

## Mizzou Weekly

May 2, 2013 Volume 34, No. 29

### **Services Saturday for first MU African-American professor**



A white ribbon was wrapped around the signs for the Arvarh E. Strickland Hall Wednesday. Arvarh Strickland, a professor emeritus of history, died Tuesday. Photo by Madeline Beyer.

Arvarh Strickland, who became the first black professor at MU in 1969, died Tuesday.

Strickland retired as professor emeritus of history in January 1996. The university renamed a campus building Arvarh E. Strickland Hall in October 2007. This was the first building named after an MU African-American faculty member.

Visitation begins at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at Missouri United Methodist Church, 204 S. Ninth St., followed by services at 11 a.m.

"We celebrate Dr. Strickland not because he is African-American, but because he is a great historian, scholar, teacher, colleague and citizen," Deputy Chancellor Michael A. Middleton said Wednesday.

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### **Interactive Theatre Troupe helps improve communication between doctor and patient**



OPENING A DIALOGUE Actors in the Interactive Theatre Troupe performed a sketch from Dialogues About Breast Cancer at Mizzou Advantage Day April 30. From left, Mel George, professor emeritus in mathematics, plays the doctor telling Donna, played by Sally Foster, retired learning resource specialist at the MU Learning Center, that she has cancer. Kelsey Kennedy, BA, BJ '12, plays Becky, Donna's niece. Photo by Rachel Coward.

#### DIALOGUES ON BREAST CANCER

Troupe received Mizzou Advantage grant in early 2013

In fall 2005, Heather Carver was preparing to leave her MU office for a meeting when she got a phone call that changed her life. Her doctor told her she had breast cancer.

"I like my drama on the stage," said Carver, associate professor and director of graduate studies in the theater department. "I don't like it in my life."

As Carver worked through her own diagnosis, treatment and survivorship (today she is cancer-free), she began to notice patterns in the stories told by breast cancer patients about how they were treated by the medical community.

She developed one-woman shows about her experiences and is now the scriptwriter for the MU [Interactive Theatre Troupe's](http://theatre.missouri.edu/programs/interactivetheatre.html) (<http://theatre.missouri.edu/programs/interactivetheatre.html>) *Dialogues About Breast Cancer*, a set of three sketches that deal with doctor-patient communication about breast cancer.

Each interactive performance includes three five-minute plays with actors performing various roles, including doctor and patient. There is also an opportunity for the audience, usually health care professionals, to ask questions of the actors, who remain in character. Finally, there is an interactive portion where audience members come on stage to act out how they might handle the situation.

“The doctors in these stories manage to offend pretty much everybody because they seem to not be aware of the patient’s sensitivities or vulnerabilities,” said Suzanne Burgoyne, troupe director. “[The doctors] each have their own reasons for behaving the way they do. The Q-and-A session is where you find out why people do and say what they do and say.”

Carver wrote the scripts based on interviews with doctors, nurses, caregivers and breast cancer survivors. Her goal is to encourage health professionals to show more compassion and empathy toward patients.

“Charlie Brown shows used to crack me up. The kids talked, but the grown-ups sounded like, ‘Wa Wa Wa, Wa, Wa Wa Wa, Wa,’ ” Carver said. “I wanted to get that in the scripts. Once you tell someone they have cancer, whatever you say after that is a blur. But the way in which you say it can make an impact for a long time.”

Dr. James Campbell, a professor in the family and community medicine department, said the School of Medicine is always looking for ways of helping students understand the doctor–patient relationship.

“It’s a form of transformational learning,” Campbell said. “You see something that’s a puzzle or a problem, then the audience works to try to solve it. For example, the doctor seems harsh and uncaring. How can we make this a better situation?”

Campbell, Burgoyne and Carver secured a Komen Foundation grant in 2011 to research and pilot the three scripts. The troupe gave 12 performances, starting with medical school students and expanding to nursing and social work students, breast cancer survivors and family members in the community.

“Our network is expanding,” Burgoyne said. The network now includes Jane Armer, director of nursing research at Ellis Fischel, and her doctoral advisee, Pamela Ostby, as well as Lee Ann Woolery, who directs MU Extension’s new Community Arts Program.

