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University News

Washington University to support new St. Louis charter schools:

The leaders of the coveted national charter school network, the Knowledge Is Power Program, recently announced that they will build a cluster of five tuition-free public schools in St. Louis, buoyed by the support of Washington University.

Shriners to build new hospital at Medical Center:

The Shriners Hospital for Children will build a new hospital at the Washington University Medical Center, which will further enhance research opportunities and clinical care between Shriners Hospital for Children-St. Louis and the School of Medicine. The new hospital will give patients better access to specialists at the medical school and to St. Louis Children's Hospital. Currently, 35 members of St. Louis Shriners Hospital medical staff, including the medical director, are WUSTL faculty physicians.

Washington University part of major effort to sequence 1,000 human genomes:

Washington University School of Medicine will play a leading role in an international collaboration to sequence the genomes of 1,000 individuals. The ambitious 1000 Genomes Project will create the most detailed picture to date of human genetic variation and likely will identify many genetic factors underlying common diseases.

A Photographic Homecoming:

For more than four decades, photographer Herb Weitman played a vital role in presenting images of Washington University to the nation and the world. On January 16, Weitman, who retired as head of Photographic Services in 1994, returned to campus for the opening of a new exhibition showcasing more than three dozen photographs spanning the length and breadth of his career.

Research

Washington University, two industries, team to clean up mercury emissions:

Washington University is partnering with Chrysler LLC and a major Midwest utility company in a project to determine if paint solid residues from automobile manufacturing can reduce emissions of mercury from electric power plants. The project is based upon the technical expertise of Pratim Biswas, Ph.D., the Stifel & Quinette Jens Professor of Environmental Engineering Science, who will head the project to test a mercury removal process in a full-scale power plant.

Pfizer and Washington University extend research collaboration agreement:

Washington University and the pharmaceutical company Pfizer Inc. will collaborate more closely under a new \$25 million, five-year, biomedical research agreement that has the potential to move discoveries from the



Sophomore Alex Friedman (center) tutors seventh graders Lonzo Steward (left) and Chris McKay at Hamilton Elementary in St. Louis. Friedman is a volunteer through Each One Teach One Jump Start, one of the several outreach programs through which the University has worked with local public schools, providing mentors, tutoring, science labs, and teacher training. The five charter schools will bring a new level of partnership between Washington University and St. Louis schools.



Washington University, Chrysler LLC, and Ameren Corporation will team up to test a mercury removal process in a full-scale power plant.

laboratory bench to patients' bedsides more quickly. The collaboration represents a new model of partnership between academia and industry.

Procedure to replace heart valve without open-heart surgery holds promise:

Washington University heart specialists at Barnes-Jewish Hospital recently used a new device to replace a defective aortic valve in a 78-year-old St. Louis woman without opening the chest wall or using a heart-lung machine. The woman is an initial participant in a national multicenter trial to evaluate the new device, which, if proven effective, holds enormous hope for patients who are unable to undergo the standard open-heart surgery for aortic valve replacement because they are too old or too sick to qualify for the surgery.

Features

The influence of war and disaster:

War and disaster have profoundly shaped the opening years of the 21st century. This month, the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum opens *On the Margins*, an exhibition exploring the impact of war and disaster through the work of a diverse range of contemporary artists. Curated by Carmon Colangelo, Dean of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, the exhibition will showcase more than a dozen works, ranging from prints and photographs to video and large-scale installations, by ten artists from around the world.

Government intervention in subprime crisis rewards bad behavior, expert says:

As the number of foreclosures on homes purchased with a subprime mortgage continues to grow, the chatter from Washington and big business is focused on a way to slow, or even reverse, the trend. But trying to bail out the industry isn't necessarily the way to go, says Charles Cuny, senior lecturer in finance in the John M. Olin Business School. "If you look at the individual homeowner, a bailout plan is essentially rewarding people who went out of their way to take on bad mortgages that they never could have afforded without subprime rates," Cuny says.



Martha Rosler, *Red and White Shades (Baghdad Burning)*, from the series *Bringing the War Home: House Beautiful, New Series*, 2004. Photomontage, 20 x 24", will be part of *On the Margins* at the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum. Image Courtesy of Mitchell-Innes and Nash.

Iowa's special role in primaries may end in 2008:

The January 2008 Iowa Caucuses may be the last in which the largely rural, sparsely populated, and predominately white conservative Midwestern state exerts such a huge influence on the presidential nomination process, predicts Steven S. Smith, the Kate M. Gregg Professor of Social Sciences in Arts & Sciences. "The major parties would be far better off if the presidential nominees were chosen much later in the process," contends Smith, "I wouldn't be surprised if both parties begin pushing for major reforms in the nomination processes shortly after the 2008 elections."

Kudos

Ronald Leax, professor of art, has won the Distinguished Teaching of Art Award from the College of Art Association.

A. Peter Mutharika, J.S.D., professor of law, has been named Malawi's Chief Advisor to the President on Constitutional, Legal and International Affairs.

Heard on Campus

"Nationally, St. Louis has not been on the map, in terms of charter schools. With Washington University getting involved, St. Louis becomes one of those top-tier cities."

—Greg Richmond, president of the National Association of Charter School Authorizers, following the announcement that Washington University is teaming up with KIPP (Knowledge is Power Program) to sponsor charter schools in St. Louis."

Chancellor Mark Wrighton was named the 2007 Citizen of the Year by the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

About @Washington University in St. Louis

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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