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Mizzou Weekly

Hang-up?

A reader asks why MU's parking tags were changed this year. **Page 6**

There's Still Time

With a total of 415,000 raised so far, the University's United Way campaign for 2000 is still short of its \$450,000 goal. It's not too late to make a contribution.

Cyber Overhaul

With extensive input from users, MU's home page is being redesigned. **Page 3**

Nov. 16, 2000

University of Missouri-Columbia

It might be the perfect time to kick the tobacco habit today during "The Great American Smokeout."

Circles of support

COLLEAGUE CIRCLES New MU mentoring program for junior faculty helps them get off to a good start

Starting any new job is bound to be stressful, even under the best of circumstances. But what if you're a bright, new junior faculty member, fresh out of a doctoral program or post-doc appointment, about to launch an academic career at MU?

Making your way at a large, public research university can be bewildering, and Mizzou is no exception. That's why MU inaugurated a new program this fall for tenure-track faculty who are just joining the academy. It's called the Colleague Circles program, and the aim is to give junior professors a seasoned shoulder to lean on.

"When new assistant professors first start off on their careers, they face a very stressful and difficult set of tasks," says Tom Dougherty, professor of management and one of the program organizers. "It's typical for them to feel somewhat isolated. Sometimes they don't have the information or even the

social support they need to get started.

"I think we've become more aware in recent years of the power of mentoring and more aware of the special needs of new faculty," Dougherty says. "We've also become more aware of the costs to our institution when we're not able to retain outstanding faculty."

Each "colleague circle" matches a half-dozen or so new professors with two senior faculty members who have excellent track records in teaching, research and service. Following an orientation session at the beginning of the fall semester, the groups get together about once a month for informal sessions — often over a meal.

The meetings provide an avenue to offer new faculty information about campus, social support, advice, coaching, counseling and friendship. The program also provides junior professors with a ready-made network of campus contacts.

The Colleague Circles program had its genesis in the campus Carnegie Initiative for Teaching. Last academic year, a



Rob Hill photo

LEARNING THE ROPES Through the Colleague Circles program, Barbara Townsend, left, associate dean of education, and a group of senior MU faculty are helping nurture the career of Vicki Rosser, assistant professor of educational leadership and policy analysis, and other new MU junior professors.

group of nearly 30 MU faculty members looked at ways to foster innovations in teaching. "We looked at issues of teaching on campus and factors that promote or inhibit good teaching," says Mary Heppner, associate professor of educational and counseling psychology, and another organizer of the Colleague Circles program.

The program's goal is to ease a new faculty member's transition into the academic world. For instance, most departments do a good job of making the requirements for tenure and promotion clear, but new faculty might not know about campus resources to land research grants or to get feedback and coaching on their teaching.

Over the summer, program organizers sent invitations to all new tenure-track faculty who had teaching assignments. A number of deans and department chairs encouraged their new faculty to participate. The program is funded through the Office of the Provost, and more than 30 assistant professors are taking part this year.

As one of the senior faculty mentors in the Colleague Circles program, it didn't take Judy Wall long to discover one of the

See Support on Page 7

\$25 million gift fuels arena planning

ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

Curators approve initiative to win state support for new basketball facility

Thanks to a \$25 million gift from private donors, planning for a new, state-of-the-art basketball arena at Mizzou has shifted into high gear. Last week, the Board of Curators authorized MU administrators to seek additional financial support from the state to make the new arena a reality.

Campus strategic plans calls for the new arena to be located just south of the Hearnes Center, in the southwest corner of campus that's being developed as the MU Sports Park.

Administrators say the arena, which would cost \$75 million,

will provide more and better seating at basketball games for students and fans, help recruit top student athletes, and free up the Hearnes Center for use by other MU sports teams.

At a special Nov. 9 board meeting on the MU campus, Chancellor Richard Wallace told curators that financing plans call for the project to be funded with \$40 million from Intercollegiate Athletics — including the \$25 million from donors who wish to remain anonymous — and \$35 million in state-funded general obligation bonds.

The remaining athletic department funds would come from additional private gifts, up-front seat payments and interest income.

"We stipulated that this

project could not in any way negatively affect the University's general operating budget or its capital budget for our academic priorities," Wallace said.

As MU's Sports Park has been developed in recent years, Wallace noted that plans have always included the possibility of a new basketball arena. A 1994 athletic facilities master plan by HOK Sports Facilities Group highlighted the need for improved basketball facilities, Wallace said. "The need to which we speak this morning has been known for some years."

The current basketball facilities at the Hearnes Center are inadequate for a number of reasons, Wallace added. Because of the number of sports that use Hearnes, and because of those

teams' overlapping seasons, scheduling is difficult. Basketball practice facilities are "woefully inadequate," he said. And, compared to other college and professional arenas, accommodations for fans are relatively poor.

For several years, campus planners have explored two options: build a new arena, or renovate the Hearnes Center and add a new practice facility at the same time.

"There is no question that without a major donor's support, we would have no option but to undertake renovation," Wallace said. "This wonderfully generous offer of a \$25 million gift clearly tipped the scales in favor of a new arena over the renovation of Hearnes."

Athletic Director Mike Alden told curators that the new arena

would vastly improve student seating at basketball games. Alden said that he had met with the Missouri Students Association last week for an annual update and received a petition asking for improved student seating inside the Hearnes Center.

