



Mizzou Weekly

Dec. 5, 2013 Volume 35, No. 15

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[University of Missouri](#)

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Have a happy and safe holiday

Mizzou Weekly will resume publishing Jan. 23, 2014.

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University of Missouri

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Yoga in a gallery

Take part in yoga classes in the State Historical Society of Missouri's gallery in Ellis Library. Two schedules are offered:

- 12:15–12:45 p.m. Mondays through Jan. 13 (started Nov. 18)
- 12:15–12:45 p.m. Today through Jan. 16

Fee is \$1. For more information, email Glenda Moum at moumg@missouri.edu.

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Nominate a co-worker

The Mizzou Alumni Association is accepting nominations for the 2014 Faculty-Alumni Awards, Distinguished Service Award and Distinguished Faculty Award.

Nominations for 2014 will be accepted until 5 p.m. Feb. 3. The materials to nominate can be found at mizzou.com. For more information, call Carrie Lanham at 882-4366 or email lanhamc@missouri.edu.

Mizzou Weekly will run information on the winners prior to the May 2014 awards ceremony.

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Missouri campus went smoke-free last summer. So how's it working out?



Studies show that most lifetime smokers take up the habit before they are age 25. Administrators hope that banning smoking will mean that more young people never take up the habit. Illustration courtesy of Getty Images.

Since the campus went smoke-free July 1, 2013, campus smokers have mostly followed the policy, administrators say. There is also less cigarette waste littering the campus. The former smoking areas have returned to being indistinguishable from smoke-free areas.

Some smokers have opted to take their cigarette breaks on the city sidewalk adjacent to campus. And there doesn't appear to be any buildup of butts in areas along the campus perimeter.

Tiffany Bowman, tobacco cessation coordinator for MU's [Wellness Resource Center \(http://wellness.missouri.edu/index.html\)](http://wellness.missouri.edu/index.html), said that when she reminds campus smokers of the ban, "they quickly comply and [typically say they] were not aware of the policy."

Banned on campus are cigarettes, cigars, pipes, hookahs, water pipes and e-cigarettes, which don't emit smoke but do create confusion because they resemble cigarettes.

[Smoke-Free Mizzou \(http://smokefree.missouri.edu/\)](http://smokefree.missouri.edu/) has been long in the making. For years smoking was not allowed in MU buildings, but it wasn't until 2009 that smoking was banned outdoors within 20 feet of building entrances. With the implementation in July 2011 of phase one of Smoke-Free Mizzou, outdoor smoking was confined to 15 designated areas and the top floor of parking structures.

The campuswide smoke-free policy joined the 2006 tobacco-free implementation on MU Health Care property. ("Tobacco-free" also bans chewing tobacco.)

Smoking Dangers

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 200,000 people in the United States are diagnosed each year with lung cancer, and more than 150,000 die from the disease each year.

“Smoking is the No. 1 cause of lung cancer in the U.S.,” said Vamsi Guntur, a pulmonologist at University Hospital. “But lung cancer is not just limited to those who smoke.”

Guntur points out that another major cause of lung cancer is exposure to secondhand smoke. Nonsmokers exposed to secondhand smoke are approximately 20 percent more likely to develop lung cancer than nonsmokers who are not exposed to secondhand smoke.

“Even if a person doesn’t smoke but lives with a smoker or works in an environment where cigarette smoke is prevalent, such as a casino, there is a higher risk for that person to develop lung cancer,” Guntur said.

The surgeon general has released several reports, most recently in 2010, finding that inhaled secondhand smoke places nonsmokers at risk for heart disease, stroke, various cancers and respiratory ailments.

Smoking Cessation Programs

When MU went smoke-free last summer, it joined more than 1,100 other smoke-free colleges and universities in the United States. “I feel like the smoke-free policy has contributed to an overall impression of well-being on the campus,” Bowman said. “I am happy to see Mizzou taking this healthy step forward.”

Bowman, however, said that not enough students and employees who are smokers have taken advantage of MU’s cessation programs. “We really have not seen an increase” in smokers signing up for the programs since the ban began, Bowman said. “Our demand for the cessation services has remained about the same.”

