

April 17, 2014 Volume 35, No. 27

#### Pilates classes

Tone your body for the warm months with pilates classes.

Classes held 12:10–12:50 p.m. through May 19 in 223 Townsend. Classes meet every Monday and Wednesday. \$3 cost per class.

For questions, email Tina Price at pricet@missouri.edu.



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## **Personal Finance Symposium**

The sixth annual Personal Finance Symposium will be held 9 a.m.–2 p.m. April 23 in Reynolds Alumni Center. All are invited to attend

The day will feature lectures on the American economy regarding its budget, its condition six years after the financial crash and the progress of the Affordable Care Act in Missouri.

Cost is \$30 per person, \$60 for four hours of Continuing Education Credit and \$10 for students.

To make a reservation, contact Amy Sanders at 884-5958 or email sandersal@missouri.edu.



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## Panel on legal options for victims of sexual violence

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

At 5:30 p.m. today in 221 Strickland Hall, a panel of experts will discuss the legal services available to those who have experienced sexual assault. All are welcome.

Visit rsvp.missouri.edu (http://rsvp.missouri.edu) for more.



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## Health options for sexual assault victims

An audience of mostly young women attended the Sexual Awareness Medical Panel April 10 at the Women's Center. The event was part of MU's Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Three panelists answered questions related to the medical part of sexual and domestic assaults. They talked about helpful resources in Columbia, best ways to help someone who has experienced an assault and psychological hardships the victims face.

Lesli Briggs, a sexual assault nurse examiner at University Hospital, said that the sexual assault clinic at the hospital performs more than 100 sexual assault exams every year. The exam is provided to help the victim of sexual or domestic violence.

Tammy Hickman, a former hospital advocate for True North, and Dominique Malebranche, a doctoral student interning at True North, discussed the psychological problems for sexual assault victims and their family and friends. True North is a Columbia organization that helps sexual assault victims.

The three panelists agreed that too much effort to help a victim can make him or her feel more frightened. Listening with an open mind provides better support, Briggs said.

For more information on how to help sexual assault victims, visit rsvp.missouri.edu (http://rsvp.missouri.edu).

- JeongAn Choi



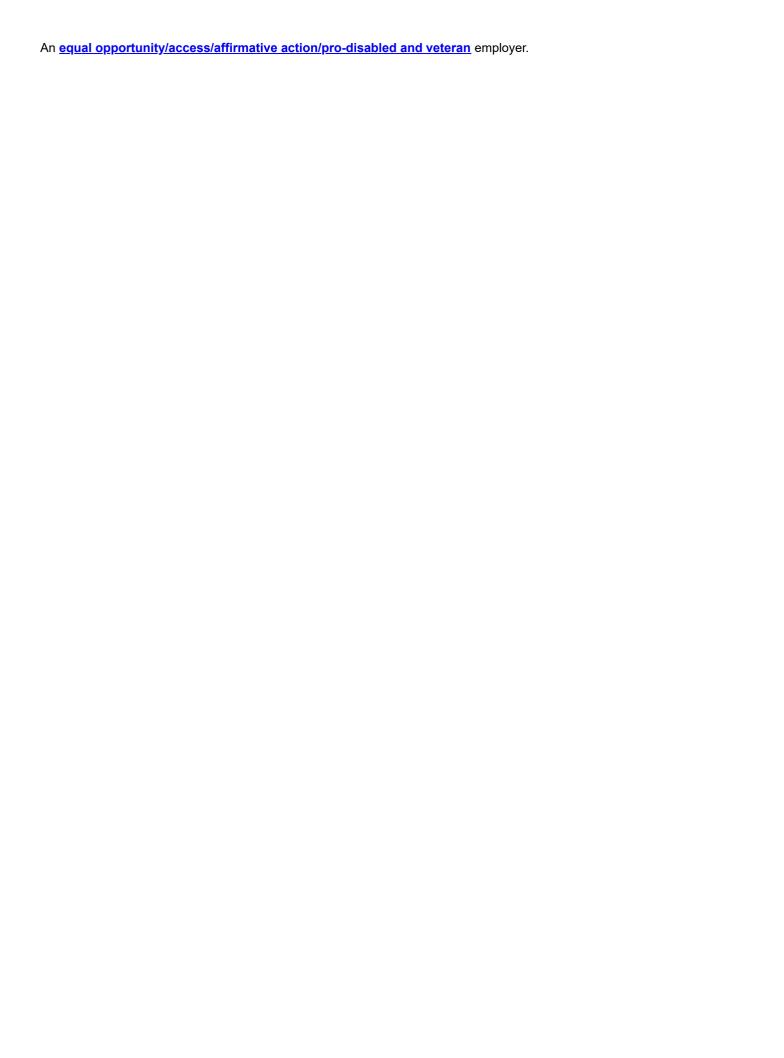
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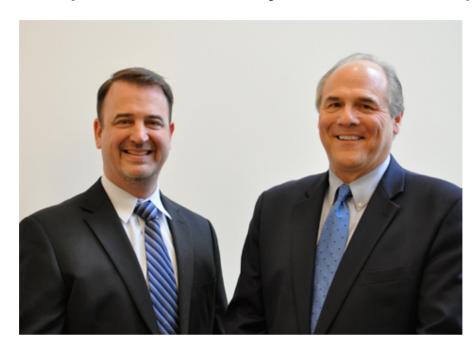
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## **Thompson Center and Mercy Autism Center form partnership**