A new arena would mean that student seating could be moved "all the way to the floor" and clustered around the end zones, Alden said, "and that was what was requested." The funding plan for the arena would not require an increase in student fees.

Alden also pointed out that the donor support for the proposed arena is "somewhat unique for this country." Of six peer institutions that have launched similar arena projects in

See Arena on Page 7

A capital idea

For nearly 30 years, MU students have benefited from a special fund that pays for projects that have a positive impact on the quality of student life. In recent years, the fund has provided nearly \$200,000 annually from a student activity fee for such improvements as recreation equipment for the Student Rec Center, uniforms for Marching Mizzou, landscaping projects, student office furniture, even the flagpoles in front of Brady Commons.

Decisions on which projects to fund are made by the student fee capital

improvements committee, and once again that committee is asking the University community to suggest possible projects. Proposals from faculty and staff are welcome.

The proposals must include a one-page project summary, a detailed project description and cost estimate, and a statement of benefit to students with an estimate of how many students would be impacted. Proposals should be submitted as soon as possible to the student fee capital improvements committee, 211 Jesse Hall. With questions, call Rich Anderson at 882-0156, Tiffany Ellis at 817-2821, or e-mail tre918@mizzou.edu

Cyberteaching 2001

Learn how to use technology to create richer learning environments for your students through Cyberteaching 2001, a special winter institute from Educational Technologies at Missouri. The institute will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day from Jan. 8 to Jan. 12. Participants will gain hands-on experience with a number of teaching technology tools.

The institute is limited to 12 participants who must be full-time faculty, have written approval from a department chair and be able to attend the

entire week-long institute. Applications are available on line at etatmo.missouri.edu/events/institute.htm or in an alternate format by calling Danna Vessell at 882-0645. Deadline for applications is Dec. 8, and those selected will be notified Dec. 18.

For all they do

Bring out the best of Mizzou by nominating a faculty member or an alumnus for the MU Alumni Association's Faculty-Alumni Awards. The alumni association is now accepting nominations for the 2001

Faculty-Alumni Awards, the Distinguished Service Award and the Distinguished Faculty Award.

Nomination forms are available in the Alumni Relations office in Room 123 Reynolds Alumni Center or by calling 882-4366 or e-mail: LanhamC@missouri.edu. The nomination packet includes a list of past recipients to give an idea of the caliber of the individuals who have received these awards. The deadline for submitting a nomination is Feb. 1, and the dinner and award ceremony will be Oct. 26, 2001.

The nose knows

DOLLARS AND SCENTS

Researchers are using biotechnology to fight odor and pollution

To the pig farmer, it's the smell of money. To those that happen to live downwind, it's just the smell — the smell they would rather do without.

When people list complaints about hog confinement operations, odor is usually near the top. However, according to swine nutritionist Gary Allee, there's a way to let everyone breathe a little easier. The MU researcher has found a way to reduce potential hog odor production by 30 to 50 percent without hindering performance.

"It's all a matter of inputs and outputs," says Allee, professor of animal science. "By changing the inputs, you alter the outputs. Rather than trying to treat existing odor levels, we're trying to minimize the amount of odor

that needs treatment."

Allee explains that odor-producing compounds, such as ammonia, are formed when microorganisms break down nitrogen compounds, such as proteins, that are present in a pig's digestive tract and manure. The odor's intensity is directly related to the amount of available nitrogen, which is determined by what the pigs eat.

"Like all animals, pigs need certain amounts of essential amino acids — the building blocks that make up proteins — to grow at their potential," Allee said. "But when formulating a corn/soy diet to provide all of the essential amino acids, large excesses of some amino acids accumulate. The excess is not used by the pig, but rather it is excreted and becomes the primary nitrogen-containing compound from which microorganisms produce odor."

To remedy this problem, Allee has formulated a diet that uses

synthetic amino acids. This allows producers to lower the percentage of crude protein in the pigs' diet, reducing the amount of excessive amino acids that lead to odor.

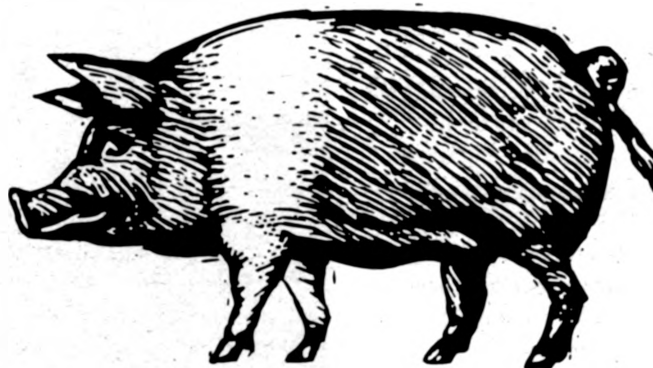
Tests show that synthetic amino acids provide the same benefits as amino acids found in corn and soybeans and their use is economical for hog producers. Research is under way to apply this odor reduction technology to the poultry industry, which faces similar odor production problems.

Allee also is putting biotechnology to work to reduce the risk of phosphorus pollution from swine manure. In the United States, swine produce more than 15 million tons of manure each year containing an

estimated 460,000 tons of phosphorus — phosphorus that can, when in high enough concentrations, lead to environmental disaster if a manure spill occurs.