The growing impact of the conversations prompted the group to apply for a [Mizzou Advantage](http://mizzouadvantage.missouri.edu/) (<http://mizzouadvantage.missouri.edu/>) grant, which they received in early 2013. The grant will allow them to continue performances on and off campus as they seek funding to develop more scripts. The troupe performed April 30 at Mizzou Advantage Day and is currently planning a performance for Sedalia, Mo., and several other communities for Breast Cancer Awareness Month next October.

— *Kelsey Allen*

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### **Council passes resolution to audit MU nuclear engineering programs**

#### FACULTY COUNCIL

NSEI faculty member contends that admissions were never reopened

Faculty Council approved April 25 a resolution asking Chancellor Brady J. Deaton to conduct an audit of Mizzou's Nuclear Engineering Program (NEP) and Nuclear Science and Engineering Institute, which administrators say is within NEP.

The resolution, passed 14–8, asks that the Nuclear Science and Engineering Institute (NSEI) be returned to its status prior to its announced closing March 12, 2012.

The idea of restructuring NSEI began in 2010 when a study by external reviewers suggested the need. George Justice, dean of the Graduate School, said last February that NSEI needed to be closed because of the restructuring. Restructuring NSEI meant removing it from the Graduate School and placing it within the newly created NEP in the College of Engineering. NSEI's closure came with the proviso that it would remain intact until currently enrolled students graduated.

But some MU engineers balked at the move, and Faculty Council on Jan. 24, 2013, asked Deaton to open admissions to NSEI and keep its academic and research functions intact. Deaton agreed to both in a Jan. 30, 2013, letter. A month later, Jim Thompson, dean of the College of Engineering, told council that graduate student applications were being accepted into the program.

Deputy Provost Ken Dean said last week that the Faculty Council resolution “misses the point of what has happened” and reiterated that Deaton had re-opened nuclear engineering admissions.

But Faculty Council member Sudarshan Loyalka, one of four NSEI faculty members, said Monday that NSEI faculty were prevented from recruiting for the fall 2013 semester and from setting its curriculum. “NSEI admissions were not reopened,” said Loyalka, Curators Professor of Nuclear Engineering. Deaton “granted admissions only to NEP.”

Loyalka contends that NSEI and NEP are separate entities.

A second resolution presented to Faculty Council April 25 asked for an “analysis” of the MU administration's decision process to closing NSEI. The analysis committee would be similar to the Ad Hoc Root Causes Analysis Committee that examined the announced closing of the University of Missouri Press in March 2012, said Stephen Montgomery-Smith, a mathematics professor and council member.

Having a committee decide the NSEI matter would enable MU to “go forward in an informed and clear way,” Loyalka said. This resolution was tabled.

Council also discussed a motion presented at the April 9 General Faculty Meeting by Galen Suppes, a professor of chemical engineering. The motion states that the Collected Rules and Regulations governing faculty appointments to programs such as NEP need to be followed.

Suppes, Loyalka and others contend that Thompson and John Gahl, director of NEP, chose the NEP faculty. The proper procedure should have been creation of a committee to identify and hire faculty with input from Deaton, according to a document circulated by Montgomery-Smith at the meeting.

Suppes, who is not on Faculty Council, told council members that the collected rules show that faculty have a role in hiring other faculty at MU programs offering degrees. “That is where faculty authority kicks in,” Suppes said. “Faculty are in charge of



curriculum.”

In an April 26 email interview, Suppes said that the “faculty group who appointed themselves to NEP received no external (to the group) faculty verification of their credentials and appointment... . The only verification was self-verification by the group.”

## **MU Libraries**

In other business, Noah Heringman, chair of the MU Library Committee and associate chair of the Department of English, presented findings of a faculty library survey to which 357 faculty responded in April 2012.

The survey indicated that faculty view MU Libraries as important to teaching and research. Ninety-seven percent of respondents agreed with the statement that the libraries “should keep faculty informed and solicit their input on decisions concerning changes to journal subscriptions.” Nearly

87 percent agreed with the survey statement that “MU Libraries are central to my research mission.”

The survey was concluded weeks prior to nearly \$500,000 in cuts to MU Libraries to help balance the university's fiscal 2013 budget. As a result, more than 450 journal subscriptions were canceled, as were library projects and other proposed book purchases, Heringman said.

