

Mizzou Weekly

April 14, 2011 Volume 32, No. 27

Best in class



CLASS(ROOM) ACT Chancellor Brady J. Deaton paid a visit to the classroom of MU School of Journalism Professor Mike McKean to announce that McKean had been honored by colleagues with a 2011 Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence. McKean was among five MU faculty members who received the award last week, which comes with a \$10,000 prize. McKean has been an integral part of the journalism school faculty for 25 years. Rob Hill photo

2011 KEMPER AWARDS

MU honors teaching excellence

Last week marked one of the most important rites of spring at the University of Missouri — presentation of the William T. Kemper Fellowships for Teaching Excellence.

The fellowships, established in 1991 with a \$500,000 gift, honor five outstanding teachers at MU each year. As is the custom, this year's awards were presented in the winners' classrooms by Chancellor Brady J. Deaton. The fellowships come with a \$10,000 prize.

Kemper, a 1926 MU graduate, was a well-known civic leader in Kansas City until his death in 1989. His 52-year career in banking included top positions at banks in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma. Commerce Bank manages the trust fund.

This year's winners are:

- Bethany Stone

Bethany Stone, assistant teaching professor in the Division of Biological Sciences since 2004, teaches introductory biology courses and courses focusing on botany, infectious diseases and genetic diseases.

But Stone aims to do more than merely give students facts and definitions to memorize. Her teaching centers on making a topic feared by many students into a topic they feel comfortable discussing with others. Stone invites students to come to her office

hours where students make deeper connections with her and gain better understanding of science.

- Mike McKean

Six years ago, Mike McKean created the Convergence Journalism Emphasis Area in the School of Journalism. Students who enroll in the emphasis area gain skills working with different types of media, including radio, websites and television.

An integral part of the journalism faculty for 25 years, McKean pushes students to succeed and play a part in the transformation of media. He has advised more than 75 teams of seniors as they developed real-world multimedia projects, and he has created competitions in which students design applications for such industry-leading corporate partners as Apple, Adobe, Google and the Hearst Corporation.

- Naveh-Benjamin

Etti Naveh-Benjamin has taught cross-cultural psychology and Israeli culture courses at MU since 2002, and has served as the director of the Multicultural Certificate program since 2008.

She advises students selecting multicultural and diversity courses to complement their backgrounds and disciplines, changing the way they view the world. Previously Naveh-Benjamin has received several teaching awards including the Purple Chalk Award from the College of Arts and Science and the Catalyst Award for excellence in teaching and contributing to diversity at MU.

- Elizabeth Chang

Elizabeth Chang, assistant professor in the Department of English since 2004, teaches undergraduate and graduate level courses in Victorian literature and other topics.

Chang encourages students not to just read Victorian literature, but imagine themselves in the time the text was written. To help them understand the time period, she presents images of Victorian England and takes students to Ellis Library to flip through period magazines. She says this gives students a chance to have a truly lasting experience that could not be achieved by looking at images of the magazines in a presentation.

- Deborah Hanuscin

Deborah Hanuscin, an associate professor of physics and education since 2004, teaches science as more than a list of facts, but rather something students should see in everyday life.

As part of that mission, Hanuscin serves as an adviser to the MU chapter of the National Science Teachers Association. She has helped students organize community outreach events and increase membership. Hanuscin has received several campus teaching awards, including the College of Education's Outstanding Undergraduate Instructor of the Year and the Provost's Outstanding Junior Faculty Teaching Award.

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative

- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

[More in the archive »](#)

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Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators

BENEFITS

Changes would not harm existing employees

If the University of Missouri System creates a new retirement plan for future employees, administrators should pledge, in writing, that the existing plan for current employees will continue to meet its obligations.

That was one of the findings of a UM advisory committee charged with making recommendations for the future of the System's pension plan. The report, presented to the Board of Curators in March, also recommends that the university maintain a stabilization fund to insure the current plan, known as a defined-benefit plan, remains fully funded.

The committee said that if the UM Board of Curators decides to create a new retirement plan for future employees, the "preferred alternative" would incorporate elements of both defined-benefit and defined-contribution plans.

Defined-benefit, or DB, plans, are employer managed. They guarantee employees some level of income upon retirement, and have been popular in the public sector for many years. But the growing cost of funding them has triggered budget crises in several states.

Even though the UM plan has remained fully funded, those pressures prompted administrators to begin requiring employees to contribute a percentage of their pay to the plan in 2009.

The advisory committee also noted that newer generations of employees may not value a plan that provides the highest benefit after an entire career with a single employer.

Defined-contribution, or DC, plans require employees to save and invest on their own, while reducing the risk to employers. While DC plans are more popular with younger employees, who are more likely to switch jobs during the course of their careers, they raise other concerns, the committee reported.

Because defined contribution plans require employees to make investment decisions, they need to be more sophisticated about investment options. There is also some concern about whether employees will have adequate retirement income if they make poor investment decisions or choose to take out their investments if they leave the university.

Also, most DC plans require significant employee contributions, and lower-paid employees may not be able to afford the contributions.

Kelly Stuck, UM's associate vice president of compensation, said that while the committee reached consensus on combining the current DB plan with a DC component, not all members agreed it would best serve future faculty and staff.

"We had people say, 'I'd rather take the money. I think I can do better than the university and have more at retirement,'" Stuck said. "Other people felt, 'This is the way to guarantee that everybody has a certain amount at retirement.'"

The UM System has been discussing possible changes to the retirement plan since 2009, when administrators expressed concern that the investment returns the plan relies on to meet its obligations had become less certain. Administrators began meeting with faculty and staff at the systems' four campuses about the forces affecting the current plan.

Administrators had initially anticipated sought curator approval of a new plan by December 2010. But when campus leaders said many employees were unsettled about the possible changes and worried that the system was moving too fast, then-President Gary Forsee called for an advisory committee to review various options. The committee includes members of the intercampus

faculty and staff councils, the standing committee on retirement and benefits and Betsy Rodriguez, the system's vice president for Human Resources.