Allee explains that hogs need a certain amount of phosphorus in their diet, but that most of the phosphorus in corn and soybeans is in a form, known as phytate phosphorus, that hogs cannot digest. So, producers add a mineral supplement containing phosphorus to the hogs' diets. Although this provides hogs with the necessary phosphorus, the undigested phytate phosphorus is still excreted.

"We realize that what we put into an animal affects what comes out, so we changed what we're putting in," he said.



"Rather than attempting to treat the current phosphorus levels in manure, our approach is to reduce the levels before we reach the treatment process."

To accomplish this, Allee started feeding hogs corn that is genetically modified to contain higher levels of phosphorus that hogs can digest. About 60 percent of phosphorus in the genetically modified variety is digestible by pigs, compared to 10 percent to 15 percent in standard corn varieties. "The result is that less phosphorus ends up in the manure," Allee says.

Results from laboratory and field tests show the use of "low-phytate" corn can reduce phosphorus excretion by 30 percent to 40 percent, and hogs do as well as hogs on traditional diets supplemented with phosphorus.

Allee's research is part of a cooperative project that includes North Carolina State University, Purdue University, Michigan State University and Oklahoma State University.

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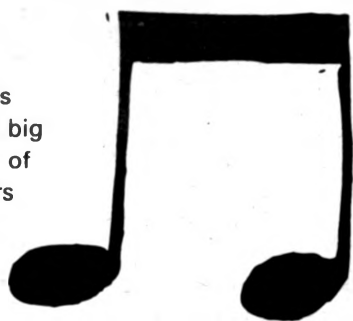
Writer/designer Sue Richardson

With a ho-ho-ho and oom-pah-pah

A Mizzou holiday tradition is waiting in the wings for the big day - Dec. 1 - when dozens of tuba and euphonium players from all over mid-Missouri gather on Lowry Mall for Merry TubaChristmas.

The first TubaChristmas was held in 1974 in New York City's Rockefeller Plaza and since has spread to cities all over the United States, with some groups boasting hundreds of horn players performing a special program of Christmas carols.

David Kutz, MU's



TubaChristmas organizer, invites tuba and euphonium players of all ages and abilities to take part. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Dec. 1 in the Fine Arts Building. Rehearsal is at 10 a.m. in the Memorial Union's Stotler Lounge, and the concert begins

at noon on Lowry Mall. For more information, contact Kutz at 882-7032. Then drag that old tuba out of the closet, blow out the cobwebs, oil up the valves and get in the holiday spirit.

Engineering cooperation

Two MU colleges are joining forces to provide faculty and infrastructure to support a new initiative in biological engineering. The new Department of Biological Engineering will be a forum for cooperation between life sciences faculty and engineering faculty. The education and research

programs of the new department will have three emphasis areas: biomedical engineering, bioprocess engineering and bioenvironmental engineering.

Administrators will announce the new department at a reception from 4 to 5 p.m. Nov. 16 in the Great Room of the Reynolds Alumni Center. Speakers will include James Thompson, dean of engineering; Tom Payne, vice chancellor and dean of agriculture, food and natural resources; and Jinglu Tan, associate professor and chair of biological engineering.

"The overall goal of this partnership is to further invigorate MU's efforts for excellence in the life sciences by enhancing the bioengineering research and education programs on the MU campus," Tan says. "With this new department we will be able to expand the bioengineering faculty to contribute engineering expertise to the life sciences at MU and broaden the bioengineering graduate program to provide a multidisciplinary forum for research and graduate training."

Improving Mizzou's cyber image

REDESIGN A new look and feel for MU's home page is on the way

Mizzou's highway of information will undergo major construction and the changes are set to be unveiled by the end of winter semester 2001. A redesign of MU's home page is under way.

The redesign not only will be clean and easy to navigate, it also will provide opportunities to grow. Currently, MU's computing network houses several thousand web pages. "A huge percentage of these pages

are linked to MU's home page, which averages around 200,000 hits daily," says Lori Croy, coordinator of Web Communications.

"When we launched this site four years ago, we didn't have nearly the number of web pages and the amount of information to sort through and provide access to that we do now. With the incredible growth and increase in the use of the web, we need to approach in a different manner how we provide access to that information."

Over time, constant complaints about the site being

hard to navigate led to the decision to redesign. "One thing we wanted to do this time was to make sure we sought input from our web site users," Croy says.

In September, Web Communications conducted an online survey of internal and external users of MU's home page. "We wanted to assess how much people use the sections currently offered to see if those same areas should reappear on the redesigned version or if we were missing some relevant pieces of information," Croy says.

Of those who accessed the

survey, approximately 9 percent completed a survey, Croy says. "We were encouraged with the level of response we had. It told us that the internal audience, in particular, is interested in the topic."

Before the survey launched, Web Communications staff compiled a list of changes they thought should be made. According to the survey, they were on target. "Our users told us there was too much clutter on the home page, that finding certain types of information was difficult to do and that they were dissatisfied with the search engine," Croy says.

Comments in favor of changing or improving the

search engine have been turned over to Information and Access Technology Services who oversees that function on the site.

The responses showed that users want the redesign to include top level links to University Bookstore, the MU Libraries, event information, an online telephone directory and a virtual campus tour. For those who said they wanted a way to check e-mail from the home page, points of access have been added to the site's student and faculty and staff sections.

