



Undergrad Achievers

An April 30 forum will showcase the work of undergraduate researchers.

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April 26, 2007
University of Missouri-Columbia

The tug of tradition



TAP DAY University community celebrates student achievements

Tap Day usually is a joyous springtime tradition at Mizzou, when the six honorary organizations on campus “tap” new members into the societies. The new members’ identities are a secret until they are revealed at this ceremony.

ACCOMPLISHED ACADEMICS

Although Tap Day is primarily a celebration of student accomplishments in academics and extracurricular activities, a handful of faculty, staff and alumni often are honored at the ceremony. Cynthia Frisby, associate professor of journalism, was inducted into the Mystical Seven honor society April 20.

Rob Hill photo

But this year — Tap Day’s 80th anniversary — there was a somber footnote to the April 20 ceremony. Just a few hours before the robed and hooded society members filed onto Francis Quadrangle for Tap Day, the bells on Switzler Hall, the Memorial Union tower and the Reynolds Alumni Center pealed 32 times to honor the faculty and students who were shot and killed April 16 at Virginia Tech.

Later in the ceremony, two wreaths with bows in the school colors of Mizzou and Virginia Tech, were laid at the center of the Columns on Francis Quadrangle.

Virginia Gov. Tim Kaine, an MU alumnus, had asked other states to participate in a day of mourning for the victims.

Curators’ reallocation initiative will focus on salaries

SALARY SUPPORT

Chancellor Deaton will call on campus groups to help identify potential savings

At the April 17 general faculty meeting, Chancellor Brady Deaton talked about budgets — past, present and future — and outlined preliminary campus plans to meet a new mandate from the Board of Curators to reallocate 1 percent of the University’s general operating budget and use that money to improve faculty salaries.

Saying that “every word here is important,” Deaton carefully read aloud the entire directive that curators passed at their April 6 meeting.

That action called on the University of Missouri System president to “create an ‘efficiencies account’ equivalent to 1 percent of the University of Missouri’s operating budget, to be funded by program review; prioritization; program elimination, reduction and/or consolidation; and operating efficiencies, as identified and recommended by the president and chancellors

for contribution to and funding of the University’s compensation package in the coming fiscal year.”

With MU’s general operating budget of approximately \$400 million, a 1 percent reallocation would raise nearly \$4 million a year — with a goal of \$3.4 million next fiscal year — for salaries. Much of that reallocation will be needed to address a budget deficit incurred in meeting the 2 percent increase in the general salary pool for next fiscal year that curators approved at the same meeting. The curators also asked that an additional 1 percent increase in next year’s salary pool be used to address issues of salary competitiveness.

“This is a very specific charge to us,” Deaton said of the curators’ reallocation initiative. “It says that we have to have a plan in place for this coming fiscal year and for successive years to address the salary competitiveness of our campus.

“We want to be able to recruit the best faculty in the world,” Deaton said. He

pointed out that over the past decade faculty salaries at MU have slipped from the mid-range to near the bottom among public members of the Association of American Universities. The goal, he said, is to boost salaries at MU to at least the median of public AAU schools within five years. But, at the same time, he stressed that the campus has to ensure that MU’s ability to achieve its academic mission is not harmed in the process.

Deaton pointed out that in one sense reallocations are nothing new at Mizzou. Over the past several decades faculty, staff and administrators have focused continually on ways to trim costs and make operations more efficient.

Savings achieved through reallocation will remain on campus. The first step, Deaton said, will be to identify how much it will take to move MU to the median of public AAUs.

The chancellor said he will ask three groups on campus, under the leadership of Provost Brian Foster, to identify potential savings: an

academic group comprised of divisional representatives, department chairs, Curators’ Professors and Faculty Council; an administrative group that includes chancellor’s and provost’s staff members as well as deans and department chairs; and members of MU’s Strategic Planning and Resource Advisory Council, which will provide a long-range planning perspective.

Deaton said the groups will be working under a tight timetable, and he will ask for their recommendations by June 15. By the end of June, he said, “we will have a sense of where we’re going during the first year” the program is in place.

“Over the long term, using the same general framework, we will be looking continually at program review processes and other analyses that we make in trying to find ways to consolidate where we can and take advantage of each other’s strengths,” Deaton said. “I hope we will have your cooperation in the dialogue about these tough issues and that we can

tap the best thinking of all of you — the faculty at large and campus administration — to move toward this goal.”