In addition to recommending a written pledge that the defined-benefit plan would remain intact and fully funded for current employees, the committee's findings included:

- a recommendation that mandatory employee contributions remain low, and that contributions to any new plan for future employees should not be less than those required by employees who would remain in the current plan;
- the university should provide adequate education for employees to make informed decisions;
- the university should implement a communication plan to foster employee understanding and appreciation of the value of their benefits;
- the most important retirement plan objective is "income adequacy" at retirement;
- the type of retirement plan offered is "not typically" a primary factor in most employees' decision to accept or leave employment.

Curators accepted the committee report, but did not discuss it or take action on it at the board's March meeting in Rolla. Stuck said the board has not established a timetable to act on the committee's recommendations.

"The findings were presented as an information-only item," Stuck said. "The standing Retirement and Staff Benefits Committee will continue to consider the work of the Advisory Committee in any future recommendation."

A history of the UM Retirement Project, including the advisory committee's report, can be viewed at [umsystem.edu/ums/hr/benefits/retirementplanproject](http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/hr/benefits/retirementplanproject). (<http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/hr/benefits/retirementplanproject>)

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

[More in the archive »](#)

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Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety

ALEXITHYMIA

Personality trait stymies emotional understanding

Alexithymia is a personality trait that prevents people from sharing or even understanding their own emotions. Every person has some level of alexithymia — previous studies estimate 8 percent to 10 percent of the population have trouble relating to, or become anxious around, other people or avoid forming relationships.

But a University of Missouri researcher's latest study indicates that affectionate communication, such as hugging, could help those who have high levels of alexithymia lead more fulfilling lives.

Colin Hesse, an assistant professor of communication in the College of Arts and Science, said alexithymia is often found with other conditions on the autism spectrum, as well as post-traumatic stress disorders. Studies have shown that alexithymia has been related to eating and panic disorders, as well as substance abuse.

"We know how important it is for people to empathize and be open with the people around us, because that makes someone more competent as a communicator," Hesse said. "We still need to study the best approaches, but we believe that affectionate communication ranging from hugs, touching, or even the posture taken during communication can make a positive impact, even if it only relieves anxiety."

In the paper "Affection Mediates the Impact of Alexithymia on Relationships," published in the journal *Personality and Individual Differences*, Hesse and Kory Floyd of Arizona State University surveyed 921 people and measured shared affection, attachment levels, and the number of close relationships. The researchers found that even though alexithymia was negatively related to forming relationships, giving and receiving higher amounts of affectionate communication lessened the trait.

While alexithymia is still relatively new to the scientific world, some scholars believe it may eventually be added to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. As a communications expert, Hesse is studying the ways alexithymia sufferers can ease the physical and mental costs of the affliction and succeed at relationships. Hesse's previous work has shown that affectionate communication releases hormones that relieve stress, and his future studies will be applicable to all forms of communication.

"Because there is so much gray area with alexithymia, the potential for what we learn could have benefits for people with conditions such as emotional distance and autism spectrum disorders," Hesse said. "I want to help alexithymia sufferers understand the undercurrent of the messages sent from other people."

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions

- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

[More in the archive »](#)

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Preparing for spring floods

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway

With the large snowfalls of the past winter, flooding is a potential threat in many parts of Missouri. And while your house may not be in a flood plain, most flood-related deaths occur on the road, when people try to drive through moving water.

Georgia Stuart-Simmons, a University of Missouri Extension community development specialist, said Missouri creeks and rivers can rise very rapidly, or the road bottom could wash away, making the water much deeper than it appears.

“Most cars will float—and be swept away—in 18-24 inches of moving water,” said “Trucks and SUVs are not much better, with only 6-12 more inches of clearance.”

Once cars are swept downstream, they will often roll to one side or even flip over entirely. The driver has only a few seconds to escape. “Many drivers panic as soon as the vehicle submerges and are found later with their seat belt still fastened,” she said. “Never, NEVER try to drive through moving water.”

To be alert to the possibility of a flood. Stay tuned to local radio or TV stations. A flood watch means a flood is possible in your area. If a flood watch is issued for your area, move valuables to higher floors.

A flood warning means flooding is already occurring or will occur soon in your area. Keep a full tank of gas in your car in case an evacuation notice is issued. When flooding is imminent, move to higher ground away from rivers, streams, creeks and storm drains. Do not drive around barricades. They are there for your safety.

No matter what type of emergency you may face, it's important to have a disaster supply kit. If flooding cuts you off from supply sources, you might need:

- First-aid kit and essential medications.
- Canned food and can opener.
- At least three gallons of water per person.
- Protective clothing, rainwear, and bedding or sleeping bags.
- Battery-powered radio, flashlight and extra batteries.
- Special items for infants, elderly or disabled family members.
- Written instructions for how to turn off electricity, gas and water if authorities advise you to do so. (Remember, you'll need a professional to turn them back on.)

“You will also need to know where to go if told to evacuate,” Stuart-Simmons said. “Choose several places — a friend's home in another town, a motel, or a shelter.”

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society

- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
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[More in the archive »](#)

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New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess



IN THE SPOTLIGHT The Tiger faithful got their first chance to meet new mens' basketball Coach Frank Haith last week at a press conference at Mizzou Arena's Clinton Club. Haith, who coached at the University of Miami from 2004-2011, winning 20 games six times, said he understood the skepticism his hiring generated among some fans. "I want that as a positive," he said. "I'm not mad. I get it." Nicholas Benner photo

COURTSIDE MATTER

Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami

As Frank Haith approached the podium in front of a packed house at Mizzou Arena's Clinton Club last week, the new Missouri men's head basketball coach was greeted with his first "M-I-Z, Z-O-U" chant.

"I'm already impressed," said the former University of Miami coach. "Let's go play a game."

Haith, who rebuilt a stalled Hurricane program from 2004 to 2011, immediately addressed the fan criticism that had bubbled up.

"I want that as a positive," he said of Tiger Nation's passionate reaction. "I want to win. I want to cut down nets. I'm not mad — I get it."

Haith spent seven seasons at the University of Miami overall, where he leaves the program as the winningest postseason coach in school history. Haith led the Hurricanes to the 2008 NCAA Tournament and he owns three of the school's six 20-win seasons since the restart of the program in 1986.

He becomes the 17th men's basketball coach at Mizzou, replacing Mike Anderson, who resigned March 23, 2011, to take the same position at the University of Arkansas.

