *in* something, that means you're *in community* with something. I think this project provided a great opportunity to discover how to build community with these things that we're taught are wild.”

— Joe Steensma



Photo: David Mathisson, AB '22



Photo: Maxine Roeder



Photo: Devon Hill



Photo: Joe Angeles



AI + DESIGN

WashU students and faculty are cutting through the hype and grappling with artificial intelligence.

■ STORY BY LIAM OTTEN, BFA '93



“I WAS A PRETTY EARLY ADOPTER,” KORY BIEG SAYS WITH A SMILE. “MIDJOURNEY OPENED FOR BETA TESTING ALMOST A YEAR AGO.”

Bieg, AIA, a 1999 alumnus of WashU’s Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, is discussing the state of artificial intelligence. Though roots can be traced back decades, quickening development and a new generation of apps and tools in recent months have brought AI to ever greater public consciousness.

In April, Bieg and award-winning videogame designer Ian Bogost — who happen to be childhood friends — were among the featured speakers at “AI + Design,” a mini-symposium organized by the Sam Fox School and the McKelvey School of Engineering. The event aimed to sort through the hype and sensationalism, of both utopian and apocalyptic varieties, and grapple with AI’s actual capabilities. Bieg and Bogost led the session “How to Create with Creative AI.”

“I think some of us have gotten the sense that we’re all going to be like George Jetson, pushing buttons,” quips Bogost, the Barbara and David Thomas Distinguished Professor and director of film and media studies in Arts & Sciences, who also serves as a professor of computer science and engineering at McKelvey Engineering. “But that’s not how this feels at all.”

Bieg, an associate professor and program director for architecture at the University of Texas at Austin, has followed development of commercial text-to-image generators such as DALL-E, Stable Diffusion and Midjourney. But he credits the latter, which launched in spring 2022, with a particular affinity for architectural modeling.

Bieg, also founder of the research office OTA+, describes one of his own projects, “Housing Blocks,” which began with the prompt “camouflage.” Initial outputs, he ruefully recalls, featured tanks and artillery. But as he continued refining his prompts and sifting through the resulting images, things grew richer and less predictable.

“After four or five thousand iterations, the green camouflage started to become plants,” Bieg says. White-and-tan patterns slowly transformed into building materials like limestone and glass.

“The architecture evolved through the curation.”

Kory Bieg, “Housing Blocks,” 2022. (Image courtesy of the artist)

General truths

“The AI juggernaut has been building for the last 10 years,” says Krishna Bharat, the symposium’s keynote speaker. “And it’s only just beginning.”

Bharat is a distinguished research scientist at Google and father of recent WashU architecture graduate Meera Bharat. He and his wife, Kavita, recently announced a gift to create the Kavita and Krishna Bharat Professorship, a joint appointment between the Sam Fox School and McKelvey Engineering.

“The Bharat Professorship will allow us to recruit a faculty member specializing in artificial intelligence who is also deeply invested in advancing architecture, art and design, preparing Sam Fox School students to address advanced technologies in their fields,” says Carmon Colangelo, the Sam Fox School’s Ralph J. Nagel Dean. “I am grateful for the enormous generosity and vision of Krishna and Kavita.”

In his symposium remarks, Bharat points out that contemporary “deep learning” AIs are built on artificial neural networks that in many ways mimic the human brain. “The way we train such a network is by giving it billions of examples,” he explains. “Every time it guesses correctly, it gets a reward. Every time it guesses wrong, we tell it the right answer. It’s a bit like how we learn from experience.”

Earlier machine learning programs were more akin to an autocomplete function. Start typing “Washington University...,” and a search engine could easily compute, based on past queries, what percentage of users are looking for “Washington University in St. Louis.” (The figure, Bharat deadpans, is around 90%.)

Diffusion models, of which most contemporary image generators are a form, were first theorized in 2015 (at least in the context of machine learning; the phrase is borrowed from thermodynamics). Essentially, they work by systematically degrading an image, analyzing the data distribution and then reversing that process. Repeat this enough times, with large enough datasets, and the network learns to generate new images.

In other words, the AI is not simply memorizing. “It’s learning general truths,” Bharat says. “If that seems like magic, trust me, most computer scientists would agree.”

What’s missing, from the perspective of creative professionals, is the sense of fine control. Listing prompts to create an AI image may seem quick and simple, but creating the right AI image, or a useful AI image, still requires human judgment. Bharat gives the example of a sophisticated medical illustration. “Every aspect has meaning,” he observes. Size, colors, labeling — all convey critical information. Similarly, a building diagram must navigate a series of complex constraints, including cultural norms, aesthetic compatibilities, client wishes, construction codes and engineering best practices.

“That’s a huge amount of dependency to be encoded,” Bharat says. “Diffusion models don’t know how to do this.”

“WHAT’S
THIS THING
SUPPOSED TO
DO? CAN I DO IT
DIFFERENTLY OR
IN A DIFFERENT
ORDER? CAN I
DO SOMETHING
UNEXPECTED?”

—JONATHAN HANAHAN

Break it a little

A few weeks after the symposium, Jonathan Hanahan, who led the panel “Human-AI Interaction: Designing the Interface Between Human and Artificial Intelligence,” is still pondering the relationship between technology and creative practice.

“Throughout history, when disruptive new technologies come into play, there’s a lot of fear about what’s going to happen,” says Hanahan, associate professor of design. “And what often happens is that we create new practices.”

Hanahan is co-founder — with Heather Corcoran, the Halsey C. Ives Professor of Art, and Caitlin Kelleher, associate professor of computer science and engineering — of WashU’s Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) minor. He is also, in the compressed timeline of AI image generators, something of a veteran. He recalls taking a workshop, circa 2017, that focused on GANs, or generative adversarial networks, a sort of predecessor to current diffusion models.

“There was no commercialized software. We were writing code directly in the macOS terminal, which is always intimidating,” Hanahan says. As a designer, “I’m conversational in code but not fluent. I don’t write code as language so much as compile it as material, hacking together existing scripts.”

But by 2018, software with graphic user interfaces, such as RunwayML, were being released, allowing users not only to access machine learning models but to train their own. Hanahan, deploying Runway, began his ongoing “Edgelands” series, which explores the proliferation of technological waste. At the project’s heart is a custom AI that Hanahan trained on two discreet datasets: photos of St. Louis landscapes and images of illegal e-waste dumpsites across Africa, Asia and India. He then “crossbred” the datasets to create a third group of images, at once pastoral and haunting, depicting the infiltration of electronic debris into the natural world.

“If engineering strives to build perfect functional tools, maybe the role of art and design is to criticize and challenge, even break them a little,” Hanahan muses.

“What’s this thing supposed to do? Can I do it differently or in a different order? Can I do something unexpected?”

“Art and design have been doing this for decades with the Adobe Creative Suite,” Hanahan adds. “Now we have new tools to challenge.”

The element of surprise

Constance Vale, associate professor and chair of undergraduate architecture, is already seeing that process in action. Over the last few semesters, she’s observed how text-to-image generators have made their way into studio practice.

“It’s mostly used for explorative studies,” Vale says. “Students are going into Midjourney or DALL-E the same way that they go into their sketchbook or a quick study model. It’s a way to see what you can come up with.”

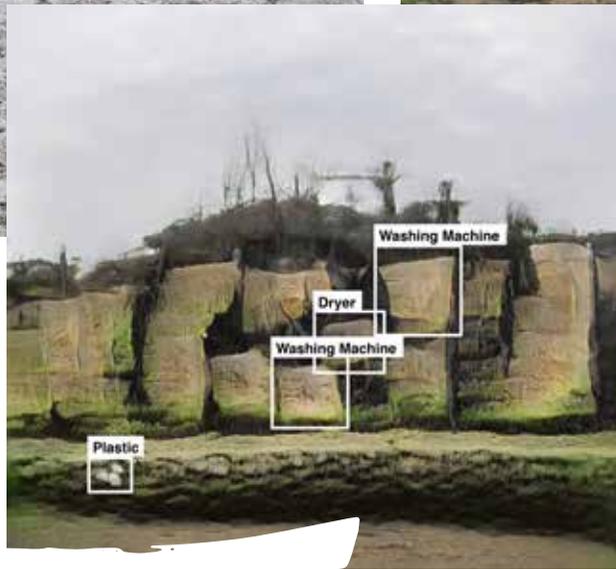
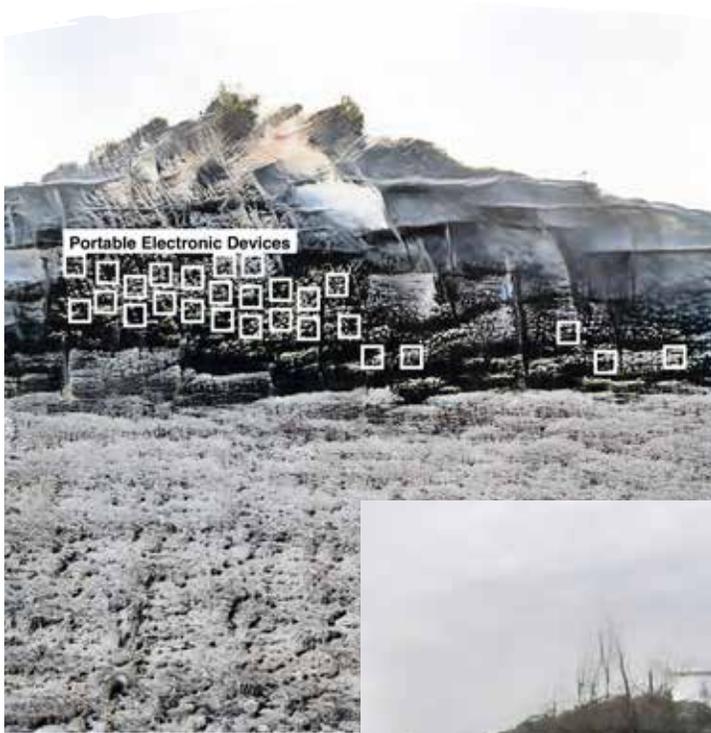
Vale, who organized “The Machinic Muse: AI & Creativity” session during the “AI & Design” symposium, is co-author of the forthcoming book *Digital Decoys: An Index of Architectural Deceptions*, about the role of image-making in contemporary architecture. She notes that though larger cultural conversations often highlight AI’s imitative capacity — riffs on famous paintings are a marketing staple — artists and designers are drawn to the technology’s weirdness and unpredictability.

“As humans, we tend to repeat certain things,” Vale says. “Our linguistic way of thinking limits us.” AI models, even those employing language prompts, are still fundamentally premised on statistical relationships, which can yield unpredictable results. And yet that unpredictability sometimes can be useful. “What’s most entrancing is the element of surprise.”

Vale points to a hypothetical Antarctic field station created last spring by current seniors Kaiwen Wang and Wayne Li, as part of Visiting Professor Karel Klein’s studio “What Machines Remember.” To begin, Wang and Li gathered a dataset of some 1,200 mechanical-themed images. Next, they used StyleGAN, running on Google Colab, to train a custom AI, cycling their results through about 200 iterations.

One particular output caught their attention. It showed a series of amorphous silver shapes vaguely suggesting skis, sails, solar panels and bulbous, mid-century aerospace design. Intrigued, they manually rebuilt and then continued refining those shapes with 3D modeling software Rhino and V-Ray. Along the way, they also added an organic element by expanding their AI dataset with images of diatoms — a photosynthetic algae enclosed in porous silica microshells — and used Photoshop and even hand-drawing to puzzle out specific elements.

The final proposal is at once elegant and uncanny, a mobile lab that hangs from a 300-foot ice sheet like a twisting mechanical vine.



Three examples from Jonathan Hanahan's "Edgelands" series (2018–present). Using a pair of custom AI datasets, the project explores the infiltration of electronic waste into the natural world. (Images courtesy of the artist)

“It’s never a one-click thing,” Wang says. “AI doesn’t understand what it’s producing. Something might look cool, but AI can’t speak for the design.” It takes a human designer to analyze an image and “attach meaning to it.”

The next experiment

“AI was inspired by neuroscience,” Ralf Wessel says. “But right now, neuroscience is going through its own revolution.”

Wessel, professor of physics in Arts & Sciences, holds a joint appointment in the Department of Neuroscience in the School of Medicine. He is also one of three faculty leads — with Likai Chen, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics, and Keith Hengen, assistant professor of biology — for the new teaching and research cluster “Toward a Synergy Between Artificial Intelligence and Neuroscience.”

Funded as part of Arts & Sciences’ Incubator for Transdisciplinary Futures, the cluster aims to explore whether recent AI breakthroughs might shed new light on the nature of biological intelligence.

“AI is driven by data,” Wessel says. “When I started in neuroscience, we could attach one electrode to the brain at a time; today, we can

attach thousands. This gives neuroscientists a huge amount of data — and allows us to compare activity inside the brain with what’s happening inside AI models.”

