

MizzouWeekly

Kemperific

Meet the 10 Mizzou faculty members selected for the 2003 Kemper Teaching Awards.
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Bedside Technology

Will new electronic system cut patient paperwork?
Page 8

May 1, 2003

University of Missouri-Columbia

The spring general faculty meeting is at 3:30 p.m. May 6 in Memorial Union Auditorium.

Risk factor
MU scientists warn of health dangers from plastic.
Page 3

Musical journey

CREATIVE DISCOVERY

The world premiere of Mizzou's new musical drama is finally here

Tomorrow night, when the orchestra sounds the first notes to the musical score of *Corps of Discovery: A Musical Journey*, it will mark a new phase in the musical drama's long journey to the stage.

This original production has been sponsored by Mizzou to celebrate the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition. Selections from the three-act drama have been performed to standing ovations at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and at the University of Virginia.

Now, *Corps of Discovery* is coming home to Missouri for its world premiere from May 2 to May 4 at the historic Missouri Theatre. Tickets are going fast,

SEE Opera on Page 3



A FITTING CONCLUSION MU alumnus Dean Southern, who sings the role of William Clark, works with Mary Hodson, left, supervisor of the theater department's costume shop, and costume director Kerri Packard, to get just right fit for the May 2 world premiere of *Corps of Discovery*, MU's musical drama about the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Steve Morse photo

Northwest consolidation is on hold

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Time ran out to complete merger in this legislative session

Officials at Northwest Missouri State University and the University of Missouri System announced last week that they have decided to wait until the next legislative session to obtain approval from the General Assembly to bring Northwest into the UM System.

University officials had originally hoped to have the merger approved by the end of this legislative session. UM System President Elson Floyd and Northwest President Dean Hubbard said that they believe it is too late in the legislative session for the General Assembly to address the merger.

"The final three weeks of the session will be consumed

SEE Merger on Page 3

Setting standards for student success

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

MU faculty participated in a national dialogue about the skills needed for college success

As graduating high school seniors prepare to make a smooth transition to college, many are in for a rude academic awakening. Scores of incoming freshman, even the best, brightest and most diligent ones who easily meet admissions requirements, have trouble in entry-level courses.

For far too many freshmen, the transition is anything but smooth. Some take to university life like a duck to water; others struggle just to keep their heads above water.

In reality, admission requirements only hint at what is expected once students are

enrolled in college classes.

Mizzou and the Association of American Universities (AAU) are working to solve this problem through a new project entitled Standards for Success.

Three years ago, a group of AAU-university presidents requested the Standards for Success project to help improve the alignment between K-12 education reforms and university expectations. Four hundred faculty members from 20 AAU-member universities developed the materials in a series of meetings held around the country. The project was sponsored by the AAU and The Pew Charitable Trust.

Mizzou was one of the sponsoring universities, and more than 70 MU faculty members added their perspective to the discussion. They spent long hours at meetings on

campus discussing the knowledge and skills they felt students need for success in the first year of college at a major research university.

An introduction to the project report notes: "One of the most dominant themes raised by participants is the importance of the habits of mind students develop in high school and bring with them to university studies. These habits are considered by many faculty members to be more important than specific content knowledge."

Gil Porter, MU's former associate vice provost and director of general education, served as the campus liaison with the nationwide project. He describes the project as "intelligently conceived, comprehensive, meticulously researched, detailed and effectively organized.

"Standards for Success provides a major step forward in tightening the links between high schools and universities and thus increasing the chances for both achievement and personal satisfaction for our nation's students," Porter says. "Faculties, too, on both sides of the freshman class will profit from these thoughtful definitions of teaching and learning standards."

One tangible outcome of the project involves distributing college-readiness resources to each of the nearly 20,000 public high schools in the United States, as well as to state education departments and university leaders. Those resources include:

- The "Understanding University Success" booklet and CD-ROM, which contain knowledge and skills for university success. They contain a comprehensive listing of what university faculty expect from

students in entry-level courses. The listing is divided into six academic disciplines: English, mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences, second languages and the arts.

- A library of more than 250 university work samples and syllabi that illustrate the quality of work that AAU-university professors expect of freshmen.

- A state high school assessment database, which will provide detailed information on educational assessment policies and statistics in each state. It includes such information as average SAT and ACT scores, state expenditures per student and descriptions of state assessment tests.

These materials are free of charge to the high schools; however, a small fee is assessed for extra copies. They also will be available at no charge on the Standards for Success Web site at www.s4s.org.

Couch potatoes face increased cancer risk

Excess body weight may contribute to about 20 percent of all cancer deaths in women and 14 percent of all cancer deaths in men, according to a report last week from the American Cancer Society. According to Frank Booth, professor of biomedical sciences at MU's Health Activity Center, 70 percent of the U.S. population is putting themselves at risk.

"Physical activity is more powerful than any drug to prevent some of the most prevalent cancers," Booth said.

"If you become inactive you double the risk of colon cancer. We estimate that 19,000 premature colon cancer cases and premature deaths have been prevented by those who exercise more than the U.S. recommendations. However, approximately 70 percent of the U.S. population does not exercise as much as they should."

Hold the phone

For some advertising students at the School of Journalism, the chance to launch their careers and gain national exposure arrived early. Earlier

this month, two Nokia ads, created by four MU students and produced into television spots, began airing.

Last fall, MU served as the pilot school for Nokia's college advertising program, The New U. Students handled all aspects of the 30-second ad creation, including conceptualizing, copywriting, filming, editing and presenting.

"Working with a globally recognized client and developing concepts for a national ad campaign, all as a college student, is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," says MU senior Holli Coleman, who, along with Libby Hall, Liz

Underwood and Melissa Hillebrenner, was responsible for creating the spots.

In addition to the two selected ads, Nokia is showcasing eight additional ads produced by 16 MU students during the fall 2002 semester on its Web site www.nokiausa.com/newu.