"We're very pleased to have such a well-rounded and respected man lead our basketball program into the future," said MU Director of Athletics Mike Alden. "Frank has demonstrated throughout his career that he fits the criteria we were looking for. He's

graduated 21-of-22 of his players while at Miami. He is recognized as one of the top recruiters in the nation and his Midwest ties fit very well with what we're needing right now."

The new Tiger coach outlined his priorities as a leader — from academic success to X's and O's.

"The first thing I say when I go into a player's home is that you don't go to school to play basketball," Haith said. "You go to school and play basketball."

Haith, 46, brings wife Pam, son Corey, 17, and daughter Brianna, 6, from South Beach. He inherits a team that returns six seniors in 2011–12. Although Laurence Bowers and Kim English made themselves eligible for the NBA Draft, neither will hire an agent so they can return for their senior season if they are not drafted.

Haith led Miami to one of the most successful seasons in school history in 2007-08. One year removed from a 12-20 season, Haith's crew won 23 games and qualified for the NCAA Tournament play. The Hurricanes topped Saint Mary's, 78-64, in the first round and narrowly missed upsetting second-seeded Texas in the second round. The 23 wins by the club was just one shy of the school record.

Prior to his time in Miami, Haith was a well-versed assistant coach, serving several seasons in the Big 12 Conference at both Texas and Texas A&M. He was the associate head coach for Rick Barnes in 2003-04 and spent three total years on the UT staff from 2001-04. Haith is known his ability to recruit and mentor top-flight talent.

He has recruited six McDonald's All-Americans in his 16 seasons as an assistant coach, starting with Rodney Rodgers in 1990 to Wake Forest. He also signed Jerald Brown at Texas A&M (1995) and helped Barnes and his staff sign four high school All-Americans at Texas.

During his three seasons at UT, the Longhorns won 73 games, advancing to three consecutive NCAA Tournaments, including the 2002 and 2004 Sweet 16 and 2003 Final Four. He was also named the 2004 National Recruiter of the Year by Rivals.com, a key distinction with Missouri having as many as nine scholarships available over the next two seasons.

"[Texas Coach] Rick Barnes is probably my best friend in the business, and the one thing he taught me is how to adapt based on your personnel," Haith said.

Haith also worked his recruiting magic at Wake Forest in his home state of North Carolina. In addition to the Demon Deacons qualifying for four consecutive postseason berths he helped sign a top recruiting class for Coach Dave Odom's program.

From the podium last week, Haith outlined his approach in a rapid-fire style: "I want player movement, I want ball movement, I want great spacing, I like playing inside out and I like getting easy buckets in transition."

The players like his philosophy.

"Making adjustments is huge," said said senior guard Marcus Denmon. "It's a big part of coaching, and we may not have adjusted as much as we needed to in the past. With him saying that, it speaks volumes that he's not one of those stubborn coaches that is just, 'my way or the highway.' He understands that he's coming into a program where the players play a certain way and you have to adapt."

Junior guard Michael Dixon said he sees similarities between Haith and Anderson.

"A lot of our guys are happy with that because we like the way we play," he said. "But I don't think a little more instruction would hurt us at all."

Bowers said he was relieved the search is over.

"I was at home during spring break just wondering who we were going to get," he said. "On the outside, people need to give him a chance. I really believe he'll do a great job here."

Senior guard Kim English, who nearly went to the traditional football university when he was recruited by Haith in high school, said he's pleased with Haith's selection.

“People have been getting on him about his record at Miami, but it’s Miami basketball,” English said. “It’s like Indiana football, or Kansas football. It doesn’t sound right.”

He listed a quality big man as a high priority, and he’s already begun blazing the recruiting trail.

“We need some size, and as soon as I was told that I was going to be the next head basketball coach here, we went to work on that,” Haith said.

— *Marcus Wilkins*

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee’s retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU’s Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
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Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home



THIS OLD DOGHOUSE MU architecture and interior design students from the College of Human Environmental Sciences came together for a good cause in early April to design and build a doghouse out of sustainable materials. The event attracted seven local teams whose doghouse projects were auctioned off to benefit the Central Missouri Humane Society. The student's Airstream design won the Dog's Choice Award.

BARKITECTURE 2011

Volunteer event benefits local humane society

Several University of Missouri students recently helped some four-legged friends live in style, while supporting the Central Missouri Humane Society.

Architecture and interior design students from the College of Human Environmental Sciences put their creative skills to the test by designing and building a doghouse out of sustainable materials. The students, all volunteers, entered their doghouse into the "Mid-Missouri Barkitecture" contest. The event, held April 4-10 with a daily display outside the Boone County Courthouse, was sponsored by the local American Institute of Architects' Committee on the Environment.

The seven entries, including handiwork by members of local community organizations and professional architecture firms, were auctioned off April 10, with proceeds donated to the humane society. Judges chose the entry by MU students, which pays homage to the classic Airstream trailer, as winner of the Dog's Choice award.

Airstream trailers were popular recreational camping vehicles in the 1960s that sported an aerodynamic design with a silver hull. The MU student's doghouse version was designed with a silver metal cover, a fold-out sun visor, wheels and tail lights.

John Bohlmeyer, an MU student who spent many nights and weekends building the doghouse, said the project was a great chance for his fellow students to hone their craft.

“It’s always good for architecture and interior design students to be able get some hands-on experience with the tools and materials used in the building trade, even if it’s just light carpentry work,” Bohlmeier said. “I think all of the members of the team had worked with wood before, but the sheet metal was new to us. I’ve picked up on some of the characteristics of bending sheet metal that I will be able to use in the future.”

Michael Goldschmidt, an assistant professor in Architectural Studies in the College of Human Environmental Sciences, advised the student group as they designed and built the dog house. He said the school is always pushing students to use their skills to help improve the world around them.

“We encourage students to do things in the community,” Goldschmidt said. “This project has allowed them to combine their design skills with giving back.

Not only do they get to help the humane society, but they get to increase their knowledge of managing and designing sustainable products.”

One goal of the contest was to design each house to be as sustainable as possible. The MU students, who are all members of a student chapter of the United States Green Building Council, were able to build their “Airstream house” almost exclusively from recycled or eco-friendly products.