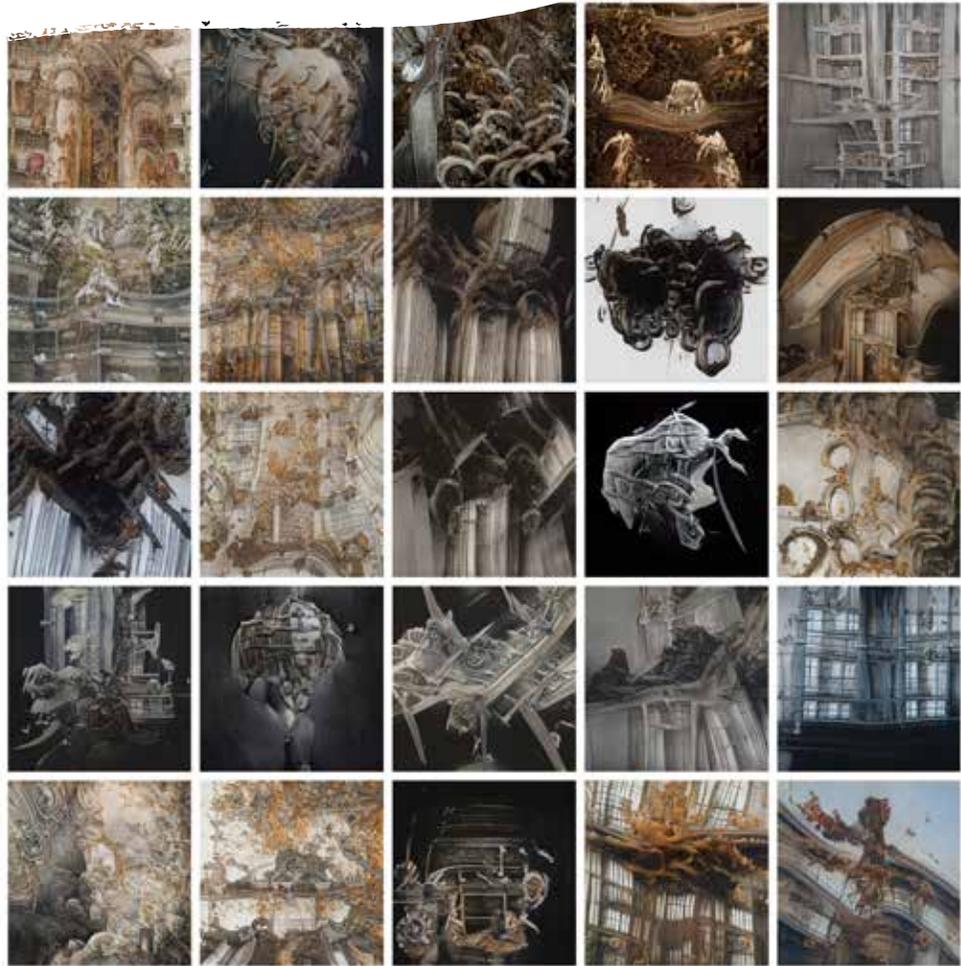
Of course, analogies only go so far. “Things like ChatGPT and DALL-E aren’t really thinking in the classical sense,” Wessel muses. “There’s no underlying biochemistry. They just find statistical relationships.”

Yet neuroscientists and computer scientists do share a common goal, in that both are seeking to understand the inner workings of immensely complex systems. And to the degree that we can study how those systems go about accomplishing similar tasks, Wessel adds, it may be possible to uncover common principles. “So why not work together?”

Recently, Wessel and physics graduate student Zeyuan Ye compared how a mouse and an AI trained on nature documentaries processed identical visual stimuli. “If you have a model that’s really good at something, and the brain is really good at the same thing, then as a researcher, you want to understand how they operate,” Wessel says.

Perhaps the resulting insights “can help us design the next experiment.”

An image matrix developed by Yi Wang, MArch '22, as part of the "Patterns: Architecture and Machine Learning" studio led by Sharvari Mhatre, lecturer in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts. (Image courtesy of the Sam Fox School)



"I thought, 'OK, that's how the computer reads my work. That's not how I would read it. That's not how any human would read the work.'"

_KORY BIEG

Reading problems

Back in Weil Hall at "AI + Design," Bieg relates an experiment of his own. Using the open-source platform Hugging Face, Bieg attempted to reverse-engineer the text-to-image process by uploading one of his finished renderings and asking the AI to suggest prompts that might have created it.

The results were instructive. Some suggestions — such as "interconnected" or "crystals" — seemed straightforwardly descriptive. Others were mysterious: "Selena Gomez." "Texas Revolution." "Dark vials."

"Really strange terms," Bieg recalls. "I thought, 'OK, that's how the computer reads my work. That's not how I would read it. That's not how any human would read the work.'" But sure enough, when Bieg fed those terms back into an image generator, they produced images "very similar to the original finished rendering."

Caitlin Kelleher, HCI co-founder and participant on the "Human-AI Interaction" panel, notes that, among other things, text-to-image generators "really center examples as a core mechanic."

"In some ways, that's great," Kelleher says. "A lot of human learning is tied to examples.

But the kinds of examples our human minds produce, and the kinds of examples that a system produces, may be very different. So can we learn to navigate in a space of crazy examples?

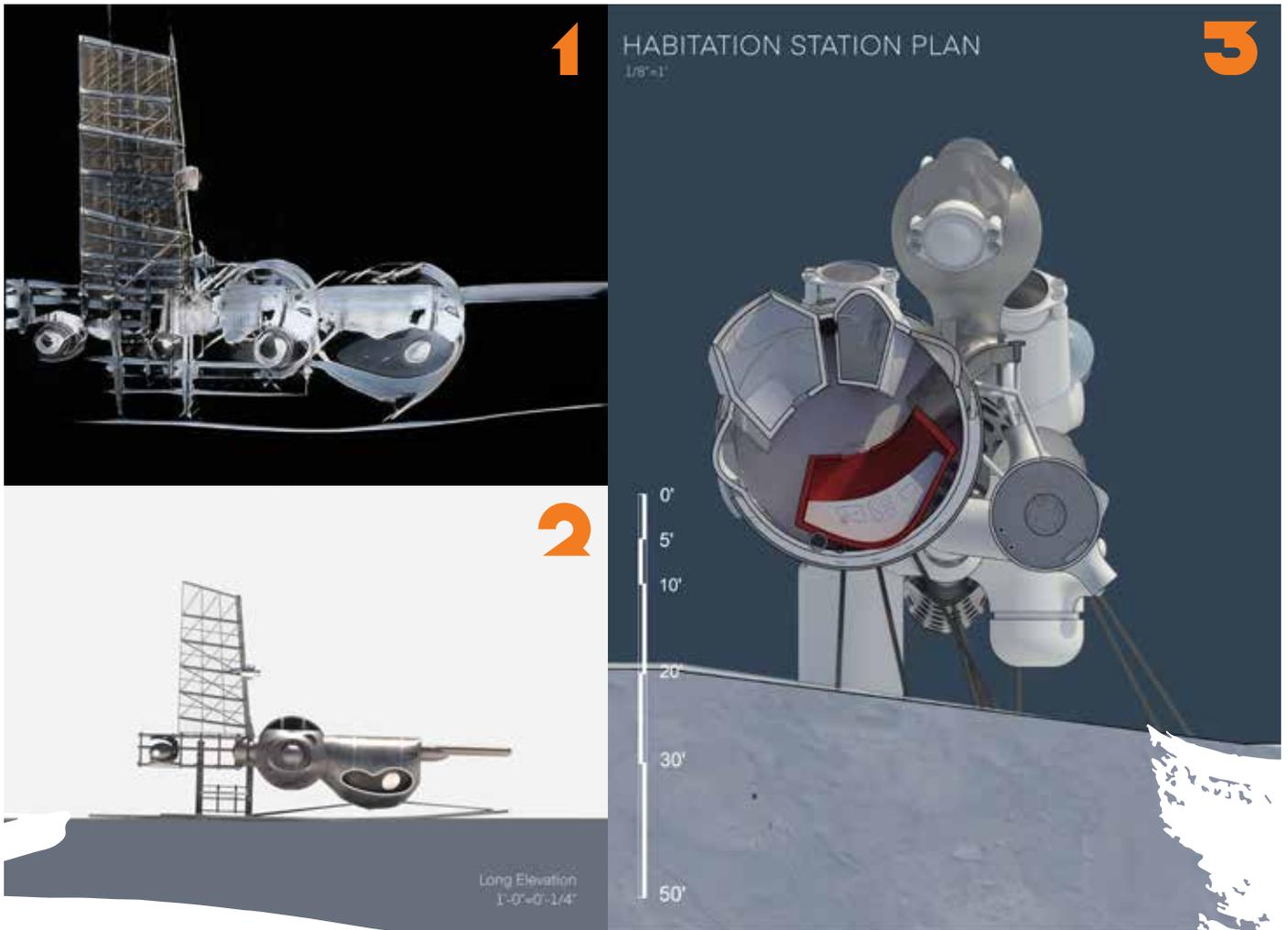
"There's also an issue of overload," Kelleher adds. "If a restaurant has 50 billion items on its menu, how do you select the right thing?"

Chandler Ahrens, associate professor in the Sam Fox School and co-founder of Open Source Architecture, agrees that the speed and volume of generative AI present particular challenges.

"AI produces text really quickly," says Ahrens, a contributor on "The Machinic Muse" panel. "In producing text, it also produces hallucinations that can seem real but that may be wrong." This, he continues, "requires you as the reader to decipher when things aren't right or don't really make sense."

In other words, Ahrens adds, quoting the futurist Peter J. Scott, "AI turns a writing problem into a reading problem."

That dynamic, far from devaluing human judgment, highlights its centrality. "This is a very important aspect to think about when teaching," Ahrens says. "AI is not replacing our expertise — it's enhancing our abilities."



The limits of language

“I don’t believe that AI is going to replace creativity,” says Alvitia Ottley, assistant professor of computer science and engineering, who teaches in the HCI minor and participated on the “Human-AI Interaction” panel. After all, she quips, the invention of the calculator didn’t eliminate the need for mathematicians. “But it will allow us to create different things.”

Ottley suspects that AI will speed the pathway from ideation to iteration. But she worries about how AI might reflect, and indeed perpetuate, hidden biases — especially as algorithms get updated with new datasets that are themselves produced by algorithm.

Kelleher, too, grapples with the issue of trustworthiness. She warns of AI-generated papers that have cited nonexistent results. “We’re building something that relies on human attention to police accuracy,” Kelleher says. That attention “can be pretty scarce.”

And yet, Kelleher adds, too-rigorous controls carry their own risks. Rather than attempting to encode some definitive notion of truth, she says, AI platforms will be better served by allowing space for “a diversity of visions.”

In his concluding remarks, Aaron Bobick, dean of the McKelvey School of Engineering and the James M. McKelvey Professor, returned to the question of how AI tools might impact curricula.

“Our goal is to produce the people who can do the best work,” Bobick says. “So how do we think about changing our teaching? How do we leverage these new tools, capabilities, procedures and possibilities?”

Bobick notes that while large-scale, language-based statistical models may make computational tools more accessible than ever to people without traditional training in coding, a solid foundation in computation and algorithmic development, for engineers and creatives alike, will make such tools “all the more powerful.”

Indeed, Bobick predicts that as AI technology continues to improve, such models will begin to push against the boundaries of what language can concisely describe.

“And that’s actually OK,” Bobick says. “We can’t let the limits of language restrict the spaces that we explore.”

Images 1–3 above: Three renderings by seniors Kaiwen Wang and Wayne Li, created as part of the studio “What Machines Remember,” taught by Karel Klein, a visiting professor at the Sam Fox School. Designing an Antarctic field station, the pair used a custom AI to hypothesize design cues (image 1), which they then incorporated into their midterm and final projects (images 2 and 3, respectively). (Images courtesy of the artists)

Next



Photo: Linda Liu



THE WORLD OF OUR WASHU ALUMNI

Alumni Profiles	44
First Person	49
My Washington	50
Alumni Activities	52
Class Notes	54
In Memoriam	60
Lasting Impression	64

Hello, ShirlyWhirl!

By day, **Shirlene Obuobi, MD, AB '14**, is a cardiology fellow at University of Chicago Hospital. When she's not working in the hospital, she's drawing cartoons for *The Washington Post* and other outlets as "ShirlyWhirl," commenting on health care, day-to-day life in medicine and what it's like to be a Black woman physician. Read more about Obuobi's dual roles online at source.wustl.edu/2023/08/shirlene-obuobi.

Shirlene
Obuobi, MD

Empowering next-generation Indigenous leaders

Stacy Leeds, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, leads by example as dean of Arizona State University's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

A lightbulb went off for **Stacy Leeds, AB '94**, while testifying before Congress. A mock Congress, that is.

"The final project for one of my classes at WashU's Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies involved advocating for Indian child welfare before a mock Congress," says Leeds, a Cherokee Nation citizen. "I realized the field of Indian law is what drives me."