Last year's six-figure cuts brought urgency to Heringman's questions to council:

- How can shared governance be implemented among librarians, faculty and administrators before reductions occur?
- How can faculty improve communication with library staff?

In a March 7, 2013, letter to Deaton and Provost Brian Foster, Heringman urged administrators to spare the library from cuts for the fiscal 2014 budget.

“The voices of student and staff representatives on [the MU Campus Library Committee] — or simply a walk through the library on any given day — provide further evidence that the Libraries serve the campus in the most democratic fashion. They can't do it without adequate materials budgets.”

Heringman also wrote that a robust libraries system would help improve MU's status in the Association of American Universities.

Council members briefly discussed Heringman's questions, but no decisions were made.

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### **Faculty learn in workshops how to encourage student creativity**

#### FACULTY CREATIVITY WORKSHOPS

Next workshop, part of Celebration of Teaching, is May 21

Students are afraid of being wrong, said Suzanne Burgoyne, an MU professor of theater. This leads to students being less likely to take risks and restricting creativity, she said.

“We all have that critic inside of us that tells us to not take risks,” Burgoyne said. “There is that voice that says, ‘Don’t do that. You’ll look like an idiot.’ ”

In today’s world, full of developing technologies and an ever-changing economy, flexibility and innovation are a necessity. In order to be innovative, one must think creatively. In order to think creatively, one has to take risks. In her classes, Burgoyne promotes creativity by encouraging students to feel safe to take risks, trust their intuition and explore their own creativity. “It’s more facilitating than teaching,” she said. “There are things you can do that can encourage creativity in students.”

Burgoyne became interested in faculty and student creativity after taking a faculty development leave during the 2010–11 academic year. She returned to campus to organize a workshop in May 2011 as part of the [Celebration of Teaching](http://tlc.missouri.edu/celebration/) (<http://tlc.missouri.edu/celebration/>), which this year is May 21–22. The workshop, which was led by creativity experts from Wake Forest and the University of Illinois, filled up quickly and had a waiting list of 60 people.

“We knew we had something,” Burgoyne said. “We knew we needed more events like that.”

With the support of Jim Spain, vice provost for undergraduate studies, Burgoyne put together a committee to plan future Faculty Creativity Workshops at Mizzou. The goal of the workshops is to share with faculty ideas for increasing student creativity.

“When we formed the committee, we felt that fostering creativity in students may be the most challenging aspect of teaching,” said Bob O’Connell, an MU engineering professor who co-chairs the committee with Burgoyne. “We decided that holding a symposium every year at which faculty and their students could showcase their success at fostering creativity would both encourage them to continue and inspire others who want to be more successful at it.”

Joining Burgoyne and O’Connell on the committee are Kathleen Boggs of the College of Education, Jana Hawley of the Department of Textile and Apparel Management, and Doug Moesel of the Trulaske College of Business.

The Faculty Creativity Workshops hosted a pair of events during the 2011–12 academic year and held another conference last fall. The next workshop is May 21, the first day of the Celebration of Teaching event.

The main speaker for the workshop is Jane Piirto, a Trustees’ Distinguished Professor at Ashland University in Ohio whose books include *Understanding Creativity*, *Creativity for 21st Century Skills*, and *Talented Children and Adults*. She is an award-winning poet and novelist, as well as a scholar in the psychology of creativity.

— Josh Murray

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### **Researcher creates method to remove bad sperm from artificial insemination process**

#### INCREASING CATTLE FERTILITY

Process can potentially save cattle ranchers time, money

Bull semen is not created equal. But Peter Sutovsky has found a way to better the odds.

Sutovsky, an MU associate professor of reproductive physiology, has identified a way to remove a portion of faulty bull sperm from the artificial insemination of cattle.

While many farmers buy bulls and approach breeding the old-fashioned way, a host of factors can make bulls infertile at certain times. That's why more farmers are turning to artificial insemination. Any advancement in reducing bad sperm in the artificial insemination process saves cattle ranchers time and money.

Sutovsky's surprising method to better the odds of cattle insemination involves use of a magnet, metal particles and a sperm-filled test tube. The technique essentially separates the wheat from the chaff.

