

# WORKING MARRIAGES

By KAREN WORLEY Photos by LARRY BOEHM



**Gail Imig  
David Imig**

**MARRIED 21 YEARS**

Both Drs. Gail and David Imig are committed to the well-being of families, but they work toward that goal from different angles. As associate dean for home economics extension and professor of home economics, Gail addresses sociological, economic and political issues through programming. As associate professor of child and family development, David works in teaching, counseling and research, especially related to family stress. "We have great discussions on family stress and how it relates to programming," Gail says. The Imigs have done programs on management of dual-career families. Their knowledge of families had helped them to better understand and enrich their own relationships with children Jennifer, 14, and Matthew, 12. Being knowledgeable of marriage and family life brings heightened expectations, and with the busy schedules of two careers, it is sometimes difficult to meet those expectations. Through compromise, they've reached a schedule that works. Since Gail's administrative duties require frequent travel, David has chosen a nine-month appointment to have time to be with the children. □



**Bruce Biddle  
Barb Bank**

**MARRIED 10 YEARS**

As social psychologists, Drs. Bruce Biddle and Barb Bank are in the habit of analyzing human events. Knowing how time-consuming their academic lives are, they marvel at commuter-couple peers. Some such marriages end simply because of the travel time involved. "If we're going to increase the proportion of women on the faculty, we're going to have to be sensitive to this two-career couple thing," says Barb, associate professor of sociology, research associate at the Center for Research in Social Behavior, 1984 Alumnae Anniversary Award winner

and promoter of women studies. Barb and Bruce do individual and joint research. They brought in a \$150,000 grant from the National Institute for Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse for a four-country study of adolescent decision making about drinking. For the past three years, they've also been looking at undergraduate decision making and the undergraduate experience at Mizzou. Bruce, professor of psychology and sociology, and director of the Center for Research in Social Behavior, received the 1984 Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Research in Behavioral and Social Sciences. In 1984, travels took them to Australia. As a Fulbright Scholar, Barb did a comparative study of friendship in Australia and the United States, while Bruce researched attribution theory. □

**SYNERGISM CHARACTERIZES** the relationships of married faculty members who teach or do research in the same field. Together, they often accomplish more than the sum of individual efforts.

Our cover couple, Drs. Robert and Barbara Reys, are one of several dozen such couples on the Mizzou Campus. The *Missouri Alumnus* interviewed 10. The Reys, married four years, are experts at math estimation, except when it comes to their own research projects. "We really don't have time to do everything we want to do," says Barbara, M Ed '79, EdSp '82, PhD '85, assistant professor of higher and adult educa-

tion and curriculum and instruction, "but we feel we can make a contribution."

Their peers agree. In 1985, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics named their research one of the six most significant studies in the decade. It has resulted in \$500,000 in outside funding. Barbara and Robert, EdD '66, professor of curriculum and instruction, also are writing grade-school math books called *Mathematics Unlimited*, to be published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston in 1987. Their one outside interest is son Rustin, 2.

Conjugal collaboration is the hallmark of all the couples, whether they work in the

same building or across Campus. Because of their joint interest, they share professional friends and enjoy attending the same professional meetings.

Unlike commuter couples, whose careers pull them in opposite directions, these couples don't have to worry about traveling long distances, high phone bills and extended separations. They don't experience professional isolation. Conversations drift from the office to home, and vice versa, enriching their professional and personal lives. And, unlike couples working for competing corporations, these couples can share pillow-talk secrets. □



**Mary Boesman-Finkelstein  
Richard Finkelstein**

**MARRIED 10 YEARS**

Biochemist Mary Boesman-Finkelstein and microbiologist Richard Finkelstein collaborate on mother's milk research. "Our major interest now is to examine the antimicrobial activity of human and bovine milk," Richard says. "We're coming up with information that will lead to improved infant feeding formula for babies who can't be breastfed, and to complement and supplement the protection offered by mothers of babies who are breastfed." The research has the financial support of a major formula manufacturer, says Richard, microbiology chairman and

the Millsap Distinguished Professor. Funds for the professorship come from Marvin Millsap, M Ed '28, of Lexington, Mo., and his late wife, Rose Ann. The microbiology department's research support totals \$1.2 million from the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation and several commercial companies. That figure has grown from \$26,000 in 1979, when Richard joined the faculty. Richard and Mary's "recombinant DNA project" is now 5. Daughter Sarina attended her first professional meeting at one month, has flown 40,000 miles and can count in Japanese, French, Thai and Spanish. "We travel together, publish together," says Mary, assistant professor of biochemistry. "The office and the lab flow into the home and vice versa." □



**Meera Chandrasekhar  
H.R. Chandrasekhar**

**MARRIED 10 YEARS**

"To do valuable research, you need a group of people with the right chemistry—people with similar backgrounds, yet different specialties," says Dr. H.R. Chandrasekhar, associate professor of physics. "Collaboration is an essential part of research. We just happen to be married," he says of his wife, Dr. Meera Chandrasekhar, assistant professor of physics. H.R., who joined the faculty first, was instrumental in establishing the \$250,000 laser spectroscopy lab where they work. Their annual grant support runs \$60,000 to \$70,000 a person. They discuss their teaching techniques. "The sharing of information helps us evaluate what we are doing, what students are thinking," H.R. says. Another advantage is not blowing the whistle at 5 p.m. "We can take our conversations home with us," Meera says. The arrival of Tara, 4, complicated their schedules somewhat. "We don't waste time," she says. "If anything, we're more efficient." □

**Peg Turk  
Jim Turk**

**MARRIED 9 YEARS**

A microscopic examination of the resumes of Drs. Jim and Peg Turk reveals striking similarities in education and experiences: DVM degrees from Mizzou in 1977, PhDs from Washington State University in 1981, teaching experience at Louisiana State University. Now, they have identical job descriptions as associate professors of veterinary pathology at Mizzou. They spend half of their time on the necropsy floor of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, performing 70 autopsies a week on pigs, cattle, dogs and cats.



