

Mizzou Weekly

April 4, 2012 Volume 33, No. 26

Anthropologist emeritus still digging up history



LIFETIME OF DISCOVERY Raymond Wood, Mizzou professor emeritus of anthropology, has been a leader in Great Plains archaeology for decades. His latest project involves digging through 19th-century fur trade journals. Mary Fama photo.

THE WHITE-BEARDED PLAINSMAN

Wood recently published two books chronicling his exploits

While some work chronicles a lifetime, the work of W. Raymond Wood, a professor emeritus of anthropology, chronicles several thousand lifetimes.

He writes about his archaeological and anthropological exploits in his recently published books *A White-Bearded Plainsman: The Memoirs of Archaeologist W. Raymond Wood* and *Fort Clark and Its Indian Neighbors: A Trading Post on the Upper Missouri*, both available from Amazon.

Growing up in northwestern Nebraska, Wood acquired an understanding of Native American culture, particularly that of the Sioux tribe. His career as an archaeologist began in 1950 as a “shovel bum” with various Smithsonian Institution field parties.

“You’re the guy that’s out there digging stuff up,” he said. As a shovel bum, the young Wood counted the clock till 5 p.m. and tried to beat the heat.

In *Fort Clark and Its Indian Neighbors*, Wood writes about his first professional job in 1954 at the State Historical Society of North Dakota. While excavating North Dakota’s Fort Floyd, a fur trading post built in 1826, he found a fireplace and trench filled with bones of deer, antelope, rabbit and skunk. In the fort’s east corner, he discovered a wooden box containing the bones of an infant smothered in beads. The burial reflects the beliefs of a white male trader who had taken an Indian wife, Wood said. An Indian woman would not have buried her infant in beads.

Wood joined the University of Missouri in 1963 as director of river basin archaeology.

Michael O'Brien, dean of arts and science, said Wood was a patient and kind teacher who often rephrased Ph.D oral exam questions for nervous doctoral candidates.

"I think Ray Wood probably has produced more graduate students than anyone else in the department of anthropology," said O'Brien, who worked with Wood for 32 years.

Wood was the kind of teacher who helped students find another solution in a field where it's easy to say, "Here, get out of the way. Let me do it," O'Brien said.

At one point a student gave Wood a sign that now hangs in his cluttered office stuffed with books. "If you're not out of book space, you're probably not worth knowing," the sign says.

Wood was involved in a number of important digs while at MU. In the 1970s, for example, he collaborated with R. Bruce McMillan, an adjunct professor, in the excavation of Rodger's Shelter in the Missouri Ozarks. Wood and McMillan's work helped scientists better understand the animals, climatic changes and human culture of southwestern Missouri over the last 10,500 years.

Wood retired from MU in 2001. But he keeps on digging, sometimes in the dirt and sometimes through tattered manuscripts.

In recent years his work has centered on the history of the Missouri River fur trade. Wood is currently editing journals that offer daily accounts of activities between 1822 and 1850 at several fur trading posts. The project has generated interest from several publishers, Wood said.

Wood's career includes the publishing of 12 books, and in 2011 he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society for American Archaeology.

"Research and history is kind of like excavating," Wood said. "You go out and dig for facts instead of digging up stuff in the ground."

Wood finds it hard to express the feeling of discovering something hidden for hundreds or thousands of years. He finally called it "satisfaction."

"I think every archaeologist has felt that at some time or another," Wood said.

— *Lauren Foreman*

To order Woods books from Amazon, click the following links:

<http://www.amazon.com/White-Bearded-Plainsman-Memoirs-Archaeologist-Raymond/dp/1607811308>