Researchers use "biomarkers" to identify sperm that will not bring about conception. One biomarker is ubiquitin, a protein found in most tissues that migrates to the surface of bad sperm.

Sutovsky coats small metal particles with an antibody that bind to ubiquitin on the defective sperm. He uses a magnet to literally pull those metal-sprinkled cells downward in the test tube. Next, he skims off the good sperm from the top.

"In the lab we use a very simple, regular magnet," Sutovsky said. "It's a little stick with three magnets on it. You put three test tubes on it and within a few minutes it pulls down all the metallic nanoparticles and the bad sperm with it."

For the cattle industry, these advancements mean better fertility through artificial insemination. Costs are reduced because smaller semen doses are used to get equal or better pregnancy rates in a cowherd. The standard artificial insemination dose is about 20 million sperm; Sutovsky's process makes pregnancy possible with 10 to 15 million sperm.

The process also works with other animals.

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### New insect species identified on campus



**MIZZOU'S SPECIAL BUG** The insect is considered a new aphid because of its five-segmented antenna, shape of abdomen and black head, thorax and abdomen. Photo by Randy Mertens.

#### APHIS MIZZOU

Scientist has identified seven new plant species during his career

The University of Missouri has Jesse Hall and Truman the Tiger. It now has its own insect.

*Aphis mizzou*, a member of the aphid family, has been officially described last fall in *Zootaxa*, a peer-reviewed scientific journal that describes newly identified organisms.

*Aphis mizzou* has been found only on the Mizzou campus so far, specifically around the recreation center. It lives on St. John's wort plants, said the bug's discoverer, Ben Puttler, assistant professor emeritus of plant sciences in the [College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources \(http://cafnr.missouri.edu\)](http://cafnr.missouri.edu). This is the seventh bug Puttler has discovered.

Puttler first noticed the insect in 2005 when he was investigating how parasitic wasps feed on another aphid, the *Aphis hyperici*. When he noticed the dark-colored insects again, he cataloged their differences. He worked with a colleague, Doris Lagos in the Department of Entomology at the University of Illinois, to confirm that the insect was unknown.

As the discoverer of the bug, Puttler got naming rights. He said that since the insects are known only to live on the MU campus, it was natural to name them after Mizzou.

Aphids are insects that feed on the sap of plants. Nearly all plants including shrubs and trees are potential hosts for aphids, which can be found from a plant's tips to its roots. Aphid feeding can distort plant tissues, crumpling leaves and stunting and bending stems. Aphids excrete honeydew, a sugar source when digested by other insects, including ants.

While there are approximately 5,000 described species of aphids in the world, only 150 of them live in North America. Approximately 10 percent of aphids can damage cultivated crops or spread plant viruses.

Puttler's research details the biological control of pests — how naturally occurring insects and other biotic agents can fight crop pests and weeds.

*Aphis mizzou* is considered a new aphid because of its five-segmented antenna, shape of the abdomen and color. Its head, thorax and abdomen are black, and seem to be dusted with a white wax. An individual *Aphis mizzou* is smaller than a grain of pepper.

*Aphis mizzou* doesn't seem to be hurting other plants by its presence, Puttler said. Its existence is simple: feeding on leaves of the St. John's wort.

— *Randy Mertens*

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### Offices adopt summer hours

Mizzou administrators have approved summer hours from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a 30-minute lunch break, from May 20 to Aug. 5

Many offices have also adopted a casual dress code during summer due to hot weather. It is at the discretion of office leaders to adopt the hours, the dress code or both. Administrators realize that traditional business attire and 8 a.m.–5 p.m. hours are necessary in some departments.

The following have adopted summer hours:

**Academic Support Center**

**Accounting Services**

**College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources:**

- Animal Sciences
- Division of Food Systems and Bioengineering
- School of Natural Resources

**College of Business:**

- Professional Development Office
- Undergraduate Dean's Office

**College of Education:**

- Adventure Club
- Dean's Office
- Office of External Relations
- Office of Operations
- Academic Programs–Advising and Certification Services
- Office of Career & Program Support
- Mizzou K-12 Online
- MU High School
- Department of Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis
- Department of Educational, School and Counseling Psychology
- Department Learning, Teaching and Curriculum
- Department of School of Information Science and Learning Technologies
- Department of Special Education
- Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis
- Assessment Resource Center
- Dean's Fiscal Office
- Learning and Performance Support
- MU Partnership of Educational Renewal
- Office of Research Support
- Heart of Missouri Regional Professional Development Center
- Charter School Operations

