our guide

THE INSIDER’S GUIDE TO WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS AND OUR SURROUNDING COMMUNITY
A view of St. Louis from the Washington University Danforth Campus.
“OUR FACULTY AND STAFF GIVE YOU A PEEK INTO THEIR LIVES, SHARING THEIR FAVORITE NEIGHBORHOODS, EVENTS AND BOITES.”
Washington University in St. Louis is located in a region with historic charm and global presence.

Our main campus sits at the convergence of the city of St. Louis; Clayton, a thriving business district; and University City, a bucolic residential enclave with a bustling arts, music, and restaurant scene.

Our medical campus lies two miles — two MetroLink stops — from the main campus. Its Central West End neighborhood is a vibrant, eclectic community where sidewalk patios are shared by booklovers, foodies, hookah-smokers, and dog-lovers.

Between the two campuses lies Forest Park — at just under 1,400 acres one of the nation’s largest urban parks. Ringed with jogging and biking trails, the park draws visitors from the entire region to its world-class zoo, museums, golf and tennis facilities, and restaurants.

We are a city of historic walking neighborhoods, and each one has its own architectural and cultural flavor, an energetic mix of parks, farmers markets, restaurants, music clubs, and locally owned shops. The metropolitan area offers a wonderful array of communities, shopping, and schools within reasonable driving distance.


- Cheer on our World Champion Cardinals, our emerging Blues, and our beloved Rams.
- Listen to our signature jazz and blues, opera, indie-bands, or our world-famous symphony.
- Savor our unique restaurants and cafés — slow food, James Beard nominees, ethnic cuisine, the cocktail renaissance, and barbeque.
- Play in our parks or bike or walk along hundreds of miles of trails.
- Absorb the arts and browse our dazzling collection of museums, which you’ll read about in these pages, or attend some of finest theater in the country including The Black Rep, the nation’s largest African-American theater company.

Our faculty and staff give you a peek into their lives, sharing their favorite neighborhoods, events, and boîtes. You will find everything from a sheep farm to taco trucks. Enjoy!
“GET OFF CAMPUS AND GET TO KNOW PEOPLE.”

ROBERT HANSMAN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE
SAM FOX SCHOOL OF DESIGN & VISUAL ARTS
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
Its difficulties and working to address them.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
Getting to know and work with students and faculty and staff across disciplines.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
The students who put on Mr. Wash U and volunteer in the projects, Kinloch, etc.

WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?
Social / racial justice; taking off the blinders people don’t know they have.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?
Billy Burks burgers in the Ville, Mom’s Soul Food Kitchen on Goodfellow.

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?
Downtown

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?
Don’t listen to the fear-mongering nonsense; look for the real causes of things, and realize your own role in both the problems and the solutions. Get off campus and get to know people.
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?

There is so much to do in St. Louis for people of all abilities and interests. We have arts, community activities, and a wide variety of sports, wonderful parks, and interesting and exciting special events. In addition, it is a great place to make friends and raise a family.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?

Washington University provides an exciting, challenging place to work that provides opportunities every day to learn new things, participate in work that contributes to the advancement of our missions of teaching, research, service, and clinical care. I feel that I really make a difference. In addition, I feel that the colleagues I work with are intelligent, interested, and dedicated. It makes for a wonderful work environment.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?

Human Resources have been a big help to me personally. I work closely with so many resources that it is really hard to name one that has had a more significant impact than another on my professional needs. It really is an organization willing to help resolve professional and personal issues.

WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

I am a huge Cardinals baseball fan and love to attend the games. Forest Park is truly a treasure for St. Louis and I love the History Museum and the Art Museum. Missouri Botanical Garden should not be missed. And I am regular Fox Theatre attendee. The Saint Louis Zoo is one of my favorite places to visit. These are just a few of the places I love to frequent.
“THERE IS SO MUCH TO DO IN ST. LOUIS FOR PEOPLE OF ALL ABILITIES AND INTERESTS.”

DENISE MCCARTNEY
ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR
RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

Photographed on the campus of the Washington University School of Medicine.
What is your favorite St. Louis “hidden gem”?  
The Butterfly House in St. Louis County is a hidden treasure that is a true delight to visit. Laumeier Sculpture Garden offers a wonderful location filled with interesting sculptures.

In what neighborhood do you live?  
I live in west St. Louis County, a location chosen to be close to my family.

What advice about St. Louis and/or Washington University would you like to share with someone new to the community?  
I would advise getting involved in the WU community activities and to volunteer in any one of a number of St. Louis organizations that need your help and support. It is a great way to meet new people.
Did You Know?

Washington University offers an array of family-friendly benefits such as employee and dependent tuition assistance, a university-owned child care center, and same and opposite sex partner benefits. Learn more at: http://hr.wustl.edu/benefits/Pages/default.aspx
“PARENTS OF YOUNG KIDS SHOULD KNOW THAT THERE ARE MANY RESOURCES HERE...”