<http://www.amazon.com/White-Bearded-Plainsman-Memoirs-Archaeologist-Raymond/dp/1607811308#http://www.amazon.com/White-Bearded-Plainsman-Memoirs-Archaeologist-Raymond/dp/1607811308>

http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss/178-6349111-6463465?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=W.+Raymond+Wood+Fort+Clark+and+Its+Indian+Indian+Neighbors

http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss/178-6349111-6463465?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=W.+Raymond+Wood+Fort+Clark+and+Its+Indian+Indian+Neighbors#http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss/178-6349111-6463465?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=W.+Raymond+Wood+Fort+Clark+and+Its+Indian+Indian+Neighbors

http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss/178-6349111-6463465?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=W.+Raymond+Wood+Fort+Clark+and+Its+Indian+Indian+Neighbors

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UM System president talks of position cuts, university vision

PRESIDENT TIM WOLFE

Cuts will be determined by campus chancellors

About 245 jobs may be lost within the University of Missouri System to help balance a projected budget shortfall of \$47 million for fiscal 2013, UM System President Tim Wolfe told Faculty Council March 22 in Memorial Union.

Wolfe said he's committed to making the four-campus system less dependent on state funding by focusing more on soliciting private donations and developing funding through patent licensing agreements.

"We are in search of alternative sources to fund our growth," Wolfe said.

Wolfe's presentation dovetailed with Chancellor Brady J. Deaton's to council on Feb. 23, when Deaton outlined MU's budget challenges and vision. At that meeting, Deaton said MU may face nearly 50 position losses, though most would be through not filling open positions. He also touted a university business model less reliant on state funding.

Of the \$47 million UM System deficit, Mizzou's share is \$15.7 million, Mizzou budget records show.

The UM System shortfall is due to a 7.8 percent cut to higher education proposed within the state's \$24 billion budget for next year. The Missouri House passed this budget on March 22, and the Senate began debating it this week.

Because of the UM System budget issue, Wolfe said programs and positions are being examined to determine where cuts should be made. "We want to fund what makes sense, and for those that don't we'll make tough decisions," he said.

But it will be the campus chancellors, not Wolfe, who decide where to cut, Wolfe said.

Wolfe also reiterated his commitment to student success and increasing faculty pay. "We continue to chip away at this so we can attract the best and the brightest," he said.

Thomas Marrero, a professor of chemical engineering, asked for Wolfe's Mizzou vision.

To have it "globally recognized as a research institution," Wolfe said. "I don't see anything in the way of us getting there."

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Staff Advisory Council discusses domestic partner benefits

UNIVERSITY DIVERSITY

Diversity Initiative workers considering adding heterosexual couples to benefits package

Noor Azizan-Gardner, interim chief diversity officer, told the Staff Advisory Council March 22 in the Student Center that the Board of Curators needs to render a decision on whether the University of Missouri System will support domestic partner benefits.

“This is pretty important for us to have closure on,” Azizan-Gardner said.

Her talk came at a time when the council is discussing whether Mizzou should make efforts toward formally supporting the benefits, which would extend employee health care benefits to same-sex couples but not to unmarried heterosexual couples.

Diversity workers are examining the projected funding differences of adding heterosexual couples to the domestic partner benefits package, Azizan-Gardner said.

During her Chancellor’s Diversity Initiative update, Azizan-Gardner said that Mizzou has launched a student ambassadors program and diversity training collaborative. It is also planning for a cross-departmental bullying steering committee and a diversity course via Blackboard’s online learning website.

The goal behind diversity education is to make MU the kind of campus that everyone feels comfortable on.

“It’s about everyone,” Azizan-Gardner said.

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Vice chancellor for development chosen

NEW FACE ON CAMPUS

Hiles will lead third major fundraising initiative

Thomas Hiles begins as vice chancellor for development and alumni relations in July.

With 27 years of higher education experience, Hiles will lead MU's third major funding initiative.

Since 2010, Hiles has been vice president for institutional advancement and president of the foundation at Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

Prior to that, he was vice president for institutional advancement at Western Kentucky University (WKU) and executive director of the WKU Foundation.

He replaces David Housh, who retired in August 2011 after more than 10 years in the position, during which he led the "For All We Call Mizzou" campaign that raised a record-setting \$1 billion for the university. Chancellor Emeritus Richard Wallace has held the position on an interim basis since March 1.

