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November 2004

University News

NOBEL PRIZE SHARED BY VISITING MEDICAL PROFESSOR: Aaron Ciechanover, M.D., D. Sc., visiting professor of pediatrics, was awarded the 2004 Nobel Prize in chemistry on Oct. 6. He shared the award with two colleagues for the groundbreaking discovery of a process that cells use to eliminate unwanted proteins. Ciechanover is the 22nd Nobel laureate associated with the University.

HOPE CENTER FOR NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS ESTABLISHED: Two St. Louis organizations have teamed to create the Hope Center for Neurological Disorders, a unique collaboration dedicated to basic-science research on a broad spectrum of nervous-system conditions. By pooling intellectual and financial resources, the School of Medicine and ALS Hope — The Chris Hobler/James Maritz Foundation will generate funds and conduct basic research to advance the understanding and treatment of neurological disorders.



Photo by David Kilper

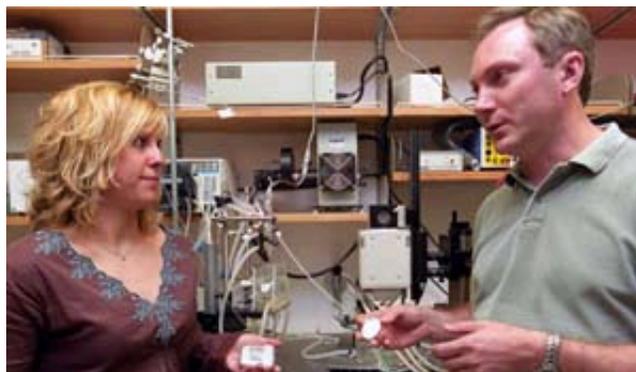
Robert T. Vinson, Ph.D. (left) talks with senior Darius Bates. "Being a faculty fellow has really improved my teaching, because I know how students feel on a different level now," Vinson says.

NEW FACULTY FELLOWS LIVING ON SOUTH 40: Residents living in the Wayman Crow and Robert S. Brookings residential colleges may have noticed a few new faces around the dormitories this semester. The newest residents are faculty fellows, part of a program designed to further integrate academic and residential life by having professors live in the residential colleges with students for three-year stints.

Research

RESEARCHERS PROBE IMMUNE SYSTEM'S MEMORY: Researchers at Washington University School of Medicine and the University of Pennsylvania have found that an immune system cell can "remember" a parasite's attack and help the body mount a more effective defense against subsequent invasions by the same parasite.

AFFAIRS OF THE HEART: A team of heart



researchers, including Igor R. Efimov, Ph.D., associate professor of biomedical engineering at Washington University, has discovered love taps to be preferred over love jolts. The team is trying to devise a better implantable heart defibrillator.



Photo by David Kilper

Crystal Ripplinger, graduate student in biomedical engineering, and Igor Efimov, Ph.D., associate professor of biomedical engineering, discuss their work on implantable defibrillators in Efimov's laboratory. Ripplinger holds the actual model tested in the laboratory; Efimov's smaller model is the size they want the new product to be.

FIGHTING HIV WORLDWIDE: Investigators at Washington University School of Medicine are launching several projects aimed at preventing the global spread of HIV infection by reducing high-risk behaviors in vulnerable populations, including women and youth. These projects build upon work that has been ongoing since 1989.

Features



Acknowledging signs of depression in children is often particularly difficult. "We don't want to believe it's true because the idea of it is inherently disturbing," said Joan Luby, M.D., assistant professor of psychiatry at Washington University School of Medicine.

MAJOR DEPRESSION AT AGE 5? Can children suffer from depression? It was thought to be impossible decades ago and research had given no proof. Yet as research continues, more evidence is being found that depression can and does affect children. The ten-year research study of children 3 to 5 1/2 year of age conducted by psychiatrist Joan Luby of the Washington University School of Medicine is reshaping ideas of when the signs of depressive illness can first appear.

RETIREMENT? HARDLY: Is retirement a simcha? When the question was put to I. Jerome Flance, M.D., emeritus clinical professor of medicine at Washington University School of Medicine, the answer was a resounding "no" - at first. More than 60 years of helping people as a doctor and teacher wasn't quite enough. So six years ago, at age 87, he accepted an appointment as special associate for community redevelopment and began what is planned to be a 10-year project to revitalize the Forest Park Southeast neighborhood.

MILITARY OFFICERS COURTED BY OLIN: Echoing one of the military's best-known slogans, "Uncle Sam Wants You!" the John M. Olin School of Business is aggressively recruiting junior military officers who are making the transition to civilian life. "What makes them special is their finely honed leadership skills," says Dean Stuart I. Greenbaum.

Heard on Campus

"This campus is the gold standard for debates."

Janet Brown, Executive Director of the Commission on Presidential Debates, addressing those inside the Washington University Athletic Complex just before the second 2004 Presidential Debate aired

Read more about the second Presidential debate at Washington University and view two special photo galleries:

[debate issue of *The Record*](#)

[Gallery One](#)

[Gallery Two](#)

Kudos

Timothy J. Eberlein, M.D., Bixby Professor and chairman of the Mary Culver Department of Surgery, Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Distinguished Professor in the School of Medicine, director of the Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center, and surgeon-in-

chief at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine, one of the highest honors medical scientists in the United States can receive.

Richard Norberg, Ph.D., professor of physics in Arts & Sciences, was named a co-recipient of the 2004 ISMAR Prize, the highest honor the International Society of Magnetic Resonance awards. Norberg shares the prize with his former doctoral student Irving J. Lowe, Ph.D. '57, now professor of physics at the University of Pittsburgh.

Carl Phillips, professor of English and of African and Afro-American Studies, both in Arts & Sciences, has been selected as a finalist for the 2004 National Book Award in poetry for his seventh collection of poetry, *The Rest of Love: Poems*. This is the second time Phillips has been named a finalist for the National Book Award; the first was for his 1998 collection, *From the Devotions*.

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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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One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130
(314) 935-5200