ADINA STERLING
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF STRATEGY
OLIN BUSINESS SCHOOL
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
St. Louis is a great city and has a lot to offer. The climate is fairly temperate, the people here are friendly, and there’s a lot to do. I especially like Forest Park and go biking there a lot.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
This is an institution truly dedicated to teaching and research. Also, I really admire how much Wash U does for the surrounding community. There is a sense that the institution will continue to increase in stature when it devotes resources to the community.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
I have really enjoyed being a part of the New Faculty of Color Program organized by Adrienne Davis.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?
I love going to the Boathouse in Forest Park to eat on a Sunday afternoon.

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?
University City

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?
Parents of young kids should know that there are many resources here, from back-up child care to a lot of ‘kid friendly’ free events.
What do you like about St. Louis?

It may sound like a cliche, but people are genuinely kind, nice, and patient. I’ve never had better neighbors than I did when living in the Central West End. It’s also a very unstressful place to live, about as unstressful a place as one can find that still has the amenities of a big city. Lots of open green space, the best jogging trails ever in Forest Park (which is itself a big plus of life here, and right next to the university, no less), low traffic and easy parking; inexpensive and conveniently located housing, and so on. Also, the architecture: grand, with a hint of decay. St. Louis never really got around to tearing down old buildings and replacing them with sterile boxes.

What do you like about Washington University?

It is a totally world-class research university in every way, including resources and leadership. There is so much institutional support for doing interesting work, and so many terrific people to talk to in other departments and schools who embrace interdisciplinarity. And best of all, the university is constantly and visibly improving. Honestly, it’s hard for me to think of things I “don’t” like about Washington University.

What (activity, organization, etc.) in St. Louis are you passionate about?

The Saint Louis Symphony makes other symphonies look bad. Though I have recently attended my first Cardinals’ game, I have to confess though that I have yet to attend a Blues (or ... um ... Rams) game.
DAVID LAW
PROFESSOR, LAW AND POLITICAL SCIENCE
SCHOOL OF LAW
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?

I moved here from San Diego and discovered to my delight and surprise that there is great Mexican food in town, but you have to know where to look. La Vallesana used to be literally a shack in the middle of a parking lot on Cherokee Street. Now it’s gotten fancy and looks like a real restaurant, but they still serve you fresh sliced radishes with your cabeza, cachete, and lengua tortas (although the English version of the menu chickens out and doesn’t list the cabeza!) If you cross the river east, there is a small strip of Mexican places (mostly rosticerias) along Route 111 just after you get off the freeway on the way to the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site. That part of town is home to a substantial immigrant population from Michoacan and Zacatecas. El Gallo Jiro is typical, and it’s easy to spot thanks to the road sign with the giant rooster. They make their own menudo with pig’s feet. It’s about a 30-minute drive door-to-door from campus.

If you’re not so keen on Mexican food, then there are the half-pound BLT sandwich and the frosted malts at Crown Candy Kitchen. That place is even older than Chuck Berry, who still plays live every month at Blueberry Hill. St. Louis is a good place for vintage Americana.

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?

Currently, Ames Place, right across the street from the law school. I used to live in the Central West End, which is a fun and convenient walking neighborhood with lots of great places to eat, on the other side of Forest Park from the main campus and next to the medical school.

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?

St. Louis is a collection of micro-neighborhoods, somewhat spaced apart. Because of that, most of the gems are hidden gems. I wouldn’t want to live here without a car. But rarely is anything more than a 20-minute drive, unless it’s somewhere off in West County, like Chesterfield, the scope and existence of which I am hard pressed to explain. In fact, once you live here, you become comically unaccustomed to driving for a long time and it makes you lazy. In San Diego or L.A., you might spend 20 minutes in your car just to pick up your dry cleaning. Here, 20 minutes is like, “Really? That far?” But just you see – you too will become spoiled.
Did You Know?

With more than 13,000 employees, Washington University is the #2 ranked private employer in the State of Missouri and the 4th largest employer in the St. Louis metropolitan area. (Source: 2011 Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages)
“ST. LOUIS IS AN EASY TOWN TO NAVIGATE BECAUSE OF ITS SIZE.”

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
St. Louis is an easy town to navigate because of its size. It’s also one of the cleanest cities I’ve lived in, with impressive landscaping. The all-brick architecture is very affordable.

In the last 10 years, the museums and their collections have grown.

There is a lively poetry community.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
The students are a great challenge because they are smart, dedicated students with a drive that keeps me motivated.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
Being connected to the arts has led me to many groups that are generous with their information and resources in industry as well as on other college campuses.
WHAT ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC. IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

I appreciate the Griot Museum of Black History & Culture. It’s only the second wax museum in the United States that features African-American history. Lois Conley, the founder and director has become a good friend because she is always there and loves to talk about all the new things that she is doing there.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?  