Now a renowned scholar of Indigenous law, Leeds is the first Indigenous woman to be named dean of a law school (first at the University of Arkansas in 2011 and then at Arizona State University's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law earlier this year). "I feel honored to serve as a mentor for my students and other Native women across the country," she says.

Growing up on a Cherokee reservation in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Leeds played basketball in high school, and her enthusiasm for sports is what drew her to WashU. "Coach Nancy Fahey recruited me to play for WashU," she says. "I visited campus and met women I'm still friends with today."

Leeds immersed herself in the history of Native American issues and the civil rights movement. "I learned so much from the late Nancy Grant [associate professor of history]," Leeds says. "She was invested in her students' success."

After graduating, Leeds studied Indian law at the University of Tulsa. "A law professor encouraged me to pursue teaching because he felt there was a need for more Native professors," Leeds says. "So I headed to the University of Wisconsin to study for an LLM degree (Master of Laws) to prepare me to teach."

She first taught at the University of North Dakota before moving to the University of Kansas (KU) to direct a tribal law center. Leeds also taught a class at Haskell Indian Nations University, a nearby intertribal college. "I was able to recruit Haskell students to go to KU's law school," she says. "I was surrounded by positive energy around the Native American community."

Leeds began to think about pursuing a deanship, and soon an opportunity became available at the University of Arkansas. "They had a history of social justice and cared about diversity and inclusion," she says. In fact, the University of Arkansas was

the first southern law school to integrate ahead of *Brown v. Board of Education*, the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court decision that ended racial segregation in public schools. Leeds served as dean for seven years and then another three years as vice chancellor for economic development.

"It was a wonderful experience, but I needed a break," Leeds says. She moved back to Oklahoma to be with family. During this time of soul searching, Leeds decided she wanted to teach again and joined the faculty of the Indian law program at ASU Law. Then another deanship opportunity arose.

"I had sworn off being an administrator, but I fell in love with the people at ASU," Leeds says. "It was an opportunity I had to take." And she knew with this deanship that she needed to pay more attention to her health and wellness.

"I want to make sure I can do this job for the long haul," Leeds says. "I also want to prioritize wellness for students." In addition, she wants to increase online opportunities to make law school more accessible and flexible.

Leeds believes it's important to stay connected to students, so she continues to teach and recently took students to Alaska to study Native legal issues.

On top of her academic duties, Leeds is involved with public service. She's a former Cherokee Nation Supreme Court justice and is currently board vice president for Native Forward Scholars Fund, a program providing scholarships and social support to Native American students.

Leeds also served as a mentor for Cherokee Nation Remember the Removal, a 950-mile cycling journey on the original Trail of Tears. During the monthlong ride, youth learn about the tribe's experience during the removal process to the new Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma. "The goal is for participants to take that connection to our culture as they think about ways to lead in the community," she says.

No matter what the future holds, Leeds wants to continue working with youth. "There's never been a day in my career that I wasn't thinking about ways to empower tribal communities and grow the next generation of leaders," she says.

■ BLAIRE LEIBLE GARWITZ

WHO

Stacy Leeds, AB '94

FAVORITE ADVENTURES

Leeds hiked the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu in Peru and completed the 24-mile rim-to-rim Grand Canyon trail with some of her students.

NOTHING BUT NET

"I get so much joy from playing basketball. I feel like I'm 15 again."

UNBREAKABLE WASHU BOND

"I'm still best friends with six women from WashU. We come from diverse religious backgrounds, but we continue to learn from each other and celebrate each other's holidays. We have a daily group text and take an annual trip together. We recently went to Puerto Rico to celebrate our 50th birthdays."



Courtesy photo: Arizona Board of Regents

Sporting life

Shaun Koiner leads an international sports media company by being innovative and adaptable.

The media landscape is constantly changing and innovating. So running a sports media company formed back in the '80s might present a challenge today, right?

"Nothing stays the same," says **Shaun Koiner, BSBA '04**. "It's figuring out how people consume content now, shifting what you do to appeal to different ways of distribution and engagement."

But a company formed in the 1880s? Koiner smiles. He's chief operating officer of Sporting News Holdings — a brand that's been around since 1886 and that's now global and more robust than it's been in decades.

"A lot of media companies have come and gone — even in the past 20 years," Koiner says. "But *The Sporting News* has always stood for quality content, even if the output has evolved. The brand holds meaning for a lot of people."

And Koiner, who has been associated with the brand since 2011 in different iterations and through three ownership groups, has been in the thick of those changes, including seeing the final issue of a print magazine that had been published weekly for 126 years. Now, he's helping drive international expansion as the website SportingNews.com covers everything from baseball, basketball and football to boxing, F1 racing and cricket — all while ensuring the brand maintains its storied legacy.

"Information delivery changes constantly," he says. "Through multimedia, social platforms, search and, shortly, AI," he says. "Sporting News is poised to deliver no matter the next new thing, because we've been doing it for 137 years."

Koiner has built his career on being flexible and adaptive, from the time he came to WashU in the fall of 2000 from Hyattsville, Maryland's DeMatha Catholic High as "a proud Ervin Scholar."

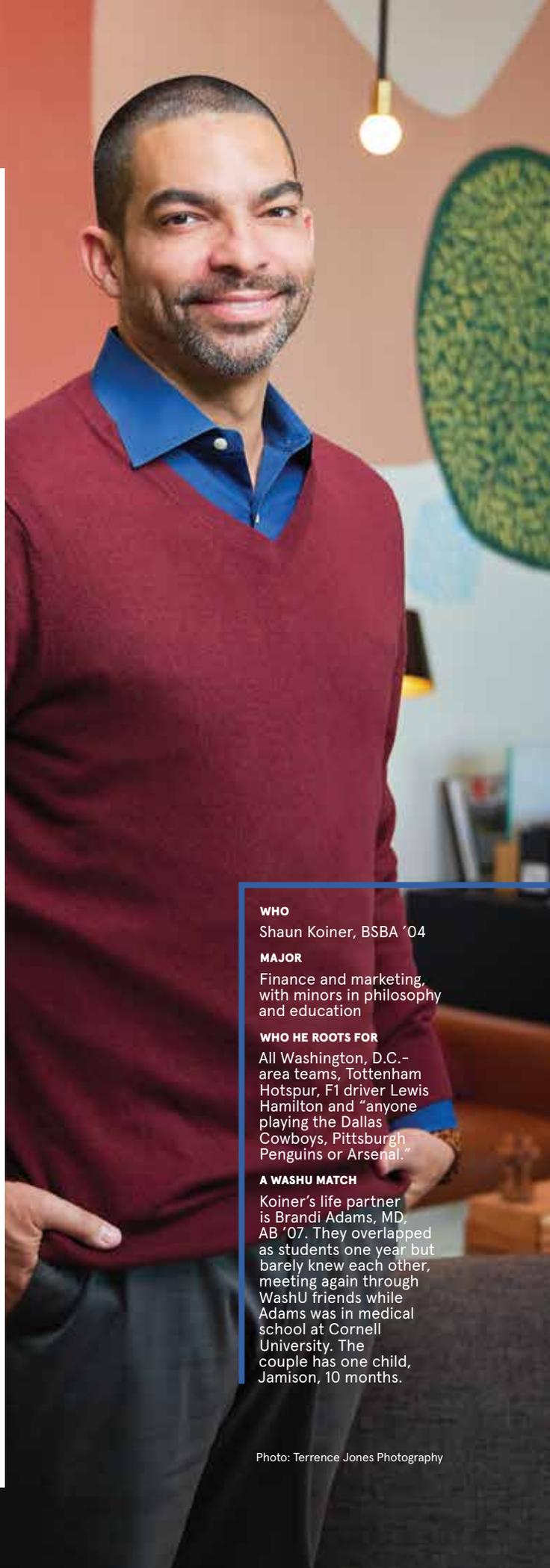
"It wasn't just a scholarship; it was a program," Koiner says. "The support that came with being an Ervin Scholar, not only with my peers but also the connectivity to older students, staff and administration, was instrumental."

For Koiner that also meant legendary Jim McLeod. "Anytime I needed to talk through a decision, he was there," Koiner says. So tight was the bond between mentor and mentee that when McLeod's Way was dedicated on the South 40 in 2012 a year after McLeod's death, Koiner was one of the speakers at the memorial.

Koiner's career has been one of hard work, attention to detail and mentorship meeting opportunity. One of his first strategic meetings was with America Online, where he found himself at age 24 presenting to a board of white male executives all over 40. "I realized then that I belonged there just as much as they did," he says, "and I could advance anywhere if I was self-aware and did the job in front of me while asking the right questions."

But for Koiner, it goes back to mentorship. "It's about the people who come before you and the people who come after you," he says. "You don't do it only for yourself; you do a good job because you want to honor the person who opened the door for you. And you keep doing a good job so you can open a door for the person who comes after you."

■ LESLIE GIBSON MCCARTHY



WHO

Shaun Koiner, BSBA '04

MAJOR

Finance and marketing, with minors in philosophy and education

WHO HE ROOTS FOR

All Washington, D.C.-area teams, Tottenham Hotspur, F1 driver Lewis Hamilton and "anyone playing the Dallas Cowboys, Pittsburgh Penguins or Arsenal."

A WASHU MATCH

Koiner's life partner is Brandi Adams, MD, AB '07. They overlapped as students one year but barely knew each other, meeting again through WashU friends while Adams was in medical school at Cornell University. The couple has one child, Jamison, 10 months.

Photo: Terrence Jones Photography

From the ground up

As a geoarchaeologist, Caitlin Rankin transforms long-standing answers into bold new questions.

Caitlin Rankin, MA '16, PhD '20, conducts research that is, literally, groundbreaking. By analyzing soil traces at the Cahokia Mounds World Heritage Site in southern Illinois, 20 miles from WashU, she is unlocking mysteries and dispelling theories about Cahokia's abandonment 600 years ago.

A self-described “backyard archaeologist,” Rankin, now a research scientist at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, grew up in western Pennsylvania and found her academic calling in childhood. “My dad was a contractor, so he operated heavy equipment,” she says, “and I spent a lot of time at his field sites, just a bored kid playing in the dirt.” Upon discovering a fish fossil one day, Rankin’s interest in stratigraphy — the study of what layers of ground and rock (strata) can reveal about the geological time scale — turned into a passion.

Her interest in Cahokia Mounds came naturally, as well. “I would be on the backhoe or bulldozer with my dad seeing this process of moving earth,” she says. “These Mississippian people were also earth movers, building huge mounds and manipulating their environment. It’s something that’s easy for me to recognize, peeling back the layers to understand what the environment was like before the Cahokians built it and what is human versus what is natural.”

Rankin’s interests culminated in studying geoarchaeology in WashU’s prestigious Department of Anthropology in Arts & Sciences. There, she was inspired by scholars John Kelly, T.R. Kidder and Gayle Fritz. She also benefited from being a student near her research site: “It was more of a connection,” she says.

At WashU, she made a discovery that disproved the widespread theory that Cahokia’s decline resulted from deforestation followed by erosion and



Photo: Whitney Curtis

flooding. Using heavy equipment, much like her father had years before, Rankin extracted samples from the site’s soil. After applying stable carbon isotope analysis, she could interpolate what the environment was like at various times in the past. It turned out that the soil was telling a different story.

Rankin’s research identified that some mounds in the low-lying North Plaza had been built around existing water features (possibly to reflect spiritual beliefs regarding the sky, sea and earth). But unexpectedly, she also found clear evidence that there wasn’t recurrent flooding consistent with wood overuse until long after Cahokia’s decline, and then only in strata coinciding with Euro-American settlement. The deforestation theory didn’t hold up.

“Paradigms are always shifting,” she says. “Now, we’re trying to find a middle ground that’s maybe more realistic of what was actually happening.”

Does this mean that Cahokia’s abandonment can be explained? Not yet. But whatever factors led to Cahokia’s decline, Rankin’s research reminds us that the best answers lie within the most grounded of questions.

■ RYAN RHEA, AB '96, MA '01

WHO

Caitlin Rankin, MA '16, PhD '20

WHERE THE PAST MEETS THE PRESENT

After 2022’s flash flooding in the St. Louis area, Rankin began reconstructing what regional watersheds looked like before Euro-American settlement in order to inform green infrastructure projects and reduce flooding. It’s a daunting task, considering 90% of the area’s wetlands and natural streams have since been drained or diverted.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Rankin is also exploring climate change’s impact over the course of decades to better understand how to make cities and agriculture sustainable.



Photo: Scott McIntyre

Circling back to purpose

Harsh Moolani's nonprofit, Create Circles, tackles older adult loneliness.

WHO

Harsh Moolani, AB '19

MAJOR

Biology with an emphasis in neuroscience

HOMETOWN

Owensboro, Kentucky

WHAT DOES THE TERM "CREATE CIRCLES" MEAN?

"I came up with 'Create Circles' to encourage others to resist thinking of our lives as lines and instead see them as circles. We can loop back into our community regardless of what stage of life we're in," Moolani says.

