

Keeping in touch

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Alumni Association

1991-1992
Annual Report

Association President Richard P. Moore, AB '54, JD '56, presides over the executive committee meeting in Kansas City Aug. 24.



An MU alumna's brother had already searched 185,000 birth records trying to find information that would help him locate the sister he had never met. After his search revealed that she graduated from Mizzou, he wrote a letter to the MU Alumni Association asking for help. "I don't know how else he would have found me," says the long-lost sister, who requested that her and her brother's name remain anonymous. The two have gotten together several times since and have more reunions planned. "I have much more in common with him than anyone else in my family," she says. "It's a good thing you keep track of all alumni."

The locator service, which as of July 1 has access to 127,932 alumni, is just one way the Association serves its members. To preserve privacy, the Association does not give out alumni addresses. Instead, Association members wishing to find a college friend need to send a letter with a stamped envelope that will be forwarded to the individual. Non-members must pay a fee for the service.

Scholarships

Scholarships is one way the Association keeps in contact with students' needs. Katrina Coleman of St. Louis says she felt honored to be one of the three freshmen who received an Alumni Scholarship from the Black Alumni Organization. She loves to work with children, and the scholarship is helping her prepare for a degree in child psychology. Association chapters and organizations raise funds for scholarships that are matched by the Association up to \$500. During the 1991-92 school year, the Alumni Scholars Program gave 137 scholarships worth \$75,814.

Membership

Membership reached an all time high of 30,876 thanks to alumni organizations like the College of Education's. This group brought in Association members who are teachers, principals and superintendents to critique students' job-interviewing skills. By limiting participants to students who belonged to the Association's student chapter, the group hopes to build a tradition of supporting the Association among students, says Jo Behymer, BS Ed '62, M Ed '65, Ed Sp '75, EdD '77, associate professor of education.

Membership has benefits for alumni of all ages. "One of the more intelligent things I did when I left Mizzou was to become a member of the Alumni Association," writes William



Left, District Nine Director Ron Carpenter, BSF '71, JD '73, plays in the Tiger Tennis Rally June 6 at Osage Beach, Mo., which raised more than \$1,800 for scholarships.

Right, Dr. Al Pickard, assistant chairman of the music department leads the Kansas City Alumni Band at the chapter's picnic Aug. 23.

D. Asking, BJ '50. "It has paid dividends throughout the years, and it's been great to keep in touch with who has done what and how the University is progressing."

Other member benefits include:

- 1992 Member Calendar with colorful photos of Campus.
- New Member Kit, with information on getting involved.
- 1991 Membership Directory
- 1991-92 members' names recorded on a special honor roll in the Donald W. Reynolds Alumni and Visitor Center's library.

Missouri Alumnus

"When you are way out here, the *Missouri Alumnus* is a lifeline. It makes you feel connected," says Bob McCarthy, BJ '87, of Ventura, Calif.

Tom Carroll, AB '30, agrees. "In my retirement years, I have to make my return trips to Columbia through the pages of the *Missouri Alumnus*," he writes. "So its arrival is always a special day for me. Although it has been more than 60 years since my student days, I still visit there often in my memories."

These are just two of 118,000 alumni and friends throughout the world who receive the magazine, which for 80 years has kept alumni informed about MU. Members' dues and advertising revenue support the quarterly publication. With concern for the environment, the magazine is printed on recycled paper with soy ink since the fall '91 issue.

Chapters

When the St. Louis chapter started its activities fee to allow the group to keep in touch with members and to award scholarships, more than 500 alumni responded. "Our mission states that one of our goals is to act as an ambassador for MU," says President Pam Debandt, BJ '83. "To give away scholarships to students who need them is one way to fulfill that mission."

Alumni in 31 in-state and 22 out-of-state chapters plus an international chapter in Korea served MU throughout the year.

Organizations and Groups

Formed in October, the Air Force ROTC Alumni Organization sends a newsletter each semester to its members to keep them informed with what is going on at MU. Members see this

organization as a way to bring students in contact with alumni who have firsthand experience with the U.S. Air Force, says Col. William E. Boston III, who retired as chairman of the department of aerospace studies in June. "It's been quite successful. After the first newsletter, we got 30 or more phone calls and letters. Alumni were glad to hear from us."

Major General Burton R. Moore, BJ '63, serves as honorary director and goodwill ambassador for the chapter, which has started a scholarship fund for students.

Other alumni constituent groups include the Black Alumni Organization, Fulbright Alumni, Navy ROTC Alumni, Army ROTC Alumni and the Student Alumni chapter. Twelve schools, colleges and departments have active alumni organizations.

Development Incentive Grants

Some of Dr. Yuyi Lin's mechanical engineering students get on-the-job training when they work with local companies. But to get those positions, they need to keep up with innovations in their field. The assistant professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering turned to the Association for help and was one of 30 faculty members to receive a Faculty Incentive Grant. This program, which awarded \$10,004 in 1991-92, provides money for projects that might not otherwise be funded by the University. Lin is using the \$750 he received to buy books and computer software. "This is a field where the technology is constantly changing," Lin says. "Our department doesn't have the money to buy new mechanical design handbooks every two or three years. This will help our students keep current."