I love taking out-of-town guests to the Cahokia Mounds Museum & Historical Site in Illinois and to the Meramec Caverns.

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?

I live in Reservoir Park, which is composed of only five blocks, situated between Compton Heights and Shaw. I lived in Tower Grove Park before that. The parks in St. Louis are well kept and hold lots of community-related events.

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?

In the last several years I have found it very easy to contact my alderman or local school officials to find volunteers for my projects. The people in St. Louis are very friendly in all areas of public life and opportunities are just one request away.
Did You Know?

Washington University ranks in the top 20 in giving by faculty, staff, and retirees to the United Way of Greater St. Louis.
ELLEN M. LOCKHART
VICE CHAIRMAN, DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ANESTHESIOLOGY
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
What do you like about St. Louis?

I like the weather, having four seasons. I love the variety in neighborhoods with their unique character, style, and cuisine. I enjoy being able to take advantage of events and activities both in and out of the city, without excessive driving or traffic.

What do you like about Washington University?

I enjoy being part of such a dynamic medical center, as well as being part of the larger university.

What Washington University Resource(s) have been most helpful or meaningful to you?

Executive Education programs at the Olin Business School

What activity, organization, etc. in St. Louis are you passionate about?

The symphony is fantastic. The arts in general are very lively in St. Louis.

What is your favorite St. Louis “hidden gem”?

Forest Park

In what neighborhood do you live?

Clayton

“THE SYMPHONY IS FANTASTIC.”
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
As a native of St. Louis, the thing I like best about it is certainly having my family nearby. St. Louis is also a very manageable city in terms of its size. I've lived in cities as large as Boston and a small town in upstate New York. St. Louis has the feel of a smaller community while having the amenities of a large metropolitan area. It is also a great place to raise a family, with venues like the world-class Saint Louis Zoo and the Magic House, affordable housing, and several high-quality public and private school options. For individuals who are community-minded, St. Louis is also close-knit enough to make a real impact in the lives of community members. That is an exciting prospect that one might not find in a larger city.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
Washington University is an exciting place for someone like me with an entrepreneurial spirit. There are unmatched resources for carrying out research, but there is also a great openness to exploring new ideas. My ideas have been supported not only in my academic work, but also in my service to the university and the community. If you are willing to work to see a vision brought to fruition, there are resources to help you. That is a remarkable thing to be able to say about a larger institution. We are unhindered by an excessive devotion to tradition and bureaucracy, which is refreshing.

I also enjoy learning from my colleagues and students. We attract some of the finest minds in the country and the world to Washington University, and the intellectual environment is very stimulating. Brilliant minds in an environment where you are encouraged to innovate, not just for the good of your discipline, but ultimately the good of the world — that is a rich combination indeed.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
I've been most influenced by the work of two centers at Washington University: the Health Communication Research Laboratory (HCRL), directed by Professor Matt Kreuter, and the Center for Social Development (CSD), directed by Professor Michael Sherraden. I came to the university to work with Professor Kreuter and have learned a great deal about community-based research to improve cancer prevention and control in low-income and racial and ethnic minority populations. Professor Sherraden and CSD’s trailblazing work on asset building as a poverty alleviation strategy has also influenced my area of research focus. Together the HCRL and CSD co-sponsor a working group I have established to explore asset-based financial intervention to improve preventive health behaviors in low-income populations. I also enjoy the great support of the Brown School under the leadership of Dean Edward Lawlor.
“AS A NATIVE OF ST. LOUIS, THE THING I LIKE BEST ABOUT IT IS CERTAINLY HAVING MY FAMILY NEARBY.”

JASON Q. PURNELL
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
BROWN SCHOOL
WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

There is a great deal I am passionate about in the St. Louis community. Chief among them is the work of the Institute for Public Health to improve community health and address health disparities. I am very excited about the work of the new Center for Community Health and Partnerships and look forward to working collaboratively with colleagues and community partners to help chart its course. I am also a board member for a private middle school for boys called Loyola Academy whose mission is to end the cycle of poverty through education. More than 80 percent of our boys qualify for the free and reduced cost lunch program. We prepare them for admission to competitive, college preparatory high schools in the region, and upward of 95 percent graduate. I’m also involved in several community initiatives focused on education, youth violence prevention, financial stability, and early childhood development.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM” (I.E. FUN PLACE, MUST-SEE LOCATION)?

The Missouri Botanical Garden is one of my favorite places, and admission is free to residents on certain days. It has special importance to me as the place where my wife and I were married, but it’s also just one of the most beautiful places in St. Louis. Within the Botanical Garden, I’d recommend definitely checking out the Japanese Garden, the Climatron, and the statue and small garden dedicated to George Washington Carver.