While still an Arts & Sciences pre-med undergrad at WashU, **Harsh Moolani, AB '19**, founded Create Circles, a nonprofit that pairs older adults with trained college student volunteers.

"I'd meet older people who had incredible accomplishments, but their loneliness was greater than their achievements," he says. "It's hard to take pride in what you've done if you don't have someone to share it with."

Under the program, the student and older adult focus on crafting a sense of purpose that might alleviate loneliness, a need Moolani noticed while volunteering at nursing homes. Through companionship, engaging in long-term projects and developing meaningful relationships, participants also regain autonomy. For example, a woman who

could no longer cook was paired with a student who helped her produce a cookbook for her family and friends.

"For many in long-term care, things are happening to them," Moolani says. "Our curriculum allows older adults to feel as if they are the ones helping because they have something to give."

With some 700 volunteers in 33 states, Create Circles is now a national organization. Last fall, it received a \$495,000 grant from the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, which meant Create Circles could hire four permanent staff members and no longer rely exclusively on volunteers.

"Prior to the grant, we were doing a lot of the busy work," he says. "We relied on students who were passionate about the program but had other commitments. Now we have employees whose job it is to make our endeavor as awesome as possible."

In addition to managing Create Circles, Moolani is currently an MD/MPH student at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Studying for the dual degree is allowing him to learn about both designing and delivering health care. "I think the beauty of earning an MD, where you are a practitioner on the ground, and an MPH, where you are a designer in the air, is the ability to bridge both settings, bringing insights back and forth."

As for his future focus, he says that while he wants to continue serving older adults, geriatrics might not be the route he takes to get there. "Right now, I'm most interested in internal medicine," he says.

The future of Create Circles might also extend beyond exclusively serving an older population. "Loneliness," he says, "is seen everywhere in health care, and Create Circles can be part of the solution." The University of Miami obstetrics and gynecology department has already partnered with Create Circles on a program that helps high-risk pregnant women who must be hospitalized for an extended time until they can have safe deliveries.

"They reached out to us saying the isolation that can take place in nursing homes is similar to what people residing in a hospital for extended periods of time may experience," Moolani says. "My role now is to figure out how we can take the essence of what we've built and try to expand it into other areas of health care."

■ SARA BRENES AKERMAN

Designing woman

Molly Maginnis Tippe, BFA '73, entered WashU in 1969 thinking she wanted to be a fashion designer. But she didn't like the business side of it. So she switched to painting and became interested in acting. In her first performance, *Venus Observ'd*, she looked at the costumes and thought, "I could do that!"

At the time, costumes for WashU productions were designed by local seamstress Nikki Juncker, who took Maginnis under her wing for a production of *Salome*. "I designed the costumes, and Nikki built them," Maginnis says. "After that, I was off to the races."

After WashU, Maginnis went on to earn an MFA in costume design from Carnegie Mellon University. She began designing for Broadway, rising through the ranks backstage and getting her break on the 1983 revival of *Showboat*. Eventually, she moved to Los Angeles and began designing costumes for movies and television, costuming everyone from Jack Nicholson to Janelle Monae. Fifty years after receiving her WashU diploma, she reflects on her career.

► **I found the pathway to performing arts, fashion and storytelling at WashU**, where I was allowed to spread my wings. An art background is important, but so is learning about the history of art, of architecture and other social occurrences. All of it worked together to make me a better storyteller because I learned how to do research here. When you're designing for film or TV, you're not just looking at pictures of dresses or hemlines of a particular year. It's understanding the societal changes that made that fashion happen.

► **Costume design has changed over the years, but the basics haven't.** When I work on contemporary stories, I shop stores, boutiques, vintage stores and the internet. Sometimes, it's a combination of created pieces and

shopped clothing and accessories. But I always go back to the basics, and that's storytelling. A lot of young costume designers go wrong when they become stylists looking for the next pretty dress. They forget how important it is to tell a character's story and not get involved with trends. None of it means anything if the costume is inauthentic and untrue to the character.

► **You have to make sure the clothes fit the way you want them to.** If we have a character in a suit, for example, we might try three suits with three different shirts. Then we'll send photographs off to the director or show runner. But you don't want to send anything until both you and the actor love the costume. I don't need to be on a set every day, but I go back any time new clothes are needed for a major character. I'm always trying to get ahead of what's coming next.

► **By working through the story and the character**, I give actors the confidence they need to move forward, with confidence that they are on the right path. I'm not trying to score points with a design house on an actor's name or reputation. It's my hope that the next generation of costume designers will stay interested in becoming storytellers instead of fashion designers.

■ LESLIE GIBSON MCCARTHY

WHO

Molly Maginnis Tippe, BFA '73

SELECTED FEATURE FILM CREDITS

Broadcast News (1988)
Sister Act (1992)
As Good as It Gets (1997)
The Bucket List (2007)
Harold & The Purple Crayon (2023)

SELECTED TV/STREAMING SHOWS

Bones (2008-09)
Smash (NBC, 2011-12)
Jack Ryan (Amazon, 2016-17)
The Terminal List (Amazon, 2022)

ACTORS SHE'S WORKED WITH

Robert De Niro, Robert Duvall, Morgan Freeman, Whoopi Goldberg, Goldie Hawn, Diane Keaton, Ben Kingsley, John Krasinski, Janelle Monae, Eddie Murphy, Jack Nicholson, Ben Stiller, Charlize Theron



Photo: Jennifer Weisbord, BFA '92



Photo: Michael Thomas

Empowering self-discovery, inspiring philanthropy

Merry Mosbacher learned early on to 'raise her hand' and now gives her time and talent to helping students find their passions.

When **Merry Mosbacher, MBA '82**, retired from financial services firm Edward Jones in 2019, she was the most tenured woman partner in the company. Her 38-year career spanned investment banking, insurance and annuity products, and diversity and inclusion. "What I did at Jones wasn't work; it was fun," she says. "When you can get an education that allows you to discover your passions and then find a career that aligns with those passions, that's when you become successful."

Mosbacher deeply appreciates the power of a Washington University education, as do her sons, **J.T., BArch '10, MBA '15**, and **Michael, BS '12, MBA '21**, who have followed in her footsteps, entering the finance sector. Now, as co-chair of Make Way: Our Student Initiative, a universitywide fundraising effort focused on removing barriers to a WashU education, she is helping create a best-in-class student experience so future generations can discover their own passions and forge distinct paths to success.

Throughout the past four decades, Mosbacher has loyally given back to the university. A longtime volunteer leader, she served as president of the William Greenleaf Eliot Society, rallying financial support for the university, while strengthening WashU's connections with graduates. Over the years, she and her husband, Jim, have been deeply engaged at Olin Business School, providing generous gifts for scholarships and facilities there.

HOW DID YOU LAUNCH YOUR CAREER?

My entire career began with an internship. During the winter of 1981, I was working toward an MBA at WashU, and I saw a notice on campus

that Edward Jones had an internship available. I threw my name in the hat and was one of three people selected for an interview. The first question they asked me was, "What do you know about investment banking?" My answer was, "I don't know anything, but I'm willing to learn." That's what got me the job, and I never left.

I think internships are critical for today's students because they teach them how to apply their learning in the classroom to the real world. Undergraduates in particular need support to attain internships because they have been steeped in academic theory and may not know where to start in terms of access.

Jim and I are delighted that we can make a difference in this area through our recent pledge for paid internships via the Gephardt Institute for Civic and Community Engagement. It's a win-win: Students will gain experience at local nonprofits, and both the charities and the St. Louis area will benefit.

WHY HELP LEAD MAKE WAY?

I am immensely proud to be affiliated with an institution that is increasing access to a world-class education, and I am excited to help execute this vision. Education is foundational to a person's future. It's the key that unlocks many of life's greatest opportunities.

WashU's move to need-blind admissions in 2021 was a huge step toward this goal, and Make Way is another vital step. We must provide students with adequate financial resources so they can excel once they've made it through the door.

Another goal of Make Way is enhancing the student experience, which encompasses everything from health and well-being to leadership and career development, as well as

internship opportunities. All students should feel a sense of belonging and have access to meaningful learning outside the classroom as part of their college experience.

WHY DO YOU PAY IT FORWARD TO WASHU?

My father died when I was 8 years old. My mom, at the age of 40, found herself having to raise two children — my 7-year-old sister and me — and we didn't have a lot of financial resources. Although she went back to work, she was always a volunteer. So I grew up in a household where giving of our time was really important. I learned early on to raise my hand.

One of the main reasons Jim and I choose to give our time and treasure to WashU is because we are very invested in the St. Louis community, and we're proud of what the university does for the city.

Through Make Way, we are making progress toward fulfilling the chancellor's commitment to being "in St. Louis, for St. Louis." Our investment in WashU is, in part, an investment in the excellence of the broader St. Louis region.

WHAT HOPES DO YOU HAVE FOR WASHU STUDENTS?

I want students to find their passions and translate them into meaningful careers when they leave. And it is my hope they will pay it forward, too, recognizing that someone invested in them and that they feel inspired to give back as well when the time is right.

Jim and I are both first-generation college graduates. It's our expectation that when someone lifts you up, you come back and support someone else. It's a beautiful, virtuous cycle.

■ GINGER O'DONNELL

This is 40

Midlife brings fresh momentum for the Black Alumni Council, which continues to build upon its mission to help Black alumni cultivate meaningful relationships with WashU and each other.

When **Alex Carroll, AB '73**, earned his bachelor's degree in sociology in 1973, he was, at the time, part of Washington University's largest graduating class of Black students. A decade later, he returned to campus for reunion with the idea to honor his pioneering Class of 1973 by forming a new organization dedicated to WashU's Black alumni. Through the help of **Cynthia Cosby, AB '93**, then an administrator in the African-American Studies program, and others, the group formally became the Washington University Black Alumni Council (BAC) in spring 1983.

Today, the BAC remains true to its founding mission to support the professional and personal development of Black alumni, assist with recruitment and retention of Black students, and enhance the continued growth of the university. As it hits the big 4-0 this year, the council looks to boost engagement across generations and geography, and help Black alumni cultivate meaningful relationships with each other and their alma mater.

Wherever you are

There are 8,000-plus Black WashU alumni worldwide and many more current students, parents and friends. In recent years, the BAC has expanded its footprint beyond St. Louis to reach more of this thriving Black community. The council now has chapters in Chicago, New York, San Francisco, St. Louis and Washington, D.C., and will introduce an affiliate in Atlanta in 2024.

Jared Joiner, AB '05, played a key role in helping the BAC build a presence in the San Francisco Bay Area. Friend and fellow alum **Cassidy Blackwell, AB '06**, first approached him about signing on as chapter co-chair in the summer of 2019. He viewed the offer as an opportunity to reconnect with WashU while also developing the kind of alumni programming he had been searching for since moving to San Francisco four years earlier.

"I was interested in bringing together the area's Black alumni in more unique ways," Joiner says. To him, that meant events with a mix of fun and

substance. The chapter's fall 2019 kickoff party, for instance, went beyond the usual cocktails, canapés and conversation. Partygoers were treated to a professional photographer taking LinkedIn-style headshots and were invited to offer programming ideas via colorful Post-its.

So far, the Bay Area chapter has hosted a range of activities, including a tour of the *Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power 1963-1983* exhibition at the de Young Museum. The group also visited a Black-owned winery and a restaurant run by a former *Top Chef* competitor. "Supporting Black businesses throughout the region is a goal for our chapter," Joiner says.

Years ago, while volunteering as a mock interviewer at a WashU Career Center Road Show in San Francisco, he noticed few Black students had traveled from St. Louis for the event. That experience — along with his work promoting educational equity at the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative — continues to motivate Joiner's BAC involvement. He would like to see the Career Center further engage with today's Black students and young alumni, especially those considering relocating to the Bay Area, by partnering with the BAC and the Association of Black Students.

Come young, come all

Supporting current WashU students and recent grads is a top priority for the broader BAC moving forward. The council established the BAC Emergency Fund in 1989 and has since generated nearly \$156,000 for students with unanticipated financial needs. In 1995, the group created the BAC Endowed Scholarship Fund, which has raised approximately \$222,000 and supported more than 20 students.

But there is more work to be done, and that includes outreach to graduate students and graduate alumni like **Marissa Cohen, MSW '17**. After earning a master's degree in social work, Cohen remained in St. Louis and stayed up to date on alumni events in the area. Yet she felt somewhat disconnected from the alumni



SAVE THE DATE
**BLACK ALUMNI
WEEKEND**
OCT. 13-15, 2023

This fall, all are welcome back to campus for a celebration of the culture, heritage and legacy of WashU's Black alumni.

For a full schedule and registration information, visit alumni.wustl.edu/BAW.

Black Alumni Council Chapters



St. Louis



Chicago



Washington, D.C.



New York City



Bay Area



Atlanta

(set to launch in 2024)

community as a Brown School grad. “I wasn’t sure where graduate alumni like me fit in,” she says.

