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VizzouWeekly

High-Tech Art

Computer-based programs usher in new era at Museum of Art and Archaeology.

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Book explores U.S. civil rights vs. human rights efforts.

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University of Missouri-Columbia

Research explores how to grow plastics in plants.

Planting Plastic

Page 6

Going the extra mile

CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

Mizzou's in-house mail services do bundles of business year-round

avid Roloff changed his mind just in time. He was on the verge of asking a student-intern to deliver a job to Bulk Mail Nov. 13, but decided to do it himself. Now he cannot stop thanking his lucky stars that he did not reverse his

As soon as Roloff walked into the facility housed in the Hitt Street Garage, he was presented with a gift basket of gourmet treats in recognition of being Campus Mail's 10,000 customer. "I was totally surprised, because I didn't know they were tracking customers," says Roloff, director of membership and marketing for the MU Alumni Association. "I was thrilled to win."

Campus Mail Services occupies 16,000 square feet in the garage and has three distinct operations: bulk mail, collection and distribution and mail processing. Bulk Mail is the primary choice for Roloff, who takes from five to 15 jobs a

month there that range from 200 pieces to 20,000 pieces each. "Everything they do is always first-rate," he says. "We get great customer service, and we couldn't be happier with our experience with Bulk Mail.'

More than 30 full-time employees are spread over the three divisions. "This is a great bunch of people," says Ron Feilner, manager. They are diligent about their jobs and they do incredible jobs."

Campus Mail Services has been around the block a few times - literally. Feilner has the facility's history dating from the early 1950s, when two people working out of a closet in the basement of Whitten Hall delivered mail on bicycles. Before getting permanent headquarters in the Hitt Street Garage in 1998, the services were located in Jesse Hall, the Power Plant, at 505 E. Stewart Road, the International House of Pancakes formerly at Ninth and Elm Streets, a warehouse on Watson Place and in the Maryland Avenue Garage.

Feilner says mail processing changed little from 1953 to 1982, when the University got its



AUTOMATED ACCESS Kay Houchins, supervisor of Campus Mail's bulk mail service, oversees an operation in the Hitt Street garage that saves money for campus customers and speeds mail to the correct address. Campus Mail has changed drastically from its early days in the 1950s, when two people working out of a closet in the basement of Whitten Hall delivered mail on bicycles.

unique zip code. Then the U.S. Postal Service turned the job of collecting and distributing campus mail over to the in-house

Afterward, Campus Mail started upgrading its machinery and simplifying its tasks. For example a metering machine and computerized weight scales were installed that tells mailprocessing technicians the most economical way to send packages. This machine eliminated the need for the 110

postage meters that were distributed campuswide and ensured that no more postage than necessary was used on each letter or package, Feilner says.

An optical character reader installed nearly three years ago reads addresses and sprays on a barcode. Pieces with wrong addresses are read by a computer connected to a national database that instantly applies the correct

"Our addressing system used to be a machine that put on

sticky labels or they were put on by hand," Feilner says. "Now we have an inkjet machine that will spray on an address with the barcode on it. The program sorts it, so that it comes ready to go to the post office."

There's an automatic inserting machine, too. It trims and cuts and folds continuous fed paper, then stuffs it in an envelope and applies the postage.

Annually, Campus Mail handles about 15 million pieces

SEE Mail on Page 7

Floyd and staff share observations about the University

GOOD JOB

President Floyd affirms council's role on campus

niversity of Missouri System President Elson Floyd met informally with MU Staff Advisory Council members Jan. 8 to elicit their views about the University, its priorities and

One of their top concerns that surfaced in the discussion was the organization's future. The 16member council, formed in 1978, serves as a liaison between staff employees and the administration, and reports directly to the chancellor.

After Chancellor Richard Wallace announced last summer he would retire this August, and Floyd announced a proposal to consolidate the president's and MU chancellor's offices, council members started questioning the group's role on campus: Would it continue to operate as a separate entity or combine with councils on the sister campuses?