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?

I live in the very unhelpful and nondescriptive unincorporated St. Louis County. We’re sandwiched between Maryland Heights, Creve Coeur, and Olivette, northwest of Washington University’s Danforth Campus.

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?

My advice about St. Louis is simply to get involved. There is plenty going on, and you are bound to find a niche somewhere in the community. Some people say that St. Louis can be a bit insular, and I’d agree with that, but there is a great deal of energy in the city and in any number of opportunities to connect with like-minded people who care about the things you do — whether that has to do with community improvement, the arts, recreation and physical activity, or a host of other interests. My advice would be the same for the university. Learn about what is going on outside your school, department, or office. You will be amazed at the breadth and quality of activities.
Did You Know?

St. Louis was ranked #11 on Parenting Magazine’s Best Cities for Families, based on schools, affordable homes, low crime rates, jobs, and parkland.
“IT’S AN ESPECIALLY WONDERFUL PLACE TO EXPERIENCE THE LONG, BEAUTIFUL ST. LOUIS SPRINGS AND AUTUMNS.”

ANDREA FRIEDMAN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
WOMEN, GENDER & SEXUALITY STUDIES PROGRAM
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Andrea was photographed in Tower Grove Park.
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
What they say about St. Louis is true — it’s a really easy place to live. Nothing’s more than 20 minutes away, housing is affordable, and (mostly) people are very friendly. There’s lots to do and it’s easy to do it. Also, spring is really beautiful here. I’ve never seen so many flowering trees.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
The best part of working at Wash U is our undergraduates. They are smart, hardworking, and really interesting people. I also like that I have great flexibility to teach what I want and in the sorts of small classroom settings that I most enjoy.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
Wash U has become a very family-friendly employer while I’ve been here, and although my children are too old now to take advantage of some of the newer resources (e.g., the campus child care center, sick child care), I’ve appreciated the generous family leave policy, and I am really looking forward to the tuition assistance for my sons’ college educations. And the domestic partner benefits — especially health insurance for my partner — have enabled us to make choices about how best to care for our family.

WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?
I’ll just mention two local groups that make St. Louis unique. KDHX (88.1 FM) is a fantastic independent radio station that showcases great music of all kinds and benefits local musicians, artists, and organizations. And Growing American Youth has been supporting sexual and gender-minority and questioning youth for 30 years. They do really inspiring work.
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?
Tower Grove Park. It’s a wonderful Victorian walking park just south of the Missouri Botanical Garden (another must-see). Its attractions — from the dozens of ornate picnic gazebos to the summertime farmers market to the concerts, wading pool, reflecting pond, and bird sanctuary — bring in all sorts of people and provide a real oasis in the city. For a while there was even a coyote living there, and we’ve also seen foxes and other critters you wouldn’t expect to see. It’s an especially wonderful place to experience the long, beautiful St. Louis springs and autumns.

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?
I live in Tower Grove South, which is a really heterogeneous neighborhood of homeowners and renters in South St. Louis. It’s only about a 15-minute commute, and is home to young hipsters and older folk, lifelong St. Louisans and a substantial immigrant population. It’s racially diverse and mostly politically progressive, with lots of young families and a queer presence as well. And it has two commercial anchors — South Grand on the east and Morganford in the middle. You can walk to the bank, the dry cleaners, the public library, the international grocery, and lots of coffee shops, bars, and restaurants (as well as the above-described Tower Grove Park). I wouldn’t live anywhere else.

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?
St. Louis is a complicated city, and when I first moved here I was shocked at the occasional blatant bigotry with which I was confronted. And, yes, people will ask you where you went to high school as a way of “placing” you. But, like any urban area, it offers lots of opportunities to step outside of your own little box. And it is possible to live in the city and get a good education for your kids, though it takes some work.

On a more prosaic note: Beware of St. Louisans driving in the snow!
Did You Know?

Careerbuilder ranked St. Louis as the 10th best city for recent college graduates in 2011.
“ALL THAT IS SAID ABOUT MIDWESTERN HOSPITALITY AND POLITENESS IS TRUE.”

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
The people! All that is said about midwestern hospitality and politeness is true. Less known is that there’s a great group of civic-minded people who are working to make lives of people in St. Louis better and more equitable. Additional benefits are the many free parks, museums, and activities; the lovely city parks for outdoor exercise or relaxation; the quality of restaurants; the various neighborhoods with unique architectural flavor; and the affordability!

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
The intellectual energy on campus is invigorating. Intellectual energy, interesting and smart people, and a beautiful campus are a winning combination!

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
Most meaningful to me are any of the resources that allow me to pursue research and that enable me to help students refine their intellectual interests and skills for doing independent research.

WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?
I’m most involved with organizations that relate to my research interests — including Planned Parenthood, St. Louis Effort for AIDS, and the Deaconess Foundation, and service organizations such as The Links, Inc. and Jack & Jill, Inc. Having two kids under the age of five, I am also passionate about the many things in the city that allow my family to combine fun with learning while keeping my little ones out of trouble!

Shanti Parikh, center, is photographed in the City Garden with her husband, Jason Wilson, her sons Justin David and Julian (in Shanti’s arms), and their family friend Janet Kagoda.
“All that is said about midwestern hospitality and politeness is true.”
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?
Cliché, but the Arch is fabulous and a must-see. The City Museum downtown is a very unique place for hours of fun. Forest Park contains something for everyone — from golf to row boats or a picnic near the fountain at the bottom of Art Hill. I am still amazed that the Zoo is free and world-class! The Botanical Garden has magnificent seasonal exhibitions and events. On evenings during the warmer seasons, sitting outdoors at one of the restaurants or bars in the Central West End is still the place to be!

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?
The Shaw Park neighborhood, near the Botanical Garden

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?
Don’t believe the hype about the “dangerous” places in St. Louis. Unfortunately, many people — from real estate agents to one-time visitors to students who haven’t ventured far beyond campus — will inform visitors about places in St. Louis (often north of Delmar) not to go. This unconscious and often unfounded, class- and race-based fear limits or delays people’s willingness to explore the wonders of the city. Get a map, learn the unique history of the various neighborhoods.
Did You Know?

The Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center, which is a Washington University and Barnes-Jewish Hospital partnership, is the only cancer center in Missouri to hold the prestigious Comprehensive Cancer Center designation from the National Cancer Institute.
“WE LIVE IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AND JUST LOVE IT.”

JOSEPH K. GOODMAN
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MARKETING
OLIN BUSINESS SCHOOL

Joseph was photographed in the Central West End.
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
What I like about St. Louis is that there is something for everyone. If you’re the suburban type, we have some of the most affordable housing in the country with great public schools, all with a reasonable commute. You can live on a small lot, a big lot, in the hills, on a lake, in Missouri, in Illinois, or hidden in the forest. If you’re the urban type, like us, there are several great neighborhoods with different character and nightlife, and you can choose to live in a 100+ year-old mansion, new construction, warehouse lofts, or several affordable apartments. We live in the City of St. Louis and just love it. Our neighborhood is full of kids (our son is one of 18 on the block!), singles, retirees, and several faculty, and we can walk to everything — grocery stores, a dozen-plus restaurants, parks, movie theaters, museums, a top zoo, coffee shops, art galleries, wine shops, public transport — all with a really grueling 8-minute commute through beautiful Forest Park (20 minutes if I take my bike or the bus). I could go on and on about the city.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
This question is a tough one. There’s a lot. The research atmosphere and reputation were the biggest draws. Everyone in our area is research active and interested in learning about new research and bringing in speakers. I also like the fact that our undergrads are so talented. It not only makes teaching more enjoyable, but it makes for the best research assistants I’ve ever had. We kept two of them and now they’re in our PhD program! I also love the atmosphere and the architecture. I’m still inspired coming to work at such a beautiful campus and the Collegiate Gothic architecture reminds me of great thinkers and the search for knowledge. I know it’s a little cheesy, or perhaps cliché, but Wash U is just what a college should look like.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
The most helpful resource to me has been the school doing whatever it takes to help me in my research. There are always roadblocks to research, especially in my field where we need human participants to conduct research. Without people and resources to recruit them, compensate them, host them, and coordinate with them, nothing would get done. I’ve found at Wash U that there are resources — from people, such as administrative support, to financial support — to find ways through those roadblocks. Related to conducting research is the resource and encouragement to present this research and collaborate with other great researchers around the world, which is a top priority at Wash U.
WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

I’m passionate about the city, its history, the architecture, and its future. The City of St. Louis has such a rich history that represents the greater American history, including the changing business landscape. Today the city only has some 320,000 people (from over a million at its peak in the 1950s), but it’s full of amazing resources, culture, diversity, festivals, theaters, beautiful homes, and local businesses, which is the glue holding together 3 million people in the metro area. It is home to the best hospitals, the best parks, the best beer, the best high school in the state (Metro), and the best baseball team in the world. It’s not without its issues, of course, but I think the future of the city is bright. Recently, the city has been growing, and I think we’ve really reached a tipping point towards urban environments.

Of course, we’re all pretty passionate about the Cardinals. I’m now a Cards convert. I don’t think there is anything like watching a comeback rally live, during Game 6, to win the World Series!

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?