Stephen Kanne, left, executive director of MU's Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders, and John Mantovani, the medical director of the Mercy Kids Therapy and Development Center and chair of pediatrics at Mercy Children's Hospital, see many benefits in the partnership. Courtesy of MU News Bureau.

Partnership brings MU's nationally recognized expertise in autism to the St. Louis region

The University of Missouri Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders will partner with St. Louis-based Mercy Autism Center to expand clinical care, professional education and research for individuals and families affected by autism spectrum disorders, officials announced April 7.

"This partnership will increase the Thompson Center's ability to train more professionals, students and families in the best practices for autism care," said Stephen Kanne, Thompson Center executive director.

"In addition, working with Mercy will help the Thompson Center expand its research efforts and further develop clinical care for those affected by autism in the St. Louis area and throughout the state."

The affiliation includes Mercy Autism Center's adoption of the MU Thompson Center's best practices for autism, the collaborative use of the guidelines described in the Missouri Autism Guidelines Initiative publication and the goal of using research findings to improve autism care.

"This partnership capitalizes on the clinical strengths of the staff at the Mercy Autism Center and brings nationally recognized expertise in care, research and education from the MU Thompson Center to the St. Louis region," said John Mantovani, medical director of the Mercy Kids Therapy and Development Center and chair of pediatrics at Mercy Children's Hospital.

"Dr. Mantovani and I have worked together for years, and a great example of our prior collaboration was our work on the Missouri Autism Guidelines Initiative Best Practice guide, which is used across the state and even nationally," Kanne said.

"I look forward to our continued partnership both personally and with our respective organizations to further the field of autism research, training and care in Missouri."

The Thompson Center is a national leader in confronting the challenges of autism and other developmental conditions through its collaborative research, training and service programs.

Based on the medical home model, MU Thompson Center diagnostic, assessment and treatment services emphasize family-centered care that is comprehensive, coordinated, compassionate, culturally sensitive and accessible. The center aims to support families from the point of initial contact through access to needed services in the community with routine follow-up care over time to ensure the best possible outcome for each child and family.

Mercy Kids is a network of pediatric care dedicated to meeting the needs of every child every day. More than 700 pediatricians and family doctors in partnership power it with 125 pediatric specialists.

Anchored by two acute care pediatric hospitals in St. Louis and Springfield, Mo., Mercy Kids offers a full range of services to support healthy childhoods, including pediatric, specialty and educational services.

