Breaking News From Bone Study

By Susan Craig

Bone cells release a hormone called osteocalcin, which controls the regulation of blood sugar (glucose) and fat through synergistic mechanisms not previously recognized. Usually, an increase in osteocalcin activity increases both the secretion and sensitivity of insulin, and reduces stores of fat. Osteocalcin, however, may be involved with Harlem.

The discovery revealed that the skeleton helps coordinate the regulation of insulin. The breakthrough may have major implications for the treatment of the most common form of diabetes.

The Columbia discovery completely changes our understanding of the function of the skeleton and uncovers a crucial aspect of energy metabolism, said Gerard Karsenty, professor in the Department of Genetics and Development at Columbia University, and senior author of the paper. "These results uncover an important aspect of endocrinology that was unappreciated until now."

"Osteocalcin is a hormonally active protein that is synthesized in bone cells and released into the bloodstream," Karsenty said. "It appears that osteocalcin has a major role in regulating both insulin sensitivity and glucose and fat metabolism, and its regulation may be important in the treatment of the most common form of diabetes."

"Our findings suggest that osteocalcin may be a key player in the regulation of blood sugar and fat metabolism, and that it may have therapeutic potential for the treatment of type 2 diabetes," Karsenty said. "This discovery underscores the importance of understanding the role of the skeleton in the regulation of metabolism, and highlights the potential for developing new therapies to prevent and treat diabetes."

"These findings also have implications for understanding the role of the skeleton in the regulation of blood sugar and fat metabolism," Karsenty said. "They may help explain why people with type 2 diabetes are at increased risk of developing bone fractures, and may provide new insights into the mechanisms underlying this association."

"The discovery of the role of osteocalcin in regulating insulin sensitivity and blood sugar metabolism is a major step forward in our understanding of the complex relationship between bone and metabolism," said Paul Marks, professor in the Department of Genetics and Development at Columbia University. "It opens up new possibilities for developing therapies to combat diabetes and obesity, and for understanding the role of the skeleton in the regulation of metabolism."
On Aug. 24, the medical and dental school students of the class of 2011 received their white clinical coats and publicly declared their intention to practice medicine—“in uprightness and honor”—by reciting the Hippocratic oath before family, friends and faculty. This annual rite of passage welcomes the students and emphasizes the importance of compassionate patient care and scientific proficiency.

The first white coat ceremony, in 1993, was the brainchild of Arnold P. Gold, M.D., a professor of clinical neurology and clinical pediatrics at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and his wife, Sandra O. Gold, Ed.D. Before then, students didn’t get their white coats until their second year, and didn’t take the Hippocratic oath until graduation. The white coat ceremony has now spread to more than 130 schools of medicine, dentistry and osteopathy throughout the United States and internationally.

University Professor Jagdish Bhagwati received this year’s Thomas J. Watson Jr. Award, presented each year by Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government to an intellectual whose body of scholarly work has had a transformative impact on public policy. Bhagwati received a $25,000 prize as part of the award.

Michael L. Mackenzie, an assistant professor at the School of Social Work, will participate in the two-year Leaders for the 21st Century Fellowship program run by Zero to Three, the National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families, which is dedicated to the healthy development of young children.

The Caribbean Studies Association presented Steven Gregory with the Gordon K. and Sybil Lewis Memorial Award for Caribbean Scholarship for his book The Devil Behind the Mirror Globalization and Politics in the Dominican Republic. Gregory is an associate professor of anthropology.

Sudhir Venkatesh, a professor of sociology, received the 2006 C. Wright Mills Award for his book On the Frontier of the Urban Poor. The annual award, established in 1964, is presented by the Society for the Study of Social Problems.

Ester Fuchs and Eric Verhoogen are the recipients of the 2006-2007 School of International and Public Affairs’ teaching awards. Fuchs is a professor of urban politics and urban economic development. Verhoogen is an assistant professor of economic development.

Kenneth D. Crews, former director of the Copyright Management Center at Indiana University, was named director of Columbia’s new Copyright Advisory Office, which will provide educational and consultative support on copyright issues arising in the creation of original works by members of Columbia University. He starts the job Jan. 1, 2008.

Harvey Goldschmid, Dwight Professor of Law at Columbia, has been named to the board of the new Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). FINRA was created as the successor to the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD), the member regulation and enforcement arm of the New York Stock Exchange. FINRA will function as the new regulatory body for securities firms in the United States.

The World Health Organization has named Richard M. Garfield, Henrik H. Bendixen, Clinical Professor of International Nursing, director of the first international office for assessing and responding to humanitarian needs in crisis situations.

