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**Sept. 15, 2005**  
University of Missouri-Columbia

## Bailing out Katrina's victims

**PITCHING IN**

MU community reaches out to storm's survivors

As images of a devastated Gulf Coast flooded television screens last week, many people reflected on how helpless they felt to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina. After that initial shock, the MU community has joined together to do what it can to make a difference for those who survived.

Mizzou has worked to accommodate college students from the affected area who want to get back in the classroom, and campus organizations are pitching in to raise money and supplies that will make the survivors' lives just a little bit easier.

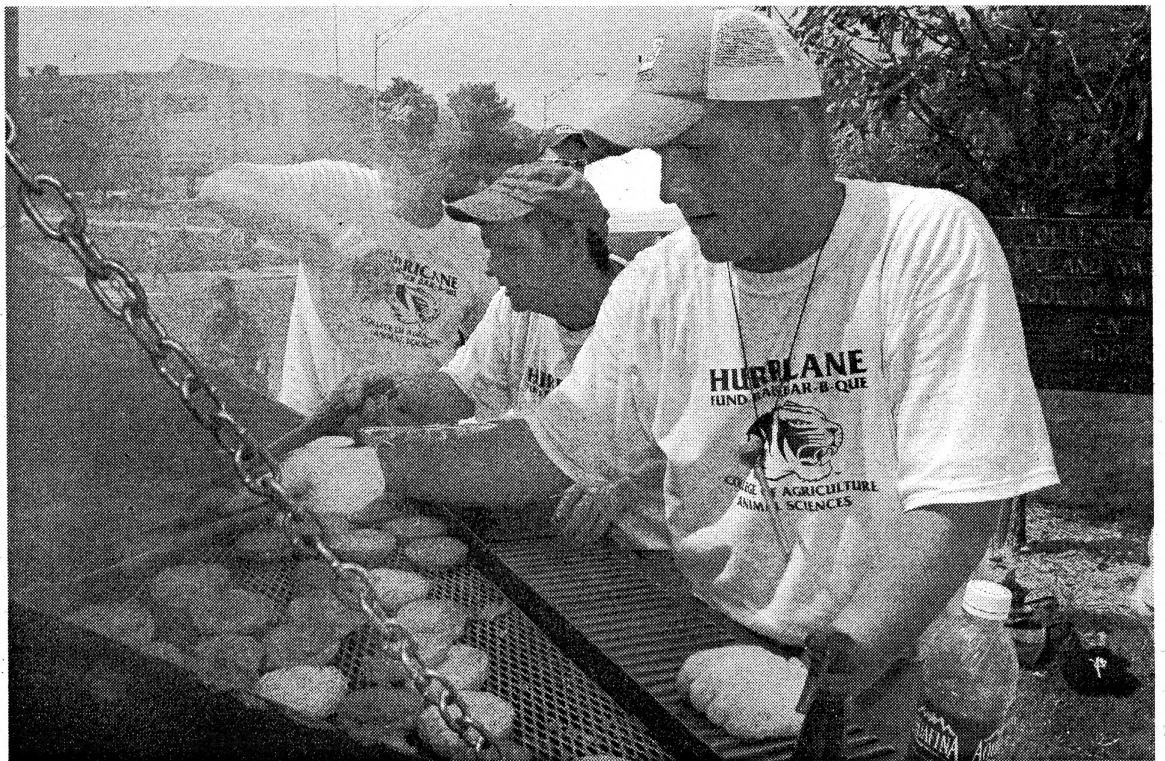
In response to urgent requests from students attending Gulf Coast universities temporarily closed by the hurricane, University officials are offering assistance on a case-by-case basis. Those students may temporarily attend MU classes

on a part-time or full-time basis, or they may take distance education courses. Tuition and all mandatory fees will be waived.

Barbara Rupp, MU director of admissions, said Tuesday that 19 undergraduates and three graduate students have enrolled so far under the program. "The majority of them are from Tulane University, and there are a few from Xavier, New Orleans and Loyola universities," Rupp said.

Ted Tarkow, associate dean of arts and science, is a member of a campus group that's working to identify ways the University can assist displaced students. He applauds the efforts by MU faculty and staff to ease displaced students' transition to campus. "People have bent over backwards to allow students into their courses late and to help them make up the work they have missed," Tarkow says, "and individual faculty have volunteered to put up people in their homes."

In addition, some professors



**HURRICANE RESPONSE**

Using 185 pounds of pork and 400 pounds of beef from the MU Beef Farm that was processed in the Eckles Hall Meat Lab, animal science graduate students organized a barbecue that raised more than \$5,600 for victims of Hurricane Katrina. Volunteers including, from left, graduate students Matt Ryan, Chad Carr and David Newman, prepared 1,800 patties at the corner of Hitt and Rollins on Sept. 9.

Rob Hill photo

have been working to develop "a small handful" of eight-week courses that would be offered later this semester for three credit hours, Tarkow says. These courses would be available to displaced students "who want to make the most of their time

on this campus," he says. "The courses also would be for students already here who, for whatever reason, want to add a three-credit course late in the semester."

For example, Pat Okker, professor and chair of English, has proposed a course on New

Orleans and the Gulf Coast in Literature and Film that would be taught by a team of faculty and graduate students from her department. When she proposed this new offering to her colleagues, more than 20

**SEE KATRINA on Page 11**

## A classroom drama boosts multicultural perceptions

**ON STAGE**

Interactive theater addresses multicultural teaching and learning issues

This particular section of Statistics 101 was the class from hell. It was every instructor's — and every student's — worst nightmare.

The cast included Tammy, a vapid and disruptive sorority girl; April, a bright African-American student who is ignored by her professor; Davey Joe, a somewhat sullen student from a rural background; and J-Rod, an unmotivated African-American student athlete for whom homework isn't a top priority.

The professor was no prize, either. He called J-Rod "bro" as he excused a late assignment and congratulated the student on past gridiron exploits. He

seemed to have more than a pedagogical interest in Tammy, and he shushed April when she took exception to Davey Joe's disdain for American Indians. It was enough to make a seasoned instructor think long and hard about classroom dynamics.

That was exactly the point. The "class" was actually a troupe of student actors from an MU project that uses interactive theater to talk about issues of multicultural teaching and learning. The project is now in its third year, and the troupe has played out this dysfunctional classroom scenario to scores of student, faculty and staff audiences across campus.

Their audience last week was MU's Faculty Council. After the scripted performances, audiences can interact with the cast, asking

questions while the actors stay in character. Faculty Council members had plenty of questions.