- Jesslyn Chew



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# Celebrity gardener helps MU celebrate 175th anniversary, horticulture and Jefferson's birthday



PBS gardener P. Allen Smith spoke of Jefferson, horticulture and gardening at a lecture April 13 in the Columns Ballroom of Reynolds Alumni Center. Photo by Mikala Compton.

Dark clouds and hard rain didn't stop gardening fans from celebrating Thomas Jefferson's 271st birthday with television host and gardening expert P. Allen Smith April 13.

Smith is host of *P. Allen Smith's Garden Home* and *P. Allen Smith's Garden to Table* on PBS. He's also written books about food and garden design. He is known to have a special interest in Jefferson's life and gardens. As a former board member of the Royal Oak Foundation, he has worked to preserve Jefferson's Monticello plantation in Virginia.

The celebration, which included a nod to MU's 175th anniversary, kicked off at 4:30 p.m. in the Jesse Hall lobby (rain forced the event indoors).

Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin talked about the connection between Jefferson and MU. MU was the first university founded in Jefferson's Louisiana Purchase territory. Also, the Francis Quadrangle was inspired by a quadrangle at the University of Virginia, the layout of which was originally designed by Jefferson.

"Outside of my window, there's the most incredible sight I've ever seen," Loftin said. "I hope you enjoy this beautiful campus as much as I do every morning."

After Loftin and Arthur Mehrhoff, an academic coordinator at the Museum of Art and Archaeology, blew out the candles on Jefferson's birthday cake, the audience moved to Reynolds Alumni Center to listen to Smith's

lecture. Titled "The Horticultural Life and Gardens of Thomas Jefferson," the lecture attracted more than 100 people to the Columns Ballroom.

Smith talked about Jefferson's love for gardening and food rather than his legacy as the third president of the United States. Smith said that Jefferson grew 170 varieties of plants and 278 grape vines every season.

"One hundred and seventy!" Smith exclaimed. "I can't even keep up with 30!"

When Jefferson learned there was a popular cucumber species in Ohio, he wrote a letter to the Ohio governor and asked for seeds. "He was not a silk-stocking gentleman-type of farmer," Smith said, adding that Jefferson loved to get out of the house and work with other gardeners.

During questions, Smith shared tips and opinions on organic gardening. When asked how to grow an edible plant in a small apartment, he gave a simple tip, or nonanswer: "Be bold with it. Have fun."

He said children are the main reason he does not use garden chemicals. "Why would you poison the land where children step?" Smith said.

- JeongAn Choi



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## Online suicide prevention training for bystanders

See information on suicide prevention resources in sidebar

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among college students, but reaching out to those at risk can prevent a majority of these deaths.

In 2009, Partners in Prevention, a statewide collaborative of 21 higher education institutions including MU, launched a 20-minute online suicide prevention training program with funding from the Missouri Foundation for Health. Called <a href="Ask Listen Refer">Ask Listen Refer</a> (<a href="http://mizzoulife.missouri.edu/ask-listen-refer-suicide-prevention-resources/">http://mizzoulife.missouri.edu/ask-listen-refer-suicide-prevention-resources/</a>) (ALR), the program is designed to help students, faculty and staff learn how to identify the risk factors and warning signs of suicide, how to talk to people who are at risk, and how to get them help.

"One of the biggest misconceptions people have is that if you ask someone about suicide, it'll give them the idea," said Joan Masters, senior coordinator of Partners in Prevention at MU. "If somebody is already thinking about suicide enough to give you an indication that you need to ask if they're thinking about suicide, you're not going to give them the idea. In fact, it's the opposite. You're empowering them to speak about it and get help."

Some of the signs and symptoms of suicidal behavior include loss of interest in formerly enjoyable activities, trouble concentrating, social withdrawal, messy appearance, change in appetite or weight, and sleep problems. Oftentimes the people who notice these changes in an academic setting are a friend, professor or adviser.