Allan Rosenfield, dean of the Mailman School of Public Health, received the 2007 United Nations Population Award. One of four laureates of the original 25 international nominees, Rosenfield was also elected a fellow of the American Academy of the Arts and Sciences and received the Joseph Calowney Prize for the Defense of the Right to Privacy from the New York Civil Liberties Union Reproductive Rights Project.

Anne Rollow Sullivan, senior associate dean for finance and administration of the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School, has been appointed executive vice president for finance. Before Wharton, she had worked at Columbia as the assistant vice president for administrative planning and financial management.

Jerome Davis, former special assistant to the president, has been appointed secretary of the University, serving as a liaison between the trustees and the senior administration.

George E. Lewis, the current Edwin H. Case Professor of American Music at Columbia, will take over as director of the Center for Jazz Studies. He will replace the center’s founder, Robert O’Meally, who is stepping down from the position to return to teaching full time as a professor of comparative literature.
A press conference June 6 with Mayor Bloomberg, Columbia President Lee C. Bollinger joined eight New York-area colleges and university presidents in pledging to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent over the next 10 years.

Now comes the hard part. Each school must take an inventory of its emissions and develop a plan to arrive at the reductions.

“We have a concerted, university-wide effort under way to gather the data needed to establish a baseline for our energy usage,” said Nilda Mesa, director of the Environmental Stewardship Office, which is coordinating the effort. The data-gathering project, which is expected to take a year, is the latest phase in Columbia’s many initiatives to make the University greener. In addition to creating the Department of Environmental Stewardship in 2006, it previously announced plans for three new environmentally friendly buildings, reductions to electricity use, and Columbia’s first green dorm, which will become a model for other dorms.

Columbia’s efforts dovetail with the city’s own environmental plans. In December 2006, Mayor Bloomberg announced his PlaNYC sustainability initiative which included a proposal to reduce the city’s carbon emissions 30 percent by 2030. The PlaNYC Challenge with local colleges and universities has an accelerated pace for emission reductions, aiming to cut them by 30 percent in only 10 years. In addition to Columbia, the other schools that have made commitments are Bard College, Cooper Union, City University of New York (which has 23 campuses), Fordham University, New York University, Pratt Institute, St. John’s University, and The New School.

At Columbia, the “30 in 10” effort will focus on four areas: electricity and heating oil purchased by the University vehicles owned by Columbia or driven by staff, students and faculty; solid waste sent to landfills instead of being recycled; and refrigerants.

Gathering the baseline data is an enormously complex effort, requiring meticulous record-keeping from a variety of sources. Eloise Paul, assistant director of special projects, real estate, is assessing energy use by the many buildings that Columbia owns and leases. “These buildings have different methods of delivering energy to tenants,” she said. “We’ve had to rely on the goodwill of the landlords and building managers to help us dig up that data.”

Columbia will work with the mayor’s office, the other schools, and the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, an organization that helps municipalities around the world with technological and training support for their sustainability efforts.

Mesa notes that she’s working with faculty who are leaders in the field “to make sure that whatever is done is done right.” For example, David Majer, a senior research scientist at the Columbia Center for Climate Systems Research, has assisted the city’s Department of Environmental Protection with similar efforts and will be helping to review the data and plan.

“We have a concerted, university-wide effort under way to gather the data needed to establish a baseline for our energy usage,” said Nilda Mesa, director of the Environmental Stewardship Office, which is coordinating the effort. The data-gathering project, which is expected to take a year, is the latest phase in Columbia’s many initiatives to make the University greener. In addition to creating the Department of Environmental Stewardship in 2006, it previously announced plans for three new environmentally friendly buildings, reductions to electricity use, and Columbia’s first green dorm, which will become a model for other dorms.

Columbia’s efforts dovetail with the city’s own environmental plans. In December 2006, Mayor Bloomberg announced his PlaNYC sustainability initiative which included a proposal to reduce the city’s carbon emissions 30 percent by 2030. The PlaNYC Challenge with local colleges and universities has an accelerated pace for emission reductions, aiming to cut them by 30 percent in only 10 years. In addition to Columbia, the other schools that have made commitments are Bard College, Cooper Union, City University of New York (which has 23 campuses), Fordham University, New York University, Pratt Institute, St. John’s University, and The New School.

At Columbia, the “30 in 10” effort will focus on four areas: electricity and heating oil purchased by the University vehicles owned by Columbia or driven by staff, students and faculty; solid waste sent to landfills instead of being recycled; and refrigerants.