Helping the homeowner

Homeowners looking to learn more about wastewater and stormwater management, gardening and horticulture can do so at a field day, from 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 3, at MU's Bradford Farm east of

Columbia.

MU researchers and extension specialists will present the latest information on septic and alternative wastewater treatments, soil erosion control and stormwater management.

"In addition, we'll have gardening and horticultural workshops," said Randy Miles, associate professor of soil sciences. "Information on organic gardening, hoop house technology for extending the growing season, and members of Boone County Master Gardeners will also be on hand."

The tale's in the toenails

SETTING THE STANDARD

Arsenic levels in drinking water are linked to increased risk of skin cancer

Scientists have known for decades that low levels of arsenic are dangerous to humans. Researchers have used this knowledge in working with the federal government to determine a safe limit of arsenic in drinking water.

Using toenails to determine arsenic exposure, an MU researcher has concluded that arsenic exposure at levels even 80

percent below current standards could increase the risk of skin cancer for people living in the northeastern United States.

"Monitoring levels of arsenic in the body can be problematic," says Steve Morris, a senior research scientist at the MU Research Reactor, who worked in collaboration with researchers at Dartmouth. "Measuring the arsenic level in blood and urine only reflects the recent exposure over the period of a day or so. Toenails can reflect exposure that occurred six or more months in the past and combine the

exposure that occurs over several weeks."

In the studies, which were published recently in the American Journal of Epidemiology, the research team reported two separate findings. First, arsenic concentration in drinking water that was at least 1 part per billion (ppb) was accurately reflected using toenail measurement. Second, people having a toenail-arsenic level that corresponded to approximately 10 ppb of arsenic in drinking water were at higher risk to develop skin cancer than those

with lower levels. The current U.S. drinking water-limit for arsenic is 50 ppb.

"Most authorities in the United States agree that the current drinking water arsenic standard of 50 ppb should be lowered," Morris says. "However, what the new standard should be is a tradeoff between our desire to lower cancer risks and the costs associated with removing arsenic from drinking water supplies. In a manner analogous to cholesterol and heart disease, the measurement of arsenic in toenails may in the future be used as a diagnostic screening test to identify individuals who have an increased lifetime risk of

those cancers associated with a person's exposure to arsenic from drinking water, diet and other sources.

Samples taken from more than 500 individuals in the Northeast were analyzed for arsenic by neutron activation analysis at the MU Research Reactor. When exposed to neutrons, arsenic produces a unique radiochemical signature that researchers can use to measure the arsenic in the toenails. Researchers found these toenail arsenic levels correlated with the concentration of arsenic in the drinking water and the quantity consumed.

Following their analysis, researchers found that the daily consumption of drinking water with an arsenic concentration greater than 10 ppb is associated with a one- to twofold risk of non-melanoma skin cancer. Similar studies are under way to assess the potential of increased risk of lung and bladder cancer.



Parking & Transportation Services

Turner Avenue Garage

Level 2

882-4568

Parking lots will be enforced during finals week and intersession. All permits for the summer session will be available for pick-up beginning May 19, 2003 at the Parking and Transportation office, Turner Avenue Garage, Level 2.

Summer employees or students needing parking during intersession may purchase permits at the Parking and Transportation office.

Employees who wish to cancel their permits for the summer MUST return their permits to the Parking office. Please remember that renewing the permit in the fall may involve assignment to a different area.

Call 882-4568 for more information.

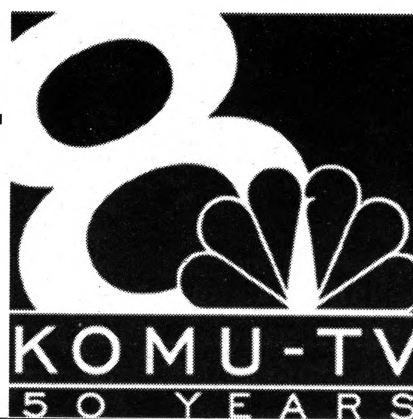
web.missouri.edu/~mubs/parking/parking.html

Separating Fear From Fact

The Real Threat of Terrorism

JOIN JIM RIEK

TONIGHT AT TEN



MizzouWeekly

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MU scientists warn of health dangers from plastic

RISK ASSESSMENT

Widely used plastic causes physiological abnormalities in lab studies

By nature, Fred vom Saal is not a crusader, but he doesn't want to wait 10 years for a governmental agency to ban a chemical that his research shows harms animals. He doesn't want to wait for thousands of people to show severe abnormalities from years of eating foods packaged in plastic.

Since their landmark findings on the low-dosage effects of bisphenol A (BPA) on mice, vom Saal, professor of biological sciences, and Wade Welshons, associate professor of veterinary biomedical sciences, have labored to warn the public and government agencies of the dangers associated with the prevalent chemical that is used in many plastic products, including baby bottles, food-storage containers and toys.

In 1997, the MU researchers published the first scientific article detailing the effects in

animals of very low environmental exposure to BPA. Vom Saal and Welshons performed a prostate and sperm count study on male mice and demonstrated that BPA caused prostate hyperplasia - excessive growth of prostate tissue, a pre-condition of cancer.

Since then, other studies, both theirs and those from other academic laboratories have shown that low-level exposure to BPA caused decreased sperm production in males, accelerated rate of growth, sex reversal in frogs, early onset of puberty, chromosome damage in female ovaries and a variety of behavioral changes.

Next week, vom-Saal will present new scientific evidence about this chemical at the Toxicology and Risk Assessment Conference, an annual conference sponsored by several governmental agencies, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, to examine the possible dangers of toxic chemicals.

During the conference near Dayton, Ohio, vom Saal will

argue that scientific findings in more than 35 publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals provide credible evidence that the chemical is harmful to every type of animal that has been studied, and this chemical is thus very likely to produce the same types of abnormalities in humans. These findings are based on independent academic research that has studied the effects of BPA.