“Ultimately we hope the house is auctioned off to an excited owner for lots of money to benefit the humane society,” Bohlmeier said. “Just being able to work on a group project outside of our studio classroom is a great way to relieve stress and have fun building something.”

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee’s retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
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- [MU’s Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
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- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
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April 14, 2011 Volume 32, No. 27

Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget

PSYCHOLOGY

Positive mood can negatively impact working memory

Forget what you had for lunch yesterday? It might not have been the food, but your mood.

A University of Missouri researcher has found that being in a good mood decreases your working memory capacity — your brain's ability to store information needed to carry out complex cognitive task.

In "The Influence of Positive Mood on Different Aspects of Cognitive Control," published earlier this year in the journal *Cognition and Emotion*, Elizabeth Martin, a doctoral student of psychology in the College of Arts and Science, found that forgetfulness may have something to do with being in a good mood.

"Working memory, for example, is the ability to recall items in a conversation as you are having it," Martin said. "This explains why you might not be able to remember a phone number you get at a party when you are having a good time. This shows that although systems in the brain are connected, it is possible to affect one process but not others."

Researchers gauged study participants' mood before and after showing them a video clip. Some participants were shown a segment of a stand-up comedy routine, while others watched an instructional video on how to install flooring. Following the videos, those that viewed the comedy routine were in significantly better moods after viewing the video, while the mood of those that viewed the flooring video had not changed.

After watching the videos, both groups completed a memory test. This test provides several numbers to a participant through headphones at a rate of four numbers per second. After the recording stopped, participants were asked to recall the last six numbers in order. Those that watched the comedy routine and were in a better mood performed significantly worse on the task.

"While working memory storage is decreased, being in a good mood is not all bad," Martin said. "Being in a good mood has been shown to increase creative problem-solving skills and other aspects of thinking."

Martin's research is the first to show that positive mood can negatively impact working memory storage capacity. She said future research should analyze the impact of mood on working memory storage capacity in real life situations, such as a classroom setting.

The research was funded by grants from the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute of Drug Abuse and a grant from the MU Research Board.

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions

- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

[More in the archive »](#)

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Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt

MONEY MATTERS

How to make better financial decisions

Although credit card delinquencies have fallen to their lowest levels in almost ten years, many Americans still carry substantial balances on their cards each month, according to the American Bankers Association.

Recent studies have found that indebted families — especially those who have experienced unemployment or unexpected medical expenses — use credit cards to pay for basic needs, increasing their future financial vulnerability.

Speakers at the third annual Personal Finance Symposium at the University of Missouri will focus on the challenges presented by living in a world of debt, while addressing other financial issues of the day.

This year's symposium is entitled "In Debt We Trust: Living in a Leveraged World." Personal Financial Planning Department in the College of Human Environmental Sciences and the Mid-Missouri Estate Planning Council.

"People need to have a better understanding of their relationships with money," said Robert Weagley, chair of the Personal Financial Planning department. "We have assembled a set of national speakers to talk about how people can make better financial decisions."

Robin Carnahan, Missouri Secretary of State, will speak at 12:30 p.m. on the state's role in financial markets. Other speakers from throughout the country will discuss changes to the estate tax, as well as research-based presentations about investing in stocks and bonds.

The event is open to the public. The cost is \$30 per person, with lunch included. For those seeking four hours of continuing education credit, the cost is \$50 per person, including lunch. The cost for students is \$10. A one-day parking pass for Hitt Street Garage is included in the price for those that pre-register.

For more information or to make your reservation, contact Amy Sanders at 5673-884-5958 or mail check (payable to University of Missouri) to 14 Gwynn Hall, Columbia, MO 65211.

Program Agenda

• 9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Introduction: Robert O. Weagley, Ph.D., CFP®, Chair, Personal Financial Planning, and Chancellor Brady J. Deaton, University of Missouri

• 10 a.m.

Interest Rate Risk Measurement & Management: Michael Dorigan, Ph.D., Senior Quantitative Analyst, PNC Capital Advisors Philadelphia, Penn.

• 11 a.m.

When Logic Leaves the Room: Understanding How Difficult Financial Decisions are Made: Ted Klontz, Ph.D., Author and Principal, Klontz Consulting Group, Nashville, Tenn.

•Lunch - Mark Twain Ballroom, Memorial Union, with The Honorable Robin Carnahan, Missouri Secretary of State

University of Missouri MoTax and Office for Financial Success Student Volunteer Recognition

• 1:30 p.m.

The Quest for Alpha: Larry Sweroe, Principal and Director of Research, Buckingham Asset Management, St. Louis, Mo.

•2:30 p.m.

When Death Do Us Part: Estate Planning Under the New Tax Law: Scott Blakesley, Partner, Spencer Fane Britt & Browne LLP, Kansas City, Mo.

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
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Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering

CELEBRATION OF TEACHING

Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions

The University of Missouri will mark the end of the 2010-11 academic year with a celebration that will include discussion sessions on engaging topics, nationally recognized speakers, recognition of campus authors and a reception honoring the U.S. Professor of the Year nominees from MU.

Celebration of Teaching, which is aimed at instructors and advisors on campus, will take place May 17-18.

"While this event allows us to communicate, as a campus, about what we do in the area of teaching and learning, it is also a great time for Mizzou to celebrate," Jim Spain, vice provost for undergraduate studies, said. "Last year's event was an enormous success and this year is setting up to be even better."

Cole Camplese, the senior director for teaching and learning with technology at Penn State, will kickoff the celebration as he delivers the keynote address at 1:30 p.m. on May 17 in Bush Auditorium at Cornell Hall.

His address, titled "If That is Scholarship, We Are All Doomed!" will focus on the new forms of conversation that are emerging across the Web that are shaping the nature of our institutional responsibilities.

"We will explore the notion of the conversation as it exists across the social Web to see how we, as educators, can take cues from this emerging dialogue," Camplese said. "It is our responsibility not to dismiss these forms and forums as passing fads, but to realize the embedded pedagogies that exist within these emergent spaces."

Camplese leads efforts at Penn State to provide direction to enhance the use of technology in teaching, learning and research. His primary area of focus is the integration of emerging technologies into learning spaces.