MU offers smoking cessation programs for students and employees. Faculty and staff can sign up for programs administered by the UM System Healthy for Life wellness program. MyChoice Health Care members are eligible for free phone counseling sessions, web access and email support, and can receive gum, patches or lozenges to curb nicotine craving. Smoking cessation medications are covered by the UM Prescription Drug Plan with a doctor’s prescription.

The Wellness Resource Center offers students free nicotine replacement therapy patches, counseling, assistance in developing a personalized quit plan and peer support. For more information, including cessation programs and a map of campus boundaries, visit smokefree.missouri.edu (<http://smokefree.missouri.edu/>).

Ellis Fischel Cancer Center also offers help to smokers wanting to quit. Call Ellis at 884-1512.

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Tiger Pantry seeks donations during the holidays

Tiger Pantry is taking donations this holiday season.

Anyone can donate goods to MU's food bank by dropping items in donation bins placed on campus.

The bins are located at the CSI Greek Life entrance, the Women's Center, the Registrar's Office, the Townsend Hall and Cornell Hall, according to the Tiger Pantry [website \(http://tigerpantry.missouri.edu/\)](http://tigerpantry.missouri.edu/).

Items in high demand include peanut butter and jelly, canned chicken and tuna, cereal, macaroni and cheese, mashed potato mix, powdered milk, and rice.

People can also consider hosting a food drive or making a monetary donation.

Paul Haluszczak, the pantry's director, said that donations to the food bank have continued to increase during the fall semester.

Haluszczak also said that pantry representatives do more than manage the food bank. They also give presentations.

"Outside of establishing long term relationships with various organizations on and off campus for annual food drives, Tiger Pantry encourages groups to request presentations from Tiger Pantry in order to learn about our services and how food insecurity is prevalent on a college campus," Haluszczak said.

Donations to Tiger Pantry can be made through a credit card donation or payroll deduction, said Cathy Scroggs, vice chancellor for student affairs.

For more information, visit [tigerpantry.missouri.edu \(http://tigerpantry.missouri.edu/\)](http://tigerpantry.missouri.edu), email tigerpantry@missouri.edu, visit the food bank at 1400 Rock Quarry Road, Room 8, or call 882-3780.

— JeongAn Choi

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Longtime staff member adjusts to changes at Mizzou North



These days, Tilford Spry, supervisor of plant engineering of the Mizzou North building, helps out museum staff and other MU employees at the 115 Business Loop 70 West structure he's worked at for more than 40 years. Photo by Rob Hill.

As a high school student, Tilford Spry already knew he wanted to work at Ellis Fischel Cancer Center. He could see Ellis Fischel at 115 Business Loop 70 West from Hickman High School, and to him, the building represented security and stability.

Spry started working in maintenance at Ellis Fischel in 1972. After more than 40 years of employment, Spry is the supervisor of plant engineering for the building.

"I was thinking down the road that it would be nice to work someplace where you had decent benefits and someplace you'd try to stay as long as you could so that you'd have a decent retirement," Spry said. "So I just started out like everybody else at the bottom line and moved up."

Today, Spry is the security and stability supporting the old Ellis Fischel building as it transforms into [Mizzou North \(.J./34-34/museums/index.php.html\)](http://mizzou.edu/museum/34/museums/index.php.html).

"I do whatever it takes," he said.

Over and Above

Spry knows the building inside and out. If something goes wrong with fire alarms, electrical panels, plumbing systems, exhaust fans, utilities, air conditioners or valves, Spry can fix it or facilitate repairs.

Spry also helps out co-workers and visitors. When the building was home to Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, Spry routinely helped lost visitors navigate the maze-like hallways.

Co-workers say Spry is the type of person who puts others' needs before his own.

Larry Hall, manager of engineering at University Hospital until his retirement this year, recalled a time when a discharged patient discovered his car had a flat. Although Spry was on break and it was pouring rain, he fixed the tire.

"He's just one of those kinds of guys," said Hall, who worked with Spry from 1991 to 2013. "I used to tell people that he was 6 feet tall when he started that job and just wore his legs down running around helping people." (Spry is 5 feet 4 inches.)