At the Jan. 8 meeting, Floyd lessened their worries, assuring ouncil members that any merger of leadership positions would not affect their advisory

"Let's alleviate any concerns you may have." he said. "Your voice and your perspective regarding this University is absolutely invaluable. If we move forward with consolidation, this council will continue to exist and function in a seamless way,

consistent with the way you have functioned historically. I appreciate the work that you are doing on behalf of MU and more important, on behalf of the state of Missouri. I look forward to continuing these types of conversations with you, and I ask that you continue to bring your issues to our attention."

At the Dec. 11 Board Curators meeting, Floyd told curators that he believed "the reasons in favor of forging ahead with continuing consolidation far outweigh retaining the status quo." He cautioned that much work remained to be done and said he had decided to continue the deliberations about the best way to proceed with consolidation.

Floyd said at that board meeting that he would ask the staffs of the UM System and the Columbia campus to work on a detailed operational and organizational plan to realign staff responsibilities.

"If we are to ensure that the System-wide interests of all campuses are well represented under this type of organization model, then the responsibilities of president and chancellor for System-wide and campus functions must be clearly delineated before we proceed with consolidation," Floyd told

In his discussion with MU's Staff Advisory Council, Floyd stressed that the push to combine the two positions is being driven

by the state's budget problems. "Over the past three years, we have been hit with either core reductions or withholdings totaling \$158 million," he said. "There is no realistic expectation that during this upcoming year there will be any new dollars coming into the University from the state, even with the gradual improvement in the economy,"

There would be budget savings associated with the consolidation, Floyd said, though he stopped short of quoting specific dollar amounts. "Most of it [reduced costs] depends on the personnel we have in place."

Ideally, he said, the ultimate organizational structure for the University of Missouri is to

SEE Floyd on Page 8

Enrollment expands

Mizzou continues to experience enrollment growth. Following a record-breaking fall semester enrollment, University officials released first-day figures today for the winter semester, which are up from last year's winter

Total student enrollment increased from 24,161 to 25,000 from last winter semester, a 3.5 percent increase from the previous year. The number of total undergraduates rose to 19,045. "As we expected, our winter semester numbers also grew from one year ago," says Ann Korschgen, vice provost for

enrollment management. "We continue to create an environment conducive to learning. With many new buildings opening this year including the Life Sciences Center and the Virginia Avenue Housing complex, it's a very exciting time to be at Mizzou."

Professor Clyde Ruffin is Diversity award winner

U.S. Sen. Kit Bond was on hand to honor one of Mizzou's own at the Jan. 15 Columbia Values Diversity Awards breakfast. Clyde Ruffin, professor of theater, was a cowinner of the award, which honors contributions in promoting appreciation for diversity and cultural understanding in Columbia. Ruffin has demonstrated that the experience of drama can promote diversity. He was creative director of Columbia's diversity celebration for the event's first six years, from

1998 to 2003. As a drama professor and associate professor of black studies at MU, he founded the University's Black World Theatre Workshop. Ruffin is also the pastor at Columbia's Second Baptist Church. A posthumous award honored the many efforts of George Brooks, who was MU's director of financial aid for many years. As a teacher and coach in Columbia schools, Brooks provided a positive role model and encouraged students to pursue their dreams through education and hard work. In the late 1950s Brooks was director of Columbia's

Congress of Racial Equality.

Campaign update

With John Kerry's victory in the lowa caucus Monday and with the New Hampshire primary coming up, the race is wide open for the Democratic nomination for president. William Benoit, professor of communication and an expert on presidential campaigns, has developed a comprehensive Web site for the public and the media to help them understand the 2004 presidential campaign.

"In the research my team has developed over the years, we

MU's King celebration explores slain leader's legacy

PUBLIC POLICY Week of campus events features panel discussions and public forums

he Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in American Public Policy" will be the theme when Mizzou holds its annual celebration honoring the slain civil rights leader from Jan. 25 to 30. Events during the week will include panel discussions and forums on topics ranging from "Police and Community Relations" to "Education and Public Policy."