Although it might seem uncomfortable to ask directly if they are at risk, not saying something is the opposite of what they need.

"The 'ask' in Ask Listen Refer doesn't have to be, 'Are you thinking about suicide?' "Masters said. "For a lot of people, it could just be, 'How are you doing? I just want to check in on you.' You're doing them no service by worrying if they're going to get mad at you."

ALR provides training participants with a sample conversation and four short video examples of how to talk with at-risk people in various situations, from a concerned co-worker to a faculty member worried about a student.

Jordan Hoyt, a graduate student in public health, took the training when she got an assistantship at the Wellness Resource Center. The training taught Hoyt the signs of suicide and how to encourage them to get help.

"It's an effective tool for whatever your job description is at Mizzou," said Hoyt, who worked at MU for five years before enrolling in graduate school. "It's pertinent not only to what you do here on campus for our community, but also what you're going to do in your personal life, at home and within your social life. I think it would be useful to have everybody go through this training."

Since launching the site, nearly 2,000 MU community members and more than 13,000 Missourians have completed the training. Take the training at asklistenrefer.org/mu.

- Kelsey Allen

#### Suicide prevention panel and resources

Mizzou Cares panel discussion

Mizzou Cares, the university's suicide prevention task force, is hosting a breakfast and panel discussion from 8 to 10 a.m. April 24 in Stotler Lounge for faculty and staff interested in learning more about the At-risk Committee and how to understand the Family

Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

On the panel are Cathy Scroggs, vice chancellor for student affairs; Brenda Selman, university registrar; Doug Schwandt, assistant chief of MU Police; and Kristen Temple, associate director of residential academic programs for Residential Life.

Email Kim Nolte at kln9qd@mail.missouri.edu if you'd like to attend. For more information, visit mizzoucares.missouri.edu.

#### **Suicide Prevention Resources**

#### Campus:

- MU Counseling Center, 119 Parker Hall, 882-6601
- Student Health Center, 1101 Hospital Drive, 882-1483
- 24-hour Crisis Line, 800-395-2132
- MU Employee Assistance Program, 102 Parker Hall, 882-6701
- University Hospital Emergency Room, 1101 Hospital Drive, 882-8091
- MU Police Department, 901 Virginia Ave., 882-7201 (or 911 from campus)

#### Community:

- Boone Hospital Center, 1500 E. Broadway, 815-8000
- Harry S Truman Veteran's Hospital, 800 Hospital Drive, 814-6000
- Columbia Police Department, 600 E. Walnut, 874-7652 (or 911)

#### National:

- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- Crisis Line, 800-833-3915
- Get Help Now, 800-999-9999
- LGBTQ Helpline, 1-866-488-7386
- Veterans' Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255.

#### - Kelsey Allen



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## MU chancellor responds to independent counsel's report

In an email to MU employees Tuesday, Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin said he accepts the findings of the <u>Dowd Bennett report</u> (<a href="http://umurl.us/wcY">http://umurl.us/wcY</a>) on MU's handling of the the case of <u>Sasha Menu Courey (.../../35-17/wolfe/index.php.html</u>), a freshman swimmer who claimed to have been sexually assaulted in 2010. She took her life the following year.

The report found that MU, though there was no intentional mishandling of the alleged assault, did not follow proper Title IX guidelines in reporting the incident to the campus Title IX coordinator.

"Although nothing will bring [Menu Courey] back, we can move forward and honor her memory by making sure that MU is accountable and responsible," Loftin said.

He made the following points and updates:

The Columbia Police Department continues to investigate the Menu Courey case.

Earlier this year, the University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe directed all four UM campuses to conduct a comprehensive review of all sexual assault and mental health resources available to students, staff and faculty and then to reeducate the MU communities about those resources.

In addition, each campus was tasked with reviewing all policies, procedures and training as it relates to sexual assault and mental health.