Gathering the baseline data is an enormously complex effort, requiring meticulous record-keeping from a variety of sources. Eloise Paul, assistant director of special projects, real estate, is assessing energy use by the many buildings that Columbia owns and leases. “These buildings have different methods of delivering energy to tenants,” she said. “We’ve had to rely on the goodwill of the landlords and building managers to help us dig up that data.”

Columbia will work with the mayor’s office, the other schools, and the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, an organization that helps municipalities around the world with technological and training support for their sustainability efforts.

Mesa notes that she’s working with faculty who are leaders in the field “to make sure that whatever is done is done right.” For example, David Majer, a senior research scientist at the Columbia Center for Climate Systems Research, has assisted the city’s Department of Environmental Protection with similar efforts and will be helping to review the data and plan.
reconstructing the historical linkages across these regions,” said Sheldon Pollock, the department chair. Nicholas Dirks, vice president for arts and sciences and professor of anthropology and history, praised Diouf for his commitment to the development of African studies across the social sciences, policy studies, the humanities and the arts.

Educated principally in France, Diouf is a renowned West African scholar who has taught in his native Senegal at the University Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar and guest-lectured at many European and American universities. He served as director of the research and documentation program of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA). At Michigan, he also served in the Center for Afro American and African Studies. Diouf’s research and teaching focuses on urban, political and cultural history in colonial and postcolonial Africa. His appointment is in the Department of Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures.

He will teach a graduate course on Pan-African studies this fall. His appointment returns the institute to the School of International and Public Affairs, where it was suspended in the 2006-07 academic year as the school searched for a new full-time director to succeed Mahmoud Mamdani, a professor of anthropology who returned full time to teaching. Since joining Columbia in July, Diouf’s top priority has been to ensure the reopening succeeds, and to that end, he plans to reach out to other Africa-related organizations and programs at Columbia, in New York City and at other universities. The institute must also work with nearby Harlem, he said.

“I think it is impossible to have a program like ours here and not be involved with Harlem,” said Diouf emphasizing the natural bridge between the institute and a vital community of African Americans and African immigrants. He hopes to establish a significant connection between Columbia and Harlem to discuss such topics as African influences in black American culture and how Europe is represented there and how the two cultures intersect.

Columbia’s location in New York City makes it ideally situated to pull together the diverse groups involved with Africa, he added.

Students and curriculum are also at the top of Diouf’s list of priorities, and he recognizes the challenge to regaining trust among students who were upset about the institute’s year-long disappearance.

“We have to help define the institute, but the students are going to take on the most important role because [it] has to serve them first,” said Diouf. One of his first priorities is a town meeting with students, who he hopes will speak freely and fuel a bigger discussion on what the institute can offer now that it has reopened, and to that end, he plans to reach out to other Africa-related organizations and programs at Columbia, in New York City and at other universities. The institute must also work with nearby Harlem, he said.

“I think it is impossible to have a program like ours here and not be involved with Harlem,” said Diouf. Diouf emphasized the natural bridge between the institute and a vital community of African Americans and African immigrants. He hopes to establish a significant connection between Columbia and Harlem to discuss such topics as African influences in black American culture and how Europe is represented there and how the two cultures intersect.

Columbia’s location in New York City makes it ideally situated to pull together the diverse groups involved with Africa, he added.

Students and curriculum are also at the top of Diouf’s list of priorities, and he recognizes the challenge to regaining trust among students who were upset about the institute’s year-long disappearance.

“We have to help define the institute, but the students are going to take on the most important role because [it] has to serve them first,” said Diouf. One of his first priorities is a town meeting with students, who he hopes will speak freely and fuel a bigger discussion on what the institute can offer now that it has reopened.

Lincoln Ajou, a student and president of SIPA’s Pan-African Network (SPAN), calls the reopening a positive development that students will welcome, particularly because they and others at Columbia dedicated to Africa were vigilant in

ensuring the institute’s operations would not remain suspended indefinitely.

“Columbia will once again have a focal point to promote and encourage the study of Africa and Africa-related issues,” said Ajou. Ajou’s reinstated institute, which builds upon lessons learned, is the best way to demonstrate the beginning of a new era.

Diouf plans to work toward creating a comprehensive and modern African studies curriculum. Though Columbia provides a wide range of Africa-related courses and seminars, what is still missing is a strong, formal, integrated curriculum on what Columbia offers about Africa, he said.

Though the institute reopened in July, Diouf intends to work with students in the fall to host a formal launch to celebrate its official reopening.

Excerpts have appeared in The New Yorker, where he is a contributing writer, along with Columbia’s Nicholas Lemann, dean of the Journalism School, and Orhan Pamuk, who won last year’s Nobel Prize in literature and holds an appointment in Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures.