Navigation and organizational structure of the page will be the biggest task in the redesign, Croy says. "The challenge for us is having a home page that is as useful and as suitable for an external audience as it is for our internal users. We encourage anyone who has questions or comments about the redesign to e-mail me at croyl@missouri.edu."

Surfers will have fewer graphics to contend with in the redesign, Croy says. "We can increase our efficiency and improve download time by reducing the number of graphics and using the space on the home page more effectively."

Web Communications has worked toward the redesign for more than a year. The launch date is set for May 2001, but that could change, Croy says.

"Because we are looking at adding some customization options to the home page, there is a great deal of testing that needs to be done," Croy says. Details will be checked on every platform and with different browsers to ensure the reorganized information is accessible, logical and appropriate.

"If we miss the May deadline," Croy says, "it's because we're making sure we think about everything we need to and that we leave no stone unturned."

* * * * *

You and your Family are Invited to Celebrate the Season

Faculty Staff Retiree

Appreciation Night

Thursday December 7

5:30-8 p.m.

Enter through the doors of Computer Spectrum.

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calendar



Concerts & Plays

Thursday, November 16

THEATER SERIES: *Hamlet in Purgatory* will be performed at 8 p.m. tonight, Nov. 30, Dec. 1-2, and Dec. 7-9, and at 2 p.m. Dec. 10 in the Corner Playhouse. For ticket information, call 882-PLAY.

Sunday, November 26

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: The Vienna Choir Boys will perform at 7 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium. For ticket information, call 882-3781.

Wednesday, November 29

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: Kenny Rogers in *Christmas from the Heart* will be performed at 7 p.m. at the Hearnes Center. For ticket information, call 882-3781.

Thursday, November 30

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: Folk singer Judy Collins will perform a special Christmas program at 7 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium. For ticket information, call 882-3781.

Friday, December 1

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: *Christmas Bells*, performed by the Columbia Choral Ensemble and Columbia Handbell Ensemble, will be performed at 8 p.m. at the Missouri Theatre. For ticket information, call 882-3781.

STUDENT RECITAL: The Chamber Singers will perform at 8 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 1115 Locust St. A \$3 donation is suggested.

Conferences

Friday, November 17

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK CONFERENCE: The second annual Missouri Economic Outlook Conference will be held today from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Columns D & E, Reynolds Alumni Center. Patricia Pollard will present "The International Outlook." Phillip Miller, assistant research professor with the State and Regional Fiscal Studies Unit, will present "The National Economic Outlook." Edward Robb, director of the State and Regional Fiscal Studies Unit, will present "The State Economic Outlook."

Joseph Haslag, associate professor of economics, will present "The National Outlook: Missouri, the Business Cycle, and the Fed." Registration is required, contact 882-5565 or akers@missouri.edu.

Courses

CHILDBIRTH CLASSES:

◆ "Beginning Childbirth," held in University Physicians Medical Building, 1101 Hospital Drive, should be started three months before your baby is due. Cost: \$45. For more information or registration, call 882-6973.

◆ "Childbirth Preparation Classes" will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Fayette Medical Clinic, 308 S. Church St. Cost: \$25. Registration required, call (660) 248-2217.

HEALTH CONNECTION

EXERCISE CLASSES: The following classes are offered through the Health Connection in Parkade Center. For cost and registration information, call 882-1718.

◆ "Cardio-Kickboxing Classes" are held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 8 a.m. Saturdays.

◆ "Yoga Classes" are held at 4:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, and at 10:30 a.m. Saturdays.

◆ "Rebuild Program," a program that provides reconditioning and strength building for individuals recovering from illness or injury, is by appointment only.

Thursday, November 16

CHILDBIRTH CLASS: "For Big Kids Only," a program to help children 2-10 prepare for a new sibling, will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. tonight and Dec. 13 in the mezzanine of University Hospital and Clinics. Registration is required, call 882-6973.

Tuesday, November 21

ELECTRONIC LIBRARY WORKSHOP: "Using Library Databases and the Web for Philosophy/Religion" will be presented from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the electronic classroom II on the second floor of Ellis Library.

Tuesday, November 28

CRAFT STUDIO WORKSHOP: "Stained Glass Mosaics" will be presented from 6:30-9 p.m. in 203 Brady Commons. For more information, call 882-2889.

Wednesday, November 29

LIBRARY DATABASE WORKSHOP: A workshop on searching the PsycINFO database will be offered from 3:30-5 p.m. Nov. 29, and from 10-11:30 a.m. Dec. 20 at the Health Sciences Library. Registration is required, call 882-6141.

WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAM: "Steps to Success: Living Lean for Life," a five-week class, will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the International Diabetes Center classroom at University Hospital. For more information, call 882-2251.

WOMEN'S CENTER WORKSHOP: "Drumming Your Own HERstory" will be held at 7 p.m. in 229 Brady Commons.

Exhibits

ART FOR LIFE: An exhibit of oil and watercolor paintings by Frank Stack and ceramics and jewelry by Melanie Lising will be on display in the lobbies of University Hospital and Clinics and Ellis Fischel Cancer Center.

