

## Mizzou Weekly

July 22, 2010 Volume 31, No. 4

### Summer sounds



Stefan Freund, associate professor of music, composes for and plays cello with Alarm Will Sound, a 20-piece ensemble that performs nationally and internationally and highlighted the Mizzou New Music Summer Festival July 12 to 18. Freund and Tom McKenney, professor of music, spent hours listening to recordings submitted by 120 young composers from several countries to select the festival's eight resident composers. Rob Hill photo

Emerging music

International field of new composers forge fresh sounds for music festival

Take this as sound advice. You could hear the history of music being made at the inaugural Mizzou New Music Summer Festival, an event that promises to position Columbia and MU as a center for new compositions.

Ten world premieres highlighted the weeklong festival, July 12 through 18, presented by the MU School of Music and the Missouri Symphony Society. Four concerts featured innovative artistry and the scores of emerging and established composers.

Audiences heard how music is gravitating toward blends of jazz, pop, rock, world and modern styles. They can watch and listen as rising-star composers finish new works under the guidance of distinguished composers and during rehearsals.

“We expect this festival to become one of the elite programs in the country,” says Robert Shay, director of the School of Music. “It will be a dynamic environment, something special for Mizzou and Columbia.” Established new-music festivals are held annually at the University at Buffalo in New York, the University of Cincinnati and other locations.

Festival planning began in earnest when a field of 120 young composers from several countries submitted music samples — three original scores and recordings — to win spots as resident composers. The chosen eight composers then began writing new scores for a large ensemble.

After a week of fine-tuning at Mizzou, those pieces made their premieres at the July 18 performance by Alarm Will Sound, an ensemble internationally known for innovative recordings.

MU’s link to Alarm Will Sound is Stefan Freund, associate professor of music, who composes for and plays cello with the 20-piece ensemble that performs nationally and internationally for appreciative audiences. A New York Times reviewer says the ensemble is “the future of classical music” and “as close to being a rock band as a chamber orchestra can be.”

“This is the type of music that can bridge the gap between people who listen to rock and those who listen to classical music,” MU music Professor Tom McKenney says of the featured festival compositions.

McKenney and Freund, who teach MU music theory and composition classes, selected the resident composers after reviewing submitted music scores and recordings for hours.

“The winners jumped out at us with fresh ideas,” Freund says. “What they were doing was very interesting to listen to. There are eight very different styles and an eclectic collection of music.”

Each will receive private lessons and mentoring from distinguished composers Martin Bresnick, a member of the music faculty at Yale University, and Grammy-nominated Derek Bermel, composer in residence of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

Quite possibly, the two area residents who enjoyed this festival the most are music patrons Jeanne and Rex Sinuefield, whose charitable foundation supports the program and the Mizzou New Music Initiative.

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## Mizzou Weekly

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### **MU grant-writing team helps build a campus 'grants culture'**

Grassroots grantsmanship

Other universities following Mizzou's example

Working out of two small rooms in Jesse Hall, Mary Licklider and her team of grant writers have stumbled upon what seems to be an ideal grant-writing approach for the 21st century.

Nationally recognized by the Advisory Board Company's University Leadership Council, an independent consulting firm, Licklider's Grant Writer Network began in 1999. Her idea, to insert grant writers as they were needed, into the various colleges and research centers across campus was an original concept that quickly caught on.

Deans were offered the option of sponsoring a grant writer by picking up 95 percent of the writer's salary; Licklider's office would pay the other 5 percent. The writer would train with experienced grant writers for up to a year and then be placed in the sponsoring unit. The Grant Writer Network has grown from the original two writers to 16, helping to build what Licklider refers to as "a grants culture."

In theory, it was an idea that made sense to Licklider. In practice, the idea has helped MU investigators landed \$251 million in grant money for MU in the

10 years since it began. With more than \$34 million in grant approval, 2008-2009 was the biggest year yet.

