University News

Washington University’s Living Learning Center shares the world’s first full ‘Living Building’ certification:
Tyson Research Center’s Living Learning Center has achieved full certification under the Living Building Challenge run by the International Living Building Institute. The challenge, launched in November 2006, is widely recognized as the world’s most rigorous green building performance standard. “We are honored to receive such a prestigious award, which will serve as a keystone for our continuing commitment to sustainability and the environment,” said Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton.

Olin’s EMBA program ranked No. 2 worldwide:
Olin Business School’s Executive MBA program is ranked No. 2 worldwide in the Wall Street Journal’s 2010 survey, published September 30. The ranking is based on survey data collected on 64 business schools and responses from corporate human resource officers and recent EMBA alumni. Olin’s extensive career services were cited as an advantage of the program designed for professionals with 10 years or more of corporate experience.

Brauer Hall, a ‘beacon for energy efficiency,’ dedicated October 1:
Stephen F. & Camilla T. Brauer Hall, the second building in a new engineering complex at Washington University, was dedicated in a ceremony held on October 1. Brauer Hall includes state-of-the-art laboratories, a distance-learning classroom, instrumentation and imaging facilities, and electronically equipped collaboration points in the halls near the labs. The three-story building, which includes many other innovative features, has received LEED Gold certification.

Research

Chest compression-only CPR improves survival in cardiac arrest patients:
Heart attack patients whose hearts have stopped beating and who receive cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) from bystanders fare better if their resuscitators skip the rescue breaths and do only chest compression, according to a study led by researchers at Washington University School of Medicine. The study, published online on October 15 in The Lancet, determined that the chest compression-only method of CPR improved survival rates over standard CPR, which involves alternating chest compressions with rescue breaths.

Social Security expert says proposed benefit cuts will not help reduce the deficit:
Recent calls to cut Social Security benefits are grounded in misinformation and misunderstanding, says Merton C. Bernstein, LLB, a nationally recognized expert on Social Security. “Cutting the program will lead to undiminished deficits, more poverty, less purchasing power, less business income, and more unemployment,” says Bernstein, the Walter D. Coles Professor Emeritus at the School of Law. “Leaders and members of the National Commission on Fiscal
Responsibility have targeted Social Security — advocating the reduction of benefits and an increase in the retirement age.

**Language delays found in siblings of children with autism:**
Siblings of children with autism have more frequent language delays and other subtle characteristics of the disorder than previously understood. Girls also may be mildly affected more often than recognized in the past. A new study, led by researchers at Washington University School of Medicine, found mild traits, not strong enough to provoke a diagnosis of autism, seem to be present in the siblings of affected children at significantly higher rates than seen in the general population. The findings appear online and will be published in the November issue of *The American Journal of Psychiatry*.

**Features**

**Peace Corps at 50: Connections can benefit both volunteer and community:**
"Since the founding of the Peace Corps 50 years ago, international service programs have grown dramatically across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors," says Amanda Moore McBride, Ph.D., assistant professor at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work and expert on civic service as research director at the School's Center for Social Development (CSD). To date, most research on the field of international service has focused solely on the volunteers themselves. While impacts on volunteers are important, CSD researches not only the impacts on volunteers but also the impacts on the host communities and organizations that they serve. In their most recent study, McBride and colleagues looked at the impact of international service on the development of volunteers' international contacts and how those contacts, in turn, are used to further host community development around the world.

**Chilean miners were saved by collaboration, says Washington University expert:**
The world has been captivated by the amazing rescue of 33 miners trapped underground for 69 days in Chile. The miners' survival and rescue were made possible by collaboration, says a creativity and collaboration expert at Washington University. "We've all been watching as the most impressive mine rescue in history took place," says R. Keith Sawyer, Ph.D., associate professor of education and of psychology, both in Arts & Sciences. "We saw pictures of the narrow capsule that barely fit into a tiny tunnel that carried out the miners, one by one. What made this amazing feat possible? Collaboration."
Washington University honored as a ‘World Changer’:
Every basket sold by The Blessing Basket Project tells a story. And according to Theresa Wilson, founder of the project that works to reduce poverty in developing countries by paying “prosperity wages” for artisan products, each basket’s story can be traced back to Washington University. The Blessing Basket Project’s “World Changer” award was presented to Washington University September 25. “The award was created in 2007 to honor those who have gone above and beyond the call to help the organization accomplish amazing things,” Wilson says.

Kudos
Astronaut Walt Cunningham presented Kaitlin E. Burlingame, a senior in the School of Engineering & Applied Science, a $10,000 scholarship from the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation during a public presentation and ceremony October 7 in Brookings Hall. The Astronaut Scholarship is the largest monetary award given in the United States to science and engineering undergraduate students based solely on merit. Burlingame is one of 20 university students nationwide selected to receive this prestigious award.

Ralph G. Dacey Jr., M.D., the Henry G. & Edith R. Schwartz Professor and chair of the Department of Neurological Surgery at Washington University School of Medicine and neurosurgeon-in-chief at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, has been elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, one of the highest honors in health and medicine that medical scientists in the United States can receive.

David A. Fike, Ph.D., assistant professor of isotope biogeochemistry in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences in Arts & Sciences, was named a Packard Fellow, a prestigious distinction awarded to only 17 top young researchers nationwide this year. Fike is only the fifth Washington University faculty member to be named a Packard Fellow since the program was initiated in 1988.

Rebecca Ye, a freshman in Arts & Sciences, represented the United States in the Stockholm International Water Institute’s Junior Water Prize Competition in September. The competition was part of the Institute’s World Water Week, an annual meeting for water experts from around the world where ideas about how to deal with the world’s various water rises can be discussed and improved.

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.