TOP STORIES

Freshmen yield surprises university admissions officials

- In the face of economic uncertainty, Hopkins admissions officials thought that the university would face stiffer than usual competition from relatively cheaper state schools and from universities that could offer more financial aid. In preparation for a drop in yield, Hopkins, like many of its peers, admitted a higher number of students. Instead of seeing a drop, the university is seeing a freshmen boom. The class shot to 1,350, 115 more than projected.
- John Latting, dean of undergraduate admissions, speculates that Hopkins’ rigorous academic reputation helped. “These are remarkable students who have big plans after college,” he says. “They want to be a part of a community where education is serious business.”
- He adds: “It says a lot that so many, even those who need to make sacrifices, want to come here. More than ever, students see the value in a Hopkins education.”

University passes $100M mark in stimulus funds

- Johns Hopkins has won 250 research grants, totaling $114 million, through provisions in the federal stimulus package designed to advance scientific and medical knowledge while jump-starting the U.S. economy.
- The grants will underwrite research ranging from the role that certain proteins play in the development of muscular dystrophy to mouse studies seeking to understand how men and women differ in their response to the influenza virus. Equally as important, the grants are generating jobs at Hopkins and fueling regional economic activity.

Hopkins overhauls medical school curriculum

- The School of Medicine is implementing its “Genes to Society” curriculum this fall, the first wholesale academic overhaul at the school in two decades. The newly opened Anne and Mike Armstrong Medical Education Building was specifically designed around the curriculum. The building is being dedicated this month.

PRESIDENT DANIELS’ VISION

On Sept. 13, Ron Daniels was installed as the 14th president of Johns Hopkins. In his address, he described his commitment to the nurturing of an environment that supports and celebrates individual achievement, to “one coherent Johns Hopkins University,” and to the betterment of Baltimore. Below are highlights from his address.

- “It is our duty to craft an environment that attracts the most talented faculty, students, and staff. Once they are here, we must ensure that they can fully realize their promise.”
- To reach our ideals of realizing this promise, President Daniels says, the university must build admissions and financial aid programs guaranteeing that student participation in our community is governed by the ideals of merit and not financial means.
- Hopkins must be greater than the sum of its constituent parts. “We must knit together a university identity, a shared vision of Johns Hopkins, that both draws upon and enriches the identity of each of our schools, the health system, and the Applied Physics Laboratory.”
- Johns Hopkins, says the president, also needs to play an even greater role in meeting Baltimore’s pressing needs. “There is more we can and must do,” he says. “Our ideas, our energies, our passion and optimism can contribute so much to the community of which we are part.”

To see the full text of President Daniels’ speech and videos of the inauguration event, go to www.jhu.edu/president and follow the link to the inauguration Web site.
WHAT ELSE IS MAKING NEWS

Wilmer Eye Institute opens new surgical facility and research center

- The opening of the Robert H. and Clarice Smith Building and the Maurice Bendann Surgical Pavilion usher in a new era for the Wilmer Eye Institute. The 207,000-square-foot structure includes six operating rooms and five floors for research, more than doubling the space for what is already the largest eye-related research program in the country. The building is being dedicated this month.

Carey Business School launches Global MBA program

- The Carey Business School will welcome the first class to its Global MBA program next fall. The two-year, full-time program will feature a curriculum designed to be global in perspective and interdisciplinary in orientation and emphasis. The goal of the program is to educate students to think critically, act ethically, and comprehend issues in their global context. The school hosted an event on the New York Stock Exchange and rolls out a marketing campaign this month.

Johns Hopkins and other universities create Web site to share research findings directly with public

- Concerned that journalism's economic problems are reducing Americans' understanding of science, medicine, and other research, Johns Hopkins and 34 other research universities have created a Web site that spotlights the latest discoveries in science, engineering, health, the environment, and other disciplines. The site also allows the public to see how federal, state, and private funds are being put to use to address critical challenges. See futurity.org.

University unveils new Web presence

- The first thing you'll notice on the new jhu.edu is that the home page introduces visitors to Johns Hopkins in big pictures and big stories, each as individual as the school featured, and each an answer to the question: What makes Hopkins different than every other university? A university with the audacious goals that Hopkins has needs to count on our community and friends for support. The new giving.jhu.edu makes that case well. The comprehensive alumni.jhu.edu was created to be a resource for graduates, and to foster an even stronger alumni community. Visit the site, subscribe to JHUpdate, and let us know what you think: feedback@jhu.edu.