**College of Arts and Science:**

- Art
- Art History and Archaeology
  
- Biological Sciences
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry



- Communication
- Computer Science
- Economics
- English
- Geography
- Geological Sciences
- History
- Physics and Astronomy
- Psychological Sciences
- Romance Language & Literatures
- School of Music
- Sociology

**College of Engineering:**

- Student Services Office
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Electrical and Computer Engineering

**Conference Office**

**Division of Information Technology**

**Environmental Health and Safety**

**HES Student Services Offices**

**Human Resource Services**

**Missouri Training Institute**

**Mizzou Advantage**

**Mizzou Online**

**Museum of Art and Archaeology**

**Parking and Transportation**

**Residential Life:**

- University Student Apartments

**School of Health Professions:**

- Department of Occupational Therapy

Go [here \(../34-30/hours/index.php.html\)](http://www.mizzou.edu/~34-30/hours/index.php.html) for **Division of Enrollment Management** office hours for this summer.

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### Assisting employees

The MU Employee Assistance Program provides no-cost counseling and referral services to faculty, staff and their immediate family members, and MU retirees.

The service, which is confidential, uses up to five sessions of counseling for a range of personal, life or occupational stressors. To schedule an appointment or learn more, contact a program administrator at 882-6701.

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## Mizzou Weekly

May 2, 2013 Volume 34, No. 29

### Staff Advisory Council elections

Want to be part of making decisions that affect MU staff?

Applications for a three-year term are being accepted through May 24. Nominate yourself or a friend by going to [staffcouncil.missouri.edu](http://staffcouncil.missouri.edu) (<http://staffcouncil.missouri.edu>) and clicking the tab "Staff Advisory Council Elections Underway!"

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## Mizzou Weekly

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### **MU offers one-on-one counseling to help students with debt management**

#### FINANCIAL AID

Mizzou's median student borrowing is 30 percent lower than the national average

Mizzou's median student borrowing is 30 percent lower than the national average

In order to help students manage debt after graduation, the University of Missouri's [Student Financial Aid](http://financialaid.missouri.edu/) (<http://financialaid.missouri.edu/>) office and the [Office for Financial Success](http://pfp.missouri.edu/financial/index.html) (<http://pfp.missouri.edu/financial/index.html>) (OFS) are launching a new counseling program that provides one-on-one counseling sessions for students. In the program's first two weeks of operation, approximately 500 students have scheduled appointments.

"As spring commencement approaches, we often get a lot of questions from graduating students about their loans and how they will repay them," said Nicholas Prewett, MU director of financial aid. "Exit counseling is a federal requirement and, usually, is completed online. However, our students told us that they wanted more detailed information. So we created this counseling service, so that students could get one-on-one advice from financial professionals."

Students can use the counseling service to seek advice on loan history, choices of repayment plans, options available through the federal government, deferment and forbearance options, loan forgiveness and cancellation provisions, and the pros and cons of loan consolidation.

MU's median student borrowing is 30 percent lower than the national average. The average MU student loan borrower will pay about \$222 per month after graduation.

"We believe that it is increasingly important for students to understand their finances after they graduate and how any amount of debt will impact their budgets," said Ryan Law, director of OFS. "Not only do staff members from the Office for Financial Success have educational backgrounds in financial planning, they also are trained peer counselors. They can help students in almost any type of situation."

While the counseling service is new on campus, Prewett has seen an immediate interest from the student body.

"We're very pleased with the initial response to this program," he said. "This demonstrates to us that our students understand the responsibility of financial debt and are working to make sure they handle their future finances responsibly."

The one-on-one counseling services for students are available 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Monday through Friday in the OFS or by appointment. OFS is a part of the College of Human Environmental Sciences at MU.