Why didn't the instructor call on April when she raised her hand? He rather lamely explained that he didn't want other class members to think they didn't have to participate. What did Tammy think about her instructor's "hands-on" approach to teaching? It happens all the time, she said, so why make a big deal about it when her complaints likely would be dismissed anyway? Would J-Rod have turned in April's homework assignment if he had the chance? Probably, he said. He worked hard to help pack the stadium with paying fans on game day; why shouldn't he get a little extra consideration? At most of these

performances, volunteers are asked to come up on stage, take the role of one of the actors, and try out a different approach to the classroom situation they've just witnessed. "The goal is to stimulate awareness and reflection about the multicultural dimensions of teaching and learning," says Suzanne Burgoyne, who helped organize a campuswide faculty committee that directs the project.

"Faculty of my generation weren't trained to teach at all. If you knew your subject matter, that was all you needed to know," says Burgoyne, professor of theater. Sometimes, she says, instructors send messages to, and about, their students that they aren't even aware they're sending.

The project, which is funded by a wide array of campus

units, had its genesis when MU joined an initiative sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Mizzou is taking part in a component of that initiative, led by the University of Michigan, that focuses on multicultural teaching.

The Mizzou troupe uses a modified version of a script developed at Michigan, but is working on another script that addresses issues of heterosexism, Burgoyne says. "There are lots of potential issues that this format of interactive theater can address." For instance, MU's International Center has suggested that the project produce another script that would address cultural misunderstandings that arise between international and American students.

Student actors rehearse their **SEE DRAMA on Page 4**

**Global issues forum**

A new law requires educational institutions that receive federal funds to offer an annual program on the U.S. Constitution. Chancellor Brady Deaton invites the MU community and the public to come and discuss this new requirement and the Constitution's impact on society today and in the future.

As the fourth in a series of open forums on global issues, Chancellor Deaton will moderate a faculty panel

discussion on "The U.S. Constitution: Protecting Our Rights and Freedoms in an Era of Change" from 3:30-5 p.m. at Allen Auditorium in the Arts and Science Building. The panelists will be Doug Abrams, associate professor of law; Rick Hardy, associate professor of political science; and Christina Wells, professor of law.

**Cream of the crop**

U.S. News & World Report makes headlines every year when the magazine publishes a list of what it considers to be the best colleges in the United States. This year, U.S. News' list of "America's Best Colleges 2006," ranked the University of Missouri-Columbia 85th among top national universities. Mizzou was tied with such institutions as Auburn, Iowa State, Marquette, California-Riverside and Tennessee.

However, another section

of the college rankings doesn't generate as much attention. It's a section called "Academic Programs to Look For," in which U.S. News recognizes schools with "outstanding examples of academic programs that are believed to lead to student success." The magazine invites academic leaders to nominate institutions with "stellar examples" of each program type.

Mizzou was listed in three of the eight program categories this year: Learning

Communities, Senior Capstone and Writing in the Disciplines. It is the fourth year in a row MU's Campus Writing Program was recognized.

**Staff Council auction**

MU's Staff Advisory Council is pitching in to help victims of Hurricane Katrina. Staff are joining with faculty, campus departments and local businesses in an online auction to benefit the American Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund.

The auction items range

# Roberts steps down as Life Sciences Center director

**BUILDING A FOUNDATION**

After center's inaugural year, Roberts will return to full-time research

**R** Michael Roberts, distinguished curators professor of animal sciences and director of the MU Life Sciences Center, announced Tuesday that he will leave his position as director of the center to return to his full-time professional life as an animal sciences researcher.

"Dr. Roberts has done an exceptional job in leading the Life Sciences Center through its inaugural year," Provost

Brian Foster said. "He has built a wonderful foundation of outstanding researchers that will help us in our efforts to enhance the University's leadership in the life sciences. The major goals involving the start-up of the center have been achieved, including the successful opening of the building, developing a strategic plan, hiring truly outstanding faculty, creating a new entrepreneurial financial model and developing a relationship with other University departments."

Roberts will be on research leave from Oct. 1 to January 2006 when he will resume

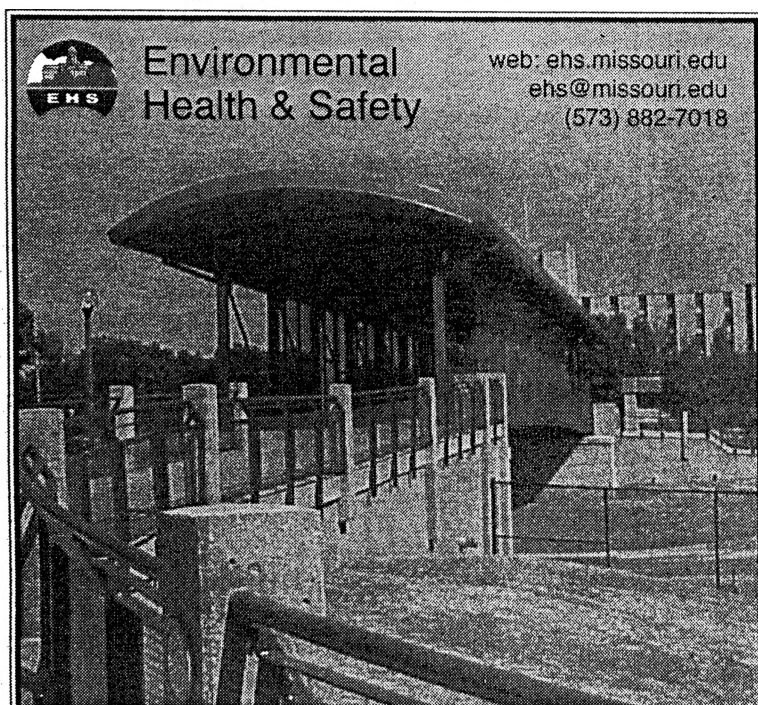
his full academic duties of teaching, research and service. His laboratory and office space will remain in the Life Sciences Center. Roberts has been supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health since 1973 and has earned two-dozen awards for his research, instruction and contributions to science, including Researcher of the Year from MU, the Von Humboldt award for agriculture, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Liege in Belgium. In 1996, he was elected to the National Academy of Science. In 2003 he was appointed to

lead the academy's review of the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., following a string of highly publicized animal deaths.

"The 20 months since I became director and partnered with Mike Chippendale in moving the center forward have been the busiest and most exciting of my career," Roberts said. "However, the reality of being the director of the Life Sciences Center while also continuing my research has become difficult and I must make a choice. I take great pride and satisfaction in what the Life Sciences Center team has achieved in a remarkably

short period of time."

The facility officially opened its doors in September 2004, and now houses 27 primary investigators who have won more than \$14 million in grants. The researchers have 59 proposals pending totaling more than \$47 million. The center includes central resources such as: an information technology suite, small animal facilities, plant and insect growth facilities, greenhouses, state-of-the-art research labs, teaching labs, an administrative suite, a reading room and on-site electrical and equipment repair shops.