The keynote speaker will be Roger Wilkins, the National

Public Radio commentator who won the Pulitzer Prize with Bob Woodward, Carl Bernstein and Hal Herblock for his role in exposing the Watergate scandal in the 1970s. Wilkins will speak at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 25 in the Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center.

Wilkins will be joined by Clarence Robinson, professor of history and American culture at George Mason University. At 7:30 p.m. Jan. 25 a town hall meeting on "Intercultural America, Intercultural Mizzou" will be held in the Black Culture Center.

Other events during the weeklong celebration include: Nearly 400 student organizations and 115 residence hall governments have been invited to participate in the Student Citizenship Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, in the Memorial Union's Stotler Lounge.

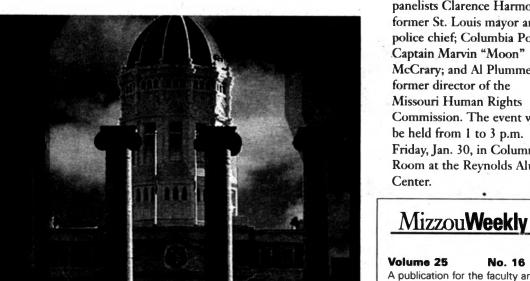
During the fair, the first two African-American mayors of Missouri's largest cities, Freeman Bosley of St. Louis and Emanuel Cleaver of Kansas City, will join Charles Sampson, professor in MU's Truman School of Public Affairs, to discuss "Citizenship, Voting and Policy Outcomes" from 10:30 a.m. to noon in Stotler Lounge.

- A panel discussion will explore "The King Legacy on Art and Public Policy" from 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, in N201/202 Memorial Union. Panelists include Norree Boyd, director of the Missouri Arts Council; Marie Hunter from Columbia's Office of Cultural Affairs; Barbara Harbach, visiting professor of music at UM-St. Louis; and Teresa Unseld, former chair of art at Winston-Salem State University.
- Education and public policy will be the topic of a panel discussion from 4 to 5 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 29, in N201/202 Memorial Union. Panelists Charles Stovall, a former colleague of King from Dallas; Phyllis Chase, superintendent of Columbia Public Schools; and Juanita Simmons, MU professor of education, will examine education policy from the Brown vs. Board of Education decision to the No Child Left Behind law.

Later that evening, Stovall will speak on "The Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for America Today" at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of the Missouri United Methodist Church, 204 S. Ninth St.

 "Police and Community Relations" will be discussed by panelists Clarence Harmon, former St. Louis mayor and police chief; Columbia Police Captain Marvin "Moon" McCrary; and Al Plummer, former director of the Missouri Human Rights Commission. The event will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30, in Columns E Room at the Reynolds Alumni Center.



For 50 Years

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have generated a lot of information on presidential campaign discourse, and I wanted to make it available to the general public," says Benoit who, along with four doctoral students, will be updating the site regularly with information about the campaign. "I don't believe there is any Web page out there that is as comprehensive as this one in terms of topics and depth."

The Web site, http://presidential campaign2004.coas.missouri. edu, will be updated throughout the campaign with information about television spots, debates and television

talk show appearances. The site will give viewers historical background, contextual and comparative information, and information about the current campaign.

Benoit plans to add some sample syllabi to help teachers of social studies, civics and government who want to teach about the election. He also hopes to add some interactive features, such as Internet polls and Web chats.