The ever-humble Spry quickly sidesteps compliments.

"If they needed anything, we took care of those patients," Spry said. "Not just me specifically. Ever since I've worked here, it's always been a group effort."

That's just Spry, said Bob Schnetzler, assistant manager of plant engineering at University Hospital and Spry's direct supervisor since 2001.

"He doesn't like to give himself accolades," said Schnetzler, who listed Spry's achievements, including the 1993 Chancellor's Outstanding Staff Award and the 2003 MU Health Care Service Excellence Champion award. "But he's 110 percent go all the time. I call him my Energizer Bunny."

Changes

When the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center reopened in February 2013 at University Hospital at One Hospital Drive, Spry stayed at the Business Loop 70 building. The Museum of Art and Archeology is in the process of moving to Mizzou North for an indefinite time while work is done on its building on the Francis Quadrangle. Staff of the museum and other administrative offices have already moved to Mizzou North. The Museum of Anthropology is still open in Swallow Hall and will move to Mizzou North in summer 2014.

Although the change was difficult for some employees, Spry sees it as an opportunity.

"If that's what it takes to keep this facility open rather than taking it down, then that's what is needed to be done," Spry said. "Change is not always what you might want, but sometimes you can learn more, and sometimes it's even better."

No longer helping patients, Spry spends most of his time helping the building's new tenants.

"If the guys that are doing the museums, if they need some help or want to know how to get into the building, if they call me in the middle of the night, I'm there to help them," Spry said.

With file cabinets full of blueprints and records that document the building's 70-plus-year history, Spry answers a lot of questions every day, including from Campus Facilities. But he isn't finished learning.

"The people that are coming here [from Campus Facilities], I'm going to learn from them, and hopefully I can help them and give them some input, too," Spry said. "You can learn every day."

Having celebrated his 65th birthday in October, Spry said his outlook on life is changing — at least regarding some things.

He started at Ellis Fischel with the hope of one day enjoying a comfortable retirement. He and his wife, Deborah, like to travel to places warmer than Columbia, and he's looking forward to spending more time with his family.

"But I'm not ready to retire," Spry said. "I'm going to go as long as I can and stay as long as I can. I'm not ready to go. This is home."

— Kelsey Allen

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Earnings in CASH program for the university's student workers reaches \$3.3 million

Since it began in 2010, the [Campus Augmenting Student Hires \(http://career.missouri.edu/cash/\)](http://career.missouri.edu/cash/) (CASH) program has led to more than \$3.3 million in earnings for MU students.

In the program, campus departments hire students for on-campus jobs and CASH matches funds up to \$500 per semester, making each job within the program eligible for a maximum of \$1,000 per year.

"It is a true win-win program," says Amanda Nell, senior coordinator in the MU Career Center. "Departments add much-needed staff and talent to their teams, while students earn income and real-world experience and develop a supportive network of professional contacts."

The center partners with Student Affairs and Business Services on the program, which has created about 1,600 jobs. More than 100 departments have utilized the program, including the department of classical studies, whose first CASH hire redesigned the department's website.

"Our first student was a godsend," says Dennis Trout, chair of the department of classical studies. "He brought skills none of us really had. The work is always done quickly and efficiently."

In a recent survey of campus employers, 100 percent reported that they either "agree" or "strongly agree" that the programs and services that CASH hires contribute to are critical in nature to supporting their office.

"With the CASH program and the financial help, we are able to hire more students," says Lori Rowlett, the business manager for the Truman School of Public Affairs, which has three CASH positions and has employed students since 2011. "Our student workers help with a wide array of responsibilities ranging from database duties to Photoshop work to organizing departmental events."

In a survey of students in CASH positions, 88 percent of them felt their job provided general preparation for their future career and 81 percent indicated that they feel more connected to the university because of their part-time job.

"The fact that they feel connected to the university is an important statistic when looking at student retention and satisfaction," Nell says.

"It is nice to get the financial break that CASH makes available," Trout said. "However, the real benefit has been how easily we were able to find really competent and reliable help."

For more information on CASH, visit [career.missouri.edu/cash \(http://career.missouri.edu/cash/\)](http://career.missouri.edu/cash/).

