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University News

Washington University becomes member of major cancer research consortium:

Washington University School of Medicine has joined the Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium, an organization of 13 leading U.S. academic centers designed to speed the development of new myeloma therapies. Multiple myeloma, which so far is incurable, is the second most common blood cancer.

Project ARK receives \$6.7 million to provide HIV care to women, children, and youth:

Project ARK, the St. Louis area's only organization that coordinates medical care, social support, and prevention services for children, youth, young adults, women, and families living with or at risk for HIV infection, has received a \$6.7 million, five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Project ARK, or AIDS/HIV Resources and Knowledge, is a collaboration among Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis Children's Hospital, and other area health care providers.

Geologist plans volcano safety for Ecuadorians:

A Washington University geologist is doing his part to make sure that the small Latin American country of Ecuador follows the Boy Scout motto: Be prepared. Robert Buchwaldt, Ph.D., lecturer in earth and planetary sciences in Arts & Sciences, is the only scientist from America who sits on an international committee that is seeking ways to address the volcanic threat in Ecuador, especially in Quito, a city of five million nestled against a volcano, Guagua Pichincha, which erupted just two years ago.



Researchers inspect a Lahar flow near the Tungurahua volcano close to Banjos, Ecuador. A Washington University geologist is the only scientist from America serving on a committee to devise ways of dealing with the natural disaster potential in Ecuador, a country the size of Nevada with 22 active volcanoes.

Research

High blood pressure, low energy — a recipe for heart failure:

Many people with long-standing high blood pressure develop heart failure. But some don't. Daniel P. Kelly, M.D., the Tobias and Hortense Lewin Professor and chief of the Cardiovascular Division at Washington University School of Medicine, and colleagues are trying to figure out what could explain that difference. Their latest research reveals that impaired energy production in heart muscle may underlie heart failure in some hypertensive patients.

New developments in gambling addiction research:

"With African-Americans and other minority groups having both problem and pathological gambling rates that are 2-3 times higher than Caucasian gamblers, accurate diagnosis is essential to treat gambling addiction," says Renee Cunningham-Williams, Ph.D., visiting associate professor of social work in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. Unfortunately, African-American and other minority groups receive disparate care from symptom recognition and diagnosis through treatment. In a first step to close this gap in care, Cunningham-Williams successfully led the development and testing of a new assessment tool to



A biologist at Washington University in St. Louis is embarking on the task of understanding the plant's history by exploring the genetics of the coconut.

determine the reliability of current pathological gambling disorder criteria. <http://news-info.wustl.edu/tips/page/normal/9861.html>

Tracing the genetic history of coconut:

The coconut has been popular in lore and on palates for centuries, yet little is known about the history of coconut's domestication and dispersal around the world. Now, Kenneth Olsen, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology in Arts & Sciences, is embarking on the task of understanding the plant's history by exploring the genetics of the coconut.



Features

We wrote the book:

The Washington Manual of Medical Therapeutics began more than six decades ago as a mimeographed collection of typewritten lectures held together by brass fasteners. Today, it is the best-selling medical textbook in the world. More than 200,000 copies appear in breakrooms, lockers, and white coat pockets on every continent, helping medical students, interns, and residents care for their patients with the most current information available. The 32nd edition of the manual was published in March.

Subprime mess isn't all bad:

The stock market might be nervous now due to the subprime loan mess, but Stuart Greenbaum, the Bank of America Professor Emeritus of Managerial Leadership in the John M. Olin School of Business, is bullish on the situation. "Banks that don't have a lot of bad paper in their portfolios are going to see the credit spreads widen out, and they're going to end up making money as a result," Greenbaum says. "The situation has created a buying opportunity, and we're already seeing the reaction in the price of financial stocks, such as banks and insurance."

Das Book:

Spend an hour browsing in the stacks of the John M. Olin Library and you could easily miss the largest collection of contemporary German literature in North America. But there it is, tucked away between Islamic Studies and the quiet faculty carrels on Level A. The Contemporary German Literature Collection is part of a long-standing partnership between Washington University Libraries, the Department of Germanic Languages & Literatures, and more than 120 large and small publishers in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

Kudos

Ralph Quatrano, Ph.D., the Spencer T. Olin Professor and chair of the Department of Biology in Arts & Sciences, has been named the recipient of the inaugural Fellow of American Society of Plant Biologists Award.

Washington University in St. Louis — consistently ranked among America's 20 best national universities — is tied for 12th place again for undergraduate programs among the nation's 262

Heard on Campus

"The motivation [for our involvement] is our responsibility to the environment. National Taiwan University has to follow the global trend of sustainable development, and provide expertise and natural resources in the campus to the public, and also provide education on environmental sustainability to the leaders of the future."

—Si-Chen Lee, President of National Taiwan University, in comments during the International Symposium on Energy and Environment, hosted by the McDonnell International Scholars Academy at Washington University in St. Louis

national universities by *U.S. News & World Report*. [read more](#)

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This newsletter is prepared by Special Development Communications Projects staff in Alumni and Development Programs. It is intended to provide a brief 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.

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