"I really believe technology is now so embedded in our teaching and learning environments that it has so much more to do with providing models that can be used to build stories to tell to other faculty trying new things," Camplese said.

This will be Camplese's second trip to MU. He also spoke at the Apple Digital Campus event held at MU in 2004.

"I think people are going to really enjoy hearing from Cole Camplese," Danna Vessell, director of Educational Technologies at Missouri, said. "He has some very innovative ways of integrating technology into teaching and learning. He is a brilliant speaker and is widely regarded as someone who thinks beyond the traditional context of learning. I think he'll provide some great insight into how we can continue to advance our mission here at MU."

The keynote address will be followed by a reception from 3-5 p.m. in the Columns Ballroom of the Reynolds Alumni Center. The reception will include remarks by Spain and the recognition of Missouri's nominees for the U.S. Professor of the Year and MU campus authors.

Day two of the celebration will be filled with discussion sessions on a variety of topics. Sessions will run from 9 a.m.-4:15 p.m. on May 18 in Cornell Hall, with lunch available at Reynolds Alumni Center for those who have registered.

"Our lineup of speakers and discussion sessions includes a wide-range of topics and interest," Vessell said. "I think we've put together a program that people will find of great value."

Session topics scheduled are:

- Faculty Guidance for Emergencies — Rebecca Bergfield
- Accepting the Challenge: Transitioning into Online and Blended Teaching — Ron Phillips, Bethany Stone and Shawna Strickland
- Enhancing Creativity: Assisting Students Whether You Have 15 Minutes or 15 Weeks — Bruce Litchfield and Suzanne Burgoyne
- What's That Tegrity Button in My Blackboard Course? Is Lecture Capture for Me? — Jacquelyn Sandone and Charlie Rigdon
- Chicken or Egg: Classroom Design or Pedagogy, Which Comes First? — Heiddi Davis, Patricia Okker, Nicole Bartow and Marc Strid
- Plagiarism: Perception Versus Reality — Catherine Chmidling and Bonnie Selting
- Educating Reflective Practitioners — Benyamin Schwartz
- Classroom in Your Pocket: Mobiles, Teaching, Learning & Thinking Without a Box — Guy Wilson
- Helping Students in Crisis — David Wallace
- Studio Mix: Cross Boundary Creative Engagement in the 21st Century Classroom — Lynn Cook and Suzanne Burgoyne
- Addressing Cultural Differences and Difficult Dialogues — Noor Azizan-Gardner and Eryca Neville
- Strategies of Engagement: Why They Should Care — Mike Porter, Bethany Stone, Jan Dauve and Michael Barnes
- Improving Teaching Through Peer Evaluation and Other Feedback — Anna Ball
- Using a Teaching Portfolio for Powerful Reflection — Tracy Kitchel
- Graduate Students: Why Mentoring Versus Advising? Beneficial or Just More Work — Charlotte Phillips
- Using Technology to Support Active Student Learning — Jason Aubrey, Linda Esser and Dorina Kosztin
- Applying Universal Design for Learning in the College Classroom — Abbie O'Sullivan, Charlie Rigdon, Barbara Hammer and Deb Hanuscin
- Problem-Based Learning with Undergraduate Classes — Mark Ryan and Josh Millspaugh
- Wikis and Blogs as Tools for Deeper Thought — Clyde Bentley, Carla Allen and Dale Fitch
- Tips and Tricks for the Graduate Instructor — Steve Keller
- What Interdisciplinary Has to Offer — Linda Blockus, Ingolf Gruen and Mizzou Advantage Postdoctoral Fellows
- Social Ways to Teach and Learn — Jen Reeves
- Adding Variety to Your Course to Engage Students — Jeni Hart
- Is There Still a Place for Places in Higher Education? The Pride of Place Campus Heritage Network — Arthur Mehrhoff

In addition, a pre-conference workshop, Creativity in the Classroom, by Lynn Book and Bruce Litchfield, with moderator Suzanne Burgoyne, will take place 9 a.m.-noon on May 17.

"The agenda is full of exciting and intriguing sessions and we are fortunate to have the chance to hear from some well-respected and insightful speakers," Spain said. "We have also added a special recognition of authors from our campus to this year's celebration that we are excited about."

Those that register for the event will be asked to vote on the next "I Love Teaching at Mizzou" poster at the time of registration. The winning poster will be given out at the event, along with several other exciting giveaways.

For more information on the event, including a complete schedule and registration information, [visit tlc.missouri.edu](http://tlc.missouri.edu) (<http://tlc.missouri.edu/>).

— Josh Murray

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions

- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

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Adult Day Connection is a home away from home



WINNING PAIR Carolyn Anderson, left, and Jann Klatt are staff members at MU's Adult Day Connection, which has been serving families for 22 years. The center offers daily assistance and recreation for adults, giving caregivers time for work or a break. Shane Epping photo

A GOOD PLACE TO BE

Staff function as a family

Adult Day Connection at the University of Missouri is not your grandmother's care facility. Well, maybe it is, but for adults with dementia and other health challenges this School of Health Professions program functions like a family.

Jan Klatt and Carolyn Anderson are among the staff members offering daily help for adults and giving caregivers time for work or just a break. The center, located in Clark Hall, has assisted families for 22 years.

But for participants, it's just a good place to be.

Dorothy calls it her exercise group. Stan and his guy friends like their coffee groups, and they lobby for card games at every opportunity. Eli asks to work at the computer. "Miss Edna," 97, is blind, but she's ready for most activities.

To many of the 40 enrolled participants, Klatt and Anderson are inseparable from real family.

"I love this place. I love this job. We have enough staff, who all genuinely care. It's individual attention, and that's what the participants need most. I need them as much as they need me," says Klatt, an ADC employee since 1998.

Klatt, who is a licensed practical nurse (LPN), stays alert for physical and mental fragility. She conducts regular screenings of vital signs to update individual care plans and to track details of decline and improvement. She looks for behavior changes and administers medications.

If Klatt spots a problem, she calls a family member or physician. And although it's out of the health-care protocol, she can converse knowledgeably — by name — about her charges' children and grandchildren.