Sacks’ move to Columbia is another example of how arts and sciences can work together. Several years ago, Gregory Mosher, director of Columbia’s Arts Initiative, heard from a mutual friend that Sacks might be interested in exploring a role at Columbia. Mosher made some calls and before long the idea of Sacks’ move to Columbia took on momentum. Sacks’ “ability to cross over the arts and cultural life and scientific life will be wonderful,” Mosher said. “He doesn’t divide these in his brain. It’s part of who he is.”

**NEW LEADER FOR AFRICA INSTITUTE**

**Sandra Harris**

**WHO SHE IS:** Assistant Vice President for the Office of Government and Community Affairs at Columbia University Medical Center.

**YEARS AT COLUMBIA:** Nine

**WHAT SHE DOES:** A typical day at the office starts with a call from a community group seeking to establish a health education arm with one of CUMC’s departments or schools. Harris also includes coordinating volunteer programs with students, community leaders and local public schools. Because she represents the University in community activities, her days sometimes end at local community meetings addressing issues of mental health, public safety and other social service issues.

**WHAT DOES SHE ENJOY:** Establishing and promoting links between community and institutional partners is not as easy as it sounds. Everyone works on individual timelines, so her job can be challenging coordinating all parties on the same page. A good day on the job is “when after months of program planning and development, we are finally able to reach an agreement on scope of work and letters of support/neighborhood agreements, just in time to meet our grant or proposal deadlines.”

**HOW SHE CAME TO COLUMBIA:** Before Columbia, she served as executive director of Alianza Dominicana’s Family Center, which provides alcoholism prevention and mental health services for new immigrant families in Washington Heights and Inwood. “As a social worker, mental health has always been my area of interest,” she said. Coming to Columbia “afforded me the opportunity to address mental health and health care policy issues at the national level while involving major health care providers and community stakeholders.”

**MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT:** Harris helped bring Yankee shortstop Derek Jeter to a community health fair organized by her department. More than 2,000 community residents attended and received free health screenings and, of course, a photo with the famous athlete. She also recalls filling the Audium Auditorium with 700 inner city youth to watch Alomama’s Boy, a gang-prevention theater presentation by Repertorio Español.

**BEST PART OF HER JOB:** “Every day I truly get the opportunity to be resourceful.” Harris is constantly learning about what health policies and research discoveries the faculty are making and how those, in turn, contribute to the community and overall goal of improved health care access and quality of life in Washington Heights and Inwood.

**IN HER SPARE TIME:** Harris enjoys spending time with her three children, Frank, Julio and Sandy, as well as her parents, siblings and their children. A typical family gathering can include 20 family members. She also loves dancing the merengue and going to the movies.

**COLUMBIA PEOPLE**

**SANDRA HARRIS**

**WHO SHE IS:** Assistant Vice President for the Office of Government and Community Affairs at Columbia University Medical Center.

**YEARS AT COLUMBIA:** Nine

**WHAT SHE DOES:** A typical day at the office starts with a call from a community group seeking to establish a health education arm with one of CUMC’s departments or schools. Harris also includes coordinating volunteer programs with students, community leaders and local public schools. Because she represents the University in community activities, her days sometimes end at local community meetings addressing issues of mental health, public safety and other social service issues.

**WHAT DOES SHE ENJOY:** Establishing and promoting links between community and institutional partners is not as easy as it sounds. Everyone works on individual timelines, so her job can be challenging coordinating all parties on the same page. A good day on the job is “when after months of program planning and development, we are finally able to reach an agreement on scope of work and letters of support/neighborhood agreements, just in time to meet our grant or proposal deadlines.”

**HOW SHE CAME TO COLUMBIA:** Before Columbia, she served as executive director of Alianza Dominicana’s Family Center, which provides alcoholism prevention and mental health services for new immigrant families in Washington Heights and Inwood. “As a social worker, mental health has always been my area of interest,” she said. Coming to Columbia “afforded me the opportunity to address mental health and health care policy issues at the national level while involving major health care providers and community stakeholders.”

**MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT:** Harris helped bring Yankee shortstop Derek Jeter to a community health fair organized by her department. More than 2,000 community residents attended and received free health screenings and, of course, a photo with the famous athlete. She also recalls filling the Audium Auditorium with 700 inner city youth to watch Alomama’s Boy, a gang-prevention theater presentation by Repertorio Español.

**BEST PART OF HER JOB:** “Every day I truly get the opportunity to be resourceful.” Harris is constantly learning about what health policies and research discoveries the faculty are making and how those, in turn, contribute to the community and overall goal of improved health care access and quality of life in Washington Heights and Inwood.