"This evidence will ultimately convince federal regulatory agencies that BPA should be illegal for use in food and beverage containers," vom Saal says. "It's only a matter of time."

Bisphenol A is an artificial estrogen, but it is bonded together in a chain of bisphenol A molecules to create the plastic called polycarbonate as well as resins that are used to line cans and as dental sealants. Each day, consumers use several plastic products that contain BPA.

In the 1930s, a Nobel-prize winning scientist found that the chemical acts like estrogen. In

the 1950s, chemists linked BPA together to create polycarbonate material, and companies began using the chemical in plastics production. Today, BPA is one of the top 50 chemicals in production in the United States. It generates billions of dollars for the plastics industry, which produces about 2 1/2 billion pounds of the chemical per year.

Vom Saal says scientists have known for many years that the polycarbonate bond created by BPA was unstable and that the chemical would eventually leach into food or beverages in contact with the plastic.

Researchers also have known that supplemental estrogens are harmful to animals and people, especially during fetal development. Vom Saal, Welshons and other scientists were particularly interested in BPA because they knew blood proteins involved in protecting against effects of natural estrogens would not protect against the chemical. Thus, this artificial hormone could travel directly through the blood into cells and damage them.

The obvious concern today is that BPA may leach into food products, ranging from microwavable dinners to baby formula; that are packaged in polycarbonate plastic.

"The idea that this is a strong, durable product is an illusion," vom Saal says. "The chemists have known that the bisphenol A chemical is constantly leaching and coming into contact with food or water. It's going to damage your body."

With funding from the National Institutes of Health, Vom Saal and Welshons have shifted their research efforts toward an explanation of how and why BPA has such a powerful effect on an animal's endocrine system and reproductive organs. They have begun the process of identifying the molecular mechanisms at work when the hormone enters an animal's cells.

"There are safe alternatives," vom Saal says. "There are plastic products that do not have bisphenol A or other toxic chemicals. They can be made safely and used safely. There is no reason to keep using a chemical that has such a high potential to cause harm."

OPERA from Page 1

but to give more people in mid-Missouri the opportunity to see the production, a special dress rehearsal will be open to the public tonight, May 1, at 7 p.m. Tickets are available through the University Concert Series at 882-3781.

Just like the hardy band of explorers from two centuries ago, the cast and orchestra will be shoving off on a voyage of creativity and discovery.

Beginning with its inception nearly two years ago, all the hard work that has gone into this production took nearly as long as the original expedition. *Corps of Discovery* also took the same sort of teamwork and attention to detail that brought success to Lewis and Clark.

Pamela Legendre was working in New Orleans on a musical production of *Annie* when she was recruited as artistic director and conductor of *Corps of Discovery*. She says this new project has become the highlight of her career because of wonderful collaborations with people from around campus.

"It occurs to me that the uniqueness of this production will not only be the piece itself — this new American musical drama — but it will be, for the most part, a University of Missouri product," says Legendre, assistant professor of music and director of Show-Me Opera.

"Along with our production

team, the cast includes alumni who are distinguished singers in their own right, members of Show-Me Opera and students in music and theater. To make this picture complete, the orchestra is comprised of the School of Music's faculty and student instrumentalists."

The MU production team called on nationally known artists to compose the musical score and write the libretto. Composer Michael Ching is general artistic director of Opera Memphis. Librettist Hugh Moffatt is a singer and songwriter who has released seven highly acclaimed country music albums and toured around the world.

Patrick Atkinson, professor and chair of theater, designed the scenery. The stage background he created is adapted from the original map that William Clark made after he returned from his journey.

Trying to recreate settings from along the expedition's 8,000-mile course would have been impossible. "We had to go with what is more or less a symbolic piece of scenery," Atkinson says. "In a way it was very liberating."

It also was a challenge to fit everything on the Missouri Theatre stage, which was originally built as a movie theater. "There was just barely enough space backstage to accommodate the actors," Atkinson says

MERGER from Page 1

with resolving the state budget crisis and working through legislation that has been out there since January," Hubbard said. "There simply isn't time to address the merger this session, and we want to be sure that legislators have plenty of time to discuss the merits of this important issue."

The two presidents said work will continue over the final weeks of this session to educate members of the General Assembly about the benefits of the merger. "This is a new idea, and we have received an extremely warm response from legislators, but they would like to take more time to consider the matter," President Floyd said.

UM and Northwest officials concluded two days of meetings last week addressing details of the proposed merger. Floyd and Hubbard will continue to work on details of the merger until the next legislative session.

Get noticed.

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Call Jamie at 884-1278
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3rd Annual School of Health Professions Student/Faculty Research Poster Presentation

Friday, May 2, 2003
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Lewis and Clark Hall Lobby

Need to keep things together? We have everything from super glue to Elmer's.

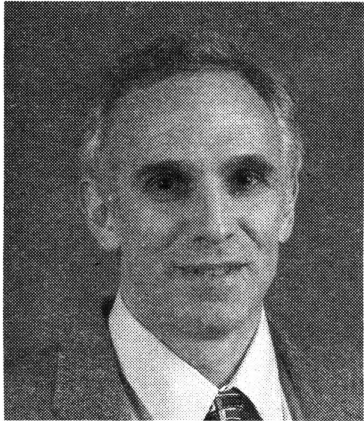
Stock #	Description	Price
0105	Super glue pen	\$1.40 ea
0108	Glue stick	\$0.84 ea
0110	Rubber cement, 4 oz.	\$0.95 ea
0110A	Rubber cement, 1 quart	\$5.42 ea
0287A	Elmer's glue, 4 oz.	\$0.78 ea
0287C	Elmer's glue, 1 gallon	\$9.31 gal

