

Mizzou Weekly

April 2, 2015 Volume 36, No. 25

Ellis Fischel offering free cancer screenings April 10

Screenings are for head, neck, oral and thyroid cancers

Ellis Fischel Cancer Center will offer free head, neck, oral or thyroid cancer screenings for men and women ages 18 and older from 1 to 4 p.m. April 10 on the cancer center's second floor at One Hospital Drive.

Reservations are required and can be made by emailing Pam Garfias at garfiasp@health.missouri.edu or calling (573) 882-4289.

"I would encourage every adult — especially tobacco users — to take advantage of the free screening," said Dr. Robert Zitsch, chair of the Department of Otolaryngology and a head and neck surgical oncologist. "It's a decision that could ultimately save your life."

Signs and symptoms include:

- Mouth sore that doesn't heal or increases in size
- Persistent pain in mouth or jaw
- Lumps or white, red or dark patches in mouth
- Thickening of inside of cheek interior
- Difficulty chewing, swallowing or moving tongue
- Swelling of or pain in jaw
- Soreness in throat
- Pain in gums or loosening of teeth
- Numbness of tongue
- Voice changes
- Lump on neck

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Loftin takes media questions on academics, policies and sports



Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin answered questions from the media March 18 on a variety of topics, including new hires, student-athletes, buyouts and Title IX issues.

Last September, 261 faculty were offered payouts as part of the Voluntary Separation Program, of which 110 employees participated. In January, MU offered voluntary buyouts for 28 administrators who are also tenured faculty, retirement eligible and will be at least 62 years old by Aug. 31. Thirteen of the 28 have indicated they will take part in the program.

Most of the money being freed up will pay for signature faculty hires over the next two years, such as Thomas Spencer, a distinguished scholar with an appointment in the Division of Animal Sciences and a joint appointment in the School of Medicine's Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health.

"This is our chance to renew our faculty," Loftin said. "It gives us an opportunity to do even more extraordinary things here."

Loftin said the Title IX office will hire two more Title IX investigators, bringing the total to three. He also praised the hiring of Ellen Eardley, who starts April 20 as MU's assistant provost and Title IX administrator. Interim Title IX coordinator Linda Bennett will stay on until Aug. 31 to ensure a smooth transition.

Between August and December 2014, 135 potential violations of policy were reported to the Title IX office, Loftin said.

"The structure of reporting is so much better," Loftin said, adding, "We've made great progress here, but there is more to do. We will never stop trying to get better."

Finally, Loftin praised the hiring of Mack B. Rhoades IV as MU's new Intercollegiate Athletics director. Rhoades is known for supporting student-athletes both on the field and in the classroom, Loftin said.

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Match Day 2015: MU medical students in high demand for residency programs



Graduating medical students Woody and Katie Smelser open their envelopes to discover where they will be doing their residencies. Photo by Justin Kelley.

Ninety-nine percent of the class received a residency program match

After four years of medical school and countless hours of anticipation, medical students gathered March 20 at the [School of Medicine \(http://medicine.missouri.edu/\)](http://medicine.missouri.edu) to get a glimpse of what their future holds.

This was Match Day 2015. For 101 graduating medical students at MU and hundreds of others across the nation, it's a day to rip open sealed letters to discover where they will spend the next three to seven years in their first jobs as physicians, training in their chosen specialties.

More than 40,000 medical school graduates competed for approximately 29,000 residency positions this year.

The School of Medicine's 2015 class was highly sought: 99 percent of the class received a residency program match, meaning many hospitals and health systems chose graduating MU medical students as their top residency candidates. The MU matches were above the national average, which is 94 percent.

Forty-six percent of the MU School of Medicine 2015 class will remain in Missouri, and 49 percent of this graduating class selected residency programs in high-need primary care fields, including internal medicine, pediatrics and family medicine.

This annual event of the National Resident Matching Program pairs medical students across the nation with physician residency programs. Students rank their residency program choices in order of preference, and residency program directors rank their choices among the students. With the information from students' and residency directors' rankings, the National Resident Matching Program determines the best matches for students and residency programs.

For Woody Smelser, a fourth-year medical student from New Madrid, Missouri, who is president of his medical school class, opening his envelope on Match Day sparked waves of emotion. Not only was Smelser anxious to know if he'd been matched for the residency of his choice, but his wife, Katie Smelser, was also a graduating medical student.

The national program allows for students to participate in the match as a couple. Woody is specializing in urology and Katie wanted a residency program in internal medicine and pediatrics. On March 20, they learned they had been matched near each other geographically, with Woody's residency at University of Kansas Medical Center and Katie's at University of Missouri-Kansas City.

"Of all the emotions today, relief is the one that stands out the most because we will be together," Katie said.

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Mizzou staffer moonlights making customized fishing poles



Ricky Espenschied, a facilities attendant in Memorial Union, has built 70 custom rods so far. Photo by Mikala Compton.

Ricky Espenschied has been a lifelong fisherman

It all started with tying a few flies.

In 1983, Ricky Espenschied wanted to up his fishing game for trout season, which this year started March 1. He had already been tying his own flies, angler jargon for fastening bits of thread and feathers on fly-fishing hooks. So he decided to go ahead and make the whole darn pole.

“I was catching fish on the flies that I tied, and I thought, wouldn’t it be cool if I caught fish on a rod that I built?” Espenschied said. He ended up making two rods.

Twenty-seven years later, Espenschied built five rods for family and friends. In 2012, he got a license for his rod-making business.

When Espenschied is not holed up in the workroom in his home in Fayette, Missouri, or fishing at a nearby pond, he can usually be found at MU, where he’s been a facilities attendant in Memorial Union for 14 years.

