



Washington University

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October 2004

University News

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE SET FOR OCTOBER 8 AT

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY: The second of the three 2004 Presidential Debates will take place in the Athletic Complex on October 8. Any tickets assigned to the University by the Commission on Presidential Debates will be distributed to students through a lottery.



FORSYTH HOUSE IS NEWEST ADDITION TO SOUTH 40:

Little over a year after Eliot Hall was imploded, a new residence hall housing 169 freshmen and seven resident advisers was opened this fall. Forsyth House, along with Nemerov House, are part of Wayman Crow Residential College, one of nine residential colleges on the South 40.

GREENBAUM TO STEP DOWN AS BUSINESS SCHOOL DEAN:

Stuart I. Greenbaum, Ph.D., the Bank of America Professor and dean of the John M. Olin School of Business since 1995, has announced his intention to step down as dean effective June 30, 2005. After a sabbatical, he plans to return to a full-time faculty position in the Olin School.

Research

GENE LINKED TO BOTH ALCOHOLISM AND DEPRESSION:

A national team of investigators led by psychiatric geneticists at Washington University School of Medicine has identified a gene that appears to be linked to both alcoholism and depression, a finding that may one day help identify those at higher risk for the diseases and guide new treatments.



Image courtesy USGS

A team of geologists from China and the United States, including two from WUSTL, report evidence of at least three ice ages occurring between 750 and 600 million years ago.

SNOWBALL EARTH: Glaciers reached Cape Cod, Massachusetts, in the most recent ice age about 20,000 years ago. But much harsher ice ages hit the Earth between 750 and 600 million years ago. A team of geologists from China and the United States, including two from Washington University, now report evidence of at least three ice ages during that ancient time period.

WUSTL TO PLAY KEY ROLE IN SEQUENCING MOSS

GENOME: Washington University will be directly involved in sequencing the entire genome of the moss *Physcomitrella patens* at the Joint Genome Institute in Walnut Creek, California. The project will be an international collaboration involving laboratories in England, Germany, and Japan.

Features

WHY DO SOME PEOPLE LIVE LONGER? Washington University School of Medicine researchers will head an ambitious study of people who live exceptionally long and healthy lives to identify the factors that account for their longevity.

A QUESTION TOO MANY ASK: WILL I GO HUNGRY? Most Americans don't think they'll ever be faced with the question of how they will get their next meal, but a recent study co-authored by a social welfare expert at Washington University shows that at least 42 percent of the U.S. population will deal with food insecurity in their lifetime.

OUTREACH PROGRAM BENEFITS SCIENCE AND MATH INSTRUCTORS: School is back in session, and teachers are making sure that students are all on the same page. But what about teachers? Shouldn't they be on the same page, too? Through the St. Louis Math and Science Partnership, faculty at Washington University are helping to get them there.



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Heard on Campus

"We need to turn Americans into citizens again, actively engaged in our country, rather than into voyeurs, watching stories over which we can have absolutely zero influence."

Arianna Huffington, political commentator, satirist, author, and columnist, presenting the CHIMES Lecture in the Assembly Series on September 15. The title of her presentation was "Election 2004: Handicapping the Presidential Race."

Kudos

Stanton M. Braude, Ph.D., lecturer in biology in Arts and Sciences, has won the Four-Year College Biology Teacher of the Year Award from the National Association of Biology Teachers.

Henric S. Krawczynski, Ph.D., assistant professor of physics in Arts & Sciences, has received the U.S. Department of Energy's Outstanding Junior Investigator Award in high energy physics. He is one of eight scientists in the nation to receive the prestigious award in 2004.

Walter Lewis, Ph.D., professor emeritus of biology in Arts & Sciences and University research ethnobotanist, was awarded the E.K. Janaki Ammal Gold Medal for 2003 by the Indian Society of Ethnobotanists.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has named Jeffrey A. Lowell, M.D., professor of surgery and of pediatrics, as its senior adviser to the secretary for medical affairs.

The National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine has named William A. Peck, the Alan A. and Edith L. Wolff Distinguished Professor of Medicine and director of the Center for Health Policy, a member of a national committee that will address ways to redesign health insurance benefits, payment, and performance improvement programs.

The Society of Nuclear Medicine has given its biennial national prize, the Benedict Cassen Award, to Michael J. Welch, Ph.D., professor of radiology, of molecular biology and pharmacology, and of chemistry, for "work [that] has led to a major advance in basic or clinical nuclear medicine science." He is the sixth scientist to receive the award.

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About @ Washington University in St. Louis

This newsletter is prepared by the staff of the Office of Special Development Communications Projects and the Office of Alumni and Development Programs. It is intended to provide a summary of what is happening at the University. Alumni, parents, and friends of the University for whom we have valid e-mail addresses automatically receive @ Washington University in St. Louis as a service of the University.

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