BRADY GALLERY: "Artist-Multimedia" by Jim Stevenson will be on display through Nov. 30. A reception will be held Nov. 17 from 4-6:30 p.m. in the gallery. Brady Gallery, located on the second floor of Brady Commons, is open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. The gallery will be closed Nov. 18-26.

BINGHAM GALLERY: "Out of the Institution," a showing of works by Museum of Art and Archeology staff, will include the works of three featured artists through Nov. 17. Bingham Gallery, located in the Fine Arts Building, is open Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY: The museum's exhibits focus on Native American cultures and the history and prehistory of Missouri. The museum, located at 100 Swallow Hall, is open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday to Friday.

MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY:

- Special Exhibits:**
- ◆ "Art of Devotion from Gandhara" is on display through Dec. 10.
 - ◆ "Jaguar's Realm: Ancient Art from Mexico to Peru" is on display through February 2001.
 - ◆ "Prints from Rubens' Medici Cycle" is on display through May 2001.
 - ◆ "Revolutionary Visions" is on display through June 2001.



training.

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<http://iatservices.missouri.edu/>



Parking & Transportation Services
Turner Avenue Garage
Level 2
882-4568

Please drive safely during the Thanksgiving Holiday.

All parking lots will be restricted during the Holiday break and will require the appropriate parking permit. Any student employee needing parking during the break may purchase a temporary permit at the Parking & Transportation office, Turner Avenue Garage, Level 2.

web.missouri.edu/~mubs/parking/parking.html

◆ "Wrapped Creatures: Animal Mummies from Egypt" is on display through August 2001. The museum, located in Pickard Hall, is open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 6-9 p.m. Thursday and noon-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

◆ "Art with an Attitude: The Best of John Darkow," works by a Columbia editorial cartoonist, is on display in the gallery through Dec. 22.

The gallery is open from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and is closed on Saturday.

◆ "Persuading the American Public: Poster Art from World War II" is on display in the north-south corridor.

◆ "St. Louis Post-Dispatch Editorial Cartoon Collection: The 1940 Election Trail" is on display in the east-west corridor.

The corridors are open from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday.

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES: The University Archives offers a number of online exhibits that document the history of MU. Links to the archives' exhibits are located at www.system.missouri.edu/archives/exhibitlist.html

Films

Thursday, November 16

MUSEUM FILM SERIES: *Heaven* will be shown from 7:45-10:45 p.m. in Ellis Auditorium.

Lectures & Seminars

Friday, November 17

CAMPUS WRITING
LECTURE: Linda Bergmann, professor and chair of English at

UM-Rolla, will present "Professional Writing: Five Steps to Clearer Prose" from 2-4 p.m. in N208 Memorial Union.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES SEMINAR: Conrad Labandeira from the Smithsonian Institute will present "The Generation of Associational Diversity on Land: Insects and Plants During the Past 420 Million Years" at 3 p.m. in 2-7 Agriculture Building.

Saturday, November 18

SURGERY GRAND ROUNDS: John Aucar, assistant professor of surgery, will present "Traumatic Coagulopathy: Adding Insult to Injury" at 9 a.m. in MA217 Acuff Auditorium in the Medical Sciences Building.

Monday, November 20

CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH SEMINAR: Frank Booth, professor of veterinary biomedical sciences, will present "IGF-I Rescues Old Skeletal Muscle Failing to Regrow from Disuse Atrophy" at noon in 133 Dalton Cardiovascular Research Center.

Monday, November 27

PHARMACOLOGY LECTURE: Tim H-M Huang, associate professor of pathology and anatomical sciences, will present "Profiling of Epigenetic Alterations in Breast Cancer Using CpG Island Microarray" at 11 a.m. in M558 Medical Sciences Building.

CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH SEMINAR: Paul van Haaren from the University of Amsterdam will present "Role of the Glycocalyx in Endothelial Cell Ligand Receptor Interaction" at noon in 133 Dalton Cardiovascular

Research Center.

Tuesday, November 28

ECONOMICS SEMINAR: James Adams from the University of Florida will present "The Influence of Federal Laboratory R&D on Industrial Research" at 2 p.m. in 211 Middlebush Hall.

Wednesday, November 29

MIDDAY GALLERY EVENT: Kathleen Warner Slane, professor of art history and archaeology, will present "Rome and Gandhara: Artistic Connections" at 12:15 p.m. in the Museum of Art and Archeology.

Thursday, November 30

NEUROSCIENCE SEMINAR: Feng Zhou from the Indiana University School of Medicine will present "The Serotonergic System and Its Signaling During Development" at 3:30 p.m. in MA217 Medical Science Building.

Friday, December 1

GEOLOGICAL STUDIES SEMINAR: John Nabelek from the University of Oregon will present "Northwest USA Lithospheric Structure" at 3 p.m. in 108 Geological Sciences Building.

Meetings

Thursday, November 16

FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING: The Faculty Council will meet today at 3:30 p.m. in S203 Memorial Union.

Special Events

EXERCISE AND NUTRITION PROGRAM: A 12-week program that offers one-on-one support needed to stay on track with weight-loss effort is offered through the Health Connection in Parkade Plaza. For cost and information, call 882-1718.

MEDICARE INSURANCE COUNSELING: Free information and advice is offered by Health Information Center staff counselors about Medicare options and paperwork. Call 882-6565 for an appointment.