**IN HER SPARE TIME:** Harris enjoys spending time with her three children, Frank, Julio and Sandy, as well as her parents, siblings and their children. A typical family gathering can include 20 family members. She also loves dancing the merengue and going to the movies.
Artist, College Restore Smiles Of Abuse Victims

By Melanie A. Farmer

With a hand from Columbia University dentists, local artist and activist Jeremiah Kyle Drake is helping to bring back smiles to victims of domestic violence in New York.

After meeting a woman whose jaw and teeth were damaged by her abusive husband, Drake began to think about the dental aspect of domestic violence and ways he could help provide restorative dentistry to these victims. An artist at Riverside Theatre in Morningside Heights, Drake, who grew up in an abusive family, immediately looked to neighboring Columbia for help.

Columbia was just as excited as I was about this idea,” said Drake. “They really brought the needed lifeblood to this project.”

Through the College of Dental Medicine at Columbia University Medical Center, resident dentists will see up to 40 patients per year and provide them with dental treatment that will include restoring their teeth to “form and function.” In some cases, this could include greater and extended treatment.

Over the years, the College has reached out to those in need through community programs in the school system and gynecologic centers, as well as with its mobile dental van. The dental college also operates the Community DentCare program, which provides comprehensive dental care for families in Washington Heights, Inwood and Harlem.

“We have a strong commitment to helping those in need of oral health care,” said Dr. Ronnie Myers, associate dean for clinical affairs at the dental school. “If we can be of help to those individuals who have been victims of domestic violence in any way, we will have fulfilled one of our major missions of patient care.”

In this new initiative, Columbia has partnered with three community organizations—Safe Horizons, the Dove Program at New York Presbyterian Hospital and the Washington Heights/Inwood Coalition Against Domestic Violence—that refer qualified patients to the program.

“Raising awareness and finding support for victims of domestic violence has been a personal mission for Drake fueled by his own traumatic memories of family abuse. As a young boy growing up in Saranac, N.Y., Drake witnessed firsthand his father’s repeated physical abuse of his mother,” he said. “I’ve carried these memories with me, but helping others who are suffering helps me deal with my own traumatic memories.”

Drake, who joined Riverside Theatre in 2000, began using art as a way to raise awareness for victims of domestic violence. His project Restoring the Icon evolved from an earlier visual art series. The Slashing of the Icon featured images of African American icons such as Billie Holiday which were slashed as an artistic statement on women in domestic violence situations. Drake has also forged a partnership with Harlem Hospital and inspired the creation of a state senate bill that would amend the social services law to provide medical assistance to needy people for the care and treatment of scars resulting from domestic abuse.

GRANTS & GIFTS

Arts & Sciences

WHO GAVE IT: Sami W. Mnaymneh, CCH, co-founding partner of venture capital firm HIG Ventures.
HOW MUCH: $2 million
WHO GOT IT: Arts and Sciences
WHAT FOR: $1.5 million will be used to establish the Mnaymneh Professorship in Economics, $500,000 will be used for research support. The gift is matched by a grant from the Lenfest Challenge Fund.

Columbia Business School

WHO GAVE IT: Anonymous Business School alumnus
HOW MUCH: $5.5 million
WHO GOT IT: Columbia Business School
WHAT FOR: To create the BREDGC Fellowship Program that will help leverage the school’s position in New York City by bringing business executives into the classroom and faculty into the business world, and to ensure a flow of data and ideas to the University and to the world.

College of Physicians and Surgeons

WHO GAVE IT: The Bomer Estison Foundation
HOW MUCH: $6 million
WHO GOT IT: College of Physicians and Surgeons
WHAT FOR: This gift from the former NFL quarterback establishes the Gurnasion Adult Cystic Fibrosis and Lung program in the department of medicine, named for Estison’s now 16-year-old son, who has cystic fibrosis. This pledge also gives them a preview of life on campus and aeronautical and environmental engineering. “Taking this course convinced me that I want to become an engineer.”

Abdullah Al-Jazzaf, a senior from Kuwait, got vital team-work experience and a taste of life on a U.S. college campus. “We learned from one another, and how to [conduct] research from the ground up,” said Al-Jazzaf, who hopes to study mechanical engineering in the United States. “We were able to create projects that will actually be used in the future.”

Al-Jazzaf’s team worked on a food composting project, and implemented green-roof technologies. “There is an increasing awareness of the many opportunities on campus to reduce greenhouse emissions and enhance conservation efforts in general,” said Jack McCourtney, associate dean in the Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science, who teaches the course.