General Stores

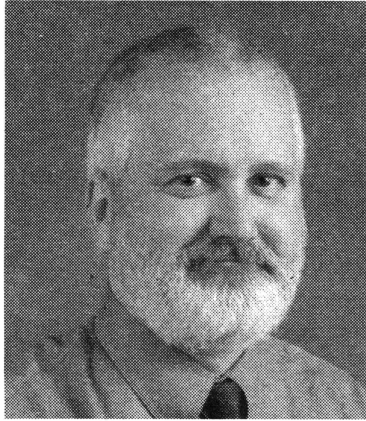
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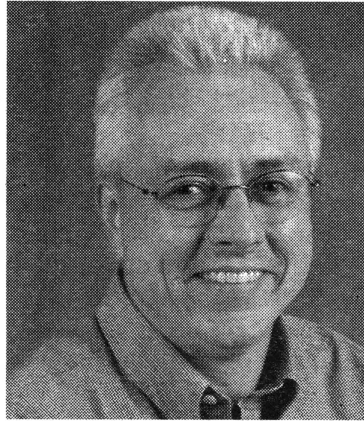
Rewarding Mizzou's master teachers



Charles Borduin
Professor
Psychological Sciences
College of Arts and Science



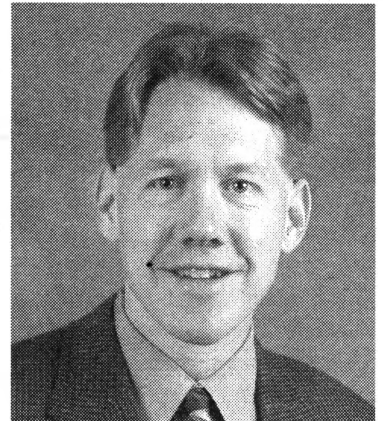
Thomas Crowe, Associate Professor
Industrial and Manufacturing
Systems Engineering
College of Engineering



Jan Dauve, Associate Professor
Agricultural Economics
College of Agriculture, Food and
Natural Resources



Deborah Huelsbergen
Assistant Professor
Art and Graphic Design
College of Arts and Science



Steven Keller
Associate Professor
Chemistry
College of Arts and Science

As the instructor in large survey courses of more than 300 students, Charles Borduin brings the same instructional focus that he does in his role as a one-on-one mentor for graduate students. His goal is to help all his students develop intellectual passion. That means making his courses relevant to their lives.

"I am passionate about the discipline of psychology and its applications to important social problems, such as violent crime and child abuse, and I try to convey that passion in each of the courses I teach," Borduin says.

Another important teaching goal is to spark intellectual curiosity in his students. One method he uses to light that fire of learning is to give students the opportunity to participate in his nationally recognized research program. Borduin says he enjoys helping students see the relevance of thinking like a scientist and relying on research findings to make informed decisions in their everyday lives and careers.

"He did more than just teach facts," a former student says. "He explained the meaning and importance behind the field of psychology. The classes were exceptionally interesting; he really made an impact on many students."

Borduin also supervises advanced graduate students as they learn the skills they will need to counsel their own clients in the future. A former doctoral student of Borduin's who is now a faculty member herself says she cannot imagine a more skilled instructor.

"He pushed us to do the work that would make us better clinicians, rather than simply do what was comfortable," she says. "Dr. Borduin conveys a sense of warmth, acceptance and genuine liking to students that leaves each one feeling competent and valued."

As an instructor, Thomas Crowe works to make his classes hands-on. But even more important, Crowe wants his teaching to be minds-on.

"What sets him apart is his passion for teaching, and most importantly his passion for improving each and every course he teaches," says a peer. "This is true whether he is teaching a course for the first time or the 10th time. He takes teaching seriously and is very concerned about what and how students learn."

Students say the warm and friendly classroom environment make it easy and fun to learn. One student had this to say about Crowe's teaching style: "Group discussions, real-world case studies, being allowed to disagree, all in an engineering class? Now that's worth the tuition."

Colleagues say that Crowe not only attracts good students, but knows how to motivate them to do their best work. His innovative teaching approaches result in unique learning experiences for his students. For instance, students in one of his recent graduate courses acted as consultants for MU's Graduate School to help redesign the admissions process.

Crowe landed a National Science Foundation grant to develop a three-course sequence in entrepreneurial innovation in which engineering and business students develop and design a product. The students take an idea from conception to production and learn what is involved in starting a business.

Crowe's wealth of contacts in the business world allow him to add different perspectives to his classes. "Nothing gets a student's attention quite like the venture capitalist for Hotmail telling them the do's and don'ts of presenting a business plan," says a colleague. "I'm still amazed Tom convinced one of the top venture capitalists in the country to fly in from Silicon Valley to talk to our students."

Some people have called economics "the dismal science," but not Jan Dauve. Each semester he teaches hundreds of students in large introductory sections of agricultural economics.

"Economics is about decision-making," Dauve says. "Most of my students are first-year college students who have little appreciation for the value of basic economics in sound decision-making."

"Knowledge about how to approach decision-making is an invaluable asset regardless of the student's background, age or professional aspirations. I want them to know how valuable the content can be."

His students say Dauve meets that goal and then some. "Dr. Dauve has a passion for what he teaches and it shows," says one former student. "Using real-life examples we could relate to, he taught economics as a dynamic science affecting our daily lives. I began seeing the economic theories I was learning at work in everyday life."

A faculty colleague says students describe Dauve as an understanding and "in touch" professor.

"I can see why they like him," that colleague says. "He professes at their level, uses examples from their lives, is sure they always understand his material and he readily makes himself available to ones who don't get it in class."

In addition to his stellar teaching reputation, Dauve is known as a caring and considerate mentor and adviser to nearly 100 students at any given time. As he constantly works to refine and improve his teaching skills, colleagues know that he's generous in passing on those tips and techniques that make classroom presentations stand out.

Another colleague puts it this way: "Jan Dauve is a professor's professor."