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**MizzouWeekly**

**Volume 27 No. 4**

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from homemade beef jerky to hand-knitted afghans, and also includes Tiger football, concert and theater tickets; artwork by MU faculty and staff; and gift certificates from local restaurants. A complete list is at the Staff Council Web site at [www.missouri.edu/~musacwww](http://www.missouri.edu/~musacwww).

The bidding opens at 8 a.m. Monday, Sept. 19, and closes at noon Thursday, Sept. 22. Only e-mail bids will be accepted, and winning bidders will be notified Sept.

23. Updates of the highest bids will be posted at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. daily, with a final update at 11:45 a.m. Sept. 22. With questions, call 882-4269.

#### Eats at Eckles

A new on-campus café serving lunch, a series of five Sunday brunches and special event evening dinners will be offered by student classes in the MU hotel and restaurant management program. The 100-seat Café at Eckles

Hall opens September 20. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, says Jim Groves, the department chair and faculty advisor.

The menu will consist of sandwiches, salads, soups and desserts, he says, and in addition to table service, the café will offer a grab-and-go feature for take-out orders.

Students in an advanced restaurant management class will staff the café and be responsible for the entire

operation from menu selection, food preparation, serving, marketing and financial planning, and will receive three hours credit for the class.

"The idea is to give our students hands-on experience in the day-to-day operation of a restaurant, something that they cannot learn in a classroom setting," Groves says. In addition, another senior restaurant management class will offer a series of Sunday brunches, each with three sittings, on Sept. 18, Oct.

2 and 23, Nov. 13 and Dec. 4. A series of special evening events will be offered starting Sept 27 with a wine tasting dinner at 6:30 p.m. Reservations and additional information for all events can be made by calling 884-3899 or on-line at [umcfsbhrmreserv@missouri.edu](mailto:umcfsbhrmreserv@missouri.edu).

## \$5 million NSF grant will fuel 'organ-printing' research

### BIO-PRINTING

Technology could simplify organ transplantation

**A** healing cut or a developing embryo are examples of what an MU researcher calls a hallmark of living systems — biological self-assembly. A team of scientists led by Gabor Forgacs, professor of biological physics at MU, received nearly \$5 million from the National Science Foundation to answer the fundamental biological question: What controls this self-assembly

process? The answer will help provide breakthroughs in regenerative medicine by means of a new process called organ printing, developed by Forgacs' team.

"We probably will never learn exactly how biological self-assembly works but we will not need too," Forgacs says. "What we want to know is how to control self-assembly and be able to mimic what the biological system does. Once we understand the fundamental organizing principles that

control this self-assembly and the cues that are necessary to provide to the system, we can use that knowledge in our organ-printing technology."

Organ printing will be one tool in this research, Forgacs says. The team is developing a system that takes cells from a patient with a damaged organ, blood vessel or heart valve and uses those cells to "print" a replacement organ. Bio-printing could solve many transplantation problems; it would eliminate the need for people to be on long

waiting lists for transplants and, since the cells used belong to the patient, there would be no worry of rejection or infection.

"Transplantation as we know it today is not the future; artificial substitutes are not the future; this is the future," Forgacs says about organ printing technology. "It is quick and relatively simple. A number of fundamental questions have to be answered first, but these do not seem to be insurmountable."

Forgacs' research team was one of nearly 100 competing for

the NSF awards. The project — Understanding and Employing Tissue Self-Assembly — brings together seven investigators from the areas of biological physics, computational physics, molecular biology, developmental biology, organic chemistry and tissue engineering. As part of the grant, several museums have expressed interest in displaying organ printing, including the New York Hall of Science, the Utah Science Center, the Saint Louis Science Center and the Kansas City Science Center.



# The Division of Student Affairs Congratulates the 2005

## S.T.A.R. Award Recipients

*Partners with Students in Success*

**DRAMA from page 1**

performances with the director, Clyde Ruffin, professor of theater, but Burgoyne is careful to point out that the production is not totally scripted. "Some of it is ad lib; some of it isn't," she says. "We talk to the actors about certain points we want them to make if they can." Her group also is conducting a study to measure the effectiveness of interactive theater on faculty perceptions of multicultural teaching.

Why is interactive theater

an effective tool? "For one thing, theater is memorable," she says. "Lecturing is the least effective method of teaching; active learning is the most effective. Well, this is active learning. Also, there is an emotional component to theater. We can tap into people's emotional responses as well as their intellectual responses."

As the project continues, its organizers would like to offer some follow-up to the performances that would steer

audiences to other opportunities on campus for diversity training and information. Some groups that already have taken part in the interactive experience include participants at the new faculty orientation, TA training sessions, a number of academic classes and departments, and Freshman Interest Group peer advisers.

Burgoyne says the project welcomes invitations to perform for other campus organizations.

## IN brief

### Mills receives Pacheco Leadership Award

Dean Mills, dean of journalism, will be awarded the Manuel Pacheco Academic Leadership Award next week. Named for the former UM System President, the award is presented to an academic administrator at the University who exemplifies outstanding academic leadership. Pacheco initiated the University's Leadership Development Program in 1999.

During Mills' 16 years as dean, the School of Journalism has created three research centers and currently serves as the headquarters for five professional organizations. He has led many fundraising efforts, including a \$31 million gift to create the Reynolds Journalism Institute, and has worked to increase the number of endowed chairs and to improve the quality and diversity of students in the school.

### Mizzou helps meet demand for pharmacists

Missouri has the fifth highest demand for pharmacists in the nation — The Missouri Hospital Association cites an 8 percent vacancy rate — and Mizzou is partnering with UM-Kansas City to meet that challenge beginning this semester. Future pharmacists are getting their start at the Kansas City campus while attending classes at MU. The first 28 students accepted into the new satellite program should graduate in five years with their doctorate of pharmacy.

UM-Kansas City is the only public pharmacy school in Missouri. Students can now attend classes on the Columbia campus and earn their pharmacy degrees from UMKC. The program is a mix of classes already available at MU and courses offered via satellite from UMKC. The students will be able to interact with their peers on the Kansas City campus.

### Dalton Center gains new director

Gerald Meininger is the new director of the Dalton Cardiovascular Research Center. He comes to MU from Texas A&M University System Health Science Center, where he was professor and associate head of medical physiology. Meininger, a 1981 doctoral graduate from MU, also was director of vascular biology at Texas A&M's Cardiovascular Research Institute.

He took over Sept. 1 for Ed Blaine, who helped shape the Dalton Center's successful interdisciplinary model that was used to design the new Life Sciences Center's operating plan. Meininger's goal is to build on the collaborative strength of the Dalton Center by increasing ties and partnerships across campus with cardiovascular and clinician scientists. Plans are under way to strengthen investigative teams and encourage larger scale program project-oriented grants.