VISION ASSESSMENT: Driving vision assessments are given from 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Health Information Center, Columbia Mall.

Thursday, November 16

THE GREAT AMERICAN SMOKEOUT: "Be Smoke Free in 2000-The Great American Smokeout," where you can take a computerized assessment to determine why you smoke, will be held from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. in the Health Information Center at Columbia Mall.

MUSEUM FLASHLIGHT TOUR: "In Quest of Ancient Artifacts" a flashlight tour for families with children between the ages of 7-12 will be held from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Museum of Art and Archaeology.

Friday, November 17

FLU IMMUNIZATIONS: Flu shots will be offered to University faculty and staff from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Jesse Hall. The immunizations are free to members of the University's HMO and POS managed health care plans who have a University physician as a primary care provider. Those participants are asked to bring their medical insurance card. For others, the fee is \$10.

Letting Missouri breathe easier

Today, the American Cancer Society is asking smokers nationwide to put down their cigarettes and take part in the annual Great American Smokeout. At the same time, Breathe Easy Missouri, a partnership of community coalitions directed by MU researchers, will sponsor several tobacco use prevention events across the state.

"For the most part, our effort is focused on clean air issues and youth smoking prevention," says Jim Davis, project director. "We also focus attention on those groups that tobacco companies often target, such as minorities and low-income individuals."

Breathe Easy Missouri's main goals are to educate the public about the dangers of exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke and addiction to tobacco products. To accomplish its goals, Breathe Easy Missouri helps provide the tools and support that local coalitions need to get started.

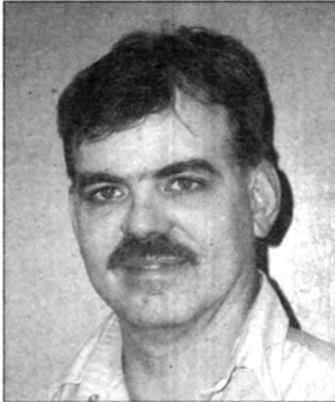
"We can't live in every community that we work with, so we mobilize the communities to do it themselves," said Lynne Isaacson, manager for the Tobacco Free Missouri Project. "Although it will take a while, we hope to eventually change the social norm. We're already seeing a significant shift in attitudes toward smoking."

Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering
Invites you to a Retirement Reception
in honor of
our Retiring Faculty

John Atkinson
Shankha Banerji
Charles Lenau
Henry Liu


Monday, November 20, 2000
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Reynolds Alumni Center
Great Room

Campus Facilities
Congratulates Two of Its Best




Mike Roberts
September's Employee of the Month

Mike, a Power Plant heavy equipment operator, is an easy-going guy who will finish the job before most others even realize something needs to be done.



Lloyd Shackelford
October's Employee of the Month

Lloyd, an electronic systems technician III-Fire Protection, is a diligent employee who keeps campus fire protection equipment operating properly.



Stress impacts healthy pregnancies

PSYCHOSOCIAL FACTORS

Study links moms' perceived stress to very low birth weight babies

Pregnant women who feel high stress levels are one and a half more times likely to deliver a baby of very low birth weight — the leading cause of infant mortality — according to a recent study by a social work researcher at MU. She tells health care providers that they can make a difference by addressing their pregnant patients' stress issues early.

"A lot of biological, social and behavioral factors combine to affect a pregnancy. We focused on how perceived stress, major life events and pregnancy attitudes affect low birth weight," said Marjorie Sable, associate professor of social work. "We found that all three of these psychosocial factors had an impact."

Sable and co-author Deborah Schild Wilkinson, assistant professor at the University of Michigan School of Social Work, studied data on 2,378 mothers for their article to be published

in the November/December issue of Family Planning Perspectives. They also made significant findings about the effects of pregnancy attitudes, or how women felt about being pregnant, and pregnant women's major life events.

As with perceived stress, women who denied their pregnancy were also one and a half times more likely to have a baby of low birth weight. Normal birth weight is defined as greater than 5 lbs. 8 oz.; moderately low birth weight is 3 lbs. 5 oz. to 5 lbs. 8 oz.; and very

low birth weight is less than 3 lbs. 5 oz.

"Pregnancy denial is definitely a risk factor. If you're not admitting you're pregnant, you're not going for prenatal care. Prenatal care has been proven to influence better birth outcomes such as higher birth weight," Sable said.

Their findings on the effects of major life events surprised them. While getting back with a husband or partner or experiencing a major injury, accident or illness were related to lower birth weight outcomes, taking out a mortgage or loan and death of a close family member seemed to be protective

factors with better birth outcomes.

All of these factors can contribute to perceived stress, or how much stress a pregnant woman thinks she is experiencing. "We feel it is important for anyone who works with pregnant women, not just in prenatal care situations, to be aware of these effects and help women identify causes of stress and reduce them," Sable said. "Such interventions with pregnant women have the potential to improve pregnancy outcomes."

Q&A

Q I don't have any problem with the new parking hang tags for faculty and staff, but why were they changed in the first place? The old style seemed perfectly fine. I've also heard that some folks weren't happy with the new tags. What's the problem, and will they be changed back next year?

A The old parking hang tags were rectangular plastic strips that hung vertically a few inches or more below a car's

rearview mirror. That prompted complaints from some drivers who thought the tags obstructed their vision and raised safety concerns, says Jim Joy, director of Parking and Transportation Services.