— Josh Murray

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Texas A&M president accepts position as next chancellor



Interim Chancellor Steve Owens, left, and UM System President Tim Wolfe applaud Thursday for R. Bowen Loftin, MU's new chancellor. Photo by Nicholas Benner.

R. Bowen Loftin will assume his new role on Feb. 1, 2014

Columbia might experience a rise in bow tie purchases.

Administrators introduced on Thursday the 22nd chief executive officer of the University of Missouri in Columbia. R. Bowen Loftin, president of Texas A&M since February 2010, will assume leadership on Feb. 1.

Known for his good humor, accessibility to students and extensive experience in higher education, Loftin is also known for wearing colorful bow ties. At the announcement, Loftin, 64, wore a black-and-gold one.

"You have a lot to be proud of at Mizzou," Loftin told an overflow audience in the Reynolds Alumni Center. "Let's take that and build upon it."

Loftin's background makes him a perfect fit for MU, University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe said. Like MU, Texas A&M is a public land-grant research institution with growing enrollment and is a member of the Association of American Universities. Texas A&M also recently left the Big 12 to join the Southeastern Conference.

"His steadfast leadership and guidance elevated Texas A&M into one of the top universities in the country, which is the kind of excellence we demand in an MU chancellor," Wolfe said

Loftin replaces Brady J. Deaton, who retired as chancellor Nov. 15 after nine years in the position. General Counsel Steve Owens, a former interim president for the system, is serving as interim chancellor until Loftin starts. Deputy Chancellor Michael Middleton has taken on the additional role of transition executive.

Prior to becoming president of Texas A&M, Loftin had served as interim president since June 2009. Before that, he was vice president and CEO of Texas A&M at Galveston for four years.

Loftin's wife, Karin, holds a doctorate in biomedical sciences from the University of Texas at Houston. She has been an associate biosafety officer in Texas A&M's Office of Research Compliance and Biosafety.



R. Bowen Loftin and wife Karin check out Mizzou clothing presented to them Thursday as Tim Wolfe looks on. Photo by Nicholas Benner.

The months-long chancellor search moved smoothly. In July, the 18-member Chancellor Search Committee was named, with co-chairs Ann Covington, a University of Missouri curator, and Dean Mills, dean of the School of Journalism. The committee was assisted in its national search by the Los Angeles-based firm Storbeck/Pimentel & Associates, which has aided in finding other MU and system executives.

Last summer, Loftin announced his resignation as Texas A&M president due to his wanting to return to teaching and research. But a couple months later, he was approached by the search firm, Loftin said. "There aren't too many schools I would consider" at this stage, he said. But MU "fit all the pieces."

Loftin reasoned that he could effect change in more students' lives by being a top executive.

MU Faculty Council Chair Craig Roberts was excited by the choice of Loftin because of his teaching and research experience and his participation in Texas A&M's Faculty Senate.

"He knows what shared governance is," Roberts said, and there is good probability "he will make an effort to include faculty in major decisions."

In October, Wolfe told Faculty Council that the next chancellor would need to be on board with MU's strategic plan, which includes recruiting top faculty, increasing research and improving the university's AAU ranking.

As for changes the new chancellor might make, Loftin said it was premature for him to suggest possibilities.

"I've got a bit to learn beforehand and want to work on good data," he said. "Change is good, but it must be done carefully."

R. BOWEN LOFTIN, in brief:

Start date as MU chancellor:

Feb. 1, 2014

Current position:

President of Texas A&M since Feb. 12, 2010

Prior positions:

Interim president of Texas A&M, June 15, 2009–Feb. 11, 2010; vice president and CEO of Texas A&M at Galveston, 2005-09; professor of electrical and computer engineering and professor of computer science at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va.

Education:

Doctorate in physics from Rice University in Houston, Texas, 1975; master's in physics from Rice, 1973; bachelor's in physics from Texas A&M, 1970

Personal:

Married to Karin Loftin, associate biosafety officer with Texas A&M's Office of Research Compliance and Biosafety. They will live in The Residence on Francis Quadrangle. The couple has two grown children and three grandsons.

Source: UM System / University Relations

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