Deaton also pointed to a few positive budget developments on the state level. Gov. Matt Blunt’s proposed 4.2 percent increase in the state appropriation for higher education is moving through the legislature with no significant changes. Another proposal being considered by lawmakers would add \$45 million in new state money for scholarships around Missouri; an estimated \$6 to \$7 million of that new money would be available for MU students.

At the same time, though, Deaton noted some disturbing long-term changes in the pattern of Missouri’s support for higher education: As recently as 2002, state funding accounted for 25 percent of Mizzou’s budget. In 2007, state funding made up only 19 percent of the budget. Tuition and fees accounted for 20 percent of the budget in 2002 and 27 percent in 2007.

See SALARIES on Page 4

Check out libraries' benefits

Many people think of libraries as places full of books, periodicals, CDs and DVDs. That definition is outdated, says an MU professor, because today's libraries offer a variety of services. The library is far from being extinct and is actually a portal to an unending wealth of information," says Doug Raber, associate professor and academic outreach coordinator in MU's School of Information Sciences and Learning Technologies. "The introduction of new technologies, such as the

Internet, will cause libraries to adapt and will bring new users into the library."

For instance, libraries subscribe to Internet databases and academic journals to bring these services to their patrons for free. That provides access to information that most people cannot get just from simply surfing the Web at home, and librarians also provide guidance and knowledge about where to find information. Libraries also can offer a neutral space for meetings, and 94 percent of public libraries that serve more than 5,000 people

provide literacy services.

In a recent survey, Americans named the four most important characteristics or services of public libraries as being that the services are free (79 percent) and that the library "is a place where I can learn for a lifetime" (71 percent), "enhances my education" (65 percent) and "provides information for school and work" (65 percent).

Careful with that mower

Mowing the lawn can be a drag, but it also can be

dangerous. Each year, more than more than 75,000 Americans are injured in lawn mowing accidents, including 10,000 children. Lawnmowers can pick up rocks and other objects and toss them at speeds of more than 200 miles an hour, says Bill Casady, a University of Missouri Extension safety expert. A string trimmer can hurl objects at three times that speed. Casady offers these safety tips:

- Parents should not allow children under the age of 12 to use a push mower and children younger than 16 should be kept off

riding lawn mowers.

• People should always wear eye and ear protection. Many string trimmers, leaf blowers and chain saws can generate noise in excess of 100 decibels, which can cause permanent hearing damage.

• Adults should check lawn equipment to make sure safety guards are in place. The protective shield on the rear of a push mower has saved many feet during accidents, however many older-model lawn mowers do not have this safety feature.

Annual forum will showcase undergraduate research at Mizzou

ACCOMPLISHED UNDERGRADS

MU creates opportunities for students and their faculty mentors

The research and creative work that will be on display at Mizzou next Monday will be dazzling and will cover a broad array of disciplines and topics :

- the effects of Salmonella bacteria on human cancer
- examining culture through theater design
- using radiopharmaceuticals to target receptors on

- prostate cancer cells
- high resolution charting of cyclones
- characteristics of blast-resistant structural concrete
- the impact of campaign spending on Missouri legislative elections

Perhaps the most surprising thing about this array of research is that it all was conducted not by MU faculty, graduate students or post-docs, but by undergraduates from academic programs around campus.

For the fifth year, the Undergraduate Research and

Creative Achievements Forum will showcase the work of undergrads who work in the labs or under the mentorship of MU faculty volunteers. What started in 2003 with 56 research projects on display has grown this year to more than 170 projects.

"All five floors of the Life Sciences Center will be filled with posters and presentations," says Linda Blockus, director of the Life Sciences Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, which coordinates the program.

The forum's poster presentations will be held

from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday, April 30, in the Life Science Center's McQuinn Atrium. Oral presentations will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. April 30 in Room 572 Life Science Center. An award ceremony to honor undergraduate researchers will be held from 4 to 5 p.m. in Life Science Center's Monsanto Auditorium.

As Mizzou's undergraduate research opportunities have grown over the years, so have the funding options for student researchers, Blockus says.

A complete schedule for the Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievements Forum and more information about research options for students are available online at undergradresearch.missouri.edu.