Hiles said he's excited to join "a university with a rich tradition of support from its alumni and friends. I look

forward to working with Chancellor Deaton, the development and alumni team and the university community to build on the previous successful campaign."

Hiles "brings decades of experience to an already fully developed fundraising program, which has operated under stable, well-respected leadership for the past decade," Deaton said. "We look forward to building on the momentum of our last \$1 billion campaign, and I believe Tom is the leader who can take us to the next level."

MU has about 250,000 living alumni around the world, and the Mizzou Alumni Association has more than 100 chapters.

Development and Alumni Relations has 165 employees and a budget of \$14.5 million.

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Exercise and yoga classes forming during lunch hour

The University of Missouri continues to offer healthful classes for the body sponsored by Healthy for Life, a UM System wellness program. Some classes are drop-ins with a nominal fee, while one class requires registration, a commitment of eight weeks and costs \$24. Faculty, staff and students are welcome to attend.

“Any movement is better than no movement,” said Nani Fudge, who teaches the strengthening class. People attending are allowed to exercise at their own pace during lunch hour. “We stress self-monitored personal progress, not perfection,” Fudge said. Basic yoga classes are also available for a nominal cost.

For those looking for more structure, hatha yoga instruction is available in eight-week sessions taught by Kate Walker. In 2010, Walker, at age 61, won a gold medal for power lifting in her age and weight group at the World Drug-Free Powerlifting Federation Championships in Castleblayney, Ireland.

Walker said the yoga sessions are designed for both healthy individuals and those suffering from arthritis, chronic disease and minor joint discomfort.

Below is a list of ongoing and upcoming classes.

- **Lunchtime–Me Time Strength Conditioning:** 12:15–12:45 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 4F51 Ellis Library. No registration required. Drop-ins OK. Each class costs \$1, which is donated to The Food Bank. Instructor: Nani Fudge, fudgek@missouri.edu.
- **Yoga:** 12:15–12:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4F51 Ellis Library. No registration required. Drop-ins OK. Each class costs \$1, which is donated to The Food Bank. Instructor: Glenda Moum, moumg@missouri.edu.
- **Hatha Yoga:** 12:10–12:50 p.m. Mondays April 16–June 11 at Missouri Psychiatric Center. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$24 for eight-week session. Must have 10 participants to begin the class. To sign up or for more information, email Kate Walker at integrallife1976@yahoo.com. Full payment is due at the beginning of the first class and space is limited.

All classes are designed so that the movement can be performed in work clothes.

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UM System scholarship fund gets boost

The University of Missouri System will use \$1.1 million received March 26 from the state to help students finance their university education.

The University, which got the windfall due to a surplus in Missouri lottery proceeds, will match the state money. That means about \$2.2 million will go toward creating 56 endowments worth \$40,000 each to create \$2,000 scholarships for cash-strapped students.

The funds enable the UM System to “do even more to make the college dream a reality,” UM System President Tim Wolfe said.

“We understand the economic hardships many families face, especially when deciding to send their children to college,” he said.

“These scholarships can help make access to college more affordable for high-need students.”

How the scholarship money will be apportioned to the four campuses has not yet been determined.

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Shout out to golfers

The Faculty-Staff Golf League will hold its first meeting of the new season April 11. All MU employees are welcome.

Golfers play a nine-hole match weekly at 4 p.m. on Tuesday or Thursday at the A.L. Gustin Golf Course.

For more information, email league president Karen Neylon at neylonk@missouri.edu.

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Staff can apply for development funding

The Staff Development Award can help an MU staff member or group fund professional and personal development. Applications must be received by April 13 to be considered for the May 15 award.

To apply, visit the Staff Advisory Council website: staffcouncil.missouri.edu/awards/sdaward.html ([index.php.html#The Staff Development Award can help an MU staff member or group fund professional and personal development. Applications must be received by April 13 to be considered for the May 15 award. To apply, visit the Staff Advisory Council website: staffcouncil.missouri.edu/awards/sdaward.html.](http://staffcouncil.missouri.edu/awards/sdaward.html)).

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