Cohen’s place at WashU has become clearer since 2021, when a WashU Alumni Association staff member reached out about getting involved with the BAC in St. Louis. Over the past two years, Cohen has been instrumental in the chapter’s efforts to increase engagement among *all* young alumni. “I want them to know they have a place at WashU,” she says.

Additional opportunities for community service and career networking are in the works, says Cohen. Above all, she seeks to carry on the BAC legacy in St. Louis by helping forge a stronger, more diverse community that includes members from different classes, schools and programs.

Just the beginning

Neither Joiner nor Cohen was very active with WashU before taking on leadership roles in the BAC, but both have found themselves inspired to delve deeper. The council lit a spark in them, and **Lori Davis-West, AB ’84**, believes it can do the same for future generations. A WashU alumna and current parent, Davis-West is a longtime member of the Alumni and Parents Admission Program and sits on the national council for the Gephardt Institute for Civic and Community Engagement. Three years ago, she added BAC New York co-chair to her résumé.

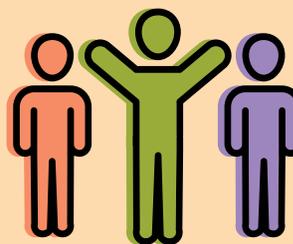
Davis-West’s busy volunteer slate mirrors her undergraduate years, when she was a resident adviser and captain of the women’s track and field team. Through these co-curricular activities, she found community and developed life skills. She regards alumni groups like the BAC as offering much the same. For Davis-West, the council is not an endpoint but rather an entry point to engagement with WashU. “It’s a space where Black alumni can connect with each other while also deepening their ties to the university overall,” she says.

There are now six WashU alumni in Davis-West’s family, including daughter **Chloe West, AB ’23**. Her son, Max West, will join the Class of 2027 in the fall. She says it is critical that WashU’s youngest generations understand the value of the alumni community and groups like the BAC. “There will be times in life when you need support,” she says. “The council will be there for you then, and we’re here now.”

■ EMMA DENT, AB ’09

Learn more about the Black Alumni Council and upcoming events at bac.wustl.edu.

Black Alumni Council by the numbers in 2022



Held 8 in-person events* with 427 registrants

*In-person BAC gatherings did not resume until June 2022.

Hosted 5 virtual events with 440 total registrants



Next

Class Notes



“

I just received my April issue of *Washington* and want to thank you for including the photos of student-athletes.

“I was an undergraduate from 1968 to 1972 and was on the track and field team for four years. I had been on my high school team and threw both the discus and shot put. When I came to WU, I discovered – like many high school graduates – that college athletics is on another level, and I was too small to be competitive in those field events. Thanks to the advice of one of the coaches – former St. Louis Cardinals football player Sonny Randle – I switched to the javelin and was successful in that event. I think one reason was that Missouri, like many states at the time, prohibited high school track and field teams from throwing the javelin, and I was fortunate to be able to become a college athlete in that field event.

“I still fondly recall my time on the track team; in fact, I experienced my first airplane ride when the team flew to Indiana for a meet. We’d take a university bus to most away meets, and those trips were also educational and fun.

“I cherish those memories of being a WU athlete and the hours I spent on Francis Field and in the gymnasium. I came back in 2022 for my 50th Reunion, and the improvements are incredible.

“Thank you again for stirring up these pleasant memories!”

DENNIS CLEAR, AB '72

Photo: 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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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

1948

Liese Rapozo, LA48, writes that she is retired after an illustrious career that took her from St. Louis to Chicago to Hawaii to the San Pedro Valley of California, teaching primary school for 20 years, then “retiring” to a second career teaching English as a second language. She and her husband, Wallace Rapozo, were marathon and ultra-marathon runners who traveled extensively and “ran on every continent.” They also competed in biathlons and triathlons, and served as volunteers at two Olympic venues. She writes, “I am finally able to enjoy my rocking chair but still keep busy – for the grandkids and great-grandkids.”

1959

Jack J. Schramm, LW59, managing director of International Development Counsel LLC, is now semi-retired. Schramm had a long career in public service, environmental policy and the law, spurred by a curiosity about life. Looking back, Schramm shares that he completed volunteer military service during the Korean War, and after, he motorcycled 3,000 miles across the Middle East from Baghdad to Pakistan. At WashU, he was on the debate team and voted by his classmates to be the first recipient of the Carter-Tedrow Memorial Award. He served eight years in the Missouri legislature and in 1976 was appointed a regional administrator at the EPA. Then, Schramm used his expertise in environmental policy and law to work in some 25 countries on five continents.

1968

Dwight Stevens, LA68, retired after 27 years as the founding and senior pastor of nondenominational Paramount Church, Palm Beach, Fla. He continues as president of Missions of Mercy, Inc., and has directed 31 medical missions to third-world countries. His most recent trip, in July 2023, was to the Andes Mountains of Ecuador, where he treated Indigenous Quechua Indians. His 2017 book *Atheist Doctor to Palm Beach Minister* details his journey from the practice of medicine to full-time ministry.

1970

Gary H. Feder, LA70, LW74, GL80, was re-elected to a three-year term as an alderman of the City of Clayton, Mo. He retired from private law practice in 2021.

1973

Lawrence J. Altman, EN73, wrote an article that appeared in *RETHINKING Behavior* (winter 2023): “Do Public Schools Have Obligations to Students Suffering from the Bystander Effect?” He was a member of a team that recently submitted a proposal for a Project Rural Innovation for Mental Health Enhancement grant to the U.S. Department of Education.

Robert Halle, LA73, is in his 50th year of film editing. After taking a filmmaking course during his senior year at WashU, he began working in the film industry following graduation. During his career, Halle has edited feature films, TV shows, documentaries, educational films, corporate videos and thousands of commercials. He and his wife live in Baltimore and Jupiter, Fla., and have a daughter, a son and two grandchildren.

Barbara Wallace, LA73, LW76, a former St. Louis County circuit judge, was named the 2023 Woman of the Year by Missouri Lawyers Media, highlighting the 25th anniversary of the Women’s Justice Awards.

1975

Steven Rose, SW75, recently retired and was granted the status of professor emeritus at George Mason University.

1976

Terry J. Martin, UC76, SW77, self-published *Bedlam in Paris: The Journey Begins* (January 2023). On returning to Paris after a long absence, Doctor Malraux, the book’s main character, is swept up in international corporate espionage.

Michael Shindler, LW76, is president and CEO of Four Corners Advisors, Inc., a hospitality acquisition, development, strategic advisory and dispute resolution firm that he founded in 2007. He was elected to by-invitation-only membership in the International Society of Hospitality Consultants, the leading source of global hospitality expertise.

1977

Sharon Curcio, GB77, attended the world premiere of “Contemplating Fire,” an oratorio based on her lyric play, in Midland, Mich., in October 2022. She collaborated with composer Robert Hart, whose highly percussive score paired with Curcio’s libretto, and both score and libretto were well-received and well-reviewed.

Myrna Greenfield, LA77, published *Marketing Your Farm: A practical guide to attracting loyal customers and increasing sales* (Savvy Press, 2022). Greenfield, who lives in Boston, is the “Top Egg” at Good Egg Marketing, an agency that promotes good food and good causes. Her wife, Michelle Johnson, is a retired journalist.

1979

John D. Fanburg, LA79, was named to the Influencers: Power List 2023 by Return on Information, New Jersey, in the area of law. The managing partner of Brach Eichler LLC, Fanburg also is chair of the firm’s health-care practice.

Bruce Manasevit, AB '79, and his family partnered with the Be The Match Foundation in 1998 to establish the Amy Strelzer Manasevit Research Program in memory of Bruce's late wife, Amy. Diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 1993, Amy Strelzer Manasevit succumbed to complications six weeks following a successful bone marrow transplant. Now in its 25th year, the Be The Match Foundation has invested over \$15 million in 49 early-career physician-scientists to develop research portfolios and establish their labs. The Amy Strelzer Manasevit Scholars have obtained over \$110 million of additional federal funding and discovered novel ways to help patients live longer, healthier lives. Today, the Amy Strelzer Manasevit Research Program fellowship is one of the largest in the field of bone marrow transplantation.

1982

Donna M. Cox, GR82, GR86, earned a doctor of ministry degree in semiotics, church and culture from Portland Seminary (George Fox University) in spring 2023. A professor of music at the University of Dayton, Cox teaches sacred music and worship, as well as African-American sacred music, and is the coordinator of the bachelor's degree program in music.

1984

Leonard Chanin, LW84, recently joined Discover Financial Services (Chicago) as senior vice president/deputy general counsel. He was also recently elected president of the American College of Consumer Financial Services Lawyers, which works to advance the quality and practice of consumer financial services law, promote consumer understanding of this area of the law and enhance the professional development of the group's members.

Shawn M. Domzalski, EN84, was named general counsel of Strix Leviathan, a Seattle-based investment firm. Working remotely from Los Angeles, he advises the firm on fund structuring, regulatory matters and developments in U.S. and international cryptocurrency policy. He was previously a member of Paul Hastings' Los Angeles funds practice.

Pete Woods, LW84, a managing partner with St. Louis law firm Haar & Woods, LLP, was recently recognized as a Top St. Louis Attorney honoree by *St. Louis Small Business Monthly*.

1986

Mark Balbes, LA86, recently was named chief technology officer at Docuverus, a comprehensive document-authentication, ID and income-verification platform.

1988

Photine Liakos, LA88, MD92, HS97, wrote three essays in *What We Bring to the Practice of Medicine: Perspectives from Women Physicians* (The Kent State University Press, April 2023). The book, consisting of essays by

women physicians working in diverse fields of medicine around the world, highlights their compassion, humor and resiliency, while revealing what life is really like for a variety of women in medicine today.

1989

Camille L. Vélez-Rivé, LA89, was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in November and sworn in as a U.S. District judge for the District of Puerto Rico. President Biden signed her commission on Dec. 9, 2022. Previously, she had served as a U.S. Magistrate judge for the District of Puerto Rico since 2004.

1990

Michael Bross, LW90, was appointed chief legal officer and corporate secretary at Rackspace Technology.

1991

Robert Barnett, GA91, founder and president of CBH Architects, is moving his firm to Summit, N.J., following 12 years in South Orange, N.J. After gut-renovating two homes in West and South Orange, N.J., Barnett founded CBH as a general contractor and became a licensed architect. He splits his time between South Orange and Brasília, Brazil.

Pauline Merrill, MD91, GR91, joined The Looking Glass Eye Center in Brevard, N.C. Merrill is a nationally recognized ophthalmologist specializing in treating diseases of the retina.

1992

DL Warfield, FA92, was commissioned to design the in-ground bronze casted monuments for the Black Music & Entertainment Walk of Fame, located in front of Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta. The second induction year ceremony was held Feb. 28, 2023. The walk of fame has inducted icons including James Brown, Michael Jackson, Prince, Beyoncé, Stevie Wonder, Outkast and Quincy Jones.

1993

Ruth Hecht, FA93, teaches art to students in grades 7-12, including drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture and pottery.

William Krause, GR93, was honored by *Scherzo*, a leading journal for classical music criticism and information, which selected his biography of Spanish composer and conductor Federico Moreno Torroba as one of the 10 best music books published in Spain in 2021. Co-authored with Walter Clark, *Moreno Torroba: A Musical Life in Three Acts* was published by Oxford University Press in 2013. In 2021, the book was translated into Spanish and published by Instituto Complutense de Ciencias Musicales.

Kate (Epstein) Mankoff, LA93, who writes under the pen name Kate Brookes, recently published *Transister* (She Writes Press, August 2023), a candid memoir on parenting a transgender daughter. The memoir is "a raw, honest and sometimes hilarious account of Kate's journey as her young child grapples with gender identity to become her authentic self."

1994

Scott F. Hall, GF94, professor of art and design at the University of Central Florida, was granted the title professor emeritus by President Cartwright on Feb. 9. Going forward, Hall, his creative work and research will remain permanently affiliated with the university.

Bonnie Hindelang, SW94, was honored by the YWCA of Alton, Ill., at its 32nd Women of Distinction Celebration in honor of her lifelong volunteerism. Hindelang retired from Jersey County Court Appointed Special Advocates in December 2022 after a 10-year post-retirement career. She served as executive director in 2013-19 and advocate coordinator in 2019-22. Before retiring in 2012, she worked for the Roxana School District as a school social worker, and she spent 15 years with the Illinois Department of Corrections. Her other positions have included Illinois Correctional Association vice president, social ministry chair for Resurrection Lutheran Church, and co-owner and marketing director of Mason Hollow Maple Syrup. She currently serves on the American Association of University Women as its membership and program chair among other volunteer roles.

1996

Steve Hogan, LA96, has been the ballpark organist for the San Francisco Giants since the summer of 2010. Fans have always been able to count on hearing Hogan's lively work during home games.

1997

Jon Salomon, LA97, joined the Louisville, Ky., office of Dentons as a partner in the litigation practice. He previously worked for a commercial litigation firm where he provided counsel on corporate and governmental law matters.