In her six years at MU, Deborah Huelsbergen has focused on developing trust in her classroom. Students are more likely to take risks when they trust their classmates and instructor, she says. "I believe in making the classroom a place where no idea is overlooked and nothing is too far-fetched or outrageous to try."

Huelsbergen developed several courses for the art department, including Graphic Design I that emphasizes identification, understanding and use of visual phenomenon as controllable communication tools; Graphic Design II that introduces students to the discipline, function and tradition of typography as it relates to visual/verbal communication; and Graphic Design V, a course designed to position students for specific future career choices.

She keeps herself updated on technology in teaching, and Huelsbergen's artwork has won numerous awards, as has her teaching. In 2001 alone, she was nominated for a Students' Choice Award, Greek Week Outstanding Teacher, and Provost's Junior Faculty Teaching Award.

According to student evaluations, her classes provide them opportunities to explore new avenues of art and stretch their creativity. "We were able to explore different ways to complete each assignment," says one student. "She always lightened the mood and truly seems to care about the students."

A student in her Graphic Design V class said, "A genuine interest in the students' learning and an unparalleled enthusiasm for the subject matter makes her one of those teachers that really makes you want to succeed."

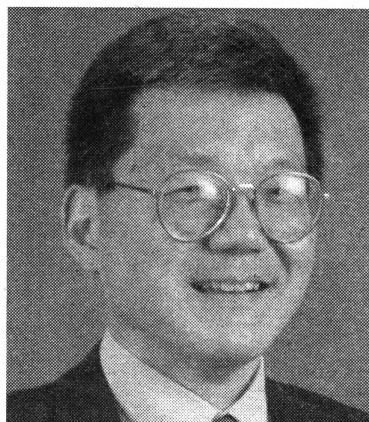
What makes teaching special to Huelsbergen? "Helping students discover what it is they love to do," she says, "and then make a successful career of it."

Steven Keller consistently ranks high on students' "if-he's-teaching-it-take-it" list. Keller, who came to MU in 1995, has proved to be a versatile instructor, teaching the entire range of classes in the chemistry department. Students and colleagues alike say his passion for chemistry is apparent and infectious in all classroom settings. He has received numerous teaching awards including the Most Inspiring Professor Award and Excellence in Education Award.

"Fascinating" is what students call the one-hour honors course on the history of science he developed. "As we devoured James Burke's *The Day the Universe Changed*, our eight-person class debated evolution, wrote limericks about influential scientists and created poster presentations about the researcher of our choice," recalls one student. "It is hard to fathom a professor for whom I would write both a research paper about quantum computing and a creative dialogue where Einstein, Planck and de Broglie discuss how the nature of the atom relates to a pepperoni pizza. But Dr. Keller's assignments consider science from multiple angles, forcing his students to see beyond the chemical equation."

Keller's involvement with students extends beyond the classroom. He serves as an adviser to the Wakonse Residence, a living and learning community in Hatch Hall. In addition, he is a faculty adviser for Zou Crew and Tiger's Lair, the student cheering sections at MU basketball and football games. "I believe the notion that a professor is an actual human being, while coming as a complete surprise to many students, has helped my students get more connected to the material from seeing the nonacademic side of their professor," Keller says.

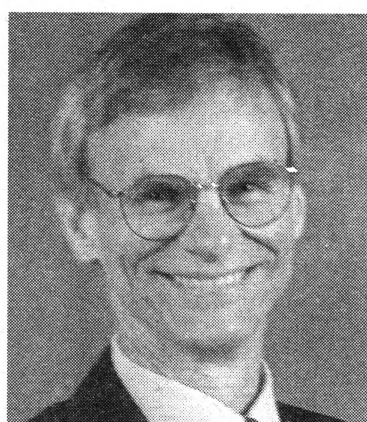
Since they were established in 1991, the William T. Kemper Fellowships for Teaching Excellence have honored 120 of MU's finest professors for their dedication to providing quality in the classroom.



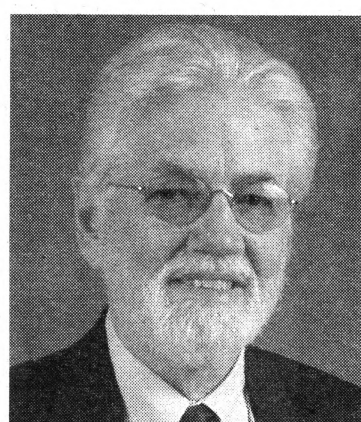
Lawrence Okamura
Professor
History
College of Arts and Science



Patricia Okker
Associate Professor
English
College of Arts and Science



Stephen Pallardy
Professor of Forestry
College of Agriculture, Food and
Natural Resources



Don Ranly
Professor
Journalism
School of Journalism



Barbara Wallach
Associate Professor
Classical Studies
College of Arts and Science

His students say that Lawrence Okamura's singularly humane approach to the humanities make him stand out as an instructor. They say that he is the teacher they talk to their parents about, the professor who spurs them to do their very best work.

One former student still remembers a meeting he had scheduled with Okamura. "It was in the summertime, and Professor Okamura arrived right on time, slightly out of breath and bathed in sweat," he recalls. "He had not wanted to be late for our appointment, not even by a minute. He has never considered his own time to be more important than that of his students."

As a historian, Okamura's academic specialty is in Roman history. The classes he teaches range from large lecture sections of survey courses to tiny graduate readings classes. "Recognizing that most undergraduates will not become professional historians, I have created courses to satisfy their needs as citizens and as educated individuals, irrespective of major," he says. One of his instructional goals is to teach his students methods for "decoding" unfamiliar cultures.

Colleagues say the breadth of Okamura's teaching efforts is almost staggering. He collaborates in the campus ancient studies program and teaches regularly in the Honors College humanities sequence. He is an enthusiastic participant in the Campus Writing Program and regularly offers writing intensive courses to his students. Okamura also is in the forefront of MU's attempt to bring an international perspective to its curriculum.