### Law librarians aid public access

Missourians who go to their community library looking for answers to legal questions are more likely to succeed, thanks to the work of MU School of Law librarians Steve Lambson and Cindy Shearrer. The two law librarians are members of a community librarian training program that also includes several Missouri Bar staff and representatives of the Missouri Library Association. The team has earned national recognition for their initiative and received a LexisNexis Community and Educational Outreach Award Aug. 5 at the National Association of Bar Executives annual meeting in Chicago.

Law librarians Lambson and Shearrer developed and teach the portion of the program on essential printed and Internet legal resources. They also help librarians understand the difference between legal advice and reference help. Training programs have been conducted for librarians in a number of cities around the state and for Missouri's Prison Librarian Association and Government Document Librarian Association.

### Endowment funds arthritis research

Arthritis research conducted at MU's Comparative Orthopaedic Laboratory received a major boost Sept. 2 when officials announced a \$320,000 gift to help fund the lab's groundbreaking research. The gift will establish the Robert and Judi Reeves Endowment in Arthritis Diagnostics to fund research that discovers ways to diagnose arthritis before it is symptomatic and while it is still reversible or curable, says James Cook, director of the lab and professor of veterinary medicine and surgery.

"We already are working on these projects by trying to find molecular and imaging markers that tell us if arthritis is going to occur, what joints it will involve and how bad it will be," Cook says. "This is very exciting work as it could completely revolutionize medicine and treatment of arthritis."

One of the major benefits of the endowment, Cook says, is that it will help fund preliminary work that researchers hope will lead to larger grants. The lab is one of only a handful of comparative orthopaedic laboratories in the world dedicated to arthritis research.

# Celebrate Mizzou!

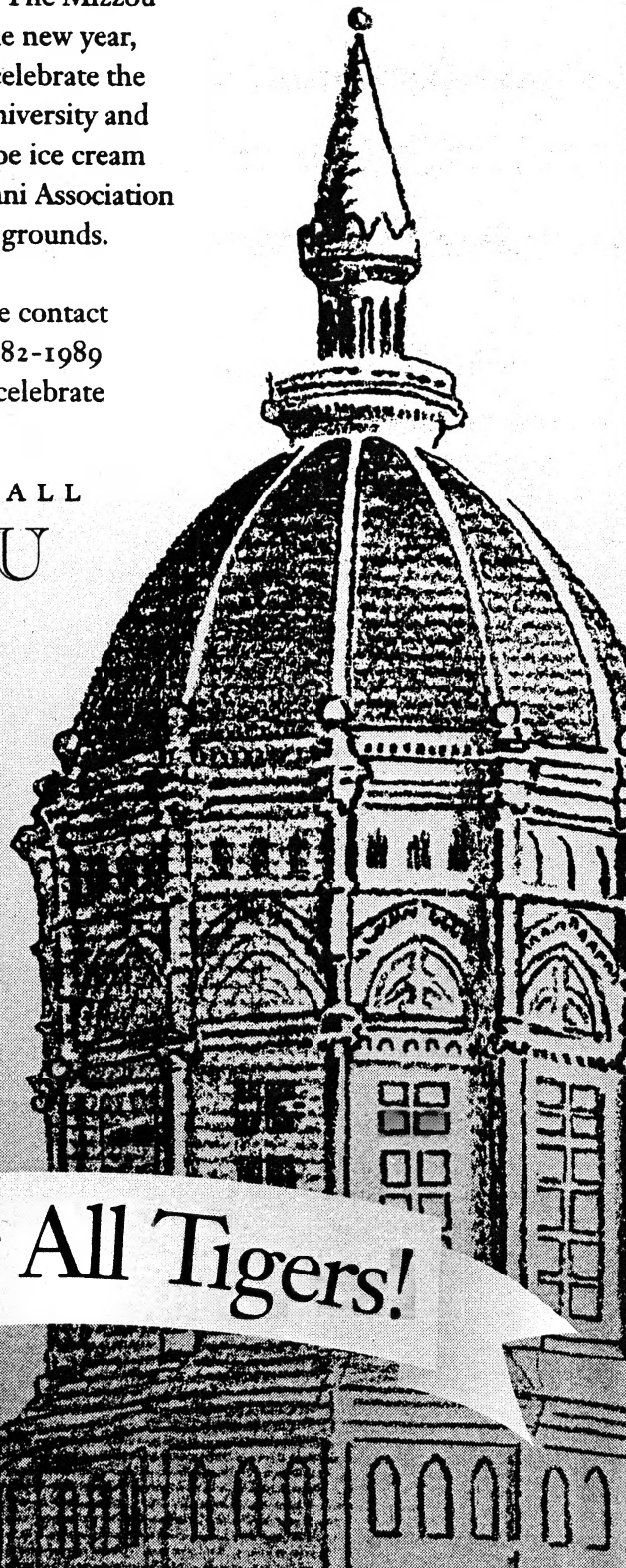
3 p.m. • Friday, September 16, 2005 • Jesse Hall Auditorium

Faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends are invited to a fall convocation. The Mizzou family will gather to kick off the new year, recognize our new leadership, celebrate the achievements of our flagship University and look to the future. A Tiger Stripe ice cream social sponsored by the MU Alumni Association will follow on the Jesse Hall grounds.

For more information, please contact University Events at (573) 882-1989 or go to [www.missouri.edu/celebrate](http://www.missouri.edu/celebrate)

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# Meet your Staff Council

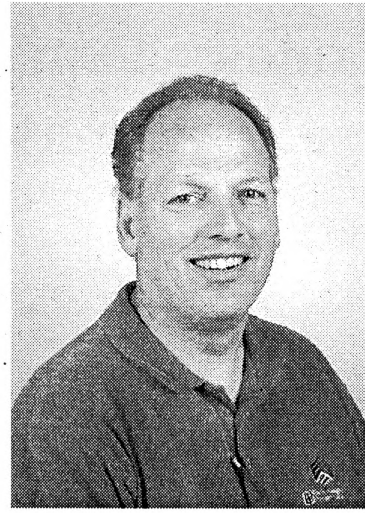
**S**taff members across campus voted this summer to elect five new members to serve three-year terms on MU's Staff Advisory Council. The new members are: Marijo Dixon, user support analyst-specialist with the Truman School of Public Affairs; Marianne Friedman, administrative associate with Residential Life; Karen Morts, licensed practical nurse with the Green Meadows Clinic; Anthony Olson, office support staff II with Admissions; and Lawanda Rogers, an assistant manager with Campus Dining Services.