1998

Michele L. (Blue) Silbey, LA98, is senior director of marketing at nutpods, a dairy-free creamer company that was born out of her personal search for a dairy-free creamer with a rich taste and consistency but without unnecessary additives. Silbey reports that the line of creamers is in over 40,000 grocery stores across the U.S. The products will soon be sold at Schnucks as well, where Silbey used to shop as a WashU student.

Karen Sutton, SW98, operates Brighter Futures Now, LLC, a behavioral health private practice in Decatur, Ga., that provides therapeutic intervention focused on children

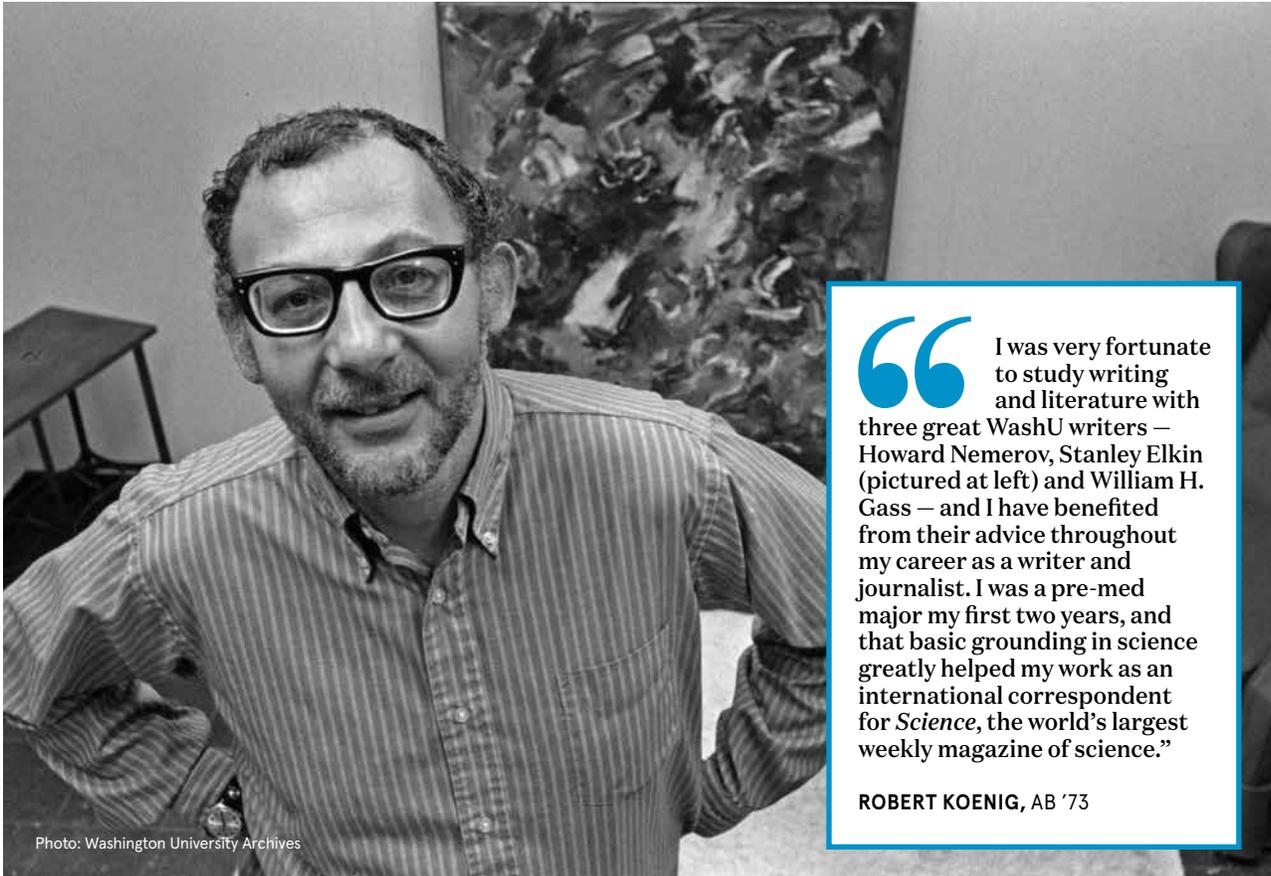


Photo: Washington University Archives

“ I was very fortunate to study writing and literature with three great WashU writers — Howard Nemerov, Stanley Elkin (pictured at left) and William H. Gass — and I have benefited from their advice throughout my career as a writer and journalist. I was a pre-med major my first two years, and that basic grounding in science greatly helped my work as an international correspondent for *Science*, the world’s largest weekly magazine of science.”

ROBERT KOENIG, AB '73

and families. Sutton has more than 20 years of combined social welfare, direct practice and managed care experience.

David Taylor, EN98, SI02, SI02, SI04, was named CEO of Exegy, a provider of market data, execution systems and advanced trading technology. Taylor is a veteran executive who has served in product strategy and engineering roles.

1999

Marisa (Schulman) Edwards, FA99, and her husband, Brian, welcomed Avery Rose in May 2021. She joins siblings Alexander Jacob and Sienna Rae.

Laurie Phillips, PMBA99, SW09, in February, was named executive director at House Everyone STL, a nonprofit working to end homelessness in St. Louis. Phillips previously served as CEO at St. Patrick Center.

Karen (Reed) Troy, EN99, EN99, professor and associate head of biomedical engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, was named a fellow of the American Society of Biomechanics.

2001

Douglas Harrison, GR01, GR05, a clinical professor, was appointed associate dean for the Division of Applied Undergraduate Studies in the School of Professional Studies at New York University.

2002

Justin H. Brown, LA02, a partner at law firm Ballard Spahr, was awarded the Daniel R. Ginsberg Leadership Award by the Anti-Defamation League in recognition of his “leadership in the fight against anti-Semitism, racism and all forms of prejudice.” Brown serves as co-chair of the education committee and on the board and executive committee of the league’s Philadelphia regional chapter.

Joshua Finnell, LA02, GR06, professor in the University Libraries at Colgate University, has been appointed to the Depository Library Council (DLC) for a three-year term by the U.S. Government Publishing Office. DLC members advise the director on policy matters relating to the Federal Depository Library Program and access to U.S. government information.

Atia-tul Thurman, SW02, transitioned from her role as associate director of the Clark-Fox Policy Institute at Washington

University to full-time lecturer in the Brown School. Thurman has more than 20 years of professional and leadership experience in social work education, engaging citizens in public projects and translating research to inform policy. In her current role, she facilitates field curriculum and experiences for graduate candidates in the children, youth, and family and social impact leadership concentrations.

2004

Ameen Ayoub, GA04, is principal architect with Ameen Ayoub Design Studio, a leading contemporary design firm in Los Angeles. Rooted in modern architecture and contemporary detailing and design, the firm’s projects connect to the surrounding environment with responsible design emphasizing simplicity and oneness with respect to materiality, structure and space. Ayoub trained in St. Louis, South America and Los Angeles.

Nick Borgmeyer, AR04, has achieved a career milestone by becoming a co-owner of SOA Architecture. He has been with the firm for 20 years, guiding clients including Capital Region Medical Center and Special Olympics Missouri on their projects. Borgmeyer is a LEED-accredited professional through the U.S. Green Building Council.

Maggie Sullivan, GR04, was named the first president of the newly formed Rosati-Kain Academy, the successor to the 112-year-old, Archdiocesan-sponsored Rosati-Kain High School. She took over her post at the only remaining all-girls Catholic high school within the St. Louis city limits on May 1. Sullivan previously was assistant principal of mission at St. Joseph's Academy.

2005

Shannon Puopolo, LA05, a stockholder at Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A., in the business litigation department, was sworn in as secretary of the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association in March.

2006

Kalyan Gorantla, LA06, has joined Franciscan Physician Network Surgical Specialists in Crawfordsville, Ind. He was most recently on staff with North Indy Surgical and Ascension St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.

Donald Wunsch II, EMBA06, completed two years as a National Science Foundation program director in December 2022. Returning to Missouri University of Science and Technology, the AI expert was appointed founding director of the Kummer Institute's Center for Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems. Wunsch was recently tapped by the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society for its 2023 Neural Networks Pioneer Award.

Anne Wynter, LA06, wrote her fourth children's book, *Nell Plants a Tree* (Balzer + Bray, January 2023), illustrated by Daniel Miyares. The book received four starred book-trade reviews, including one from Kirkus, which wrote: "Gorgeous images and text chronicle joyful childhood experiences — a future classic."

2008

Simeon Papacostas, LW08, an intellectual property attorney with litigation experience in federal courts, was promoted to partner at Benesch. His practice focuses primarily on patent litigation in federal courts and post-grant proceedings before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. He has argued matters in federal district court and before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and has represented clients in bench and jury trials.

2009

Rob Friedman, LW09, was promoted to the rank of major in the U.S. Air Force. Friedman, who served many years on active duty as a legal officer (JAG), is currently an active drilling reservist with the 913th Airlift Group in Little Rock, Ark., where he serves as deputy staff judge advocate. Friedman was also recently awarded the Armed Forces Service Medal

(with two service stars) for his work protecting the constitutional rights of service members during the COVID-19 pandemic. In his civilian capacity, Friedman serves as corporate counsel for a regional public utility company based in Tampa, Fla.

Biyu J. He, GM09, a research scientist at NYU Langone and a professor at the NYU Grossman School of Medicine, was awarded a Vilcek Prize for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science for her research leadership in the field of cognitive neuroscience and for groundbreaking work on the biological bases of perceptual cognition and subjective experience. The annual \$50,000 award recognizes young foreign-born scientists who demonstrate outstanding early achievement.

Mark Shvartsman, LA09, has grown his business, Retro Gear Shop, from a startup in his garage into a boutique music store that is a top destination worldwide for rare, vintage, high-end recording equipment, synthesizers and effects. His clients include Martin Gore (Depeche Mode), David Bryan (Bon Jovi), Jonathan Cain (Journey), Ray LaMontagne and Gotye. Shvartsman has also assembled a collection of high-quality archival photography of rare equipment.

2010

Franklin Drumwright, GM10, has retired after 35 years as a science teacher at Arsenal Technical High School and Pike High School, in Indianapolis. Drumwright expressed gratitude and extended thanks to WashU, where he earned a master's degree in biology and met "fantastic teachers and faculty from across the country and experienced a mind-expanding time."

2011

Jessie Atkin, LA11, won the 2023 Shubert Fendrich Memorial Playwriting Contest for "Generation Pan" — a contemporary sequel to the Peter Pan story written for a teen audience. The annual contest encourages the development of quality materials for educational institutions and community and children's theaters.

Alex Morel, LA11, and **Ezra Smyser**, LA11, who met playing basketball at WashU, co-founded Andiem, which makes "function-forward gear for athlete longevity and unmatched performance." The duo has teamed up with orthopedic surgeons and sneaker experts to develop a basketball shoe designed to prevent ankle injuries — which they call "an unsolved problem from The Swamp at WashU to the NBA." The first version launched in January, and a second version, The Pivot 1.0, launched recently.

Patricia Morency, LA11, penned her first novel, *Simply Platonish* (BlackGold Publishing, March 2023). The quirky, irreverent, coming-of-age story features a college woman of color who is navigating cross-racial interactions within a primarily white institution.

Adam Pearson, OT11, who has worked in human services in various leadership capacities, was appointed by Mayor Tishaura Jones as the director of human services for the City of St. Louis. Earlier, as chief operating officer at homeless service provider Peter & Paul Community Services, Pearson managed a division of over 70 team members across six programs, providing around-the-clock housing and supportive services in St. Louis.

Forrest Xiao, LA11, published a memoir written by ChatGPT, an artificial intelligence: *The Inner Life of an AI: A Memoir* (December 2022). The book explores the large language model ChatGPT, discussing its journey in learning to communicate, exploring its thoughts on the nature of reality and consciousness, and ultimately challenging the notion of a binary between natural and artificial intelligence.

2013

Nathan Ivy, GR13, a nonprofit professional who for two decades has worked on behalf of the disadvantaged and marginalized, was named executive director at Episcopal City Mission in St. Louis. The mission, which dates to 1894, provides programming and support for children and teens in the juvenile justice system. Previously, Ivy was a project director at Vision for Children at Risk in St. Louis.

2014

Steffan Triplett, LA14, a teaching assistant professor in the Department of English at the University of Pittsburgh, instructs his students how to be fearless writers. A psychology major at WashU, Triplett earned a minor in creative writing thanks to encouragement from James E. McLeod, former vice chancellor for students and dean of the College of Arts & Sciences.

Travis Weirich, EMBA14, who started a hedge fund and is developing an options trading system, is currently raising capital.

2015

Alicia Olushola Ajayi, GA15, SW15, writes that her research on the history of America's first majority Black incorporated town — Brooklyn, Ill., founded in the early 1820s — was highlighted in *Architectural Digest*. In the article, Ajayi discusses how Black town-building was a tool for Black autonomy and freedom, and how it raises questions about Black ownership in the rise of gentrification in the 21st century.