Bound for Baghdad

MU medical students donated 18 boxes of textbooks to Fort Leonard Wood last week for shipment to Iraq. A military physician from the post who is now deployed in Iraq made the request for medical books, which will be used for instruction and as reference guides by both Iraqi healthcare providers and students. "One of our physicians working in a field hospital in Iraq asked for medical books to help out the health-care providers there so I called the med school," says John Abshier, chief of the managed care and analysis branch of the

U.S. Army's Resource Management Division. "I joked around once we found out how many books we were getting that I might need to bring an 18-wheeler to pick them up. Gosh we're just overwhelmed to receive this many." About two weeks ago MU students learned of the request and began collecting used medical textbooks from previous semesters, as well as other medical books that students would donate. "We sent out an e-mail asking if anyone had extra books, that we were going to send them to Iraq, and people started donating," says Jean Cole, a

second-year Mizzou medical student. The books will be shipped to Iraq in about two weeks:

Museum combines art and technology

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

Computer-based programs usher in a new era in museum's history

onsumers' desire to retrieve information faster and more conveniently prompted the MU's Museum of Art and Archaeology to overhaul its methods of providing outreach and educational services so that more individuals can see and experience art in different and interesting ways.

"In the past, museums have tended to be very quiet buildings of antiquities and artifacts, but the world has changed, and people want to be more interactive with these things," says Bruce Cox, the museum's coordinator of membership, marketing and development. "We are creating that type of environment."

With some funds from an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant, and help from faculty and students in the computer science department, the museum is on target to unveil the Robert and Maria Barton Gallery of Art and Technology this spring. "Robert Barton is a major donor to the museum and a graduate of the College of Engineering.

Plasma screens in the new gallery will enable individuals to interact with the games and exhibitions developed by the students. Three such prototypes, based on the museum's collections, have been developed: The Virtual Museum of Art and Archaeology, Harriet Tuhman and the Underground Railroad, and Famous Missourians to Know: Our African-American Heritage.

"The students were incredibly creative," Cox says. "They managed to do what we wanted in the short time frame."

Their creations were showcased at the museum's annual gala last April and received excellent reviews, he says, especially from Gov. Bob Holden. "He was most impressed with the famous black Missourians and wanted to see a copy it of once we were finished with the prototype."

This particular archetype focuses on the achievements of three notable personalities: entertainer Josephine Baker, ragtime pianist John W. "Blind" Boone and Missouri's "horsewhisperer" Tom Bass.

Historical facts, photos, videos, slide shows, audio recordings and information that explain their contributions to and impact on society are presented on screen. To enhance the viewer's experience, educational activities will be included.

Cox says the students decided on an interactive computer-based game to teach the historical and cultural impact of the underground railroad that helped escaped slaves flee to sanctuary in free states before the Civil War. Game participants move abolitionist Harriet Tubman under the cover of darkness

through the fields, into the woods, following the river into towns and safe houses, all the while avoiding slave hunters and barking dogs. Historical data flashes on the screen and decisions must be made about which way to go, as a wrong turn will result in Tubman's return to captivity.

A virtual tour of the museum not only will show the galleries as they are, but viewers may zoom in on specific cases or displays, or enlarge and rotate objects to get a threedimensional view.

The advantage of this project, Cox says, is that it makes available to a global audience objects in the museum's collections that are not readily available to the general public. The museum has more than 14,000 objects, but just a third of them can be displayed physically at one time, he says. "By doing this, we can bring a lot of the collection out that is behind the scenes."

Other prototypes under development will use specific artwork and allow participants to place it back to its original location of creation, or to use artifacts displaying sensory lighting, informational pads and screens for experiments in learning styles.

Computer-based projects have been expanded to include the museum's temporary exhibitions, Cox says. For example, *The Missouri Scene: In the Wake of Lewis and Clark*, has been transformed into a virtual exhibition on a CD-ROM, which soon will be available for purchase at the Museum.

Cox says the blend of art and technology is a turning point in the museum's history. "It is groundbreaking from an institutional-educational standpoint," he says. "Few if any other museums are doing this to the extent we are. We are hoping to be able to sell these prototypes to other museums who can do the same thing with their own collections."