# **Loan Default Rate**

Percentage of borrowers entering repayment and defaulting on their loan:

**3.9%**

MIZZOU

**13.4%**

NATIONAL

## Median Total Borrowing

Typical amount of federal loans for undergraduate study:



MIZZOU



NATIONAL

Illustration by Allison VanSciver

— Jerett Rion

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### **Deaton receives award for his contribution to economic development in foreign countries**

The Wharton Award is given by Cornell University's Emerging Markets Program

Chancellor Brady J. Deaton was honored April 18 at Cornell University with the Dr. Clifton R. Wharton Jr. Award for his accomplishments in higher education and foreign economic development. Cornell's Emerging Markets Program, formed to open a dialogue on emerging international market economies, confers the award annually.

During his career, Deaton has given administrative assistance to Thailand and other Southeast Asian countries. He offered expertise on the 1997 Asian economic crash and after the 2004 tsunami that struck Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India and Thailand.

On Feb. 23, 2012, Deaton received an honorary doctorate in public administration from Khon Kaen University in Thailand. At the ceremony in Reynolds Alumni Center, Peerasit Kamnuansilpa, adviser to the dean for research and international affairs at Khon Kaen, told Deaton that the degree is only "a small fraction of your many contributions to Thailand."

In 2011, Deaton was appointed by President Barack Obama to chair the Board for International Food and Agriculture Development, which explores ways through science and public policy to help feed impoverished people in the world.

The Wharton Award is given to someone who's shown outstanding service, leadership and contribution to economic progress in emerging markets. The award's namesake, Clifton R. Wharton, was a philanthropist and economist who aided Southeast Asian economies.

Last year's Wharton recipient was Per Pinstrup-Anderson, a Danish economist and policymaker who has worked to reform food subsidy programs on a global scale. In 2011, Willene A. Johnson, economic consultant specializing in finance and development, received the award.

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### Spring on Francis Quadrangle



The University of Missouri enjoyed a respite from weeks of above-average rain and below-average temperatures earlier this week. Tuesday's temperature reach the mid-80s. Photo by Rob Hill.

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### **Kemper Fellowship winners put students first**

WILLIAM T. KEMPER

Five faculty earn \$10,000 fellowship

Five MU faculty received Kemper Fellowships in April for their teaching service. Deputy Chancellor Michael A. Middleton and other administrators made surprise visits to their classrooms. Cheryl Black, an associate professor in the theater department, was teaching April 2 in the Fine Arts Annex when she was notified. "My students keep me on my toes," Black said after the announcement. "They keep me inspired."

[The William T. Kemper Fellowships for Teaching Excellence \(http://provost.missouri.edu/faculty/awards/fellowships.html\)](http://provost.missouri.edu/faculty/awards/fellowships.html) was established by the William T. Kemper Foundation in 1991 with a \$500,000 gift to honor outstanding teachers at the University of Missouri.

Every spring, top MU administrators and executives from Commerce Bank, the trustee for the Kemper Foundation, interrupt the classes of new Kemper Fellows and surprise each of them with a \$10,000 gift.

Over the years, Kemper Fellows have commented on how the awards enhance faculty morale and reward the important role of teaching in higher education.

Kemper, a 1926 MU graduate, was a well-known civic leader in Kansas City. His 52-year career in banking included top positions in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma. The William T. Kemper Foundation, established in 1989 after his death, is dedicated to continuing Kemper's lifelong interest in improving the human condition and quality of life through education, health and human services, civic improvements and the arts.

Reporter Kelsey Allen profiles this year's winners.

#### **Betsy Baker**



**Professor of Literacy Studies in the Department of English**

Betsy Baker teaches the way she wants her students to teach. She is a teacher of teachers.

Baker started as a second-grade teacher, spelling out the ABCs for students learning to read and write. Now Baker focuses on the next wave of literacy — in a digital world.

"She is so committed to helping teachers understand the critical need to shift their literacy instruction from traditional reading and writing skills to the reading and writing skills required in our technological culture," wrote John Lannin, associate professor and chair of Learning, Teaching and Curriculum in the College of Education.

Whether on campus or online, Baker fosters a sense of community, encourages discussion, employs the newest technology available and provides students with examples of how to transfer what they're learning to the classroom.

"I am [now] much more interested in researching and using online collaboration than I ever thought I would be," a student wrote of Baker's suggestion to use social networking sites, YouTube, podcasts and blogs in the classroom. "After introducing [my high school history students] to Google Docs, they were extremely excited to try it out. I do not think I have ever had a class as engaged as they were that day."