Alumni Center

Donald W. Reynolds, BJ '27, proudly cut the ribbon officially opening the alumni and visitor center that bears his name April 10. The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation funded the center with \$9 million, the largest gift in the history of the University. The center, just south of Jesse Hall, houses the MU Alumni Association, the visitor center, the development offices, alumni records and the *Missouri Alumnus* magazine. Students, faculty, alumni and friends have filled the meeting and banquet rooms since they began operation in April. The University Club opened its lounge in June and is preparing for the grand opening of the restaurant Sept. 16.

Committees

Eleanor Frasier, BS Ed '61, M Ed '65, looks back at her four years as chairwoman of the building committee for the Donald W. Reynolds Alumni and Visitor Center with pride, not only in the 71,000-square-foot building, but in the commitment of the other committee members. The six members met for 50 all-day meetings plus many phone conversations and small meetings with the architect. During the last year after most of the building decisions were made, the committee was busy selecting office furnishings.

Other committees that devoted numerous hours to the Association include athletic, alumni center management, communications, faculty-alumni awards, finance, rules, tours, membership and LINC, the legislative information network committee.



Tours

"I traveled a lot when I worked," says Roscoe Bowles, BS BA '48, who retired from Phillips Petroleum Co. seven years ago. "Now I go wherever I want." He and his wife, Eleanor, who have traveled all across the United States and have made more than 15 trips to Europe, chose to travel with the Tourin' Tigers last April on a Mediterranean cruise. Bowles enjoyed meeting other Mizzou alumni and made a new friend, Bill Stone, BS BA '48, of Miami Beach, Fla. In 1991-92, alumni went on 12 tours, which included a safari in Kenya, a South Pacific Cruise and tours of China, Hong Kong, Russia and France.

Leaders' Day

Bringing alumni together in support of MU is what brought honor's status to the Camdenton County chapter. The members meet every three months to plan such events as the Tiger Tennis Tournament, which raises money for scholarships. For 1991-92, the chapter gave \$1,500 in scholarships to three students. "Awarding scholarships is the most important thing we do," says President Frank Sallee, BS Ag '51. "We get people involved to raise money to get scholarships."

To show its support of the most active alumni groups, the Association honored the officers of 25 chapters — 12 in Missouri, five out-of-state and eight constituent groups — at Leaders' Day Sept. 13 in Columbia.

Credit Card

Last year 2,672 Mizzou alumni and friends showed their connection to MU each time they used their MasterCard or VISA. The Mizzou credit card program through Commerce Bank in Kansas City gives the Association a percentage of every purchase made on the Mizzou MasterCard that features a Tiger and the VISA displaying a photo of the Columns and Jesse Hall. Since the program started in March 1991, it has generated \$57,184 for the Association, which uses the funds to support activities benefitting students and faculty.

Student Board

Planning the 50-year reunion gave members of the Alumni Association Student Board a real sense of what it means to be an alumnus, says 1991-92 President Sheliah Gilliland. "When

you see people come back 50 years later and be excited to come back to Mizzou, you realize that your college experience will stay with you." AASB members also served as ambassadors at the opening of the Donald W. Reynolds Alumni and Visitor Center April 10. The group's goal is to use the building to link students with Association members to show the importance of being active alumni, Gilliland says. The 55 AASB members also helped recruit students for MU.

Homecoming

Missouri State Sen. Roger B. Wilson, M Ed '86, was the grand marshal for the parade Oct. 19 during Homecoming '91. At halftime ceremonies, Homecoming King Tracy Outlaw and Queen Kim Yates were crowned. As part of the weeklong celebration, students collected 3,660 pints of blood for the Red Cross, making this drive the second largest in the nation on a college campus. MU still holds the record for the largest drive — 3,995 pints in 1990.

Reunion

Limon Kerr, BS Ag '23, has been the oldest person attending the Gold Medal Class reunions five out of the last six years. The 91-year-old from Ozark, Mo., says he enjoys meeting with other MU graduates at the 50-year and Gold Medal reunions each spring. This year, 180 alumni and guests returned to MU April 30 through May 2 to tour Campus, attend seminars and reminisce with former classmates.

Board of Directors

"I encourage everyone to join the Association," says Richard P. Moore, AB '54, JD '56. "Membership is one small way to support the University because of all the ways the Association supports MU," he says. As 1991-92 Association president, he made more than 25 trips to Campus from his home in Ballwin, Mo., to attend board meetings and to promote Association business.

Moore governed Association affairs as part of the 64-member board of directors. Included in the board are the officers and other members of the executive committee, Missouri district directors, divisional organization representatives, heads of standing committees, out-of-state regional representatives, at-large members and students representatives. ☐



Far left, Bill Constantine, AB '56 and Denny Allen Brisley, AB '58, greet playwright Eric Wilson, AB '91, after the performance of *Strands* at the Kennedy Center.

A bust of Donald W. Reynolds, BJ '27, fourth from left, was unveiled April 9 as part of the dedication celebration of the alumni and visitor center that bears his name.