As its mission, the state-licensed ADC helps adults delay entry into long-term care. Participants, who range in age from 55 to 97, face a variety of health challenges that include dementia, Down syndrome, developmental disabilities, cerebral palsy, stroke, multiple sclerosis and loss of vision or hearing.

Thanks to the subtle aid of staff members, those health problems aren't always discernable.

Participants who lose track of a conversation are gently guided back to the topic.

Without making a big deal of it, Klatt and other staff members give tactful reminders that "now would be a good time for a bathroom break." Help with "toileting" is offered, and bathroom messes are cleaned up with little fuss.

And because the early stages of dementia can be embarrassing, all participants, staff members and volunteers wear nametags.

"For me, Adult Day Connection is a real life saver," says Marcia Walker, whose mother, Dorothy, attends half days twice a week. "Since my mom quit driving, she gets bored at home. This gives her something to do. She likes all of it."

Participants arrive as early as 7:30 each morning by car or public transportation for daily activities that start with a wake-up coffee chat.

The outnumbered men often make their own table of five or six to discuss headline news and politics — sometimes boisterously — before moving to a circle of chairs for the exercise session. Health professions student Amber Alexander leads today's group in stretching.

It's OK when Charlotte, a former grade-school teacher, decides to skip the exercise to complete a word-search activity. At 95, she wants some private time, and staff members respect her choice. "The people here are very gentle. I enjoy just sitting," she says.

With exercise class under way, Klatt tends to Ruth, who is partially blind. Ruth arrived with a red bruise on her forehead from a fall at home, so Klatt rubs Ruth's shoulders and, noticing her hands are cold, brings her a heated muff.

Sometimes the care isn't essential; it's just kind.

Mizzou students mix easily with the participants. On a typical day, they help serve lunch and kibitz with a group of card players before joining the sing-along.

Part of Anderson's responsibilities involves scheduling the student volunteers. With 14 years of experience at ADC, she graphs work charts for more than 30 nursing students and 40 health-professions students, including those studying physical therapy.

Young people today don't necessarily grow up with grandparents nearby, so ADC interactions are educational for students planning careers in health professions. But the benefits are reciprocal for students and participants. Since Stan has been working with physical therapy students, his mobility has improved and he no longer uses a cane.

"These students are cream of the crop," Anderson says. "Our participants always welcome them."

Last year, student volunteers donated 7,216 hours of time, and for some ADC has provided career-changing experiences leading toward work in geriatric care.

Anderson's primary challenge is to make each day special, with activities that stimulate cognitive abilities and encourage involvement.

"This is a sharp group. They keep me on my toes. Yesterday I had something planned, but they wanted to play cards," she says. She offers craft projects, facials, sing-alongs, tea parties, pet visits and interactions with children from the Robert G. Combs Language Preschool, also operated by the School of Health Professions.

Wedding Week, a favorite activity, encouraged participants to recall personal memories when staff members displayed their own gowns. (On the subject of romance, Stan, who has lost two wives, holds hands with Jean every chance he gets.)

Anderson has brought in magicians, master gardeners, artists and travelers for presentations. She has arranged field trips to florists, art galleries, greenhouses and Buck's ice cream shop.

Even lunch becomes an event. As big-band music from the 1940s plays softly on a stereo, staff and participants set tables for four with placemats and place cards. "The food is always good," Dave says of the leisurely meal.

Anderson watches the diners and points out that empty plates are best left at each person's place until all have finished. People with dementia can forget they've already eaten if their plates are removed too early.

After lunch, participants pick their own activities during unstructured time. Some socialize or gather for a board game while others take a quick nap in a recliner.

Meanwhile, mascot Willy, a black Scottish terrier, pads around seeking attention and treats. The friendly little dog, owned by staff member Rexene Plagman, joins the group every day. He's been attending since 2008 and has learned to tread carefully among wheelchairs, walkers and canes. Even if Plagman can't come in, Willy catches a ride with other staff members.

Like the participants, he enjoys being there.

— Nancy Moen

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Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
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MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes



FARMER'S FRIEND Brett Craigmyle, a University of Missouri weed science graduate student, cuts off the remains of a weed to see how much live tissue still exists in the plant. His research aims to find better tank mixes for 2,4-D and dicamba to use on cropland. Roger Meissen photo

From LAB TO FARM

Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds

Brett Craigmyle snipped off shoots of brown and wilted waterhemp one at a time, weighing the plants to determine how dead they really are.

For Craigmyle, a University of Missouri graduate student, this is just one step in a research project that looks at how to control an ever-escalating challenge in farm fields across the country — herbicide-resistant weeds.

The goal is to find the best chemical mix to control weeds and that works well with newly developed herbicide-resistant seeds.

The increasing resistance of weeds has reduced the effectiveness of go-to herbicides like glyphosate. New combinations of herbicides use different modes of actions, attacking weeds in different ways. For example, one herbicide can hurt a weed by

manipulating its hormones while another can hinder photosynthesis.

“We spray weeds in the greenhouse at 6-inch and 12-inch heights, rate how much injury they have and then harvest, weigh and dry them to see how much living tissue remains in their system,” Craigmyle said.

Kevin Bradley, an MU Extension weed scientist and associate professor in the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, said farmers and researchers have to do a better job at managing weed populations and not just controlling weeds with one herbicide.

“Our No. 1 thing is we have to move away from spraying just one herbicide over and over and get a different mode of action out there,” Bradley said.

Current tests focus on the best tank mixes for 2,4-D and dicamba in waterhemp, giant ragweed, cocklebur and a variety of other weed species. By pairing those chemicals with different amounts of other herbicides like glyphosate and glufosinate (known by the brand names Roundup and Liberty, respectively), researchers hope to give farmers better control of the problem weeds in their fields.

Bradley hopes that U.S. agriculture can avoid measures taken by other countries. To tackle problems associated with herbicide-resistant weeds, countries like Australia have been forced to adopt different crops, move towards a greater reliance on tillage for weed control or develop new types of machinery to remove weed seeds from fields.

“We haven’t had to even think about doing those kinds of things—yet,” he said.

New developments will soon make 2,4-D and dicamba tank mixes all the more important.