Baker created a multimedia platform called Children as Literacy Kases, or ChALK, in which her students explore cases of literacy development and propose how to best teach the students in the classroom. ChALK users cite the case-based instruction as more significant to their growth as literacy teachers than student teaching, course readings or discussions.

Baker is also a driving force behind better preparing doctoral students for qualitative research. In a two-semester sequence, she helps students formulate and propose research, collect and analyze data, and write final papers. Mentoring more than 75 doctoral students in this course, Baker reaches outside the College of Education to those in nursing, theater and social work.

"Her instruction has caused a snowball effect that can be observed locally on the MU campus, regionally with teachers in Missouri, and nationally/internationally with teachers, program executives and researchers in our respective disciplines," former students of Baker — professionals now in science education, social work, and educational leadership and policy analysis — wrote in a joint letter of support.

Her revolutionary teaching and research has won Baker numerous honors, including the 2012 President's Award for Innovative Teaching and the 2011 Ernest L. Boyer International Award of Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Technology.

### **Cheryl Black**



**Associate Professor of Acting, Theatre History/Theory/Criticism in the Department of Theatre**

To describe Cheryl Black as a teacher doesn't quite encompass all that she is. She is also an actor, a director, a playwright, an editor, an adviser, a historian and, as colleague Suzanne Burgonye put it, a force of nature.

For eight years she served as the theatre department's director of graduate studies, attracting top-tier students, securing grants and fellowships, participating in conferences and serving on the committees of dissertations.

But students know her as teacher.

"Whether it be through class discussion on students' interpretations of dramatic literature, presentations of 'reader's choice' plays in her graduate seminar on women's dramatic traditions, or in the selection of final research topics as part of her undergraduate theatre history course, the diverse teaching strategies Dr. Black employs in her classroom increase student engagement and investment in the course and course material," wrote doctoral candidate Emily Rollie.

For example, Black's undergraduate theatre history students are assigned to research a well-known figure in theatre history and eventually asked to embody that person in dress and character at the end-of-the-semester party she hosts.

"I provide opportunities for students to *do* theatre as well as to study it," Black wrote in her philosophy of teaching statement.

Black's major contributions to the department include creating a dramaturgy program, which has led to numerous national awards for her students; developing a theatre criticism program in conjunction with the School of Journalism; and directing full productions at Mizzou.

“An important aspect of Dr. Black’s productions is the combination of research, scholarship and creative activity — and she is masterful in finding teaching moments in every one of the productions she has directed,” wrote David Crespy, associate professor in the theatre department.

In summer 2012, Black won the Outstanding Teacher of Theatre in Higher Education Award, the highest teaching award from the Association for Theatre in Higher Education.

### **Tim Evans**



**Associate Professor of Toxicology in the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology**

If a dog ingests something that's toxic, it's The Antidote to the rescue, treating the patient, not just the poison. Dressed in mask and cape, The Antidote is Tim Evans' alter ego, saving one “stale” (his words) veterinary toxicology lecture at a time. Evans, also known for his Hawaiian shirts that occasionally depict toxic plants, has been spicing up the field of toxicology at MU for 12 years.

Understanding toxicology is important to veterinary professionals; however, the expectation of memorizing every poison is unrealistic. Evans favors experiential learning in the classroom, using a data collection exercise he calls Pick Your Poison. Students choose a common household product from the Box of Tox and determine if a 10-pound dog would risk intoxication if it consumed the product. Putting students in real-life situations they will face after graduation, while requiring them to explain the basis for the clinical symptoms, creates a captivating learning environment.

Many former students wrote about Evans' availability for one-on-one mentoring and after-hour consultations. For Evans, it's a calculated formula.

“I like to divide student mentorship into ‘nurturing’ (they are glad I am there), ‘benign neglect’ (they don't know I am there), and ‘tormentorship’ (they know I am there, and they wish I was not),” he wrote in his teaching philosophy statement.

Recent graduate Colleen Risinger wrote it was Evans' benign neglect that forced her to solve problems on her own..

Often commented on is Evans' sense of humor, a tool he uses in concert with this enthusiasm and expertise. When asked to teach summer veterinary scholars how to succinctly present their research to the general public, Evans donned his superhero costume and led the students to the nearest elevator for a lesson in elevator pitches.