"Larry Okamura has a passion for learning," says a faculty colleague, "and he seems to bequeath this virtue to his students."

Patricia Okker, who teaches American and women's literature, believes in challenging students and providing them essential information, but at the same time providing them with enough freedom so that they can experience their own process of discovery. "I like my students to know things," she says, "but I'm much more interested in that they know how to learn, how to question, to explore, to theorize, to wonder."

She adds a different twist to being a role model in the classroom, having students see her as someone figuring something out rather than as the person with all the answers. "One of the more outrageous things I do as a teacher is assign, on occasion, books I've never read," she says. She chooses the books carefully, but reads them along with the students. "Rather than guide discussion toward some predetermined end, I can show students how to ask a puzzling question and how to pursue its various answers."

She says the best way to enable students to learn is to emphasize writing in the classes. Since coming to MU in 1990, she has taught 13 writing intensive courses. She's also directed five undergraduate theses, served on seven master's thesis committees, and 16 committees for students who have completed the PhD degree.

"I welcome these opportunities to work closely with students and try to encourage them to take intellectual risks, to ask questions they cannot immediately answer, to be open to the kinds of answers their research suggests," she says.

About Okker, a colleague says, "Her students have resolved to emulate not only her methods as a teacher, but her force of character, her sense of mission and her belief in the process of education itself."

After taking a forestry class with Stephen Pallardy, students say a walk in the woods will never be the same. "His excitement and enthusiasm for trees is astounding, down to the last miniscule detail," says a current student. "It is impossible to deny his love for the outdoors and even more impossible to resist acquiring the same respect and admiration for the forests and trees that grow within them."

Equally astounding, colleagues say, is his willingness to share that knowledge. "It is rare to find a full professor who is so unselfish with his time and equipment outside of his own research group," says one faculty member. "Dr. Pallardy treats all students as if they were his own graduate students."

As a nationally eminent researcher in the field of plant-water relations, he weaves the latest research into his teaching. "In these times, when diminishing budgets result in elimination of laboratory courses and we are turning to in silico reality, Dr. Pallardy uses his research lab as a classroom and uses the campus, the forests and environments of rural Missouri as his classroom and laboratory," says a professor who works with him.

Pallardy is the co-author of three textbooks that are considered tops in the field. Students know him as a patient and considerate mentor. Junior faculty rely on him for advice on academic and professional issues.

"Steve is a throwback to the professor of the past," says another colleague. "His students, whether graduate or undergraduate, are his top priority. In spite of being widely acclaimed as a world-class researcher, his students come first and he makes little distinction between a sophomore in his dendrology class and a PhD candidate. He finds the time to give each student the quality time they require."

Don Ranly has been a member of the MU faculty for 30 years and head of the magazine sequence since 1976. During this time, he's molded college students into ethical, thoughtful, skilled professional journalists.

His students rave about his enthusiasm and engaging lectures, and note that the best thing about his classes is the teacher himself. "Dr. Ranly possesses a unique ability. He both knows the material and can convey that understanding to his students," says one student. "He is one of the best professors I have ever had."

Colleagues say Ranly's lessons remain memorable with the passage of time partly because his scholarship is rooted in experience. Before coming to MU, he worked as a newspaper reporter, magazine editor, weekly columnist, radio host as well as a television producer and director. He keeps up-to-date not only by teaching MU students, but practitioners in the field. The tireless educator has talked to more than 950 journalism conferences, press associations, corporate tutorials and writing programs, and has served as a writing coach for newspapers and magazines all over the country. He is a co-author of the widely read textbooks *News Reporting and Writing*, *Telling the Story: Writing for Print, Broadcast and Online* and *Beyond the Inverted Pyramid*.

Ranly's love of his job and dedication to his students are exemplary. "Ranly is the kind of teacher whom administrators would like to be able to clone," one peer says. "The integrity, passion and intelligence he brings to his job as a teacher does honor to our profession."

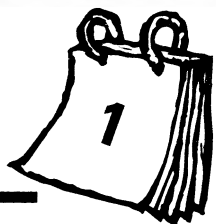
Regardless of the level or range of classes Barbara Wallach teaches, her instructional goals are the same: to communicate to students some of her enthusiasm for education in order to stimulate their imaginations and develop in them a sense for critical thinking, involving themselves in the learning process, and fostering respect for other cultures and other ways of viewing the ancient and modern worlds.

To draw students into direct class participation, Wallach may divide her Murder and Mayhem course into defense and prosecution teams, witnesses, a jury and a crowd of Athenian or Roman bystanders. She allows time for planning before staging an in-class trial. Direct participation, she says, makes students feel that they are a part of the class, not passive recipients of boring material. "They form study groups, are less intimidated about asking questions and find that, in spite of themselves, they enjoy learning," she says.

Wallach incorporates her own research in to her classes, particularly her interests in Graeco-Roman rhetoric and oratory, and the literature of the Roman republic. "My research feeds off of my courses, even as my research supplies material to enrich my classes," she says.

Her concern for students doesn't stop with academics. Wallach doesn't only serve as a teacher, but as an "unofficial mentor" to faculty members and students. A peer wrote, "There's nothing formal about this, no title proclaiming her departmental mentor, nothing that requires her to spend hour after hour in her office listening to sob stories. That's just the way she is: a selfless person who cares sincerely about other people, not just what they're learning, but on how they're feeling."

calendar



Concerts & Plays

Friday, May 2

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: The Show-Me Opera will present the world premiere of *Corps of Discovery, A Musical Journey*, a work commissioned by MU to celebrate the Lewis and Clark bicentennial, at 7 p.m. today and May 3 with a 2 p.m. matinee May 4 at the Missouri Theatre. For ticket information call, 882-3781.

Saturday, May 3

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: The Missoula Children's Theatre will present *Treasure Island* at 2 and 7 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium. For ticket information, call 882-3781.