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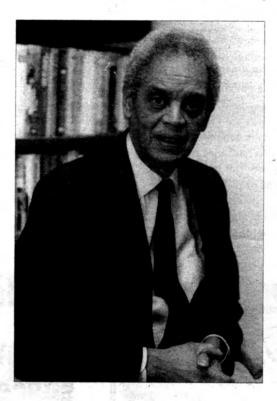
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The University of Missouri - Columbia

2004 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

KICKOFF

Sunday, Jan. 25 **Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center MU** campus



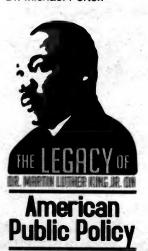
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Presentation Featuring -Journalist and Historian **Roger Wilkins**

Roger Wilkins is best known for his role in exposing Watergate, which earned him the Pulitzer Prize along with Bob Woodward, Carl Bernstein and Hal Herblock. He is currently a radio commentator for National Public Radio. A reception for Mr. Wilkins will be held at 5:30 p.m.

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. **Town Hall Meeting** Intercultural America, Intercultural Mizzou Explore King's description of a color-blind society. How do we overcome the obstacles inherent in 21st-century American culture? Moderated by Dr. Michael Porter.

The celebration runs Sunday, Jan. 25, through Friday, Jan. 30. All events are free and open to the public.

> For more information, call (573) 882-9061 or visit our website at www.missouri.edu/~mlkwww



calendar



Concerts & Plays

Monday, January 26

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: The Tony-award winning Broadway musical Rent will be presented at 7 p.m. For ticket information, call 882-

Wednesday, January 28

IAZZ SERIES: Vocalist Nnenna Freelon will perform at 7 p.m. at the Blue Note, 17 N. Ninth St. For tickets, call 449-3001.

Classes & Workshops

Thursday, January 22 **CRAFT STUDIO CLASSES:**

Registration is open for noncredit art classes and short workshops that begin Feb. 2. Five-week courses will be offered in pot throwing, ceramics and mold making, metals fabrication, slide taking and portfolio development, stained glass, black and white photography and alternative photographic processes. Short workshops will be offered in handmade mugs, bowls and light catchers. Cost and class times vary. Register at the Brady Commons Box Office or call 882-4640.

Wednesday, January 28 **HUMAN RESOURCES**

WORKSHOP: Bob Almony, financial consultant and assistant director of MU Libraries, will present "Principles of Investing on a Shoestring: How to Get Rich Slowly" from 8:30 a.m.noon in S203 Memorial Union. Registration is required; call 882-7760 or register online at www.missouri.edu/~hrswww.

Exhibits

BINGHAM GALLERY: The Graduate Fine Art Exhibit will be on display through Feb. 5 with an artists' reception from 4-6 p.m. Jan. 22. Bingham Gallery, located at A125 Fine Arts Building, is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday to Friday. MUSEUM OF ART AND

ARCHAEOLOGY:

"Selections of Ancient Glass," an exhibit in memory of Gladys C. Weinberg is on display through

"Art About Art" is on display through 2004. Graphic Diversity: 500 Years of

Printmaking" will be on display from Jan. 24 to May 22. The museum, located in Pickard Hall, is open from 10 a.m.-4

p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES: The University Archives offer a number of online exhibits that document the history of MU. The most recent exhibit, "The Heart of the University: MU Libraries," traces the history of

Mizzou's libraries at system.Missouri.edu/archives/lib rarex.htm.

Lectures & Seminars

Thursday, January 22 **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

SEMINAR: Michael Smotherman from the University of California-Los Angeles will present "A Neural Basis for Auditory Feedback Control of Mammalian Vocalizations" at 3:30 p.m. in 18 Tucker Hall.

Friday, January 23

PATHOGENESIS & **IMMUNITY SEMINAR:** Matthias von Herrath from the

LaJolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology in San Diego, Calif., will present "Pathogenesis of Type 1 Diabetes and Novel Strategies for Prevention" at 1 p.m. in M615 Medical Science Building.

GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES SEMINAR: Kurtis Burmeister from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will present "Influence of Mechanical Stratigraphy on the 3-D Structural Architecture of the Northern Appalachian Fold-Thrust Belt: Rosendale, N.Y." at 3 p.m. in 108 Geology Building.