College Law School

WHO GAVE IT: Sidney B. Silverman, Law ’57
HOW MUCH: $1 million
WHO GOT IT: The Law School
WHAT FOR: The Sidney B. Silverman Law Repayment Fund, an endowment fund to provide interest-free loans to eligible graduates who pursue full-time positions in government service that make use of their legal education. The loans, which may be used to repay debt incurred to attend the law school, will be forgiven over time as recipients remain in government service.

BUDDING ENGINEERS

Columbia works to address long-term environmental sustainability, this summer it turned to a group that isn’t usually consulted for that kind of technical expertise: high school students.

Students from the School of Continuing Education’s high school program in engineering design worked on developing solutions to environmental problems on campus—from turning trash into energy to using vegetable oil to power vehicles.

The course has been offered for four summers, but this was the first time the design projects focused so close to home.

The shift supports the University’s efforts to make the campus more environmentally-friendly. “It’s a great opportunity for students to work on projects that could power the University’s shuttle bus to the Lamont-Doherty campus in Palisades, N.Y. Another examined ways to create human-powered energy by using old exercise equipment in Dodge Fitness Center to charge personal electronics such as laptops and cell phones, or even use that power as an alternative electricity source for the gym. Students presented their projects in July in front of an audience of their peers, professors and partners.

The program aims to give the high school juniors and seniors a comprehensive course in engineering design and applied science as well as real-life college experience. The class is designed to not only provide a realistic experience on the types of problems they would encounter as engineers and scientists, but also give them a preview of life on Columbia’s campus,” said McCourtney. Each year a number of the high school students—those who end up applying to SEAS.

Cori Capik, a high school senior from Miami, said the course convinced her that she’s on track with her desired career ambitions. “I got to really understand what environmental engineering entails,” said Capik, who plans to study mechanical and aeronautical engineering. “Taking this course convinced me that I want to become an engineer.”

September 6, 2007
The first time we have had national data on fathers’ leave-taking, and this after the birth and, if so, how much.

“ty (89 percent) of families report that fathers take some time off work. “This is...

NEWER PATERNITY LEAVE PUTS DADS IN THE LOOP

Most fathers take at least some leave from work to help care for their newborn children, and those who take longer leaves are more involved in their children’s care down the road, according to a study by two Columbia University social work professors.

Providing some of the first evidence on paternity leave in the U.S., the study finds that an overwhelming majority of fathers take some leave after a birth. A subst...

The full study, “Paternity Leave and Fathers’ Involvement with Children: Are fathers who take leave more involved with their children subsequently?” can be found at this link: [www.pnas.org/content/early/2007/08/23/0605936104]

Words of Wisdom

Rock lyrics, I believe, can be a lighthearted but engaging means to think about some profound issues of life. Farber writes, “Specifically, I have looked for lyrics that illustrate in particularly insightful ways common human longings and concerns.”

Farber groups rock lyrics into basic thematic cat-

Newly published by Praeger Publishers, an imprint of Greenwood Publishing Group, the book is titled the “50 Best Rock Lyrics” (in his opinion). They include selections from the Beatles, Bob Dylan, The Eagles, Joni Mitchell, Paul Simon and Billy Joel. The list is diplomatically pre-

“Who am I?” is one of the great questions of life, pondered by philosophers, artists, psychologists, and yes, songwriters,” Farber writes, noting that although the rocker Meat Loaf “made fun of such existential questions, he also implied that these are just the kind of things that many think about a good deal.”

A chapter on death weaves together a discussion of Aerosmith, Jackson Browne, Simon and Garfunkel, John Prine, Billy Joel and Bonnie Raitt. Farber notes that in rock lyrics, “nostalgia seems to have two competing sides. One side pushes toward sweetening the past, the other clings to old regrets.”

Farber also names the “50 Best Rock Lyrics” (in his opinion). They include selections from the Beatles, Bob Dylan, The Eagles, Joni Mitchell, Paul Simon and Billy Joel. The list is diplomatically pre-

The book, which is published by Praeger Publishers, an imprint of Greenwood Publishing Group, is not typical of Farber’s oeuvre, which ranges more to such articles titled “The Therapist as Attachment Figure” and “Ceramic Perceptions of the Process and Consequences of Self-Disclosure in Psychotherapy.” But given his research interests in psychotherapy and self-disclosure in patients, therapists and supervisors, it’s not too far of a jump to the psychology of 50 Cent, LE’ Kim and Snoop Doggy Dogg.