Wednesday, May 7

UNIVERSITY CONCERT SERIES: New York Chamber Soloists will perform Valdi's *The Seasons* at 8 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium. For ticket information, call 882-3781.

Conferences

Friday, May 9

MEDICAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE: "Family Practice Update" will be held from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. today and May 10 in the Reynolds Alumni Center. This two-day conference will discuss hormone replacement therapy; uses and abuses of anticoagulants; prevention, screening and intervention for osteoporosis; sleep apnea and more. For more information, call Shirley Walters at 882-0366 or by email at walterssj@health.missouri.edu.

Exhibits

BINGHAM GALLERY:

Ceramics by Yukari Kashihara are on display through May 9. There will be a closing reception in the gallery from 5-7 p.m. May 9. The gallery, located at A125 Fine Arts Building, is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY:

"Tradition and Change: Art from Oceania" is on display.

"Master Drawings from the Permanent Collection" is on display through spring 2003. "Celebrating An Age When Books Were A Work of Art" is on display through May 25. "Selections of Ancient Glass," an exhibit in memory of Gladys C. Weinberg is on display through 2003.

The museum, located in Pickard Hall, is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday.

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

- "What Wondrous Life: The World of George Husmann," an exhibit about the father of Missouri's wine industry, is on display through June in the corridor gallery.
- "Objects Worthy of Notice: The Wildlife Encountered by the Corps of Discovery" is on display through June 27 in the main gallery.

The main gallery is open from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Corridor galleries 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 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 libraries at Mizzou at system.missouri.edu/archives/librarex.html

Lectures & Seminars

Friday, May 2

LEWIS & CLARK EVENTS:

- A roundtable discussion on MU's new musical drama, *Corps of Discovery*, will feature the composer Michael Ching and the librettist Hugh Moffatt from 2-3:30 p.m. in Waters Auditorium. Ray Wood, professor emeritus of anthropology, and history faculty members Susan Flader and Jeff Pasley also will take part in the discussion.
- Sam Abell, *National Geographic* photographer and director of

the Center for Photographic Projects in Santa Fe, N.M., will present "Lewis and Clark: Then and Now," as well as a slide presentation of the Lewis and Clark Trail from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in 100 Stewart Hall.

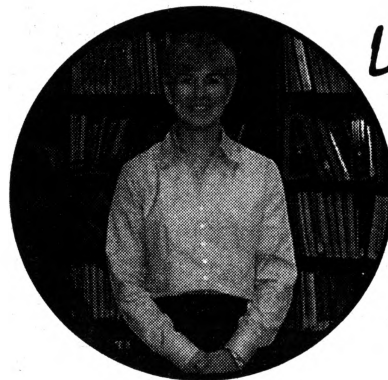
Monday, May 5

SOIL SCIENCE SEMINAR:

Geovanne Silva Stinghen, a graduate student soil science, will present "Improved Nitrogen Fertilizer Recommendations for Soils Incorporating a Simple Measurement of Soil Physical Properties" at 4 p.m. in 123 Natural Resources Building.

2003

Excellence in Teaching with Technology Award Winners



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Education

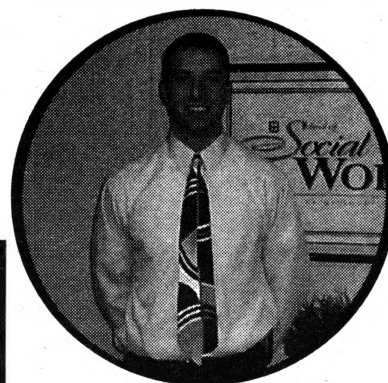
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Jana Hawley

Human Environmental Sciences



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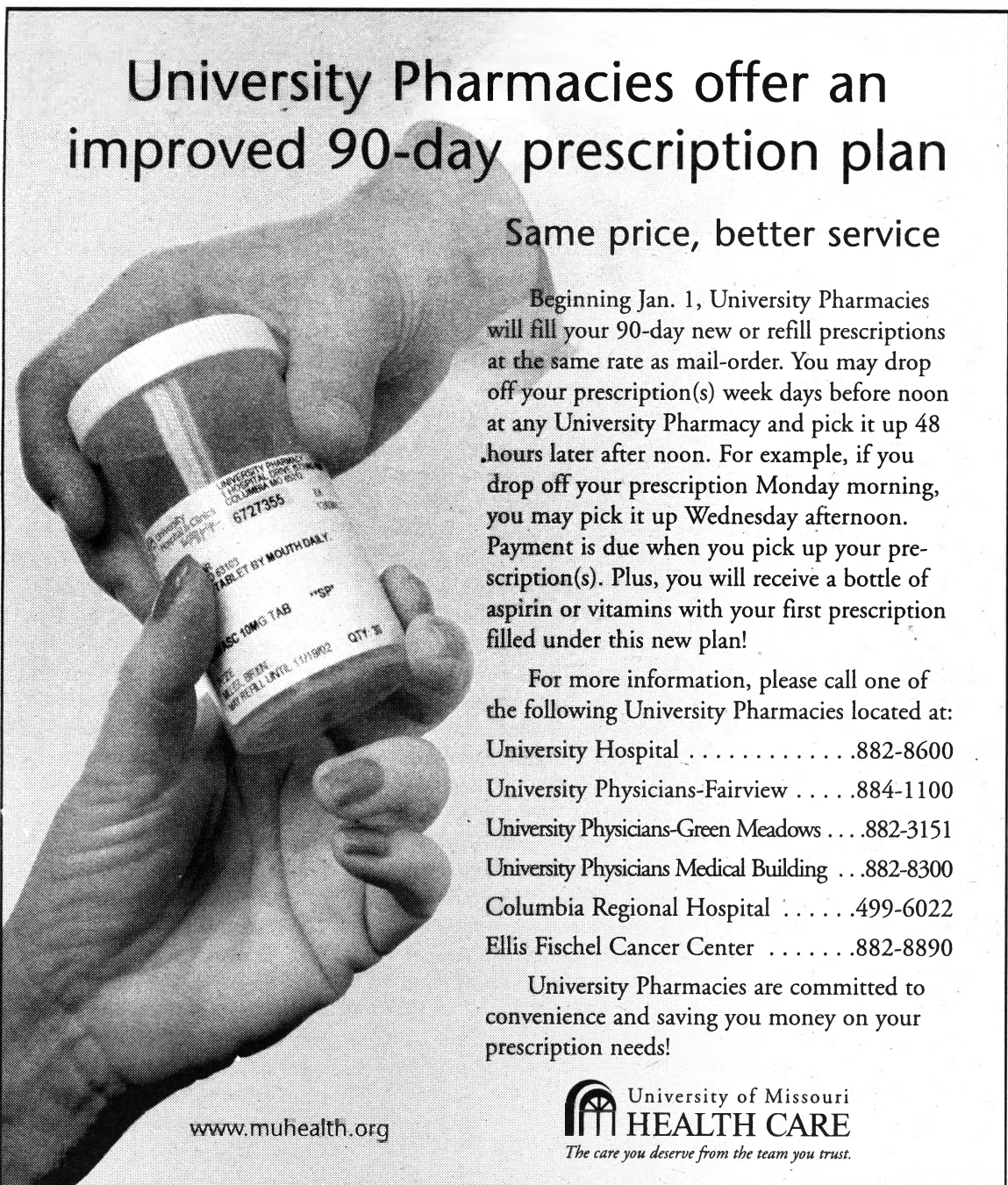
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- Ellis Fischel Cancer Center882-8890