Tuesday, January 27

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES SEMINAR: Lena Hileman from Yale University will present "Symmetry Genes and the Evolution of Floral Morphology" at 3:30 p.m. in 18 Tucker Hall.

Thursday, January 29

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES SEMINAR: Maria Clauss from the Max Planck Institute of Chemical Ecology will present "Evolution of Plant Defense: From Candidate Genes to Herbivore Choice" at 3:30 p.m. in 18 Tucker Hall.

Special Events Monday, January 26

BASKETBALL LUNCHEON: Faculty, staff and retirees are invited to hear coaching staff for the men's basketball Tigers discuss the season at a luncheon at noon in the Athletic Dining Hall in the Tom Taylor

Thursday, January 29

Building. Cost: \$5.

LEGISLATIVE FORUM: The Boone County Chapter of the MU Alumni Association will sponsor a forum with area legislators to discuss the state budget for higher education and the University from 6-7 p.m. at Stoney Creek Inn on South Providence Road. A reception with cash dar degins at 3:13 p.m. Cost: \$20 for association members, \$25 for nonmembers. Space is limited and reservations may be made by calling 449-0359 or online at www.mizzou.com.

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Bring out the best of MU

The MU Alumni Association's Faculty-Alumni Awards is seeking nominations of a faculty member or alumnus for the association's 2004 Faculty-Alumni Awards, the Distinguished Service Award and the Distinguished Faculty Award.

Nomination forms are available in the Alumni Relations Office, 123 Reynolds Alumni Center or by calling 882-4366 or 884-3747. Forms also are available on the association's Web site at www.mizzou.com under "Programs." With questions, call or e-mail Carrie Lanham at 882-4366 or lanhamc@missouri.edu. The deadline for nominations is Feb. 1 and the awards banquet and ceremony will be Oct. 1.

The University of Missouri - Columbia

2004 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration **January 25 - 30**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25



Kickoff Presentation 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Gaines/Oldham Black **Culture Center** Journalist and historian Roger Wilkins is best known for his role in exposing Watergate, which

earned him the Pulitzer Prize along with Bob Woodward, Carl Bernstein and Hal Herblock. He is currently a radio commentator for National Public Radio.

A 5:30 p.m. reception for Mr. Wilkins will be held in the same location.

Town Hall Meeting: Intercultural America, Intercultural Mizzou 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center Explore King's description of a color-blind society. How do we overcome the obstacles inherent in 21st-century American culture? Moderated by Dr. Michael Porter.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27 The King Legacy and Citizenship 10:30 a.m. - noon

Stotler Lounge, Memorial Union

The first two African-American mayors of the largest cities in Missouri, Freeman Bosely Jr. of St. Louis and the Rev. Emanuel Cleaver II of Kansas City, will discuss the significance of their elections and the future of minority elected officials.

Citizenship Fair, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Stotler Lounge, Memorial Union Nearly 400 student organizations and 115 residence hall governments have been invited to participate.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28 The King Legacy on Art and Public Policy, 3 - 5 p.m. Mark Twain Ballroom, Memorial Union

Artists and art administrators will hold a panel discussion about Dr. King's influence on the arts.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29 The King Legacy and Education Policy 4 - 5 p.m.

Mark Twain Ballroom, Memorial Union Prominent educators will examine education policy, including Brown v. Board of Education and the No Child Left Behind Act.

Dr. King's Legacy for America Today 7:30 p.m.

Missouri United Methodist Church Dr. Charles Stovall, a member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and a former colleague of Dr. King's, will speak.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

Police and Community Relations 1 - 3 p.m., Reynolds Alulmni Center A panel of law enforcement officials, including former St. Louis mayor and police chief Clarence Harmon, and community members will explore this topic.

Closing reception 3:30 p.m., Reynolds Alumni Center Jazz pianist Tom Andes will perform an original composition entitled "Free at Last."