MU recently partnered with Dow AgroSciences to engineer and field test soybean plants that tolerate 2,4-D. The chemical, developed during World War II, is one of the cheaper herbicides on the market, and 2,4-D-resistant seed would work in much the same way as Roundup Ready soybeans and corn.

Regulated testing started in MU field plots last year, Bradley said. While 2,4-D-resistant seed won’t hit the market for several years, it’s important for farmers to learn now from the mistakes made during the Roundup heyday, he said.

“Growers might look at 2,4-D- or dicamba-resistant soybean technologies and think it will be the next silver bullet, just like Roundup Ready,” Bradley said. “If we have that mindset we’ll lose these technologies to resistance, too.”

He says the days of one chemical solving all weed problems are over, and farmers will need to be smarter and timelier to control problems.

“We’re starting to run out of options to control those species with herbicides we have,” he said, “and while that’s not widespread yet, we’re seeing this as a growing problem.”

The solution is a balanced approach. Farmers should spray fields while weeds are small, use herbicides that have different modes of action and even use traditional control techniques involving crop rotation and tillage.

That’s especially important for farmers looking to eke out a few more bushels per acre.

“Yield loss from weeds can be astonishing if the proper measures aren’t taken to control them,” Craigmyle said. “In the end it’s all about farmers making that dollar to get by and feed the world.”

— Roger Meissen

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee’s retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society

- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
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MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA

THE FINAL FRONTIER

Report explores next decade of science in space

During the past 60 years, humans have built rockets, walked on the moon and explored the outer reaches of space with probes and telescopes. During these trips in space, research has been conducted to learn more about life and space.

Recently, a group of prominent researchers from across the country, led by Rob Duncan, the University of Missouri vice chancellor for research, developed a blueprint for fundamental physics research in space. The report, published through the National Academy of Sciences, is intended as a guide as NASA plans the next 10 years of research in space.

"When Einstein developed his theory of relativity, no one at the time knew exactly how it could be applied. Yet that basic, scientific discovery opened many doors for us, including the development of technology that led to Global Positioning Systems (GPS)," Duncan said. "Many trillion-dollar technologies are based on these 'basic science' discoveries, so it is vital that we continue to explore these scientific questions that, we hope, will continue to lead to technological advancement. We must continue to develop knowledge out of our curiosity alone, since that often leads to great opportunities. If we stop exploring the unknown, then we will fail to discover things that may be of great importance to our economy in ways that may be difficult to predict."

Duncan's committee consisted of Nicholas Bigelow from the University of Rochester, Paul Chaikin from New York University, Ronald Larson from the University of Michigan, W. Carl Lineberger from the University of Colorado, and Ronald Walsworth from Harvard University. The committee developed two overarching "quests" and four specific "thrusts" for fundamental physics research as part of the report, "Recapturing a Future for Space Exploration: Life and Physical Sciences Research for a New Era." The National Research Council will present the report to NASA.

The first quest is to discover and explore the physical laws governing matter, space and time. The second quest is to discover and understand how complex systems are organized. For example, ferns grow with a distinct symmetry and structure to their leaves that are similar to the overall shape of the whole plant. This is an example of "self-similarity" in nature, which could be explored in greater detail in space.

The four specific thrusts that the committee recommended NASA explore in the coming decade are:

- Soft Condensed Matter Physics and Complex Fluids – While some examples exist of this new class of materials, understanding the organizing principles of these new materials, which are typically very strong but very light, could advance materials science dramatically on earth.
- Precision Measurements of Fundamental Forces and Symmetries – This would help scientists determine what is not known about the composition and structure of the universe. For example, some cosmic rays have 100 billion times more energy than the highest energy particles ever produced in "atom smashers" on earth.
- Quantum Gases – Understanding quantum gases can lead to a much better understanding of how particles fundamentally interact with each other. Examples of these materials include superconductors and superfluids. Superconductors are materials that conduct electricity with no resistance while superfluids are those fluids (such as helium at very low temperatures) that have no resistance to fluid flow.
- Condensed Matter – As matter changes into different states, such as solid, liquid and gas, phase changes happen that are similar throughout nature. By studying these changes in space, scientists can alleviate the complication of gravity and better understand the physics effecting these changes.

“This is a fascinating time to be a scientist,” Duncan said. “As NASA moves forward and develops a new space mission, we hope that this report will help guide the scientific portion of space exploration. The possibilities of discovery are endless.”

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee’s retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU’s Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor’s series hosts economist](#)

[More in the archive »](#)

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Mizzou Weekly

April 14, 2011 Volume 32, No. 27

One community, One Mizzou



DIVERSITY

Campus embraces student-led initiative

The campaign's name may be One Mizzou, but about 150 University of Missouri students, faculty and administrators were on hand April 7 to kick off a new grassroots diversity initiative at the MU Student Center.

Created by students in response to racially charged incidents at the Hatch and College Avenue Residence Halls, One Mizzou is a vehicle to promote a culture of respect and responsibility at MU. The campaign's goal is remind the MU community that bias and intolerance based on race, sexual orientation or background have no place on campus.

At the launch, those in attendance, including Chancellor Brady J. Deaton, donned One Mizzou t-shirts and signed their names to a large banner that will hang in all residence halls and Greek houses and inside the Student Center. Future events will include online diversity training and a contest in which students compete to create a diversity-themed video to be shown at Summer Welcome.

In addition to Deaton, who called the creation of One Mizzou his "proudest moment as Chancellor," speakers at last week's kick off included Legion of Black Collegians President Lisa White; Eric Woods, president of the Missouri Students Association; Graham McCaulley, vice president of the Graduate Professional Council; and Lauren Thomas, president of the Residence Halls Association.

Though a student-led initiative, One Mizzou has been embraced by faculty and staff as well. In March, weeks after a student spray-painted a racial slur on a statue in front of Hatch Hall, the Staff Advisory Council created a One Mizzou for Staff petition to support the fight against prejudice and other dehumanizing conduct. The petition has gathered more than 300 signatures so far.

Council member Angel Anderson, an executive staff assistant for the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative, said the petition is "an effort to realize our goal of supporting the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative in providing a welcoming and inclusive campus, which is one of the council's goals as well."