Alan Marshall, a system administrator for Biological Sciences, was re-elected to a three-year council term and also was elected chair of Staff Council. Linda Turner, administrative assistant with Parking and Transportation Services, was elected vice chair; and Patty Kroll, administrative

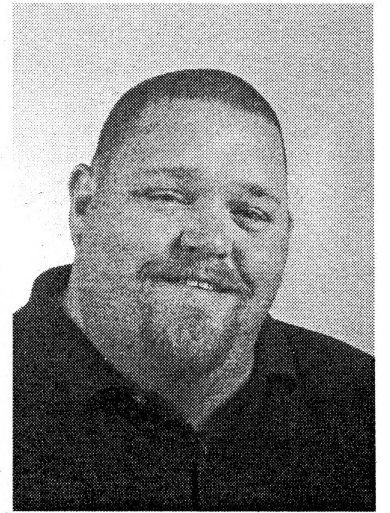
assistant with the University Registrar's office, was elected council recorder.

The 16-member Staff Advisory Council was formed in 1978 to serve as a liaison between MU staff and the administration. The council advises the administration on staff concerns, coordinates the annual Staff Recognition Week and administers programs like the Staff Development Awards and the Educational Endowment Award Program.

More information about those programs and the ways staff can contact council members is available on the council's Web site at [www.missouri.edu/~musacwww](http://www.missouri.edu/~musacwww). With questions about the council and its programs, contact any of the members or the Staff Council secretary, Gina Scavone, at 882-4269 or e-mail [scavoneg@missouri.edu](mailto:scavoneg@missouri.edu).



Tom Kyd



Anthony Olsen



Mary Petty



Karen Morts



Linda Turner



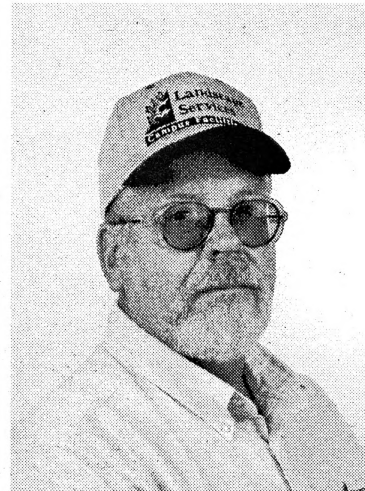
Marianne Friedman



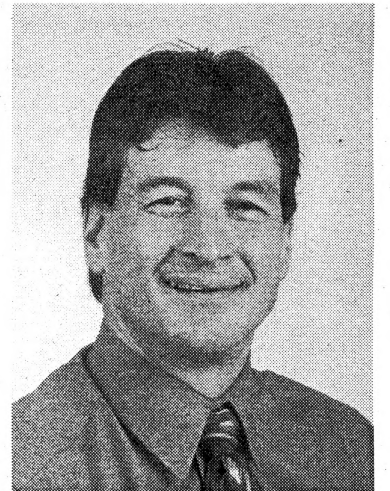
Elaine Juergens



Rebecca Bergfield



Ken Redding



Alan Marshall



Marijo Dixon



Scotty Payne



Chad Heckmann



Patty Kroll



Lawanda Rogers

# Undergraduate research participation as an essential component of a research university: Perspective of a chief research officer

By Jim Coleman, MU's vice provost for research

Two years ago I joined the University of Missouri-Columbia as the vice provost for research and chief research officer. MU strives to be a leading research institution consistent with its membership in the American Association of Universities and is Missouri's only public doctoral "research extensive" institution.

Each year our faculty members conduct more than \$200 million in research. As MU's vice provost for research, I am responsible for implementing a strategic plan geared toward increasing the quantity and quality of research productivity among MU's nearly 2,000 full-time faculty in 12 schools and colleges.

Given the breadth and depth of my responsibility, it may surprise you to know that enhancing undergraduate research opportunities is among

my top priorities. In fact, one of my first actions in my position put the resources of MU's Office of Research to work in boosting existing undergraduate research programs.

I have since overseen changes both administrative and financial: MU's Office of Undergraduate Research has assumed a higher profile in the research division's organizational hierarchy, most undergraduate research funding is now drawn from technology transfer income provided by the Office of Research, and undergraduate research office staff now report jointly to me and to the vice provost for undergraduate studies.

Why do I view undergraduate research as so valuable?

Here are a few reasons:

- Research experiences enhance the value of an undergraduate education.

Undergraduate researchers gain the skills needed to prosper in the knowledge-based economy. In a recent meeting at a major international life science company, for example, company officials said they were only interested in hiring students with research experience. They explained that such students are

## forum

better able to handle the kinds of problems that are tackled each day; i.e., problems in which the solutions are not known.

- Student participation in research allows for an unambiguous articulation of how faculty investigations enhance undergraduate education. Universities are often criticized by state legislators for focusing resources on faculty research in lieu of undergraduate education. Most of us in academe know that research and education

are integrated rather than competing activities. Yet that reality can be difficult to communicate when university administrative structures separate an institution's research mission from its undergraduate education activities.

- Student researchers are fantastic spokespeople for the university. Introducing public officials, legislators, governing boards, and potential donors to undergraduate researchers is one of the best ways to win support for university programs. Our undergraduate research day in our state capital — an idea generated by the Council on Undergraduate Research — is one such activity. Public officials are often amazed at the intellectual complexity of undergraduate research projects, and the ease with which undergraduates can explain that complexity. Undergraduates have an infectious enthusiasm about their research that allows them to

articulate how study at a research university bolsters their learning and career preparation, an activity that builds intense pride in the university among local public officials, parents, relatives and their hometown communities.

Supporting these undergraduate researchers at the vice-provost level facilitates access of upper-level administrators to a wide array of undergraduate research and researchers. This in turn allows for more strategic communication with various university stakeholders.

- Strong undergraduate research programs provide an edge in the competition for federal research funds. Federal funding agencies, such as the National Science Foundation, are emphasizing integration of research and undergraduate education. The agencies insist on substantive participation: Undergraduates must truly be involved in the entire research

*Chancellor Brady J. Deaton  
and*

*Dr. Anne Deaton*

*invite you to join them  
at a welcome reception for*

*Provost Brian Foster  
and Mrs. Lerke Foster*

*Monday, September 26, 2005  
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.*

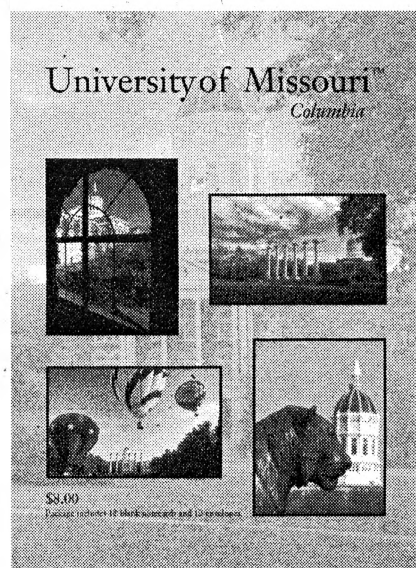
*Stotler Lounge, Memorial Union*



## Encouraging campus dialogue

Mizzou Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and op-ed articles about issues of general interest to the campus community. Submissions may be edited for clarity, length and editorial style.