“He has been known to make no less than 20 trips up and down the elevator in the Bond Life Sciences Center dressed as The Antidote just to teach students how to summarize their work in concise elevator statements,” wrote student Daniel Tappmeyer.

Evans has won each of the most prestigious teaching awards within the College of Veterinary Medicine, including the 2012 Carl F. Norden-Pfizer Veterinary Teacher Award and the honor of hooding the fourth-year veterinary students during commencement. Oh, and he was Mizzou Wire's 2010 Nerd of the Year, too.

### **William Horner**





**Associate Teaching Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Political Science**

Party politics and ideology come up in William Horner's American Government course, but some of his most notable lessons are taught outside of the classroom. As the adviser of three student groups — Model United Nations, Mizzou Relay for Life and Phi Sigma Alpha — Horner is training students how to be American citizens.

"This allows me another venue to encourage students to be involved in the world they live in and to learn how to change what they think needs changing," Horner wrote of his involvement in extracurricular activities. "It lets students see that I care about what they care about and, most importantly, that I care enough to give my time and energy to it."

Students notice. Marc Canellas, a 2012 engineering graduate, had a seed of an idea for a conference that discusses the connections among the fields of engineering, politics and science. A peer urged Canellas to reach out to Horner for help. The student chapters of the political science honor society, Pi Sigma Alpha, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers partnered to present the conference, which featured speakers Horner secured, including Sen. Kit Bond and former U.S. representatives Kenny Hulshof and Rush Holt.

"There are many inspirational teachers who support their students and tell them, 'You can do it,' but I am a living testament to Prof. Horner's ability to go beyond supporting students in their pursuit of their dreams," Canellas wrote. "He took ownership of my dream and said, 'We can do it.' Prof. Horner showed me for the first time that I really can make a positive and lasting impact on my community."

Horner's goal — whether in the classroom, where his students could be political science majors or journalism students fulfilling a requirement, or on the track at Relay for Life — is to engage students and instill in them curiosity and a passion for leadership.

"Bill's commitment to the philanthropic service aspect of the mission to the University of Missouri cannot be spoken [of] highly enough," wrote Craig Stevenson, former student and University of Missouri System director of the Office of Government Relations. "Whether raising tens of thousands of dollars for the Mizzou Relay for Life while serving as its faculty advisor or working with the political science honorary society after regular business hours, Bill is seeking ways to give back to Mizzou and to the broader Columbia community."

### **Angela Speck**



**Professor of Physics and Astronomy**

When people describe Angela Speck as "stellar" or a "shining star in her field," they aren't choosing words lightly. As one of only two astronomers at MU, Speck is spearheading efforts to take the department to the next level.

In her role as department director, Speck revamped the curriculum geared toward nonscience majors, established upper-level courses in astronomy and implemented new teaching methods.

Along with post-doctoral fellow Lanika Ruzitskaya and College of Education Professor Jim Laffey, Speck received a National Science Foundation grant to develop a 3-D model of Jupiter to help nonscience majors better understand the science, which Ruzitskaya wrote is cementing MU as a “pioneer in the field of technology-enhanced education in astronomy.”

“She teaches students not only about physical phenomena in astronomy and physics but also how to understand the nature of science,” Ruzitskaya wrote. “She believes that understanding the scientific process is much more valuable than recollection of formulas and facts.”

Whether her classroom is full of science fiction fanatics or astrophysicists, Speck cultivates an interest in astronomy.

“She weaves the course into a novel, in which every class lecture is part of a chapter of that novel,” wrote student David Arrant. “Just as one gets captivated into a great novel, one gets captivated into her class.”

Speck also serves as the MU representative to the Centers for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning, a network of 25 universities committed to preparing graduate students for teaching STEM disciplines.

“Education is the thread that binds my research, teaching and service together,” Speck wrote of her teaching philosophy.

She combines her passions through her multiple community outreach efforts, including a monthly Cosmic Conversations lecture series, guided tours of the Laws Observatory and classroom visits for K-12 students.

“[She is an] outstanding educator — not one who merely imparts information but who opens doors and possibilities to others through her teachings,” wrote Deborah Hanuscin, associate professor of science education.

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