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

[More in the archive »](#)

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Mizzou Weekly

April 14, 2011 Volume 32, No. 27

Bills would keep curators at nine

Both the Missouri House and Senate have advanced bills that will modify the process used to appoint curators. The bills are necessary after the state's loss of a congressional district through redistricting.

The bills would allow the governor to appoint "at least one but no more than two" curators from each of the state's eight congressional districts, keeping the overall size of the board at nine, as defined in the Missouri Constitution.

HB 174, sponsored by Rep. Mike Thomson (R-Maryville), has passed the House and was approved April 6 by the Senate Education Committee. The bill is on the Third Read calendar in the Senate for one final vote.

SB 163, sponsored by Sen. David Pearce (R-Warrensburg) already passed the Senate and was heard before the House higher education committee on April 5. It is expected to be voted on during an executive session of the committee this week. From there, the bill will have to go through the House Rules committee before being placed on the House calendar for floor debate.

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

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Mizzou Weekly

April 14, 2011 Volume 32, No. 27

Maya on calendar

Poet, educator, historian, best-selling author, actress, playwright, civil-rights activist, producer and director, Dr. Maya Angelou will speak tonight at 7 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium.

A native of St. Louis, Angelou was awarded the Medal of Freedom from President Barack Obama in February. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Arts in 2000 and the Lincoln Medal in 2008, and has won three Grammy Awards. Her recitation of her poem "On the Pulse of Morning" at the inauguration of President Bill Clinton in 1993 was broadcast around the world. Angelou is Reynolds Professor of American Studies at Wake Forest University.

Tickets are \$10 for MU students with student ID and \$15 for faculty, staff and the public. Tickets can be purchased at the MSA/GPC Box Office located on the main level in the MU Student Center.

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

[More in the archive »](#)

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Mizzou Weekly

April 14, 2011 Volume 32, No. 27

Celebrating organ donors

University of Missouri Health Care will join Midwest Transplant Network and Heartland Lions Eye Banks in celebrating the lives of local donors and transplant recipients at a special Donate Life Month ceremony at noon April 15 in the main lobby of University Hospital.

Local donor families and transplant recipients will share their stories of how organ, tissue and eye donation has touched their lives. Donor families will make a two-dimensional decorated flower in memory of their loved ones that will be displayed in a shadow box in the University Hospital lobby. University of Missouri Health Care's 2009 donor families will be presented a rose and certificate in recognition of their loved ones entry in the 2011.

To learn more about becoming an organ donor, visit the Midwest Transplant Network's Web site at www.mwtn.org (<http://www.mwtn.org/>) or sign up for the Missouri donor registry at www.missouriorgandonor.com (<https://www.missouriorgandonor.com/odpublicsite/Default.aspx>).

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

[More in the archive »](#)

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Mizzou Weekly

April 14, 2011 Volume 32, No. 27

Adventures in Education

Head to Jesse Hall for family learning and fun April 16 for Mizzou Adventures in Education. More than 20 booths, including animals, plants, chemistry experiments, health, engineering and digging for treasures, with hands-on, child-friendly activities will be open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

All activities are planned and taught by MU graduate students. There will be free Tiger Stripe ice cream for the first 200 children.

For more information, visit gradschool.missouri.edu/adventures (<http://gradschool.missouri.edu/about-us/initiatives/graduate-education-week/adventures-in-graduate-education/index.php>).

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

[More in the archive »](#)

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Mizzou Weekly

April 14, 2011 Volume 32, No. 27

Wanted: Outstanding women faculty

The Committee for the Alumnae Anniversary Fund for Recognition of Faculty Women is now accepting nominations from MU students and alumnae for the 2011 faculty award. This award is given annually to an outstanding woman faculty member at the University of Missouri.

Recipient will be selected on the basis of her teaching excellence and/or other noteworthy contributions to the education of women at MU. One nomination letter from an MU student or alumnae, along with two or more supporting letters from faculty members, staff, alumni and other students is be required. Deadline is May 2.

Guidelines and information on the nomination process available are available at

wgst.missouri.edu/scholarships/alumnaefundnominations.html

(<http://wgst.missouri.edu/scholarships/alumnaefundnominations.html>).

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

[More in the archive »](#)

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Mizzou Weekly

April 14, 2011 Volume 32, No. 27

Chancellor's series hosts economist

For centuries, humans have searched for signs that predict impending changes.

William Brock, Vilas Research Professor of Economics at the University of Wisconsin, Madison will present the lecture, "In Search of the Elusive Early Warning Signal of Tipping Points, Critical Transitions, and Abrupt Regime Changes in Ecology and Economics: A Report from the Front."

The talk, part of the Chancellor's Distinguished Visitors Series, will cover whole lake ecosystem experiments, financial and banking crashes, collapses of ecosystems like fisheries, coral reefs and rangelands.

Issue

- [Best in class](#) MU honors teaching excellence
- [Advisory committee's retirement report offers guidance for curators](#) Changes would not harm existing employees
- [Affectionate communication can help ease relationship anxiety](#) Personality trait stymies emotional understanding
- [Preparing for spring floods](#) Most flood-related deaths occur on the highway
- [New MU basketball coach brings experience, recruiting prowess](#) Haith had three 20-win seasons at Miami
- [Lucky dog: MU students put four-legged friend in four-wheel home](#) Volunteer event benefits local humane society
- [Mood and memory: The better you feel, the more you forget](#) Positive mood can negatively impact working memory
- [Gathering of personal finance experts will address consumer credit and debt](#) How to make better financial decisions
- [Instructors and advisors to share classroom ideas at annual gathering](#) Agenda includes speakers and discussion sessions
- [Adult Day Connection is a home away from home](#) Staff function as a family
- [MU scientists evaluate effectiveness of herbicide mixes](#) Goal is better control of herbicide-resistant weeds
- [MU's Duncan leads research team offering guidance to NASA](#) Report explores next decade of science in space
- [One community, One Mizzou](#) Campus embraces student-led initiative
- [Bills would keep curators at nine](#)
- [Maya on calendar](#)
- [Celebrating organ donors](#)
- [Adventures in Education](#)
- [Wanted: Outstanding women faculty](#)
- [Chancellor's series hosts economist](#)

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