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University News

John M. Olin Business School forms alliance with top management school in India:

The John M. Olin Business School and the Indian Institute of Management Calcutta have announced the creation of a partnership designed to advance research, teaching, and cultural understanding. The schools plan to organize joint programs in business and industry management training. The agreement facilitates the creation of joint publications, conferences, research projects, and exchange programs for faculty and students.

Impacting the world – before graduation:

Washington University undergraduates have the opportunity to conduct research with leading faculty and create new knowledge that has a lasting impact not only on their own lives but on society as well. Consider the following studies by three of the more than 500 students engaged in such research: one student explores a method for improving hearing among people with inner-ear implants, another assesses the effects of video games on learning, while a third characterizes cerebral signaling mechanisms that help protect the brain's network of micro-vessels following stroke.



Edgar Walker, a junior biomedical engineering and computer science major in the School of Engineering & Applied Science, works with mentors Stuart F. McDaniel (right), postdoctoral research scholar in Arts & Sciences, and Ralph Quatrano, the Spencer T. Olin Professor in Arts & Sciences.

Research

Gene variation linked to early onset of Alzheimer's symptoms:

Investigators at Washington University School of Medicine have identified a genetic variation associated with an earlier age of onset in Alzheimer's disease. The research team analyzed DNA from 313 subjects from Washington University's Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, focusing on locations in the tau gene, which previously have been found to vary between people.

Antarctica's slip is showing:

A seismologist in Arts & Sciences and colleagues at Pennsylvania State University and Newcastle University in the United Kingdom have found seismic signals from a giant river of ice in Antarctica, which make California's earthquake problem seem trivial. Douglas A. Wiens, Ph.D., professor of earth and planetary sciences, and colleagues combined seismological and global positioning system analyses to reveal two bursts of seismic waves from an ice stream in Antarctica every day, each one equivalent to a magnitude seven earthquake.

It takes two to tango:

Scientists have long known that plant cells respond to physical forces. Until now, however, the proteins controlling the ion channel response remained a mystery. Researchers at Washington University are the first to identify two proteins responsible for plants' responses to mechanical forces such as gravity,



Image courtesy of Doug Wiens

Douglas Wiens (left) and a colleague ready equipment to place seismographs in Antarctica during a 2001 expedition. Data gathered for this project, called TAMSEIS, provided evidence that an Antarctic ice stream radiates seismic waves twice daily, which are equivalent to a magnitude seven earthquake.

pressure, or touch.

Features

A recipe to save young lives:

Mark Manary, M.D., professor of pediatrics, and Patricia Wolff, M.D., associate professor of clinical pediatrics, work tirelessly to end child malnutrition in Africa and Haiti, respectively. Their use of a peanut-based, ready-to-use, therapeutic food shows encouraging results.

Don't blame free trade for weak economy:

In times of economic uncertainty, trade almost always becomes suspect in the minds of voters. Yet according to James Little, Ph.D., professor of business at the John M. Olin Business School, there is ample proof that free trade matters a great deal — because it has made Americans better off.



Mark Manary, M.D., professor of pediatrics, assesses patients for malnutrition at a clinic in Malawi, Africa. Manary has worked there for several years, feeding malnourished toddlers an enriched peanut-butter product that can restore these children to health in about six weeks.

Heard on Campus

"I wasn't really pleased when Bill Clinton came in and said they were going to concentrate 'laser-like' on the economy, since it was something I didn't know anything about. So, I thought I'd better get sort of a preemptive strike to make it sound like I know something... The sentence I came up with was 'The question really is: What's going to happen when the deficit reduction component begins to bite?' I have no idea what that means. I cobbled it together from two sentences I heard on NPR."

— Calvin Trillen, writer, journalist, and humorist, during his April 3 lecture as part of the Assembly Series

More than 1,000 Oklahoma babies receive \$1,000 for college savings as part of George Warren Brown School of Social Work study:

More than 1,000 Oklahoma babies are receiving a \$1,000 jumpstart on saving for college, thanks to SEED for Oklahoma Kids (SEED OK), a seven-year study designed to determine the economic and educational impact of "seeding" a college savings account for children at birth. SEED OK is a collaboration between the Oklahoma State Treasurer and the Center for Social Development at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work.

Kudos

A design proposal by 10 architecture students from a class led by Derek Hoeflerlin, lecturer in architecture in the the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, has won the 2008 JP Morgan Chase Community Development Competition.

Washington University's Department of Athletics finished second among the 420 colleges and universities in the 2007-08 United States Sports Academy Directors' Cup Division III standings. Points are awarded based on each institution's finish in up to 18 sports -- nine women's and nine men's.

John M. Doris, Ph.D., associate professor of philosophy in Arts & Sciences, has been named a fellow of the National Humanities Center for the 2008-09 academic year.

Gregory S. Gandenberger, a senior majoring in philosophy with a minor in physics from Lincoln, Illinois, is one of 22 students nationwide to be named a Beinecke Scholar. He will receive \$34,000 for graduate work in support of the study of the philosophy of physics.

Kelley E. Greenman, a senior environmental studies major from Marathon, Florida, is one of 80 students nationwide to be recognized with a Morris K. Udall Scholarship. She will use the \$5,000 award and her \$30,000 Harry S. Truman Scholarship to pursue graduate study.

The illustration *Doomsday* by John Hendrix, lecturer in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, was one of 500 illustrations chosen by the Society of Illustrators to be featured in their newest compilation, *Icons & Images: 50 Years of Extraordinary Illustration*.

R. Gilbert Jost, M.D., the Elizabeth E. Mallinckrodt Professor of Radiology and director of the Edward Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, has been named to honorary membership in the European Society of Radiology.

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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