Because of those same safety concerns, other permit holders would remove their hang tag when they left work at the end of the day and then forget to put it back on when they returned to campus in the morning. They also complained about the old tags after they received tickets for parking without a permit.

"We reduced the size of the hang tags over the past several years, but we still received daily or weekly complaints," Joy says. "We decided to look at some other tag styles that were available."

As you know, the current parking tag is a plastic rectangle that hangs horizontally across the back of the rearview mirror and doesn't interfere with a driver's vision.

End of problem, right? Not necessarily. "Overall, the new tags have been very well accepted," Joy says. "But on some cars — for example on many Honda models — the rearview mirror attaches to the frame of the car rather than the windshield, and the tags don't hang properly."

To remedy that, the parking office can make a simple adjustment to the tag, Joy says, and he invites anyone experiencing a similar problem to come by the parking office on the second level of the Turner Avenue garage.

Another concern about the new tags was raised by a few faculty and staff whose cars have sensors built into the rearview mirror. The new tags can interfere with those sensors. Again, Joy says, his office can fix that by making a simple adjustment to the tags.

"We've had many, many positive comments about the new tags. People say they really don't interfere with their vision," Joy says. "We'll just see how the year goes. So far, more people are pleased with the tags than displeased. At some point this year we'll ask faculty and staff for their input before we decide whether to continue with the new style."

Have a question?

Then send it in to Mizzou Weekly's Q&A column. Our Q&A column provides answers to readers' questions about the policies, places and things that make the University such an interesting place to work. The questions should be of general interest to the campus community. They must deal with policy or information issues and not with personalities. Questions must be signed, however the identity of those who ask the questions will remain confidential. Send your questions to: Mizzou Weekly Q&A, 407 Reynolds Alumni Center or e-mail at publications@missouri.edu

The University Club
Board of Directors
cordially invites you to a reception
in honor of

Crystal Thomas

Tuesday, November 28, 2000
4:30 to 6:30 pm
Reynolds Alumni Center
Great Room (second floor)

Crystal recently accepted the position as General Manager at The Athenaeum Club at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, CA.

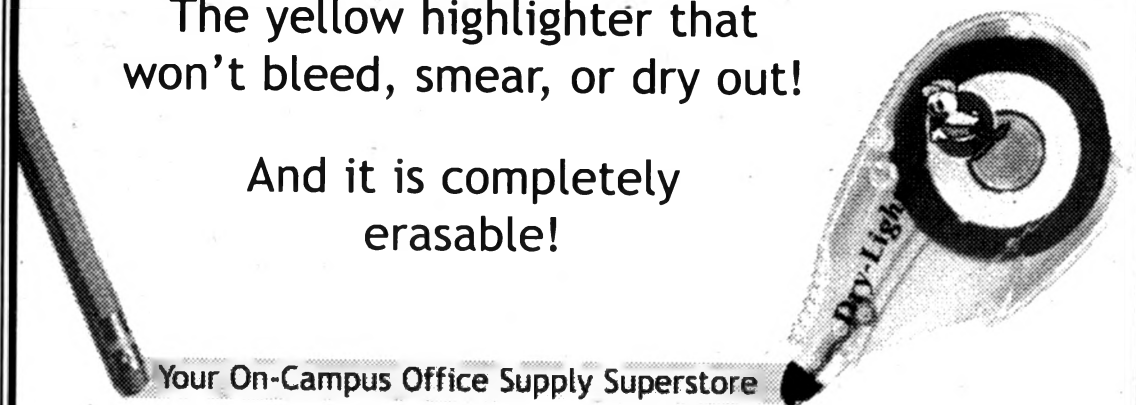
Please join the Board in recognizing and thanking Crystal for her service to the Club these past five and a half years.



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ARENA from Page 1

recent years, none had as much private funding, Alden said. "There's an opportunity here for us to seize on."

Plans call for the University to begin working with state lawmakers when the legislature convenes next January. Legislators will be asked to approve \$35 million in general obligation bonds that would be paid off with revenues separate from the University's annual state appropriation.

Curator Paul Steele asked if the new arena would be used for activities other than basketball. Alden said the primary use would be for men's and women's basketball, but that it could be used for such events as commencement exercises. Major concerts that currently aren't a good match with the Hearnes Center would be another possibility, he said.

Curator Connie Silverstein asked how the University would ensure that project costs would not go beyond the \$75 million price tag. "It's terribly important that we hold the project to \$75 million," Wallace said. The financing plan

includes a 6 percent contingency fund to cover unforeseen expenses. Alden said that revenue projections for the new arena are "extremely conservative."

Curator Malaika Horne asked if the arena project was consistent with the University's strategic plan. In his remarks to the board, Wallace noted that one goal of the campus strategic plan is to continue to support men's and women's intercollegiate athletics "and ensure that student athletes are provided opportunities for academic achievement, personal development and academic success."

"Our commitment to excellence in intercollegiate athletics is an important part of our overall strategy to enhance the success and profile of the University of Missouri-Columbia," Wallace said. "I believe we can achieve this goal as we focus primary attention on what we're here for — our academic mission and priorities. We want MU to be known for excellence in everything it does."

SUPPORT from Page 1

biggest concerns of new faculty members. "Time management," she says with a laugh. "How to best get all of the tasks accomplished."