So far he has built 70 custom rods. All sales have been through word of mouth.

He starts with a rod, which can be made from a variety of materials, such as graphite, fiberglass or a mix of the two. Customers choose the kind of handle and guides they want. Espenschied then reams out the handle, attaches the guides and completes assembly.



One of the custom appointments Espenschied offers is a swirled paint treatment. Photo by Mikala Compton.

His specialty is a spiral wrap, with the first guide on the pole's top and the rest of the guides on the bottom. "This takes some of the stress off the rod and a lot of stress off the fisherman," Espenschied said. "It takes away some of the torque when the pole bends because the guides are on the bottom."

Base price for Espenschied's casting and spinning rods is \$160. Rods with thread weaving carry an upcharge. Thread weaving is wrapping colored thread around a pole to create different patterns and then slathering a clear epoxy coat on top for a shiny finish.

In Espenschied's workroom, there are a handful of brightly colored poles leaning in a corner. For more pizzazz, he adds a swirled paint treatment to handles and sometimes little ornaments like feathers and monograms to the rods. It takes several days for the epoxy coats to dry. If he doesn't like the end result, he starts over.

It takes him about a week to make a pole.

For Espenschied, making rods is more a passion than a viable business model. "If I kept track of my time, I probably wouldn't do it anymore," he said.

— Alaina Lancaster

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Staff Open Forum Friday

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Memorial Union's Jesse Wrench Auditorium

Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin and other administrators will respond to staff questions submitted prior to the event April 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Memorial Union's Jesse Wrench Auditorium.

MU staff members are encouraged to attend.

Along with Loftin, panelists at the Chancellor's Staff Open Forum will be Gary Ward, vice chancellor for operations and chief operating officer; Jatha Sadowski, associate vice chancellor for human resources; Rhonda Gibler, vice chancellor for finance and chief financial officer; and Kelly Stuck, University of Missouri System assistant vice president of human resources.

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Twenty-five years of Kemper Fellows



Professor Elisa Glick was presented a bouquet by her department. Photo by Rob Hill.

Three faculty members were surprised in their classrooms Wednesday when informed that they had been chosen as 2015 Kemper Fellows. The winners were Nicole Monnier, an associate teaching professor of Russian; Elisa Glick, an associate professor of English and women's and gender studies; and Berkley Hudson, an associate professor in the School of Journalism.

Two more professors will be surprised as Kemper Fellows this week. Each fellowship includes a \$10,000 stipend.

[The William T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence \(http://kemperawards.missouri.edu/index.php\)](http://kemperawards.missouri.edu/index.php) was established in 1991 with a \$500,000 gift. This year marks the [25th year of the awards \(http://kemperawards.missouri.edu/25-anniversary/index.php\)](http://kemperawards.missouri.edu/25-anniversary/index.php).

Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin and Jim Schatz, chair of Commerce Bank, which manages the fund, informed Monnier, Glick and Hudson of their being chosen.

- Berkley Hudson has been a member of the School of Journalism’s magazine faculty since 2003. “Being a teacher isn’t something that Berkley Hudson just does; it’s something he is,” said Heather Lamb, assistant professor at the School of Journalism and the editorial director of Vox.
- Nicole Monnier has taught Russian at MU since 2000. Her success as teacher and adviser stems from her ability to get the best from her students, colleagues say. “Monnier has contributed passionately and brilliantly to every aspect of the teaching mission,” said Tim Langen, chair of the department of German and Russian studies at MU.
- Elisa Glick became an assistant professor at MU in 2001 in English and women’s and gender studies and became an associate professor in 2008. “Glick challenges students to open themselves to dialogue about theories of gender and sexuality that are, for the most part, completely new to students,” said Joan Hermsen, chair and associate professor of sociology and women’s and gender studies. “Students have said her courses push boundaries for them both academically and personally, teach them how to engage with difficult and challenging material in a thoughtful manner, and affirm students as important agents in their own education.”

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World Autism Awareness Day celebrated on campus today



The University of Missouri and the city of Columbia celebrate today World Autism Awareness Day.

MU's Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders, 205 Portland St., joins a host of sponsoring partners to promote the day.

Select campus and Columbia buildings will be lit in blue to promote acceptance and awareness with the worldwide autism community. Many area participants will wear blue [T-shirts](http://thompsoncenter.missouri.edu/resources/events/light-it-up-blue/light-it-up-blue-t-shirt-for-autism-awareness/) designed by a Thompson Center staff member. The event is part of the international [Light It Up Blue](https://www.autismspeaks.org/liub) campaign.

Truman the Tiger and his young friend TJ the tiger cub will take part in an awareness event at 6 p.m. at the MU Student Center, where the winning video from the [Autism Awareness PSA Video Contest](http://thompsoncenter.missouri.edu/resources/events/light-it-up-blue/autism-awareness-psa-video-contest-2015/) will be screened and prizes awarded to attendees. At dusk, participants will walk to Memorial Union.

The event is free and open to the public.

The Thompson Center's sponsoring partners are [Alternative Community Training](http://thompsoncenter.missouri.edu/resources/events/light-it-up-blue/www.actservices.org), [Boone County Family Resources](http://www.bcf.org/), [Easter Seals Midwest](http://www.eastersealsmidwest.org/), [MU Disability Center](http://www.disabilitycenter.missouri.edu/), [MU School of Health Professions](http://thompsoncenter.missouri.edu/resources/events/light-it-up-blue/healthprofessions.missouri.edu/), [Services for Independent Living](http://thompsoncenter.missouri.edu/resources/events/light-it-up-blue/www.silcolumbia.org/), and [Woodhaven](http://www.woodhaventeam.org/).

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