H1N1 update

- H1N1 flu infections are widespread on college campuses this fall, and Johns Hopkins is no exception. This fall, we have primarily focused our efforts on trying to suppress the spread of the virus on our campuses. To that end, we have posted information and advice on our H1N1 Web site, flu.jhu.edu, circulated information through campus e-mail messages, newsletters, Facebook, and Twitter, and we papered campuses with posters and flyers. In addition — in the spirit of the most successful public service announcements — we're trying a lighter approach. We've created a tongue-in-cheek glossary to help educate students, particularly, but also faculty and staff, about H1N1. There has been a good volume of tweeting about the glossary, which came to the notice of NPR health correspondent Scott Hensley, a 1984 Hopkins graduate. He loved the glossary and posted a blog entry. See tinyurl.com/ybe29wr. You'll note that the definitions do stress all our public health messages about hand washing and self-isolation.
WHO'S MAKING NEWS

Professor Lloyd Minor takes office as university’s 13th provost

- Lloyd Minor, a Johns Hopkins faculty member since 1993 who most recently served as the Andelot Professor and Director of the Department of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery, took office as provost and senior vice president of academic affairs on Sept. 1. He succeeds Kristina Johnson, who left this year to serve in the Obama administration as undersecretary of the Department of Energy. The provost is Johns Hopkins’ chief academic officer and the second-ranking member of the senior administration.

Engineer Louis Whitcomb helps explore one of the world’s last remaining frontiers

- When the robotic submersible *Nereus* dove 10,902 meters into the Mariana Trench earlier this year and gathered images and samples, it was guided by a navigation-and-control system developed by Whiting School of Engineering professor Louis Whitcomb, along with graduate students and colleagues from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. The dive made *Nereus* the world’s deepest-diving vehicle and marked the start of a new era in deep-sea exploration. How deep did it go? Almost seven miles.

Hopkins professors among most cited researchers

- Johns Hopkins researchers have published 54,022 scientific papers over the last decade, which were cited a total of 1,222,166 times, according to a report from *ScienceWatch*. University faculty members cited in the report include Stephen Baylin, Charles Bennett, Valina Dawson, David Ginty, John Herman, Rafael Irizarry, Frederick Nucifora, Keerti Shah, and Bert Vogelstein.

Hopkins graduate students named Siebel Scholars

- The California-based Siebel Foundation has selected five Johns Hopkins students from the Whiting School of Engineering and the School of Medicine as recipients of its annual Siebel Scholars awards, which provide $35,000 to each student to be used for the final year of graduate studies. The Johns Hopkins recipients are:
  - Vasudev Bailey, of Bangalore, India;
  - Noy Bassik, of Fair Lawn, New Jersey;
  - Raymond Cheong, of Columbia, Maryland;
  - Sarah Hemminger, of Indianapolis; and
  - Shawn Lim, of Singapore.
KUDOS

Professor Carol Greider wins Nobel

- Carol Greider, the Daniel Nathans Professor and Director of Molecular Biology and Genetics in the Johns Hopkins Institute for Basic Biomedical Sciences, has been named co-winner of the 2009 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. She is recognized for her 1984 discovery of telomerase (ta-LAW-mer-ace), an enzyme that maintains the length and integrity of chromosome ends and is critical for the health and survival of all living cells and organisms. Greider (pronounced grEYE-der) becomes the 33rd person associated with Johns Hopkins to win a Nobel.

Alumni Michael Bloomberg and Charles Sawyers receive Lasker Awards

- Michael Bloomberg, mayor of New York, former chair of the Johns Hopkins University board of trustees, and a 1964 graduate of the School of Engineering, received the Mary Woodard Lasker Award for public service. The honor recognized Bloomberg “for employing sound science in political decision making, setting a world standard for the public’s health as an impetus for government action, leading the way to reduce the scourge of tobacco use, and advancing public health through enlightened philanthropy.”

- Charles L. Sawyers, a 1985 School of Medicine graduate, was one of three recipients of the Lasker-DeBakey Clinical Medical Research Award. The three scientists were recognized for “the development of molecularly targeted treatments for chronic myeloid leukemia, converting a fatal cancer into a manageable chronic condition.”

- The Lasker Awards, often dubbed the “American Nobels,” are considered by many the nation’s most prestigious honor for basic and clinical medical research, and for public service. The recent Lasker Awards bring to 42 the number of men and women associated with Hopkins who have been so honored, among them faculty Carol Greider, Al Sommer, Victor McKusick, Sol Snyder, and Arnall Patz.

And the Emmy goes to … Hopkins Writing SemS grad Jeff Blitz

- Jeffrey Blitz, a graduate of the Johns Hopkins Writing Seminars now writing and directing for film and television, won the 2008-2009 Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Directing for a Comedy Series for an episode of the hit sitcom "The Office."

SHARE YOUR PERSPECTIVE

Alumni: share your views and insights

- At the foundation of all of our work at Johns Hopkins is the commitment to continuously do better. In that spirit, we have begun a series of discussions with alumni to gain a sense of their perspective for the role of Johns Hopkins in the new world economy and with alumni. If you are willing to join us for a conversation, share your views and insights, and help us help Johns Hopkins, please contact us at 410.516.6321 or development@jhu.edu.