

Jim McLeod

Vice chancellor for students and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
Washington University

Jim McLeod has spent 33 years with Washington University, a tenure Chancellor Mark Wrighton calls "remarkable."

McLeod joined Washington University's German department faculty in 1974 and served as assistant dean of the university's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences from 1974 to 1977. After several other administrative posts, McLeod was named dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in 1992 and additionally vice chancellor for students in 1995.

Wrighton said he sought McLeod out for the vice chancellor position because of his "incredibly calm" manner. "He's an inspiration to me. He is a person who is universally admired and appreciated."

McLeod oversaw a 1997 reorganization that pulled students' campus life under one administrative umbrella, targeting not only more efficient operations but an improved experience for students. He is credited with nurturing the school's "residential college" system in which groups of students form communities to promote learning and personal development.

Washington University's fall 2007 enroll-

ment was an estimated 12,000, with about 3,800 undergraduates in the College of Arts and Sciences.

McLeod, 63, said, "I came into the university because I like to read and write and work with young people. That's what attracted me and has driven me."

He currently sits on New City School's advisory board, and the boards of Churchill School, American Youth Foundation, the Saint Louis Art Museum and Interchange.



BRIAN CASSIDY

McLeod graduated from Morehouse College in Atlanta in 1966 with concentrations in German and chemistry. He completed his graduate work in 1970 in the German language and literature at Rice University in Houston.

McLeod lives in the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood with his wife, Clara. The couple has one grown daughter, Sara.

— Leigh O'Keefe

Laurna Godwin

Co-founder
Vector Communications

Laurna Godwin works to give people a voice.

Since co-founding Vector Communications in 1998 with her business partner, Jessica Perkins, Godwin, 48, has ensured their business does just that. Vector is an award-winning public engagement and communications consulting firm that involves citizens in public policy discussions and decision making.

"We want people's involvement in why decisions are being made," Godwin said, adding, "To engage the public, we have to educate them."

Vector's clients include the East-West Gateway Council of Governments, where the firm has worked on subjects such as Metrolink's feasibility studies, and the Missouri Department of Transportation's new Mississippi River Bridge re-evaluation study.

Vector, has six employees and is located in the City Museum building downtown. It has received numerous awards, including the 2006 St. Louis Minority Business Council MBE of the Year for Professional Services.

"Influential means to change the landscape for the better," Perkins said.

That is something that Godwin has always strived to do.

Before founding Vector, Godwin had more than 20 years of radio and television broadcasting experience, including Emmy-winning stints while working for KETC-TV and KPLR-TV.



BRIAN CASSIDY

Godwin currently serves on six boards, including the Journal Register Co., a newspaper publishing company based in Yardley, Pa., which owns 22 dailies and 345 non-daily papers. Locally, she is chair of the board of the Girl Scout Council of Greater St. Louis.

Godwin received her bachelor's degree from Princeton University in 1981 majoring in English literature and American studies. In 1982, she earned her master's degree in journalism from Columbia University in New York City.

She is married to Sam Hutchinson, founder and president of Interface Construction Corp. in St. Louis, and has a stepdaughter and stepson. The family lives in Alton, Ill.

— Matt Allen

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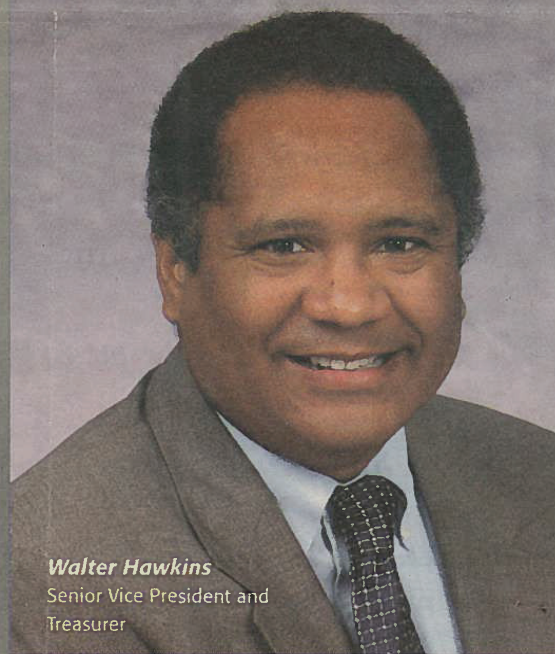
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