“Rock lyrics, I believe, can be a lighthearted but engaging means to think about some profound issues of life,” Farber writes. Specifically, I have looked for lyrics that illustrate in particularly insightful ways common human longings and concerns.”

Farber groups rock lyrics into basic thematic cat-

The book, which is published by Praeger Publishers, an imprint of Greenwood Publishing Group, is not typical of Farber’s oeuvre, which ranges more to such articles titled “The Therapist as Attachment Figure” and “Ceramic Perceptions of the Process and Consequences of Self-Disclosure in Psychotherapy.” But given his research interests in psychotherapy and self-disclosure in patients, therapists and supervisors, it’s not too far of a jump to the psychology of 50 Cent, LE’ Kim and Snoop Doggy Dogg.

“Rock lyrics, I believe, can be a lighthearted but engaging means to think about some profound issues of life,” Farber writes. Specifically, I have looked for lyrics that illustrate in particularly insightful ways common human longings and concerns.”

Farber groups rock lyrics into basic thematic cat-

Longer paternity leave may put children and parents at an advantage.

Fathers who are more highly educated and working in higher-prestige occupations are more likely to take leave and tend to take longer leaves than those who are less advantaged on those indicators. This result is consistent with prior evidence that higher-paying jobs are more likely to offer leave and to offer longer periods of leave.

Fathers who are more highly educated and working in higher-prestige occupations are more likely to take leave and tend to take longer leaves than those who are less advantaged on those indicators. This result is consistent with prior evidence that higher-paying jobs are more likely to offer leave and to offer longer periods of leave.

The study, “Paternity Leave and Fathers’ Involvement with Their Young Children: Evidence from the American ECLS-B,” will be published in the November issue of Community Work & Family.
Having taken the Lions to their first record at or above .500 in a decade in 2006, Patricia and Shepard Alexander Head Coach of Football Normie Wilson begins his second season at Columbia on Sept. 15 against Fordham. As an undergraduate in psychology, he captained a Big Ten team at the University of Minnesota. Over the past decade he served as an assistant coach at Bucknell and the University of Connecticut.

In addition to his collegiate experience, Wilson served minority coaching fellowships in the NFL with the Kansas City Chiefs, the Jacksonville Jaguars, and the Indianapolis Colts. Of course, Ivy League schools don’t dole out athletic scholarships or compete for bowl games. But football is one of many intercollegiate sports experiencing a resurgence at Columbia Universities. In an era when minor league baseball—such as the Class A Brooklyn Cyclones—has taken off as a popular, family-friendly activity even in big league cities, an afternoon at scenic, subway-accessible Baker Field Athletics Complex at the northern tip of Manhattan offers the Columbia community as well as other New Yorkers an appealing way to enjoy the charm of a classic college football experience.

**Q.** Coach, in your first year you took a team that didn’t win a league game the previous season to its best record in a decade. At 5-5. What changed in that first season to make Columbia so quickly competitive again?

**A.** What we did on defense was different, the defense carried us through for the season. The kids started playing for different reasons than they had played for in the past. We never asked the kids to go out and win a game for us or to win a game for Columbia, we asked them to go out and win a game for the guys that they’d practiced with every day and every week. They had a great sense of family amongst themselves, they had a great sense of commitment.

**Q.** How do you create that different feeling among the players?

**A.** I’ve spent a lot of time watching women’s sports. [Wilson’s wife, Brenda, played for UConn’s first NCAA women’s basketball championship team.] Whether they’re losing by 20 or winning by 20, they always cheer for each other. So we started practicing cheering for each other, and practicing celebrating, and practicing taking care of the guy that was the slowest guy on the team, and practicing helping the guy that was the weakest guy. And it got to the point where the guys really didn’t care who was playing, only that somebody on their team was playing and that was what they were going to cheer for.

**Q.** What did it feel like last year to run on that field for the first time, your first game as a head coach? Do you think you’ll be any different this year, now that you have a season under your belt?

**A.** No, it’ll be the same. The first game, you’re sure you forgot something, you’re sure you forgot to tell them something during the week or during camp, you’re nervous how that’s going to pan out. If you’re kicking off, you’re scared the other team is going to take it all the way back, and if you’re receiving the kick you’re scared that you’re going to fumble it. I think once you get them out there, five or six plays, if you’re receiving the kick you’re scared that you forgot to tell them something during the week or during camp, you’re nervous how that’s going to pan out. If you’re kicking off, you’re sure you forgot something, you’re sure you forgot to tell them something during the week or during camp.