Bob Glidewell, grant writer for the Trulaske College of Business says, "As writers, we become experts in different areas, using each others' strengths, making more efficient use of the talent and resources of the university's faculty and staff."

MU's Grant Writer Network has not gone unnoticed, and other universities are following MU's example. "We have seen our system replicated at Utah State," Licklider says.

When asked why the network is so successful, Licklider says, "All the easy questions have been answered. Where the gaps are in scholarly knowledge now is in the complex places, at cross sections of the disciplines."

Research done in one specific field is becoming less common. Today's funded research tends to be at the bridge between various fields, derived from the synergy of two or more disciplines. Network grant writers help with the project management work of keeping track of researchers from multiple fields and the many pieces of large, interdisciplinary proposals.

Which is why having writers surrounded by the researchers they support is so important, Licklider says, "Our writers are able to have the 'hallway conversations' that are so crucial to writing a sound proposal. A grant proposal is an argument, and we want that argument to be bulletproof."

MU's Grant Writer Network embodies the interdisciplinary spirit of the Bond Life Sciences Center, she says. Network grant writers include a nurse, an MBA, a math major, a nutrition scientist and a social psychologist, and they bring their varied perspectives together for weekly staff meetings. As a group, they collectively know a great deal about the research expertise on campus and can help to identify and facilitate potential collaborations.

One can't argue with success and, as the questions get bigger, so do the grants and the amounts they request. An average grant in the

\$1 million range requires 400 to 700 pages of application material and 18 months to see through to final approval. Projects that size require one full-time lead writer and a shadow writer, one familiar with the work who can be called in to assist as needed.

“What we have done here at MU,” Lickliger says, “is so cool. We got ridiculously, incredibly lucky and attracted really bright people, who fit well with the units they are in.” Then she smiles, as if she’s giving up a secret: “We get to work at the stage where all things are still possible.”

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### Schweitzer Hall investigation is wrapped up

Exploring causes

Additional safety steps are recommended

MU officials have completed their investigation into the cause of a June 28 explosion at Schweitzer Hal.

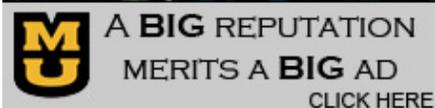
The explosion occurred in the laboratory of Judy Wall, professor of biochemistry, during a routine setup of an anaerobic growth chamber. Wall and her team of researchers study anaerobic bacteria, or bacteria that cannot live in the presence of oxygen.

The bacteria are able to convert toxic metals, such as uranium and other heavy metals, to less toxic forms. Wall's research helps agencies working to clean sites contaminated with radioactive materials.

Establishing the anaerobic environment calls for the use of nitrogen to fill the chamber. Then, small amounts of hydrogen are introduced into the chamber to remove any remaining oxygen by combining to form water. Prior to the explosion, hydrogen was prematurely introduced and reached an explosive level. Investigators concluded that the gas was ignited by a source inside the chamber.

Soon after the incident, incorrect information was circulated that a "2,000 pound hydrogen tank" exploded. The source of hydrogen was a standard compressed gas cylinder that contained about one pound of hydrogen. The tank, itself, did not explode.

To prevent such accidents in the future, investigators made a number of recommendations, such as additional training for lab workers and ensuring MU's compressed gas procedures are in place. Enter your article here. Make sure to format using the drop down list above. ^



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### Monitoring device helps manage diabetes in animals

Diagnostic potential

Tracking glucose has key diagnostic potential

The treatment of diabetes was revolutionized in 1922 when insulin was isolated from dogs. Since then, significant advances in human medicine have made diabetes more manageable for patients. Now, human medicine has returned the favor and used these advances to help dogs with diabetes.

An MU veterinary researcher is using a continuous glucose monitoring device — commonly used in humans with diabetes — to help treat dogs and other animals. The device, which provides a detailed glucose picture of an animal over several days, will help pet owners manage their pets' diabetes.