New faculty often are besieged with all the details of getting their careers and research programs established, says Wall, professor of biochemistry. "The question for them becomes, 'When do I have time to actually think creatively?' And there go I as well. Certainly, we've all faced that."

But given the heavy workload of senior faculty, what prompts Wall to offer her time to younger professors just getting started? "I think the thing that is so nice about this program is that these folks have the opportunity to make their mark in the world," Wall says. "It's delightful to meet these young people, to be energized by them and to see the

University through fresh eyes."

Barbara Townsend, another faculty mentor, agrees that the program has benefits for established professors as well. "I think as full professors, one of our responsibilities is to give back. We have succeeded in this profession, now we have a chance to nurture our younger colleagues," says Townsend, associate dean of education for research and development.

"In a way it's a form of regeneration for us to think of our own careers and how we got to where we are," she adds. "I think about what I went through when I started out. This is an opportunity for me to treat others in the way I would like to have been treated."

Because the study of higher education is her academic specialty, Vicki Rosser might have had a leg up when she started this fall as a new assistant

Turf battles

WEEKEND WARRIORS

Turf scientists search for lower-cost alternatives for natural grass playing fields

Chad Follis uses his pressure machine to drive a set of cleats into the turf with the force of a 300-pound football player. Then he uses a torque wrench to rotate the cleats and measure the force needed to tear the sod.

Follis, a graduate student from Fredericktown, Mo., is one of the MU turf grass researchers working to come up with inexpensive alternatives to installing the costly natural grass playing fields used by professional or college teams.

"We want to produce a safe and durable playing surface for high schools and recreational athletic fields at a fraction of what it costs the pros or colleges," Follis says.

Replacing artificial playing surfaces with a natural grass in professional or college stadiums such as Missouri's Faurot Field can cost from \$800,000 to more than \$1 million. MU researchers feel that with the right shallower root-base blend they can sod a football field with natural grass for about \$50,000 to \$55,000.

The college and pro-team fields were developed from specifications used by the U.S. Golf Association for championship greens, the MU researchers say. These specifications call for a root-base of 12 inches of sand and peat

over four inches of pea gravel placed over drains.

"Basically, Faurot Field is a giant golf course green adapted for a different purpose," says Brad Fresenburg, MU turf grass researcher. "We want to get away from the golf course specifications and develop standards specifically for athletic fields."

In a search for alternatives, MU researchers now have 21 test plots constructed with six-inch rather than 12-inch root-zones. Plots range from 100 percent sand to 100 percent native clay loam soil. In between are different mixtures of sand and soil along with amendments such as peat, heat-processed clay and a mined mineral called zeolite.

More and more, athletic fields are being established with a sand base because of percolation and reduced compaction, Fresenburg says. But sand-based athletic fields lack stability, leading to player safety concerns. Such fields also can create problems with lack of initial and continued sod growth.

In cooler climate areas, root-zones for athletic fields are usually constructed in winter and planted with cool-season grasses in June. By July and August, the root systems of these grasses want to slow down physiologically due to heat stress. By the time football season arrives, the sod is prone to chunk or taking divots.

"We want to see if different root-zones result in a stronger field in a six-to-eight week growing period," Fresenburg says. "Some level of uniformity needs to be established for safe and playable fields at an economical price."

professor of educational leadership and policy analysis. But Rosser still had plenty of questions — for example, what campus resources were available to help her secure external research funding?

As a member of Colleague Circles, her mentors were able to steer her to the Office of Research and to the campus development effort. "What has really blown me away is to see the sort of support systems that are in place to help me get outside funding," Rosser says. "That's argued away the anxiety I might have had."

There have been some other benefits from the program, she says. With her research focus on higher education, she finds it intriguing that a major public university is taking an innovative approach to focus on the needs of junior faculty. It's also been a good opportunity to meet and

socialize with colleagues from outside her college.

"Every university has norms and cultures that vary from institution to institution," Rosser says. "The Colleagues Circles program allows us to ask questions about norms and expectations that we might not be able to ask in our own department or college. "Sometimes junior scholars don't want people to think they need the help. That can be a stigma in some institutions, but the way Missouri is handling this, you don't get that feeling at all."

Heppner and a number of other program organizers and mentors respond with an enthusiastic yes when asked if such a mentoring program would have been a boon to them when they were starting out.

"I think this would have been absolutely wonderful," Heppner says.

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PEOPLESOFT ORIENTATION

The MU Administrative Systems Project (ASP) Training Committee is holding a series of orientations to discuss PeopleSoft applications, modules, timeline and training, and to answer any of your questions. A survey regarding change management will also be given during the orientation.

Orientations will be held at the times listed below and you need only attend one.

Please register on-line by going to: <https://doc.missouri.edu/servlets/ASPRegTraining>

Note: Your PawPrint is necessary for registration. (Your PawPrint is the Outlook Exchange ID you use to log onto your e-mail.) If you have any questions, call IATS Help Desk at 882-5000.

All orientations are held in Allen Auditorium, Arts and Sciences Building.

November 27,	3:00-5:00 pm
November 28,	2:00-4:00 pm
November 30,	2:00-4:00 pm
December 1,	8:00-10:00 am
December 4,	3:00-5:00 pm
December 6,	3:00-5:00 pm



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