



Washington University in St. Louis

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University News

Shriners breaks ground on new hospital at the Medical Center

The Shriners Hospital for Children broke on a new hospital at the Washington University Medical Center. This relocation will allow St. Louis Shriners Hospital to return to the medical school campus and will further enhance research opportunities and clinical care between Shriners Hospital for Children-St. Louis and the School of Medicine.



Rendering of Shriners Hospital for Children

WUSTL Students to attend national conventions

Senior Hana Greenberg and junior Scott Friedman, both in Arts & Sciences, will gain an inside look at the U.S. political process by participating in a Washington Center educational program focused on the election year. As part of the program, Greenberg will attend the Democratic National Convention in Denver while Friedman will travel to Minneapolis to attend the Republican National Convention. Both will receive media credentials through Student Life, the University's student newspaper, to have access to exclusive events at the conventions.

Fulbright Scholarships awarded to 11 students

Eleven current or former Washington University students have been awarded Fulbright Scholarships for the 2008-09 academic year. Eight are recently graduated seniors, and three are graduate students. They will spend a full academic year in a host country.

Research

Nerve reconstruction surgeon aims to help more veterans injured in combat

Dr. Susan Mackinnon, chief of plastic and reconstructive surgery at Washington University Medical Center, is a pioneer in a type of nerve reconstruction called peripheral nerve transfer. The procedure requires a team of plastic surgeons, orthopedic surgeons and neurosurgeons. Only about a dozen doctors across the country perform the surgery.

Researchers reveal superfluid-superconductor relationship

Scientists have studied superconductors and superfluids for decades. Now, researchers at Washington University in St. Louis have drawn the first detailed picture of the way a superfluid influences the behavior of a superconductor. In addition to describing previously unknown superconductor behavior, these calculations could change scientists' understanding of the motion of neutron stars.

What about the Whigs

"Minor political parties' inability to gain traction in the United States does not reflect natural facets of our national character," says Gregory P. Magarian, election law expert and professor of law at Washington University, home of the 2008 vice presidential debate. "Rather, our legal system imposes formidable barriers to minor parties' electoral viability."



Image courtesy of NASA
A WUSTL researcher and his collaborator have drawn the first detailed picture of the way a superfluid influences the behavior of a superconductor. This could shed light on the behavior of neutron stars, above.

Features



A woman's independence

Today, the real-life, alcohol-dependent American is increasingly likely to be a woman. At least she's catching up quickly to take her place alongside the timeworn stereotype, says Richard A. Grucza, PhD, assistant professor of psychiatry. "What an alcoholic looks like has changed."

U.S. health care system headed for perfect storm

"We are headed into a time when a confluence of changes are going to lead to a perfect storm, making us finally realize that our health care system needs a major overhaul," says Timothy D. McBride, Ph.D., leading health economist and professor of social work at Washington University in St. Louis.

Heard on Campus

"The earthquake threat to Missouri and to much of mid-America is severe, both in terms of loss of life and economic damage."

— Philip L. Gould, Ph.D., Harold D. Jolley Professor of Civil Engineering

Parents shape whether their children learn to eat fruits and vegetables

Providing fruits for snacks and serving vegetables at dinner can shape a preschooler's eating patterns for his or her lifetime. To combat the increasing problem of childhood obesity, researchers are studying how to get preschoolers to eat more fruits and vegetables. According to researchers at Washington University in St. Louis, one way is early home interventions — teaching parents how to create an environment where children reach for a banana instead of potato chips.

Kudos

Troy Ruths, the NCAA Division III basketball "Player of the Year" who led the Bears to the NCAA title in 2008, has been named College Division Academic All-American of the Year, an award presented by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

Allyson Gibson, a doctoral student in physics in Arts & Sciences, has received a prestigious P.E.O. Scholar Award for the 2008-09 academic year. She was one of 85 recipients selected from more than 640 applicants from the United States and Canada.

Gabriel de Erausquin, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of psychiatry and neurology at the School of Medicine, has received the 2008 Klerman Award, presented by National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression (NARSAD,) the world's leading charity for research on mental illnesses.

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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