“Our research has found that continuous glucose monitoring devices can be used in dogs, cats, cows and horses,” says Charles Wiedmeyer, assistant professor of clinical pathology in the College of Veterinary Medicine. “Use of this system alleviated the need for multiple blood samples. It also reduces the stress associated with obtaining those samples. This system may provide greater monitoring capabilities in animals with diabetes and promote the diagnostic and research potential of glucose monitoring in veterinary patients.”

The device, which is produced by the company, Medtronic, sits under the skin between the shoulder blades of an animal and records blood glucose data every five minutes. Monitoring the blood glucose levels can help veterinarians determine the proper dosage of insulin and how diet is affecting the animal's diabetes.

“Dogs with diabetes are similar to children with diabetes,” Wiedmeyer says. “Both rely on caregivers to manage their disease. Both have little control over their diet or when they receive insulin.”

Many of the symptoms of diabetes in dogs are similar to the symptoms in humans, including excessive water consumption, increased urination, or unexplained weight loss. For dogs, treatment typically involves insulin shots twice a day. Dogs get complications from diabetes, but they are not as severe as human complications, Wiedmeyer said. Older, female dogs and some breeds, such as schnauzers and poodles, are more prone to diabetes.

Wiedmeyer hopes that companies will start producing continuous glucose monitoring devices specifically designed for animals. He presented his findings this summer at the Friends for Life: International Children with Diabetes Conference in Orlando, Fla. He has published his research in *Diabetes Technology and Therapeutics* and several veterinary journals. [Enter your article here.](#) Make sure to format using the drop down list above. ^

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### **Mark your ballots**

Election deadline nears

Eight MU staff members vie in running for election to the Staff Advisory Council. Winners, who begin a three-year term in September, will represent the interests of their colleagues in one of four occupational categories: administrative/professional, crafts/maintenance, secretarial/clerical and technical/paraprofessional.

The council is a 16-member group that serves as a liaison between campuswide staff members and MU's administration. In addition to advising the administration on staff concerns, the council coordinates the annual Staff Recognition Week and administers programs like the Staff Development Award that enhance the professional and personal life of staff members at Mizzou.

Ballots will be mailed to all full-time staff members next week. Your vote is important; it will determine who represents you. To help you decide, Mizzou Weekly features this year's nominees and why they want to be elected to the council. Staff should vote only for the candidates in their peer group. Ballots must be returned to the council's office, 27 Jesse Hall, by Aug. 6.

For more information about the election, call the council's office at 822-4269, or go to [staffcouncil.missouri.edu](http://staffcouncil.missouri.edu).



Ericka Langlotz: "I have been with the university since August 2006. As the fiscal analyst/human resources coordinator for the surgery department, I take pride in my work as well as making a difference in my work environment. I strive to look for new ways to improve work processes and staff development within the department and the university. I believe my voice and dedication to the council will serve the university staff in the path to excellence."



Tim McIntosh: “As a firm believer in the fact that one needs to participate in their community, in order to contribute to their community, I welcome the opportunity to serve on the Staff Advisory Council. Being honored as a representative of a collection of highly regarded university staff assimilated through the democratic process of elections would be a thrilling endeavor. I would greatly value contributing to the University of Missouri in such a way, helping to impact the ‘bigger picture’ beyond us all. I believe I can collaborate effectively as an advocate for my peers, my college and all staff members through service on the Staff Advisory Council. Thank you.”