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www.muhealth.org



Tuesday, May 6

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

SEMINAR: Marc Brock will present "There Ought to be a Law(n): Invasion of High Alpine Ecosystems by the Exotic Dandelion *Taraxacum Officinale*" at 3:30 p.m. in 18 Tucker Hall.

HEALTH INFORMATICS

SEMINAR: Marjorie Skubic, assistant professor of computer engineering and computer science, will present "Equine Gate Analysis and Visualization Methods" from noon-1 p.m. in 426 Clark Hall.

Meetings

Thursday, May 8

STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL: The MU Staff Advisory Council will meet at 1:15 p.m. today in S206 Memorial Union.

FACULTY COUNCIL

MEETING: The MU Faculty Council will meet at 3:30 p.m. today and June 12 in S203 Memorial Union.

Special Events

Thursday, May 1

SPRING GARDEN SALE: The Ellis Fischel Cancer Center Auxiliary will hold their annual spring garden sale today from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and from 8 a.m.-noon tomorrow in the hospital lobby located at 115 Business Loop 70 W. Proceeds will benefit the auxiliary's staff scholarship fund.

classifieds

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Corps of Discovery
A Musical Journey



May 2, 3, 4, 2003 (\$18, \$20, \$22, children \$12)

World Premiere — Debut of Corps of Discovery,
A Musical Journey at the Historic Missouri Theatre in Columbia, Missouri.
Tickets are available through the University Concert Series box office at (573) 882-3781 or (800) 292-9136. Or visit www.concertseries.org.

As the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition approaches in 2004-2006, the nation will be reexamining this great voyage of discovery.



As a unique contribution to the bicentennial commemoration, the Show-Me Opera company at the University of Missouri-Columbia will perform a newly commissioned opera depicting the hardships and triumphs of the Lewis and Clark expedition and the Corps of Discovery on their adventure on the Missouri River, over the mountains to the Pacific Ocean and back.

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Bedside technology touches patients' lives

ON TRACK New system can cut through patient-care paperwork

Tasks such as completing paperwork and searching for charts and missing records often dominate patient-caregiver relationships in nursing homes. By the time the necessary information is obtained, the caregiver needs to move on to another patient. In an effort to cut down on administrative holdups and increase quality patient-caregiver interaction, a new "bedside technology" system is being tested by MU nursing researchers.

Created by OneTouch Technologies Corporation, the system, also called OneTouch, is designed to streamline record keeping and improve the quality of resident care. In addition to keeping staff updated on a patient's status, OneTouch will help prevent errors in administering medication and will provide real-time clinical warnings for caregivers.

Bedside data is collected with personal digital assistants and mobile wireless touchscreen computers to track a patient's vital information and ensure accountability. Each patient and

caregiver is assigned an "iButton," which is scanned during each interaction and records the presence of both parties.

The date and time of every interaction between patient and caregiver is recorded. The system eliminates handwritten nurses' notes and replaces them with easy-to-read, retrievable data, which can then be searched for a full view of each resident's condition and care.

"This system allows us to track critical information about a patient's status easily and efficiently and gives our patients the quality care they deserve,"

says Marilyn Rantz, professor of nursing.

MU researchers will conduct the two-year test in as many as to six nursing homes in Missouri. Researchers will then compare results from the use of the computers to different systems used in other nursing homes to improve care.

The study will evaluate whether the use of bedside technology improves the collection of daily measures of patient care, whether it improves the outcomes of care, and whether pairing computer technology with clinical on-site consultation enhances patient

outcomes.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are funding the study with an \$800,000 grant.

"This project will make a real difference in our seniors' lives," says Sen. Kit Bond, R-Mo., and chairman of the federal Aging Subcommittee on the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. "Improving the quality of care for our nation's elderly in nursing homes is one of my top priorities. Innovative technology like the OneTouch system is an important part of the solution. Being able to secure federal funds for a project like this that will increase the quality of life for so many seniors in Missouri is the best part of my job."

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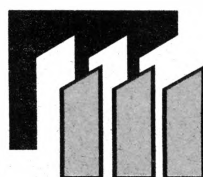
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