All events are free and open to the public. For more information, call (573) 882-9061 or visit our website at www.missouri.edu/-mlkwww

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Another Kind of Blue: "The Latin Side of Miles" Fri., Feb. 6





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Plastic plants

DOUBLE-CROP

Biodegradable plastic from plants could be billion-dollar industry

ouble-cropping isn't a new idea in agriculture, but producing plastic in plants as a value-added commodity would give new meaning to the concept for Missouri farmers, said a University of Missouri researcher.

Since 2000, Brian Mooney, an MU research assistant professor of biochemistry, has worked to enhance a system of agricultural plastic production that would create new market opportunities for commodities such as corn and soybeans while reducing plastic in landfills and dependence on foreign oil.

"Each year, 25 million tons of plastic end up in U.S. landfills," he says. "If we can replace some petroleum-based plastics with those made from a non-polluting, renewable resource such as plants, we can reduce that number and create new income for farmers."

The plastic Mooney is attempting to produce is polyhydroxybutyrate-valerate, or PHBV, which is similar to the petroleum-based plastic, polypropylene.

"PHBV is flexible and moldable, and could be used to produce a wide range of products, from grocery bags and soda bottles to disposable razors and flatware," he says. "The advantage of PHBV is that it's 100 percent biodegradable. When discarded, bacteria that naturally occur in the soil chew it up and turn it into water and carbon dioxide."

In the mid-1990s, Monsanto Co. successfully produced PHBV in plants, which the company called BIOPOL, Mooney says. "But they were only able to produce it in small quantities, about 3 percent dry

weight. In order to be commercially viable, 14 percent or more is considered the threshold."

Mooney seeks to break this threshold by designing plants that produce the raw materials for PHBV within leaf cells.

"There are five enzymes, two from the plant and three from bacteria, that when combined produce PHBV," he says. "Of the two plant enzymes, one is currently produced in the mitochondria. Our goal is to modify the plant so that this enzyme is instead diverted to the chloroplasts. Once that's achieved, bacterial enzymes can be introduced to produce PHBV in the chloroplasts."

Laboratory experiments show the mitochondrial enzyme can be diverted to the chloroplasts, Mooney said. The next step is to use the model plant, Arabidopsis, to confirm the system works in plants.

"We anticipate the first plants will be produced in the next 6 to 12 months," Mooney says. "At that point, we'll analyze the expression of the enzymes, and if they're sufficient, we'll be ready to move on to the next step."

For farmers, PHBV could become an additional agricultural commodity, creating a double crop in one plant, he says. "Whether in corn or soybeans, the plants would be designed to produce the PHBV plastic in the leaves only, leaving the seed unchanged. Monsanto studies from the '90s showed that PHBV-producing plants grew normally and produced fertile seed."

Mooney says biodegradable plastics have the potential to be a \$1 billion per year industry in the United States.

A grant from the Consortium of Plant Biotechnology Research, a non-profit partnership between research universities and private industry, currently funds the project.

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Eyes off the prize

FRONTLINE FIGHT

Prize-winning book helps explain complexities of bigotry

The American black man is the world's most shameful case of minority oppression...How is a black man going to get "civil rights" before he first wins his human rights? If the American black man will start thinking about his human rights, and then start thinking of himself as one of the world's greatest people, he will see he has a case for the United Nations.

-Malcolm X

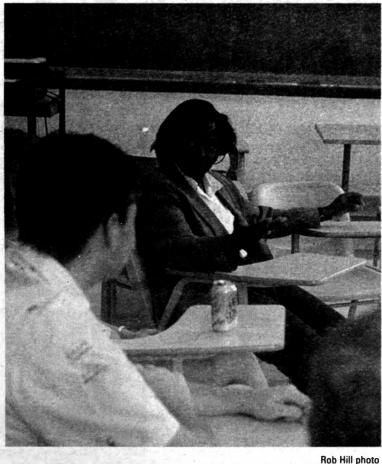
he struggle for obtaining human rights over civil rights is the premise of Carol Anderson's book Eyes off the Prize—The United Nations and the African American Struggle for Human Rights, 1944-1955. The book won Anderson, assistant professor of history, the 2003 Gustavus Meyers Outstanding

Book Award. The award commends works that further the understanding of the complexities of bigotry and attempts to overcome its myriad forms.