Jen Rachow: “I welcome the opportunity to represent my peers on the Staff Advisory Council. Most of us spend on average eight hours a day, five days a week at work. MU has become a valued part of our lives. I truly enjoy my profession and colleagues who have become friends and like family, and look forward to being here every day. I aspire to promote conditions so that all MU staff can come to the same conclusion about work as I have over the years. As your representative, I am interested in hearing your concerns, suggestions and ideas for making MU a great place to work and look forward to coming to every day. Open and transparent communication is a key component of a healthy workplace. As your representative, I will do my best to promote transparency between staff and administrators. Staff recognition is a high priority. At times our world can be negative and cynical. Positive recognition is a necessity in the workplace. Many times we feel underappreciated. The Staff Advisory Council promotes recognition in many ways — Staff Recognition Week, awards, talent shows and other contributions made by staff. As your representative, I will continue to look for ways to promote staff recognition. My door will always be open to you, and I welcome an opportunity to hear what is on your mind. I look forward to serving you if given the opportunity.”



Michael Akers: "I have been with the university for 27 years. I was on the staff council in its early years and enjoyed working with staff and faculty on different committees. I would like to work with these groups again to make a better MU for both staff and faculty. I thank you for your support. I have an open mind for your suggestions on anything you might have to meet these goals."



David Holly: "I have worked at the university for 32 years, and I am interested in serving on the council for many reasons. Two areas of concern to me are retirement and our medical insurance. With all the changes at the federal level, we need to work to keep our retirement fully funded and keep inexpensive access to good medical care. I would like to focus my services on the council to these issues. If elected, I would do my best to represent the staff and your concerns as well. Thank you for your consideration."



Liz Bent: "Within the past five years that I've worked at the University of Missouri, I've seen the environment shifting. Now is the perfect time, while we are in the midst of these changes, to make sure staff concerns are voiced and everyone's needs are met. I would be honored to be trusted as one of those voices on the Staff Advisory Council and would strive to listen and convey everyone's needs."



Thomas Bowling: "It's a great honor to be nominated for the MU Staff Advisory Council. I've been employed at MU and the School of Nursing student advising offices for almost eight years. I was first an administrative assistant and now an executive staff assistant I. One of my office's main objectives and joys is working closely with students and faculty, which is a continual reminder of why we are here and work diligently to ensure MU is unsurpassed."



Wayne Shoemaker: "Staff council has served MU staff in very meaningful ways over the years. By serving as a staff council member, my main focus would be the needs of MU staff, and to work at maintaining a strong staff council. As an MU staff member for 22 years and a beneficiary of past staff council programs, my experience will allow me to help pursue future staff council initiatives."



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### Program provides free breast cancer screenings

Ellis Fischel Cancer Center is providing free diagnostic services to young women with limited financial resources who have found abnormalities in their breasts during a clinical breast exam. The free screenings are provided through a grant from the Mid-Missouri Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

To be eligible, women must be between the ages of 19 and 34 and live in Adair, Audrain, Boone, Callaway, Camden, Chariton, Cole, Cooper, Howard, Macon, Maries, Miller, Moniteau, Morgan, Osage or Randolph counties. Women may not have Medicare, Medicaid or health insurance that covers their diagnostic services, and they must demonstrate limited financial resources. The abnormality must be verified by a care provider during a clinical breast exam.

The grant will help ensure that women with limited financial resources or who lack health insurance in mid-Missouri have the opportunity to receive free ultrasounds and, if needed, mammograms, says Sue Sinele, staff nurse for Ellis Fischel Cancer Screening Services. "These diagnostic services can be critical in diagnosing breast cancer at its earliest stages in young women."

Grant funding for the free diagnostic services is available until March 31, 2011. For more information, contact Sinele at 884-1140.



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## School's out for the summer

With MU's summer session drawing to a close, this is the final issue of Mizzou Weeekly for the 2009-10 school year. After a little break we'll start publishing again Aug. 26 with all the latest updates on living and working at Mizzou. It's never too early, though, to start sending in items for our Fall 2010 Semester Calendar, which will be published Sept. 9. If your department is sponsoring a campus concert, a film, play or lecture, a symposium or a conference send the information to: Mizzou Weekly Calendar, 407 Reynolds Center. You can also e-mail it to [publications@missouri.edu](mailto:publications@missouri.edu) or call 882-5918.

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