City Museum. No question. And that’s not because I’m into the city. The City Museum shouldn’t even be called a museum. It defies everything you know about a museum. I can’t describe it. You just have to go and see it (and bring the kids — this is one museum that they will enjoy even more than you).


IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?

Central West End, in the great City of St. Louis.

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?

1. Take your time deciding on where you want to live and finding your own St. Louis. You’ll get lots of opinions and perspectives, from the natives that have been here for generations to the recent implants. There are many sides and neighborhoods to St. Louis.

2. St. Louis is a pizza town. Imo’s Pizza will grow on you. Then go to Pi and the Good Pie for the real deal.

3. Provel (a special cheese only found in St. Louis) is an acquired taste.

4. They have great Italian food here, but it’s not that Italian food from Italy. Once you accept that fact, you’ll love the toasted ravioli!

5. Don’t go to the Arch until someone comes and visits you. It’s the first place they’ll want to go!
Did You Know?

The Washington University School of Medicine is consistently ranked as one of the top 10 medical schools in the nation by *US News and World Report.*
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
St. Louis is a very livable city, offering an array of diverse opportunities without being overwhelming. On any given weekend one can find a wealth of activities and cultural events, and it is possible to take advantage of them without having to battle large crowds or traffic jams.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
Washington University has both a strong international and national reputation as a top-flight research university and a strong local/regional identity that makes it easy to attract students, faculty, and administrators. The law school, where I teach, has a well-deserved reputation as a top-20 institution that is very ambitious. The university’s campus is gorgeous, and its various schools and departments are within easy reach, making interdisciplinary interchange accessible. Overall, the feel of the university is relatively intimate.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
Washington University’s schools and centers offer an incredibly rich array of intellectual programs, events, and speakers whose expertise crosses disciplinary boundaries. In particular, the Law School’s Public Interest Law & Policy Speaker Series, Brown School’s Center for Social Development, and the Danforth Center on Religion & Politics sponsor some wonderful interdisciplinary programs.

WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?
I train and show dogs in obedience and herding, and I raise sheep. I belong to the St. Louis Herding Club, which offers many events and dog training opportunities around the area.
“I train and show dogs in obedience and herding, and I raise sheep.”
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?  
Purina Farms, in Grays Summit, Missouri.

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?  
I live on a farm in Jefferson County.

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?  
Attend as many events around campus as possible in your first six months here, and find the people who share your interests.
Did You Know?

*Money* magazine listed St. Louis as the #8 Best City for Homebuyers in 2011.
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
St. Louis is a wonderful community filled with a wide array of affordable entertainment options, cultural attractions, unique neighborhoods, and local “stayca” options.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
Washington University is a great place to work. There are so many areas to explore. University College offers a wide array of interesting courses to help you meet your professional development needs.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
University College.

WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?
I like working with teenage youth and college age students. It really doesn’t matter what organization.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?
The Grove neighborhood is a great new hip area for all types of entertainment.

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?
Barrington Downs in unincorporated Florissant

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?
Don’t fall into the St. Louis trap of sticking only to areas with people like yourself. Explore the diversity of the entire region. Don’t believe the real estate and “where did you go to high school” crowd. Get out and explore.

“THE GROVE...IS A GREAT NEW HIP AREA FOR ALL TYPES OF ENTERTAINMENT.”
Brian was photographed in The Grove.

BRIAN PHILLIPS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
“ST. LOUIS IS THE PERFECT SIZE.”

Kilian and Anne pictured with their sons, Timo (left) and Koby at local restaurant and general store, Winslow’s Home.

KILIAN WEINBERGER ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
ANNE BRACY LECTURER
COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCE
What do you like about St. Louis?

Kilian: St. Louis is the perfect size. Small enough to be stress-free, yet big enough that you’re never bored, and you can keep discovering new things. Plus you never spend more than 20 minutes getting anywhere.

Anne: I like Halloween in St. Louis. Neighbors sit outside on their spookily decorated porches, playing music (sometimes live!), drinking mulled wine or hot chocolate, and visit with one another. The local custom is for kids to tell a joke to earn their treat, so prepare yourself for a lot of slightly painful middle school Halloween puns.

What do you like about Washington University?

Anne: I worked in a cube for years before coming here, so my first answer will always be “the view from my office.” I love looking out on the 100-year-old trees and seeing how they change from season to season.

Kilian: The students! They are really fun.

What Washington University resource(s) have been most helpful or meaningful to you?

Our 4-year-old attends the Washington University Nursery School. He absolutely loves it, and we’re thrilled with their thoughtful and playful program.

What (activity, organization, etc.) in St. Louis are you passionate about?

We love to walk. From our house we can walk to Wash U, the local elementary school, several parks and playgrounds, the Delmar Loop (downtown U City), and restaurants in Clayton. We’re also three blocks from the Metro, which takes us to downtown St. Louis destinations plus the airport. Our family has one car, and we drive less than 4000 miles/year. We don’t know too many other cities where that’s possible.
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?