For guidelines, please contact John Beahler at 882-5918 or e-mail [beahlerj@missouri.edu](mailto:beahlerj@missouri.edu).



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experience, not merely used as cheap labor. Investing in a campuswide program to enhance undergraduate research enhances MU's undergraduate education, and increases our success in research competitions.

• Student research demonstrates the value of a full range of a university's intellectual pursuits. Research universities often measure their success in terms of research dollars received or expended. This can generate the impression that university administrators only value expensive projects (e.g. biomedical research). This can demoralize faculty working diligently on other scholarly pursuits. By promoting and providing funding for faculty and undergraduate assistants working in all academic disciplines, the university demonstrates commitment to the entire range of its scholarly and creative activity.

At its core, higher education aims to instill in students an understanding and appreciation of the process of discovery, creation and innovation. When we succeed in this, we send our students into the world ready to think critically and independently about society's most pressing concerns. By promoting and supporting undergraduate research — and clearly integrating undergraduate investigations into the university's overall research mission — we also ensure that scientists and scholars trained in America's institutions of higher learning will remain the world's most valuable engines for knowledge and progress. At least that's what this research officer wholeheartedly believes.

(This article is reprinted with permission from the June 2005 issue of Council on Undergraduate Research Quarterly.)

## Turning traditional news on its head

**MYMISSOURIAN**  
 'Citizen journalism' strengthens community ties

Some of the first videos, pictures and descriptions of the destruction that followed the explosions on London's mass transit system on July 7 were not from the lenses or pens of professional journalists. Rather, witnesses with camera phones and online blogs were the main sources of information following the blasts. A recent study of a unique program at MU's School of Journalism shows that this new type of reporting is successfully turning ordinary citizens into working journalists.

The London bombings are just one of the latest examples of how "citizen journalism" is changing the face of how news is covered. Conventional media outlets, such as television stations

and newspapers, increasingly are offering opportunities for viewers and readers to submit their own stories, pictures and experiences about major news events, such as the December 2004 tsunami. And when Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast, citizens there played an important role in reporting the news.

Clyde Bentley, associate professor of journalism, helped launch MyMissourian.com in October 2004. The Web site serves as the citizen journalism outlet of the Columbia Missourian daily newspaper. He recently completed a case study on MyMissourian's successes and failures since its inception.

"Citizen journalism turns the traditional news model on its head," Bentley says. "The citizen is the news gatherer and writer, rather than the source, for a news

story. The journalist is a 'shepherd' in the process, helping take the reported news and making sure it is dispensed in a readable format that does not violate standards of decency or libel."

Bentley notes that MyMissourian editors adhere to several rules to determine what is suitable to post—no nudity, profanity, personal attacks or attacks on race, religion, national origin, gender or sexual orientation.

Bentley says the Civic Life section of MyMissourian is the most popular section of the Web site. People have discussed everything from a proposal to ban smoking in local restaurants to the death of Columbia Police Officer Molly Bowden. The response to Bowden's death in February has been one of the biggest draws to the Web site to date. The success of the Civic Life section taught the editors of MyMissourian an important lesson, Bentley says.

"Readers and potential contributors are not interested in a rehash of events and issues that are already covered by the city's other news media," Bentley says. "Rather, they are interested in issues that go largely ignored on the nightly news."

That interest has contributed to the success of the Spiritual Life section of MyMissourian. Bentley says that since many religious organizations do not receive mainstream media coverage, the Internet has become a natural gathering place for religious groups and individuals. On MyMissourian, people have written about everything from Paganism to Christianity.

Although some sections of the Web site have not been as successful, Bentley says the MyMissourian experiment is paying off and that readers are hungry for local, people-centered news.

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# Missouri could be the 'world capital of paddlefish'

## PROFIT POTENTIAL

Paddlefish 'ranching' could be a new income source

Cattle, sheep and goats may soon have another grazing animal join them on Missouri farms, but overcrowding in the pasture won't be an issue. That's because, unlike other livestock, these new animals do their grazing in the pond, not the pasture.

This summer, MU researchers launched a preliminary three-month study to assess the feasibility of paddlefish "ranching" for the state's pond owners.

"Missouri ranks second behind Texas in the number of private impoundments," says Bob Pierce, MU Extension fish and wildlife specialist. "For many pond owners, paddlefish

could create a profit base from a resource currently not in use on the farm."

Pierce, fisheries Professor Rob Hayward and agricultural economist Joe Parcell are examining the ecological and economic aspects of placing the prehistoric-looking big river fish in ponds.

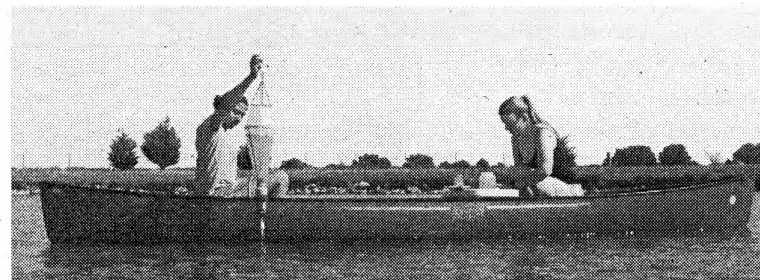
The idea is not a new one. Jim Kahrs, owner of Osage Catfisheries Inc., has raised paddlefish for 30 years and has contracted with pond owners in the state to grow the fish in their ponds. Currently, the Osage Beach, Mo., hatchery is the only U.S. company with an international permit to sell paddlefish flesh, caviar and live eggs.

Kahrs donated about 90 paddlefish for the MU pilot study. The forearm-length 15-month-old fish were stocked in two University research farm ponds in early July.

"We'd like to validate some of the things we think we have proven through our operation," Kahrs says. "I think Missouri has the opportunity to become the paddlefish capital of the world."

Paddlefish, which commonly exceed five feet in length and 60 pounds in weight, primarily feed on microscopic animals called zooplankton, Hayward says.

"We want to see what, if any, effect these fish have on the composition and density of zooplankton in a pond because zooplankton also is the key food source for larval fishes," he



**FISH RANCHING**

MU fisheries and wildlife undergraduate researchers Rebecca Wright of St. Louis, left, and Tiffanie Hamilton of Des Moines, Iowa, collect water samples from an MU research farm pond where paddlefish have been stocked. The student researchers will use the samples to catalog the composition and density of zooplankton, microscopic animals that are a primary food source for the paddlefish.