MU completed the first phase of this task, a comprehensive inventory of all available resources, and the campus community was emailed this month to remind them of those resources.

Loftin said he looks forward to seeing additional results and recommendations from the campus task force in the coming weeks. On Wednesday, University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe announced the hiring of the National Center for Higher Education Risk Management, a law and consulting firm that will perform a third-party assessment of the materials collected by the task forces at the four campuses.

Director of Intercolegiate Athletics Mike Alden created a sub-task force to examine how the Department of Athletics handles student incidents and concerns. The athletics task force includes an independent prosecutor, the MU campus sexual assault coordinator and the associate dean of MU's law school.

MU has identified areas for improvement in its sexual assault reporting policies and procedures. Administrators plan to implement them in the coming months.

Loftin said that administrators must educate faculty and staff across all departments on those procedures and their responsibilities to the MU community.

On April 7, Wolfe issued **Executive Order 40** 

(http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/rules/collected\_rules/personnel/ch330/330.062\_title\_ix\_policies\_and\_reporting) to supplement the university's nondiscrimination policies. The order makes clear that every employee — excluding health care providers, counselors, lawyers and others who have a legal obligation to maintain confidentiality — is required to report claims of sexual harassment against students to the appropriate Title IX coordinator.

Administrators are examining how MU addresses cases involving sexual assault. MU might create an independent committee with special training to specifically handle these cases, Loftin said.

The University of Missouri must also continue to examine policies as they relate to alcohol and the enforcement of those policies, Loftin said. Young people and alcohol are a dangerous combination.

Student safety is paramount, Loftin said in an April 11 statement.

"This is really 'job one' since a safe campus is required for learning and discovery to take place," he said.



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## MU remembers students who passed away



Deputy Chancellor Michael Middleton was among the speakers at MU Remembers, an event in Memorial Union April 11 that honored University of Missouri students who passed away in the past 12 months. Middleton asked those who knew a student to recall "a bright memory" of him or her during the presentation. Photo by Rob Hill.

The six students honored ranged in age from 19 to 37 years old

After dusk on April 11, Memorial Union's exterior lights remained off, transforming the building into a gothic silhouette against a black-blue sky. Campus flags had been at half-mast all day. The bells of Switzler Hall had echoed across Francis Quadrangle that afternoon.

The somber gestures were for six University of Missouri students who died in the past year: Aaron Boren, 23, of Jackson, Tenn.; Adam Garb, 37, of Columbia; Danielle Jones, 24, of Camdenton, Mo.; Samuel Kloeppel, 19, of Columbia; Jarrett Mosby, 21, of Collinsville, Ill.; and Rui Ren, 25, of Hunan, China.

The students were also honored with a memoriam in Memorial Union's Stotler Lounge, attended by more than 100 students, administrators, faculty and family members.

Deputy Chancellor Michael Middleton expressed sympathy and condolences to the families. He said MU exists for its students and all are precious. Quoting an oft-repeated sentiment of Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin, who couldn't attend due to a scheduling conflict, "It's all about our students."

Mason Schara, president of the Missouri Students Association, and Jake Wright, president of the Graduate Professional Council (two of the students were in graduate programs), gave heart and body to the names and faces.

Boren graduated from the Missouri Military Academy and practiced tai chi. Garb was a Bright Flight Scholar and unbeatable at Scrabble. Kloeppel played lacrosse and was an avid Mizzou sports fan.

Ren volunteered to teach kindergartners. Jones loved the TV show *Grey's Anatomy*. Mosby snacked on Oreos and cereal during study.

And they were loved. Jones had a "beautiful smile and amazing sense of humor." Ren was "passionate about life."

Thoughtful music, a video collage of the six and a reading by theater professor Jessie Adolph of the poem "Life Is a Fading Mist" followed. Some family members wept, while others sat motionless, eyes glowing.

Unveiled that day in a hallway was the addition of the students' names to the University of Missouri Student Memorial Plaque.

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