"I was blown away by this award; it was totally unexpected," Anderson says. "It's such an unbelievable honor when someone commends something you're so passionate about."

Anderson's book examines why the civil rights movement did not ease the problems such as housing, health care and unemployment facing the African-American community. Anderson presents an insightful look at how the front-line for the fight for equality was not Alabama, but the UN Commission on Human Rights. She discusses how the United States undermined the United Nation's human rights efforts because of Jim Crow.

Anderson argues that the United States' actions in the



CIVIL OR HUMAN RIGHTS? In her book, Eyes off the Prize, Carol Anderson, assistant professor of history, argues that the United States undermined the United Nation's human rights efforts because of this country's Jim Crow laws. Her book won the 2003 Gustavus Meyers Outstanding Book

United Nations ultimately meant that the civil rights movement's focus on political and legal rights could not solve the ongoing human rights crisis in Black

"The Myers Awards panelists commended the book for its comprehensive and balanced account," Anderson says.
"Nobody in my book is presented as a hero. Instead, they are depicted as real people, and real people are flawed."

The title Eyes off the Prize originated from Anderson's conversation with a friend about how the true prize for equality in the United States, despite the thrust of the award-winning documentary Eyes on the Prize, is human rights and not civil rights. Once African Americans were forced to take their eyes off the prize of human rights the civil rights movement was doomed to limited progress, Anderson says.

Eyes off the Prize was published by Cambridge University. She is working on her next book that discusses decolonization during the early Cold War.

MAIL from Page 1

of mail. "It is hard to pinpoint exactly how much the automation saves the University," Feilner says, but I know we can do the job faster and cheaper, especially with bulk mailings."

Departments can mail some nonprofit pieces for 10 cents to 11 cents, he says, compared to going directly to the post office and paying 15 cents to 16 cents apiece. "It makes no sense for departments to do it themselves, when we can do it for them," he says.

Feilner came to Mizzou in 1983 and worked as a janitor before going to mail services as a clerk. Over the years, he has learned the ropes as a mail processing technician, supervisor and assistant manager. He is a member of the University Mail Managers Association, a group of 45 Midwestern colleges and universities. MU will host its annual meeting in May 2004.

Feilner's leadership and management were rewarded recently by the National Association of College and University Mail Services. The award came as a result of purchasing the optical character reader. "Out of the 220 colleges and universities that belong to NACUMS, about five have these machines in-house," says Feilner, who unselfishly shares the award.

'It's for all the people who work here," he says. "They make me look good."



FLOYD from Page 1

continue to have separate offices of the president and chancellors of the four campuses. "But these are not ideal times, and we need to look at any ways our University can be as efficient as possible."

If the curators give the goahead to consolidate, Floyd told the council that he is banking on a smooth transition. "People have pushed me to say which positions or offices would be eliminated," he said. "I've resisted that. Much of the work I have been assuming myself. I've wanted to keep that information as close to the vest as I could because the last thing I want to do is to be disruptive of those of you in this room, your colleagues and your families."

Whatever the board decides, Floyd added, one thing is for certain: Both the chancellor and president positions would remain separately identified on the record books. "If we assume we will move forward with the consolidation, then we would still have the position of chancellor in place. If a year or two, or 25 years from now, it did not work for whatever reason, we will not have to go back and re-establish the whole structural orientation associated with it."

When asked about his time frame for completing this project, Floyd said: "I see this as a long process. It is not unreasonable to believe that a complete consolidation will take as much as five years."

After the meeting, a number of council members said they were pleased by Floyd's comments. "His support for MU's Staff Advisory Council and the important role it plays in representing staff issues and concerns is greatly appreciated," said chair Gail Lawrence, administrative assistant in anthropology. "President Floyd is an open and direct person; he never refuses to answer questions asked of him, no matter how difficult the question may be. He responds in a honest manner, and that is refreshing."



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