Anne: Winslow’s Home: part neighborhood coffee shop, part restaurant, part general store from *Little House on the Prairie*.

Kilian: It’s a tie between the rooftop bar at the Eclipse or the Boathouse in Forest Park. . . .and of course the City Museum!

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?

West Portland Place (University City)

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?

Try out new things by asking around. It’s easier to discover St. Louis by word of mouth than by internet search. Ask your new friends and neighbors for recommendations. That’s how we discovered our neighborhood’s favorite Mexican Restaurant (Mi Ranchito), Jazz at the Bistro, the St. Louis Speakers Series, Pappy’s Smokehouse, and several farmers markets.
Did You Know?

Washington University provides faculty, staff, and students with a U-Pass, which offers free access to the region’s Metro bus and MetroLink light rail system.
“STUDENTS ARE THE MOST MEANINGFUL RESOURCE.”
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
St. Louis offers so many options to explore the out-of-doors, and they are all within a short drive of the city and the university. The best option is even within walking distance — Forest Park. The different walking paths and trails on hundreds of acres always lead me to a unique “find” — the zoo, the Boat-house, or one of the museums. I also love exploring the neighborhoods in this city. Each area has an individual identity and culture all its own. Walking is one of the best ways to get to know an area, and strolling through the likes of Lafayette Park, the Hill, Dogtown, and Maplewood has been a good way for me to get the flavor of the city and these areas in particular.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
One of the biggest strengths of this university is the strong collaboration between centers, departments, schools, and student organizations. As I have become more familiar with these groups, I have been impressed with how each entity has a clear vision and mission, working tirelessly toward that end; yet these various groups — some with vastly different purposes — work together to strengthen programs and services all across the campus. It is amazing to see, for example, how the ideas of one center or department can be intertwined with research or projects involving a different school or center across campus, or even at a different location. The beauty of this is that we all have the same goal: To better the lives of our students and the community.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
Students are the most meaningful resource. Visiting with students and learning about their interests, goals, and challenges provides insight into factors that drive the curriculum, programs, and services at Washington University. I also find the libraries at Washington University and their collections of books, journals, publications, and special papers invaluable. There is such a diverse array of collections, and I’m very pleased that the library carries American Indian books and magazines. Also, the librarians are most helpful!
WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?

I like to stay connected to the American Indian communities and attend the Hispanic events and organizations. Additionally, as a member of the Missouri International Women’s Forum, I am able to meet and network with prominent women in Missouri who have made a significant impact on the state. The Diversity Awareness Partnership program in St. Louis is an organization I like to support as well. Reaching out to all of these organizations helps me to build relationships and create a sense of belonging.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?

Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site in Collinsville, Illinois, seems to be a well-kept secret here in St. Louis. I hear so many native St. Louisans say, “Yes, I’ve heard of it, but I’ve never been there!” I frequently attend special cultural activities, such as the annual American Indian Art show and various lectures. I enjoy the walking trails in that area as well. Just seeing the Mounds themselves and learning about the rich history of the indigenous peoples right here in our area is worth the drive across the river.

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?

I live in the University City/Clayton area.

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?

It took me a while to find out about the availability and locations of ethnic foods and fresh foods in the area. Because there is diversity at Washington University, locating these places early can help a person retain his or her cultural eating preferences and thus feel at home more quickly. Some of my preferred shopping locations are Jay’s International Food Center, Tower Grove Park Farmer’s Market, and Seafood City Grocery. A colleague was kind enough to introduce me to Everest Café on Manchester when I first arrived in St. Louis, and it is still one of my favorite restaurants for Nepalese, Korean, and Indian cuisine.
Did You Know?

The Washington University Employer Assisted Housing Program offers forgivable loans to qualified university employees for the purchase of housing in eligible neighborhoods. http://eahp.wustl.edu/
“THE CITY MUSEUM (IS) A CREATIVE FUN PLACE FOR YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE.”

Mario was photographed on the campus of the Washington University School of Medicine.

MARIO CASTRO
PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE AND PEDIATRICS
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
What do you like about St. Louis?
St. Louis offers a diverse community with access to a variety of cultural, social, and sporting events within an affordable lifestyle.

What do you like about Washington University?
Washington University offers a stimulating academic environment that strives for excellence in teaching and research and, at the medical school, provision of the best medical care.

What Washington University Resource(s) have been most helpful or meaningful to you?
My colleagues — it seems like every week I’m meeting someone new that is doing amazing creative things here.

What (activity, organization, etc.) in St. Louis are you passionate about?
Cardinals baseball — truly a sport lovers paradise!

What is your favorite St. Louis “hidden gem”?
The City Museum, a creative fun place for young and old alike.