**Paul Wallace  
Robin Remington**  
**MARRIED 10 YEARS**



With cattle and swine, "We're looking for infectious diseases that might be a problem for a herd," Jim says. The other half of the time they spend teaching veterinary and pathology graduate students. Jim specializes in heart and lung; Peg in reproductive and mammary gland diseases. Born and reared in Missouri, the Turks live on a farm 10 miles from Campus and share chores for one horse, two dogs, one cat and four chickens "which lay two eggs every three days," Peg says. They both enjoy canoeing and photography. He hunts ducks and waterfowl; she fishes for trout. The biggest problems of being in the same field arc: It narrows their circles of friends, and it's tough finding vacation time. □

Home is where "if it gets done, bless it," says Dr. Robin Remington, professor and chairman of political science. The "Wallingtons," as Robin and her spouse, Dr. Paul Wallace, professor of political science, are known by their friends, are opposites that complement, striking a balance at home and far from home. Robin avoids technology on the homefront; Paul likes any labor-saving device. She could skip meals; he needs three squares. She's punctual; he views time expansively. She worries: "My motto is: Don't worry twice," says Paul. During a 1980-81 sabbatical in India, Paul and Robin lectured together at Indian universities. Paul, an expert on South Asian politics, compared United States and Indian elections. Robin, an expert on nonalignment or comparative communist systems, spoke on the U.S.-Soviet relationship that might emerge from the Reagan administration. Also in 1981, they taught 450 American students during a semester at sea on board the SS Universe. They pinch hit for each other in the classroom, critique each other's writing and have lively, analytical discussions. "The aspect that's personally rewarding is that you share the experiences and have the same memories," Robin says. □



**Stan Abbott  
Jeanne Abbott**  
**MARRIED 11 YEARS**

Stan and Jeanne Abbott have been working in the same newsroom for 17 years. They came to the *Columbia Missourian* in 1982 from the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Anchorage (Alaska) Daily News*. City editor Stan is responsible for the hard-news beats of public schools, agriculture and the University. Features editor Jeanne, BJ '67, MA '69, directs fashion, food, entertainment and religion coverage. They both teach Journalism 105, a basic newswriting course, and five times a year they and other editors introduce up to 140 fledgling reporters to the daily grind of producing the newspaper. "Even though we're in the same room," Jeanne says, "We're dealing with different students." They were assigned the same mailbox, which is symbolic of blended identity of couples working in the same field. Stan, who works nights, is studying for a master's degree in journalism and is the faculty adviser of Sigma Delta Chi. Jeanne, who works days, is pursuing a doctorate and is the scholarship chairman for the School of Journalism. Together, they edit the *IRE Journal*, a quarterly tabloid of the Investigative Reporters and Editors organization. Stan says, "We juggle the home life and our son," Robson, 10. "If she can't get home, I can. Journalists by nature don't leave the job at the office." □



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**Charles R. Franz****Lori Franz****MARRIED 15 YEARS**

The Franzes are a five-computer family, with models at the office and at home to help them manage their professional and personal lives. Although both Dr. Charles R. Franz, assistant professor, and Dr. Lori Franz, associate professor, teach and do research in the management department, they specialize in different areas. Lori uses computer software in decision-making modeling, while Charles studies the impact of the decision—whether the computer helps employees or brings them grief. The Franzes have found the flexible schedules of college teachers to be a plus in raising their daughters, Annaliese, 11, and Kristen, 6. Typically, Tuesday afternoons are reserved for music lessons and athletic events. "We run around like crazy one day a week and have relative calm the rest of the week," Lori says. Although technology in the form of computers, microwaves, bank machines or VCRs doesn't intimidate their children, they spend little time in front of the television. From 4:30 to 9 p.m. is family time, be it practicing music or baking cookies. "We've highly prioritized things that are important," Lori says. They also share mutual respect, Charles notes. "We both earn the same. My job's not more important than hers, nor hers more important than mine." □



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**Nan Unklesbay****Ken Unklesbay****MARRIED 11 YEARS**

When Drs. Nan and Ken Unklesbay are in the lab together, they really cook. By using a camera and computers, they are quantifying 256 shades of steak doneness. Their research is satisfying because "people will get what they order," says Nan, professor of food science and nutrition. Traditional steak doneness is measured by temperature, yet customers judge doneness by color. Their Digital Color Image Analysis is more precise than the human eye, says Ken, BSME '65, MS '67, PhD '71, professor of electrical and computer engineering. "We are coming up with criteria to set up the machine that cooks the steak," he says. The research duo also has studied how different cooking methods affect the nutritional value of pizza, chicken, beef, lamb and pork. Nan has a patent pending on a granola bar that uses soybeans, one of Missouri's largest commodities. It has fewer calories and higher protein than other commercial bars. Since 1975, their joint research funding amounts to \$661,426. "Since our areas are quite different, we don't have to compete," Ken says. "I don't claim to know what she knows and vice versa." Nan's strengths are ideas and writing; Ken's are carrying through on details in a highly technical laboratory setting. □