Arian Jadbabaie, LA15, gave science demonstrations at the Los Angeles Maker Faire and City of STEM Festival in April. Jadbabaie has been involved in science outreach activities and events since his undergraduate years at WashU.

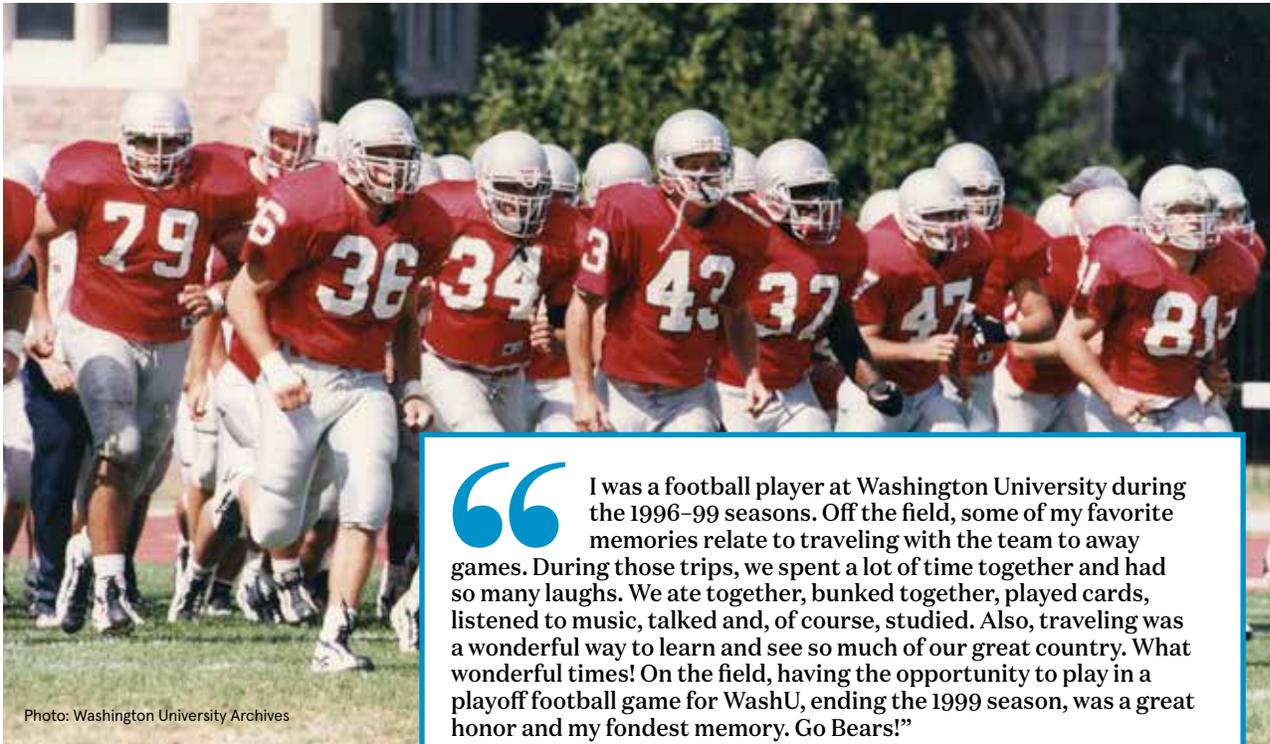


Photo: Washington University Archives

“ I was a football player at Washington University during the 1996–99 seasons. Off the field, some of my favorite memories relate to traveling with the team to away games. During those trips, we spent a lot of time together and had so many laughs. We ate together, bunked together, played cards, listened to music, talked and, of course, studied. Also, traveling was a wonderful way to learn and see so much of our great country. What wonderful times! On the field, having the opportunity to play in a playoff football game for WashU, ending the 1999 season, was a great honor and my fondest memory. Go Bears!”

TIM RUNNALLS, BSBA '00, MBA '05

2016

Briana Bostic, LA16, recently defended her dissertation — “Geographic Context and Teacher Perceptions: Associations with Teachers’ Job Demands and Resources, Classroom Quality, and Child Outcomes in Head Start Settings” — at The Johns Hopkins School of Education and was awarded a doctorate in education. Last year, the publishing company she founded, The Black Heron Company, released two children’s books, *To Fly by the Sun* and *Martin from Mars: Making Time*. The books provide instructional guidance for learning in any setting, highlighting the infinite imaginative power of young Black children.

Christine Lung, LA16, is a health-care investor at Valspring Capital, formerly Bain Capital Ventures, making growth equity investments within the health-care ecosystem.

2017

Julia (Soscia) Lowery, EN17, SI18, and **Christopher Lowery**, EN16, SI16, who met on campus during Julia’s sophomore year, in July celebrated their first wedding anniversary. They write that they are grateful to WashU for bringing them together and hold the university and St. Louis dear to their hearts.

Beth Miller, GR17, penned *The Most Painful Choice: A Dog Owner’s Story of Behavioral Euthanasia* (McFarland Publishing, March

2023), which tells her family’s experience with Champ, a rescued German shepherd. Champ suffered physically and mentally from neglect and trauma from his first years of life. As well as recounting her family’s attempts to help Champ, in the book Miller discusses behavioral euthanasia as a compassionate choice for unmanageable aggression, reactivity, biting or severe anxiety. (See pg. 15.)

Sara Miller, BU17, started a student organization while attending WashU called Student Organ Donation Advocates (SODA), having been inspired after her older sister’s organ donation saved a life. SODA now has more than 50 chapters across the country on high school, college and graduate school campuses.

2018

Shawntelle Fisher, SW18, founder and CEO of The SoulFisher Ministries, received a 2023 Women Trailblazer Award from the University of Missouri–St. Louis (UMSL). Honoring the achievements of exceptional UMSL women who have paved the way for others, the award is bestowed annually during Women’s History Month.

Tasha Jordan, SW18, GR18, a seventh grade science teacher at Ferguson Middle School, was named Ferguson–Florissant School District’s Teacher of the Year for 2023. Jordan has been described as “a beacon of equity and creativity for her students by actively engaging them in lessons while pushing their critical

thinking skills. She holds her students in high regard, and when stepping into her classroom, you understand that the feeling is mutual.”

2020

Tracee (Orlove) Fruman, LA20, was appointed as an administrative law judge for the Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings.

Daniel Hebert, GL20, joined Syracuse University as an assistant teaching professor of business management in fall 2022.

Lucy McCollum, GL20, a partner at McCollum Mediation and Conflict Resolution, has more than 20 years’ experience in local and international conflict resolution as a community advocate for refugees. McCollum is a registered mediator in Georgia and is well-known for her charitable fundraising and commitment to ensuring the rights of refugee women and children.

2022

Gabriella Smith, LA22, was recently named a 2023 Stanford University Knight–Hennessy scholar. Knight–Hennessy scholars receive up to three years of funding to pursue graduate studies at Stanford, and Smith is pursuing an MD at Stanford School of Medicine. She graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from WashU with a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry and molecular biology.



Photo: Washington University Archives

William A. Peck, MD, was the first to hold simultaneous positions as executive vice chancellor and dean at the School of Medicine.

William A. Peck, MD, a former executive vice chancellor and dean of the School of Medicine, died peacefully, surrounded by family on Feb. 22, at his home in St. Louis County, Mo. He was 89.

The first to hold the dual positions of executive vice chancellor and dean at the university, Peck also served as president of Washington University Medical Center during a span when the School of Medicine became one of the nation's leading centers for medical research and academic clinical practice, as well as one of the most academically selective medical schools.

As Peck worked to elevate the school's stature over his 14-year tenure as dean, he focused heavily on recruiting top researchers, educators and staff; on fostering infectious collaboration among those on his leadership team; and on raising the school's research profile in genetics, neurodegenerative disease and basic science.

Under his leadership, the university opened the Center for Advanced Medicine, a 14-story building aimed at providing state-of-the-art clinical and outpatient surgical space for the school's rapidly growing Faculty Practice Plan. The building houses Washington University outpatient clinics and operating rooms, and also includes the Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine, which was launched in 1999, also during Peck's tenure.

After stepping down as dean, Peck established the Center for Health Policy (now the Center for Economics & Health Policy) at the Institute for Public Health and became a nationally recognized leader in health policy in the areas of rising costs, disparities in access to care, workforce shortages, and errors and inefficiencies in providing medical care.

"Bill could have been eminently successful in a dozen walks of life — business, finance, music and anything that requires skills with people," said former Chancellor William H. Danforth, MD, as Peck was preparing to step down as dean in 2003. "Luckily, he chose medicine and Washington University."

When Peck left his leadership position, the school honored him with the creation of the Peck Scholars program, aimed at providing scholarships to medical students based on need and merit. Peck embraced the honor and the program, and he and his wife had an active and generous role in supporting it.

David H. Perlmutter, MD, executive vice chancellor for medical affairs, the George and Carol Bauer Dean of the School of Medicine and the Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Distinguished Professor, lauded Peck for leading the School of Medicine so deftly through a period of tremendous growth.

"Bill Peck was at the helm at a time when the School of Medicine was on the precipice of growth and change, on multiple levels," Perlmutter says. "He had a knack for inspiring physicians and scientists. He led the effort to establish a comprehensive cancer center, and it was his vision that started the Faculty Practice Plan that is now Washington University Physicians. He was a deeply admired mentor."

Peck also was a noted physician-scientist, known for his research on bone and mineral metabolism. Focusing on the understanding and treatment of osteoporosis, he developed the first method for directly studying the structure, function and growth of bone cells and determined mechanisms by which hormones regulate bone function.

He was born in New Britain, Conn., where his father, Bernard, was a general practitioner, maintaining a medical office adjacent to the

family's home. At age 7, Peck contracted osteomyelitis, an infectious inflammatory disease of the bone. With limited treatment options, Peck had surgery for the life-threatening illness. His experience helped spur him to pursue a career focused on bones and bone metabolism.

He graduated from Harvard College in 1955, with a degree in biochemical sciences. He went on to earn a medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine in 1960. He then completed two years of residency training in internal medicine and a one-year fellowship in metabolism at what was then Barnes Hospital. He then served for two years as a clinical associate at the National Institutes of Health, where he worked in the area of arthritis and metabolic diseases.

In 1963, he became chief resident at Strong Memorial Hospital at the University of Rochester, and he remained on the faculty there, eventually becoming a professor of medicine and biochemistry and the head of endocrinology. In 1976, he was appointed the John E. and Adaline Simon Professor of Medicine and co-chairman of the Department of Medicine at Washington University, as well as physician-in-chief at what was then Jewish Hospital of St. Louis. He became vice chancellor for medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine in 1989 and was named executive vice chancellor in 1993. When he stepped down from his leadership role, he was named the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Distinguished Professor in the Department of Medicine.

Peck is survived by his wife, Patricia Hearn Peck; their blended family of children, David Peck, Edward Peck, Kate Peck Nelson, Andrea Harbin Niehoff, Elizabeth Harbin and Katy Hinkley; and two grandchildren, Joey Niehoff and Jaki Nelson.



Courtesy Photo

Pioneering molecular biologist Michael R. Green, MD '81, PhD '81, died Feb. 10, 2023.

Michael R. Green, MD '81, PhD '81, a graduate of Washington University's Medical Scientist Training Program, a highly productive biomedical researcher and a distinguished leader at UMass Chan Medical School, died Feb. 10, following a brief illness. He was 69.

Born in Philadelphia and raised in St. Louis, Green earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and medical and doctoral degrees from Washington University School of Medicine, where his PhD thesis work focused on parvovirus gene expression in the laboratory of Robert G. Roeder. He completed his postdoctoral research at Harvard University and started his independent research career there as an assistant professor in 1984. In 1990, he joined the faculty of UMass Chan Medical School. There, he held many prominent leadership roles over the years, including director (1994–2002) and co-director (2002–05) of the MD-PhD Program. At the time of his death, Green was serving as the medical school's vice provost for strategic research initiatives; professor and chair of the Department of Molecular, Cell and Cancer Biology; director of the UMass Cancer Center; co-director of the Li Wei Institute for Rare Diseases Research; and the Lambi and Sarah Adams Chair in Genetic Research.

As a researcher, Green was a renowned molecular biologist known for his pioneering contributions to understanding eukaryotic gene regulation in two major areas: transcription and pre-mRNA splicing. In particular, he co-discovered the pre-mRNA splicing pathway and elucidated how viral and cellular activators stimulate transcription. More recently, his laboratory focused on understanding the molecular basis of a wide range of human diseases — in particular cancer and certain rare genetic disorders —

and identifying cellular factors and pathways that can be therapeutically targeted to treat these diseases. Green's innovative research program earned him national recognition as an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (1994–2018) and election to three of the country's most prestigious scientific academies: the National Academy of Sciences (2014), National Academy of Medicine (2015) and the American Academies of Arts and Sciences (2018), as well as the European Molecular Biology Organization (2010). He was also an inventor on 15 issued U.S. patents.