In what neighborhood do you live?
Chesterfield

What advice about St. Louis and/or Washington University would you like to share with someone new to the community?
Take advantage of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) cores and training opportunities — shared resources that can help you advance your career.
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
St. Louis has the best of all worlds. It’s a vibrant and diverse city. It’s accessible and very livable. It offers the amenities of a large metropolitan area, but is a more manageable size so you can be nearly anywhere in 20 minutes. It offers great dining, shopping, cultural opportunities, and simply, friendly people.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
As an administrator working daily with students, I like that Washington University is one of the most student-centered institutions in the country. While many other institutions may also make that claim, Washington University walks that talk every single day. In the classroom, in its residential and cultural programming as well as in its vibrant student organizations, the university offers an incredible array of growth opportunities for its students and the faculty and staff with whom they work.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
Two things come to mind. One is the relationships with colleagues across campus who are always willing to offer support and guidance. This place is built on relationships! Second, my involvement with PLAN (Professional Leadership Academy Network) enabled me to see the institution in its entirety and to better understand how my role is important and valued, along with a demonstrated commitment to my professional development.

WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?
There are so many things to connect and engage with in this city. I support local and national social justice organizations such as PROMO and the Human Rights Campaign. If you care about something specific, there is probably an opportunity to connect with a local organization that is also passionate about that.
“ST. LOUIS HAS THE BEST OF ALL WORLDS. IT’S A VIBRANT AND DIVERSE CITY.”

MICHAEL HAYES
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS LIFE

Michael was photographed in front of Water Street Café in Maplewood.
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?
I love food! There are so many restaurants that offer great cuisine (and cocktails). My two favorites are Water Street in Maplewood and I Frattelini in Clayton. Having moved to St. Louis from Washington DC, I was a tad skeptical about the food scene. It is pretty spectacular!

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?
My partner and I live in the University Park area of University City. Walkable to campus and the Loop.

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?
Spend the time, early on, just meeting as many faculty and staff across campus as you can. While you may not see the immediate link between your role and that person, it will become very apparent that at some point, you may need to call upon that person to assist you through a sticky situation, need a committee member, or most importantly, to partner with you to help students reach their full potential. This will be time well spent!
Did You Know?

Spanning 16 counties in Missouri and Illinois, the average commute time in the St. Louis region is only 27 minutes.
WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ST. LOUIS?
I consider St. Louis to be an “easy” place to live. By that I mean it is easy to get from one place to another, people are nice and pleasant to deal with, traffic is manageable, we have great cultural and educational options, sporting events are easy to access, the airport has easy access, and the list goes on.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY?
Washington University is what brought me to St. Louis. My husband and I moved in order for him to attend Washington University School of Law. We fell in love with the city and stayed. I joined the university about 15 years ago. It is such a great feeling to be part of such a topnotch institution that is continually improving itself. This commitment to continual improvement is reflected in the culture of the organization and makes Washington University a great place to grow in my career.

WHAT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY RESOURCE(S) HAVE BEEN MOST HELPFUL OR MEANINGFUL TO YOU?
The university leadership in the community starting with Chancellor Wrighton and continuing with the faculty, staff, and students of the university.

WHAT (ACTIVITY, ORGANIZATION, ETC.) IN ST. LOUIS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT?
Over the years, I have been very active in my children’s schools and sporting activities. The educational options both public and private, co-ed and single sex are one thing that makes St. Louis different from other cities. These options make St. Louis a great place to educate a family while tailoring that education to each student’s needs.
“I CONSIDER ST. LOUIS TO BE AN “EASY” PLACE TO LIVE.”

PAMELA CAMPBELL
DIRECTOR, HEDGED STRATEGIES
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT CO.
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ST. LOUIS “HIDDEN GEM”?
The Missouri Botanical Garden. A world-class research institution and an incredibly beautiful place to spend time.

IN WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE?
Town and Country, which is close to the university but with its large lots and green space gives it a feel of the country.

WHAT ADVICE ABOUT ST. LOUIS AND/OR WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH SOMEONE NEW TO THE COMMUNITY?
Decide what is important to you now and what will be 10 years from now when selecting where to live and purchase a home.
Did You Know?

The 1,300 acre Forest Park, which is within walking distance of the Washington University campuses, contains the Saint Louis Zoo, the Saint Louis Art Museum, the Missouri History Museum, and the Saint Louis Science Center, as well as two public golf courses and walking and biking trails.
Want to know more about the St. Louis locations shown in “Our Guide”? Here are a few links to these locations!
Mario Castro and Ellen Lockhart were photographed by Robert Boston
Adrienne Davis and Bob Hansman were photographed by WUSTL Photographic Services
All other profile images were shot by Jay Fram Photography

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