**Q.** Do you coach them any differently because Columbia is so competitive academically off the field?

**A.** I think coaching’s coaching, it doesn’t matter where you are. Students at Columbia have to study hard. They don’t get any special considerations from professors or the University just because they’re in a sport. Our kids understand that they have to go out in the classroom and compete with gifted students coming from across the country, and still have to come to practice each week.

**Q.** How challenging is it to attract academically gifted athletes to Morningside Heights?

**A.** We’re maybe attracting a little bit less, but that’s not because the kids aren’t as good. There are only a certain number of admissible students across the country for the eight Ivy schools to choose from, so we usually are all going after the same academically qualified kids. The fact that we have won championships in other sports helps— the fact that the athletic program appears to be on the upswing, not just in football but across the board, makes more young people want to come. But we don’t think there’s an “Ivy League type.” We just want to attract students who can do the work academically, and also come out and help us be a better football program.

**Q.** What are your hopes for this team to accomplish?

**A.** We’d like to have a winning season. That doesn’t mean anything less would be unsuccessful, it just depends how it pans out. We know we just have to take it one week at a time. Winning’s not guaranteed. People think it’s stupid when I say it, but it’s half the teams that play on Saturday win. And it’s tough to go out and win. You’ve got to go out and you’ve got to prepare, and you have to have a little bit of luck, and you have to create some luck. A lot of kids on the team are looking down the road and hoping to win an Ivy League championship. But right now I’m focused on that first game and hoping to beat Fordham.

For more information about Columbia football 2007, go to www.geocolumbiafx.com

---

**STAFF Q&A**

**NORRIES WILSON**

Interviewed by David M. Stone

“Our kids understand that they have to compete with gifted students coming from across the country, and still have to come to practice each week.”

**POSITION:**

Patricia and Shepard Alexander Head Coach of Football

**LENGTH OF SERVICE:**

One year, nine months

**BEFORE COLUMBIA:**

Two Prominent Alums Named University Trustees

Two new members, both prominent alumni, have been elected to join Columbia's board of trustees, effective Sept. 4.

Armén A. Aranessian EN’83 and A'Lelia Bundles JRN’76 join the 24-member board, which includes leaders in law, business, education, medicine and politics led by Chair William V. Campbell.

Aranessian succeeds Michael E. Patterson, who retired from the board at the beginning of this academic year. Bundles, who was elected to the board after a 30-year career in network television, fills a vacancy.

Aranessian is a partner at Goldman Sachs & Co. He joined the firm in 1989 as a foreign exchange strategist and was named a partner in 1994. Currently, he is director of Fixed Income, Currency and Commodities Strategies, Equity Strategies, Investment Banking and Financing Group Strategies and Goldman Sachs Asset Management Strategies. Before joining Goldman, he was on the technical staff at Bell Laboratories. Aranessian sits on the Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science Board of Visitors and the Financial Engineering Advisory Committee at Columbia. He also serves on the Engineering Council at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Masters in Financial Engineering Steering Committee at the University of California at Berkeley.

Bundles, an award-winning journalist and author, is now a full-time writer of books and professional speaker after a 30-year career in network television news. Bundles worked at ABC News and NBC News in numerous positions including talent development, executive producer and bureau chief. Among her journalism awards are an Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Gold Baton and an Emmy. Her critically acclaimed biography On Her Own Ground: The Life and Times of Madam C.J. Walker was named a 2002 Borders Books-Hurston/Wright Legacy Award finalist, a 2001 New York Times Notable Book and received other accolades. Her young adult biography, Madam C.J. Walker, Entrepreuneur, received an American Book Award. Bundles spearheaded the national campaign that led to the 1998 U.S. Postal Service’s Black Heritage stamp of Walker. She is currently at work on her third book, Joy Goddess: A’Leila Walker and the Harlem Renaissance, a biography of her great-grandmother to be published by Simon & Schuster. She chairs a committee charged with revamping the Columbia Journalism School’s alumni association and a 2007 Columbia University Alumni Medalist.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

HINT: Turn this head and you’ll see a face of great currency. Send answers to curecord@columbia.edu. First to e-mail us the right answer wins a Record mug. ANSWER TO LAST CHALLENGE: The Cut by Clement Meadmore, a gift by Percy Uris to the Columbia Business School.

Dr. Ricardo L. Komotar, a neurosurgeon resident at Columbia University, slides safely home during the championship game between Columbia University Medical Center and the University of Pennsylvania at the Fourth Annual Neurosurgery Charity Softball Tournament in Central Park in June. Columbia didn’t win the game, but the event raised more than $100,000 for the Columbia University Pediatric Brain Tumor Research Fund (www.GoldinResearch.org).