Jim Curley photo

says. "There are some concerns that stocking paddlefish in a pond can negatively impact the populations of sportfish such as bass, bluegill and crappie."

MU fisheries and wildlife undergraduate researchers Rebecca Wright of St. Louis and Tiffanie Hamilton of Des Moines, Iowa, have collected pre- and post-stocking water samples from the MU farm ponds and a separate control pond. The samples will allow the researchers to determine changes to the zooplankton communities.

"Eventually, we'd like to develop a model for paddlefish stocking," Pierce says. "Even if we find that there are impacts to the zooplankton community, those impacts may not be perceived as negative for landowners not interested in rearing sportfish."

The researchers currently are in the process of submitting proposals for additional funding to investigate opportunities

for paddlefish production in Missouri ponds.

Hayward says that paddlefish are rapid growers, able to put on a pound or two per year, "and even more as they age." The fish also grow faster in ponds and other reservoirs because zooplankton densities are higher than in native river habitats, he says.

A primitive species, the fish's skeleton is made entirely of cartilage, much like that of a shark. Only two paddlefish species exist worldwide - one in the Yangtze Valley in China and one in North America. The fish is native to the Mississippi, Missouri and Osage river basins in Missouri.

According to preliminary data from the Missouri Agricultural Statistics Service, the state's aquaculture industry totaled cash receipts of nearly \$4.6 million in 2003, the most recent year available.

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## Concerts & Plays

### Thursday, September 15

**THEATER SERIES:** Leaving Hannibal, written by Mary Barile and directed by Cheryl Black, will be performed at 8 p.m. today through Sept. 17 and at 2 p.m. Sept. 18 in the Corner Playhouse. For ticket information, call 882-PLAY.

### Monday, September 19

**FACULTY RECITAL:** The New Faculty Showcase Recital will be presented at 8 p.m. in Whitmore Recital Hall. Suggested donation: \$5.

## Courses & Workshops

### Friday, September 16

**COMPUTER TRAINING:**

- "Outlook: Divide & Conquer Your Inbox" will be presented at 8:30 a.m. in 4D11 East Ellis Library.
- "Photoshop 2: Pixels, Colors & Layers" will be presented at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union.

To register, call 882-2000 or visit [iatservices.missouri.edu/training](http://iatservices.missouri.edu/training).

### Monday, September 19

**COMPUTER TRAINING:**

- "Taking Control of Your Calendar with Outlook" will be presented at 1 p.m. in 4D11 East Ellis Library.
- "Excel 2003 for Starters" will be presented at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union.

To register, call 882-2000 or visit <http://iatservices.missouri.edu/training>.

### Tuesday, September 20

**COMPUTER TRAINING:**

- "SPSS: Statistical Analysis" will be presented at 8:30 a.m. in N3 Memorial Union.
- "Illustrator: Advanced Type & Transformations" will be presented at 1 p.m. in 4D11 East Ellis Library.

To register, call 882-2000 or visit [iatservices.missouri.edu/training](http://iatservices.missouri.edu/training).

**MUSEUM WORKSHOP:** "Make the Museum your Classroom" will be presented from 4:30-6 p.m. in the Cast Gallery at Pickard Hall. The workshop will highlight how the Museum of Art and Archaeology's permanent collections and exhibitions can be used as a classroom resource.

**MUSEUM FAMILY WORKSHOP:** "School's Out! Art's In! Torchlight Tours" will be presented from 2-3:30 p.m. for grades 10-12 in the Cast Gallery at the Museum of Art and Archaeology.

### Wednesday, September 21

**COMPUTER TRAINING:**

- "InDesign CS: Masters, Styles & Text Flow" will be presented at 8:30 a.m. in 4D11 East Ellis Library.
- "Flash 3: Buttons & Actions" will be presented at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union.

To register, call 882-2000 or visit [iatservices.missouri.edu/training](http://iatservices.missouri.edu/training).

**SAFETY WORKSHOP:** "Back Safety and Lifting" will be held

from 8:30-9:30 a.m. today in the Research Park Development Building. Registration is required; call 882-7018.

**CHEMICAL SAFETY WORKSHOP:** "Chemical Management for Chemical Workers" will be held from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Research Park Development Building. This class is a requirement for all current and new chemical workers. Registration is required; call 882-7018.

**NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION:** This orientation for all new University staff members will be held from 1:30-5 p.m. today, Oct. 19, Nov. 16 and Dec. 21, and from 8:30 a.m.-noon on Oct. 5, Nov. 2 and Dec. 7. All sessions will be held in S203 Memorial Union.

### Thursday, September 22

**COMPUTER TRAINING:**

- "SAS Enterprise Guide: Basic Statistics" will be presented at 8:30 a.m. in N3 Memorial Union.
- "Photoshop: Retouching" will be presented at 8:30 a.m. in 4D11 East Ellis Library.
- "Access 2003 Customization, Indexing & Replication" will be presented at 1 p.m. in N3 Memorial Union.

To register, call 882-2000 or visit [iatservices.missouri.edu/training](http://iatservices.missouri.edu/training).

**SAFETY WORKSHOP:** "Lab Hood/Biosafety Cabinet Safety" will be held from 9-10 a.m. today and Nov. 18 in the Research Park Development Building. Registration is required; call 882-7018.

## Exhibits

**MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY:**

- "Greek and Roman Crafts: Metalwork, Textiles and Pottery" is on display through September 25.
- "American Regionalism: Images from the Heartland" is on display through June 2006.
- "Memoria Architecturae: The Fragmentary, the Forgotten, and the Fantastic" is on display September 17-December 24.

The museum, located in Pickard Hall, is open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and from noon-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.

**STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:**

- "Travels in the Interior of North America: The Aquatints of Karl Bodmer" is on display in the main gallery through Dec. 16.
- "Rural Life: Lithographs by Thomas Hart Benton" is on display through Nov. 11 in the main gallery.
- "A Slice of American Life: The Lithographs of Ben Messick" is on display in the north-south corridor gallery through Dec. 16.

The main gallery is open from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. The corridor galleries are open Lectures & Seminars

### Thursday, September 15

**WRITING PROGRAM SEMINAR:** "The Geology Department's Distributed, Multi-Course Approach to MU's Upper Level Writing Intensive Requirement" will be presented from 12:30-1:30 p.m. in 105 Townsend Hall.

### Tuesday, September 20

**BIOINFORMATICS SEMINAR:** Karen Courtney, a National Library of Medicine pre-doctoral fellow, will present "Research in Nursing Workforce Distribution" from noon-1 p.m. in 426A Clark Hall.

**BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES SEMINAR:** Mannie Liscum, associate professor of biological sciences, will present "Making a Plant Move: From Photoreceptor to Morphogen-Mediated Transcription and Points In Between" at 3:30 p.m. in Monsanto Auditorium at the Life Sciences Center.

### Wednesday, September 21

**MUSEUM GALLERY EVENT:** An exhibition tour of "Memoria Architecturae: The Fragmentary, the Forgotten and the Fantastic" will be led by museum curators Benton Kidd and Joan Stack from 12:15-1 p.m. in the Museum of Art and Archaeology.

## Special Events

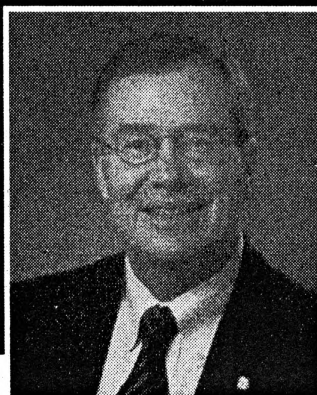
### Friday, September 16

**CELEBRATE MIZZOU:** The Celebrate Mizzou fall con-

vocation to recognize MU's new leadership and to celebrate the achievements of the University will be held at 3 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium. An ice cream social will follow.

### Thursday September 22

**CHANCELLOR'S GLOBAL ISSUES FORUM:** Chancellor Brady Deaton will moderate a faculty panel discussion on "The U.S. Constitution: Protecting Our Rights and Freedoms in an Era of Change" from 3:30-5 p.m. at Allen Auditorium in the Arts and Science Building.



# Chancellor's Global Issues FORUM

## The U.S. Constitution: Protecting Our Rights and Freedoms in an Era of Change

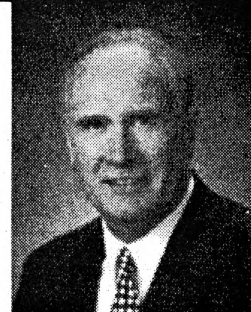
Thursday, September 22 – 3:30 to 5 p.m.  
Allen Auditorium  
Arts and Science Building, MU Campus

Join MU Chancellor Brady J. Deaton as he moderates the fourth of a series of open forums. A new law requires educational institutions that receive federal funds to offer an annual program on the U.S. Constitution. Come discuss this new requirement and the Constitution's impact on society today and in the future. The Chancellor's forums are free and open to the public.

## THE PANELISTS



**Douglas E. Abrams**  
Associate Professor of Law



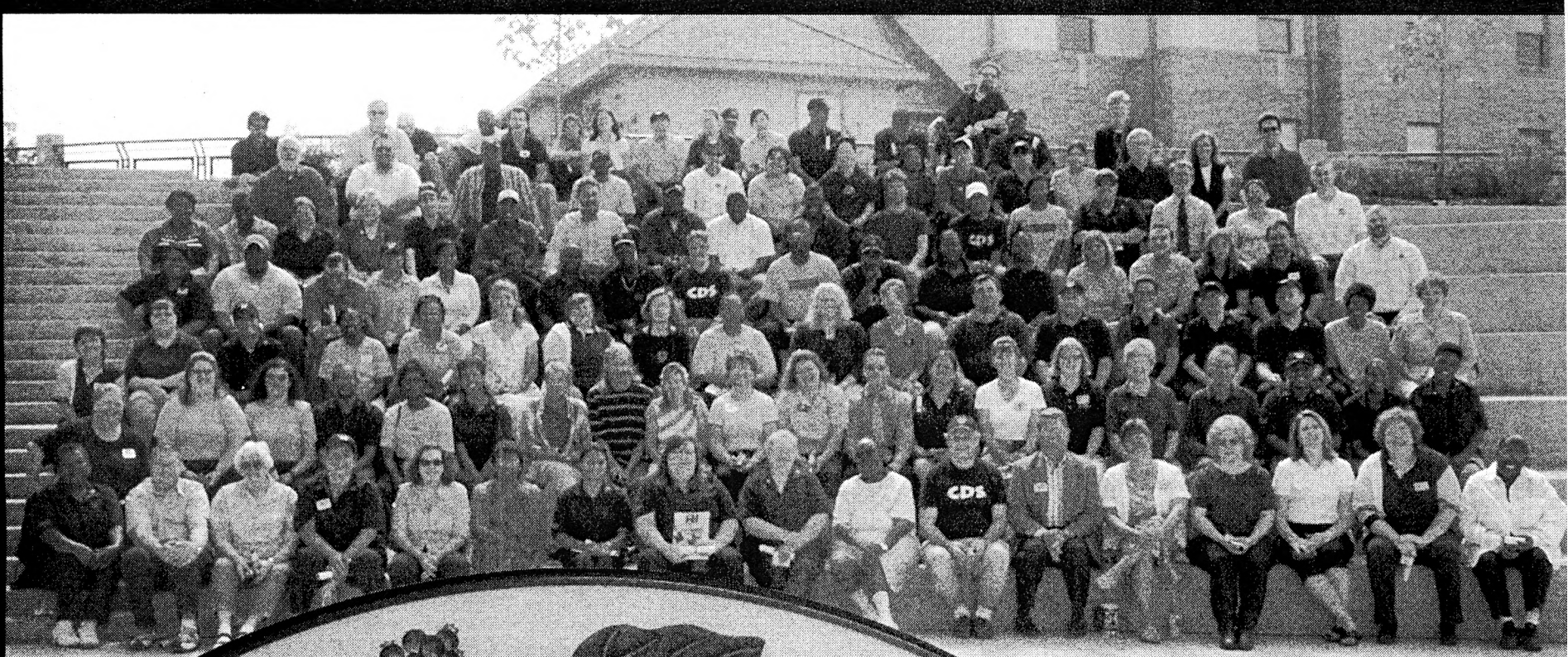
**Richard J. Hardy**  
Associate Professor of Political Science



**Christina E. Wells**  
Enoch N. Crowder Professor of Law

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**KATRINA from page 1**  
 volunteered to pitch in. "The interest was immense," Okker said. "It was overwhelming." Given their existing workload, none of her faculty could add an eight-week course on their own, she said, "but we can all chip in."

The University also is reaching out to current MU students from the Gulf Coast area to see if there is anything the MU community can do to help them or their families. The registrar's office last week identified 59 students with home addresses in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, and is contacting those

students by e-mail to let them know about campus services — such as the Counseling Center — where they can get assistance.

Campus organizations are also doing their part. For instance, MU's Staff Advisory Council is organizing an online auction next week that will benefit Red Cross hurricane relief. (See separate article on Page 3.) The Wellness Resource Center in Brady Commons is collecting donations of toiletries and bath supplies for victims, and animal science graduate students organized a barbecue that raised more than \$5,600.

## classifieds

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## September 11 – 24

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