Green sought to extend the potential impact of scientific discoveries by sharing his expertise widely, including by consulting for Genetics Institute, Promega Biotech and Genzyme, and by co-founding Scriptgen Pharmaceuticals, Anadys Pharmaceuticals and Fulcrum Therapeutics. He was also a member of the Massachusetts Rare Disease Advisory Council.

Green is survived by his wife of 33 years, Maria L. Zapp, PhD; brother, Eric Green, MD, PhD, a 1987 graduate of Washington University's Medical Scientist Training Program, who is currently director of NIH's National Human Genome Research Institute; and sister, Wendy Lee, MD. He was preceded in death by his parents, Maurice Green, PhD, and Marilyn Green.

George Pepe, who taught in the Department of Classics in Arts & Sciences for more than 50 years, died May 2 while in hospice near his home in San Diego. He was 83.

Born in 1939 and raised in New York, Pepe won a scholarship to attend a Jesuit high school in Manhattan, where he was introduced to Latin and Greek. In 1961, he graduated magna cum laude from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., earning a bachelor's

degree in classics. He then continued his studies in classics at Princeton University, earning a master's degree in 1963 and a doctorate in 1966.

Pepe joined the WashU faculty as an instructor in 1965. He was promoted to assistant professor of classics the following year and to associate professor in 1972. He was named full professor in 2003, and he continued to teach even after his retirement as a professor emeritus in 2015.

Pepe's teaching and scholarship focused on Roman history and political theory, though he also taught beginning and intermediate Latin and Greek, among many other courses. He was a founder and longtime director of WashU's "Text and Tradition" program, which introduced first-year students to the intellectual roots from which much of modern thought has developed.

Pepe served as chair of classics from 1992–2000. Other university service includes directing the Honorary Scholars and the Master of Liberal Arts programs; serving as faculty adviser to *Student Life*; and serving on the Graduate Council and University Senate Council. His numerous honors include the Governor's Award for Teaching Excellence (1992), WashU's Distinguished Achievement in Teaching Award (1993) and the David Hadas Teaching Award in Arts & Sciences (2013). He is survived by his wife, Kathy Garcia; son, Anthony Pepe; and daughter, Rachel Pepe.

Garland ("Gar") Edward Allen III, a professor emeritus of biology in Arts & Sciences, died peacefully in Palm Springs, Calif., Feb. 10. He was widely known for his work in the history of genetics and was an international leader on the history of eugenics.

Allen joined the WashU faculty in 1967 and remained until his retirement in 2017. His primary interest was in the history and philosophy of biology — particularly genetics, embryology and evolution — and their interrelationships between 1880 and 1950. Through his scholarship, Allen broadened the study of biology to include its philosophical and ideological dimensions, and particularly to illuminate the historical and political-social context within the practice of science.

At WashU, Allen taught introductory biology to thousands of undergraduates and mentored dozens of graduate scholars, inspiring many to begin or deepen their study of science. Driven by a deep passion for politics and political philosophy, Allen also was active in the U.S. civil rights movement. He later spent time in Cuba and with progressive groups that advocated for social and racial justice.

Paul Berg, a former associate professor of microbiology at the School of Medicine and a winner of the Nobel Prize in chemistry, died Feb. 15 at his home on the Stanford University campus in Palo Alto, Calif. He was 96.

Berg won the Nobel Prize in 1980 alongside Walter Gilbert and Frederick Sanger for their studies of the biochemistry of nucleic acids. Berg was the first person to construct a recombinant DNA molecule — a molecule containing parts of DNA from different organisms — by inserting DNA from one virus into another. His work led to the development of genetic engineering, a powerful approach that has transformed medicine and agriculture.

Berg came to Washington University School of Medicine in 1954 as a research fellow and instructor to study enzymes under Arthur Kornberg, who was also a Nobel Prize winner.

Richard D. Brasington Jr., MD, a highly regarded professor emeritus of medicine and former director of the rheumatology fellowship training program at Washington University School of Medicine, drowned April 30 while fishing in the North Fork River in Ozark, Mo. He was 71.

Brasington joined the faculty in 1996 and trained dozens of medical residents and fellows as coursemaster for the second-year rheumatology course and mentor to many third-year students who trained in his clinic. He directed the university's rheumatology clinic and the rheumatology division's fellowship training program for many years. With his primary focus on education and patient care, Brasington also pioneered a trainee evaluation tool that was used at many rheumatology centers around the country.

Richard W. (Dick) Coles, who served as the inaugural director of Tyson Research Center and also as an adjunct professor of biology for more than 25 years, died in December in Colorado. He was 83. A celebration of life for Coles was held April 29 at Tyson Research Center in Eureka, Mo.

George C. Hatch, who taught in the Department of History in Arts & Sciences for more than 30 years, died Feb. 25 at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. He was 85.

Michelle Ann Noll, a senior research technician at the School of Medicine, died Feb. 25 at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis after a battle with pulmonary fibrosis. She was 54.

William Pickard, a senior professor of electrical and systems engineering at the McKelvey School of Engineering, died March 9 in Portland, Ore., after a short illness. He was a faculty member for more than 50 years.

Joseph Lee Roti Roti, a professor emeritus of radiation oncology at the School of Medicine, died Feb. 18 at his home in Highland, Ill. He had been ill with kidney-related conditions and was 79.

Susan Shannon, an accounting and payroll assistant in the Office of Graduate Studies in Arts & Sciences, died of cancer at her home March 16. She was 60.

Richard M. Torack Jr., AB '76, JD '80, a 38-year resident of Franz Park in the City of St. Louis, passed away peacefully surrounded by friends and family on Jan. 4, from pulmonary fibrosis. He practiced law for more than 35 years, during which he served as a provisional judge for the City of St. Louis. At the time of his death, he was the court administrator for the City of St. Louis.

He is survived by his children, Rachel and Sean; brothers, James, Thomas (Kaye) and William (Christi); and two grandchildren, Kylee and Kaden. He was preceded in death by his mother, Kit; father, Dick; and sister, Margaret.

The following death notices were submitted from Jan. 1, 2023–May 31, 2023. Please contact Advancement Services at WUADDataChange@wustl.edu to report the death of an alumnus or alumna. Please submit full obituaries for consideration to wustlimgclassnotes@wustl.edu.

1940-1949

Ruth (Vogler) Malvern, AR43; Feb. '23
Judith (Lee) Barney, LA44, GR70; March '23
Gray C. Ballman, EN48; Jan. '23
Ralph Copp, LA48, MD52; Jan. '23
Nancy (Neville) Harris, UC48; Jan. '23
Phyllis (Miller) Britt, UC49; Feb. '23
Suzanne (Siegel) Harbison, BU49; Jan. '23

1950-1959

Dale K. Haworth, LA50, GR51; May '23
Dorothy (Llewellyn) Rodgers, MD50; April '23
G. David Stifel, BU50; May '23
Edwin M. Tinkham, BU50; Feb. '23
Baxter B. Watson, FA50; Jan. '23
James A. Kleissle, BU52; Feb. '23
Marilyn (Wiedle) Little, LA52; March '23
Joseph W. Young, LA52, DE54; Feb. '23
Grace (Oshima) Kanda, LA53; Jan. '23
Martha (Krause) Saunders, LA53; Jan. '23
Marlene (Wacker) Schneider, NU53; Jan. '23
Robert E. Hermann, MD54; Jan. '23
Nancy (Shults) Flippen, LA55; Feb. '23
Janet (Bentrup) Hays, LA55; Jan. '23
Julianne (Morley) Honey, LA55; Feb. '23
Marilyn (Buswell) Hurst, OT55; Feb. '23
Norman E. Polinsky, BU55; Feb. '23
Marilyn L. Young, NU55; June '22
N. Bernard Basch, BU56, GB62; Jan. '23
Sidney A. McClanahan, LA56; Jan. '23
Edward L. Moore, GR56; May '23
Sanford S. Neuman, BU56, LW59; April '23
Darlene (Marvin) Stromsdorfer, BU56; Jan. '23
Andrew C. Schroeder, BU57; Jan. '23
Billie (Coil) Teneau, LA57; Feb. '23
Alex Weissenborn, BU57, GB60; Jan. '23
Warren R. Werner, EN57; Jan. '23
Phyllis S. Curran, LA58; March '23
Edwin Kaskowitz, LA58, SW61; Jan. '23
Donald L. Kiselewski, EN58; Nov. '22
Henry W. Viehmann, BU58; March '23
Charles A. Buescher, EN59, SI61; Jan. '23
Marvin A. Davis, EN59, GB66; Feb. '23
Ralph E. Dowling, UC59; March '23
Eugene L. Nagel, MD59; Jan. '23

1960-1969

Donald R. DeZutter, EN60; May '23
Karl H. Muench, MD60; March '23
Marlene (Gorz) Patterson, FA60; March '23
Darryl H. Runett, LA60, GR62; Feb. '23
Philip D. Rushing, SW60; Feb. '23
Allen F. Tess, LA60, HS68; Jan. '23
Anne (Horan) Hegeman, UC61; Feb. '23
Kenneth F. Teasdale, LW61; Feb. '23
Roger Dierberg, GB62; Jan. '23
Edward L. Kaplan, MD62; March '23
Vilis E. Kilpe, MD62; Sept. '22
J. Victor Willoughby, UC62; March '23
Harold T. Bohlmann, BU63, GB65; March '23
James M. Foley, GR63; March '23
David K. Mack, AR64, AR66; Feb. '23
Albert Rotskoff, BU64; April '23
Charlie W. Shaeffer, MD64; Feb. '23
Sylvia (Henley) Wright, NU64, GN69; Feb. '23

Paul A. Zimmermann, LA64; March '23
Roland G. Brumitt, GR65; Jan. '23
Jean (Heyer) Blodgett, LA67; Feb. '23
Barbara A. Trumbull, OT67; Aug. '22
Philip D. Baugh, DE68; April '23
Charles F. Fay, GB68; Jan. '23
Shirley (Wilhelm) Jondro, LA68; March '23
Kent R. Keller, LW68; April '23
Margaret K. Gaynor, GR69, GR70; Jan. '23
Donald C. Herminghouse, EN69; Jan. '23
Sally K. Jackoway, GR69; Feb. '23
Debbie (Morrow) Vaughan, LA69; Jan. '23

1970-1979

Stephen E. Campbell, MD70; Jan. '23
Arnold T. Phillips, LW70; Jan. '23
Stephen R. Waltman, MD, HS70, EMHS00; April '23
Richard A. Blath, MD71, HS76; March '23
Dennis M. Dailey, SW71; Jan. '23
James W. Fullinwider, GR71, GR74; Jan. '23
Wayne C. Pressley, UC71; March '23
Marlin D. Smith, LW71; Jan. '23
James J. Johnson, TI73; Jan. '23
Joyce (Weaver) Price, LA73; Jan. '23
Leo W. Saulnier, GB73; Feb. '23
Arthur L. Texier, UC73; Feb. '23
Joseph E. Lange, UC74; Feb. '23
Eugene W. Brown, GA75; March '23
Lawrence R. Mead, GR75, GR84; April '23
Charles C. Bates, LA76; Feb. '23
Helen M. Hopper, GR76; Nov. '22
Richard M. Torack Jr., LA76, LW80; Jan. '23
Edward L. Eisenstein, LA77, TI87; Jan. '23
Lucian Krukowski, GR77; Jan. '23
Bettye K. Dew, GR78; Jan. '23
David E. Johnson, SW78; Jan. '23
Carol (Rakita) Arenberg, GR79; Jan. '23
Steve Turley, LW79; Jan. '23

1980-1989

Frank S. Stobie, BU80; April '23
Michael R. Green, MD81, GR81; Feb. '23
Stephen P. Krupp, EN81; Jan. '23
Brent W. Harper, DE84; Jan. '23
Paul Berg, GR86; Feb. '23
Shaun P. Coggins, EN88; May '23
David I. Lobbig, FA89; Jan. '23

1990-1999

Robert D. Bohm, GB90; Jan. '23
Den Kudrna, TI91; Jan. '23
Mark A. McCoy, GB94; March '23
Richard L. Anthony, EN96; Jan. '23
Emily (Engelland) Bannister, LA96, MD01; March '23
Darren Buttram, BU96; Jan. '23
Mary (Fries) Presson, SW96; Feb. '23

2000-2009

Jerome R. Cox, GR01; Jan. '23

2010-2019

David M. Becker, GL12; April '23

2020-2029

Anthony J. Sancho-Spore, EN21, EN21, SI22; March '23



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Photo: Washington University Archives



Girls got game

During the 1920s, women student-athletes at WashU competed across the classes in various sports: (field) hockey, baseball, soccer, track, volleyball, handball, swimming, rowing and canoeing, and basketball. The women's basketball team from the sophomore class in 1922 is pictured here. The archival image originally appeared in the 1923 yearbook, *The Hatchet*.



A time for joy

WashU's newest alumni celebrate on campus following Commencement on May 15. "You are more prepared for what comes next than any graduating class in recent history," Chancellor Andrew Martin told the Class of 2023.

Photo: Whitney Curtis