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calendar

Concerts & Plays

Friday, April 27

UNIVERSITY CONCERT

SERIES: The *Whad'Ya Know?* Band will perform at 7:30 p.m. in Jesse Auditorium. For ticket information, call 882-3781.

Saturday, April 28

UNIVERSITY CONCERT

SERIES: National Public Radio host Michael Feldman will bring his irreverent radio quiz program, *Whad'Ya Know?* to Jesse Auditorium at 9:30 a.m. For ticket information, call 882-3781 or order online at www.concertseries.org.

Sunday, April 29

JAZZ SERIES: Pianist David Berkman will perform with his quartet at 3:30 and 7 p.m. at Murry's, 3107 Green Meadows Way. For ticket information, call 449-3001.

Exhibits

MUSEUM OF ART & ARCHAEOLOGY:

"Final Farewell: The Culture of Death and the Afterlife," explores cross-cultural themes of the afterlife and their impact on art. The museum, located in Pickard Hall, is open from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and from noon-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

BRADY GALLERY:

- "Modern Brushwork: An International Modern Brush Painting Exhibition" will be displayed through April 30.
- Ceramic and mixed media sculpture showcase the thesis exhibits of Eric Carlson, "A Man Ain't Nothing But a Man," and Amanda Salov, "An Absurd Beauty," from April 30-May 24.

Lectures & Seminars

Thursday, April 26

MEDICAL HUMANITIES

LECTURE: Robert Fine, director of clinical ethics for the Baylor Health Care System will present "Medical Futility: Philosophy and Politics" at 7 p.m. in the Old Alumni Center.

Friday, April 27

SOCIOLOGY LECTURE:

Stephen Turner, graduate research professor of philosophy at the University of South Florida, will present "Charles Ellwood's World" at 4 p.m. in 106 Pickard Hall. Ellwood was the founder of MU's sociology department and a leading international sociologist.

Monday, April 30

AGRICULTURE LECTURE:

John Ikerd, professor emeritus of agricultural economics, will present "Sustainable Capitalism: The 21st Century Challenge for Our Economy and Our Agriculture" at noon in N201 Memorial Union.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FORUM:

The Office of Undergraduate Research, will present the 2007 Spring Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Forum, from 1-4 p.m. in the McQuinn Atrium of the Life Sciences Center. The poster and oral presentations will be followed by an awards ceremony at 4 p.m. in Monsanto Auditorium.

Tuesday, May 1

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

SEMINAR: Terry Yamaguchi from the National Cancer Institute will present "The Genetic Networks Underlying Wnt Signaling During Early Mammalian Development" at 3:30 p.m. in the Life Sciences Center's Monsanto Auditorium.

MUSEUM SEMINAR:

Maryellen McVicker, administrator of Friends of Historic Boonville, will present "Memories of Missouri" at 12:15 p.m. in the European and American Gallery in Pickard Hall.

Friday, May 4

ART & ARCHAEOLOGY

LECTURE: Lanny Bell from Brown University will present "Pyramids, Mummies and Magic: the Search for Immortality in Ancient Egypt" at 6 p.m. in 106 Pickard Hall. A reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Cast Gallery.

Special Events

Thursday, April 26

SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION:

The Boone County Chapter of the Mizzou Alumni Association will host a silent and live auction from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Reynolds Alumni Center. Proceeds will go to the Boone County Chapter Scholarship Program to help send local student to Mizzou and a portion will also benefit the Missouri Symphony Orchestra Program & the Friends of the Missouri Historic Costume and Textile Collection.

Saturday, April 28

MEMORIAL SERVICE:

The staff of the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center will celebrate and honor the lives of loved ones lost to cancer and the families and friends who cared for them at 10 a.m. in the first floor lobby of Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, 115 Business Loop 70. A welcome reception with light refreshments will begin at 9:30 a.m. Call 884-7103 if you plan to attend.

Monday, April 30

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FORUM:

Undergraduate researchers from all academic disciplines will showcase their research through oral and poster presentations, media and art displays and live performances at the Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievements forum from 1-4 p.m. in the Life Sciences Center's McQuinn Atrium. An awards ceremony will be held at 4 p.m. in Monsanto Auditorium. More information is available online at undergradresearch.missouri.edu.

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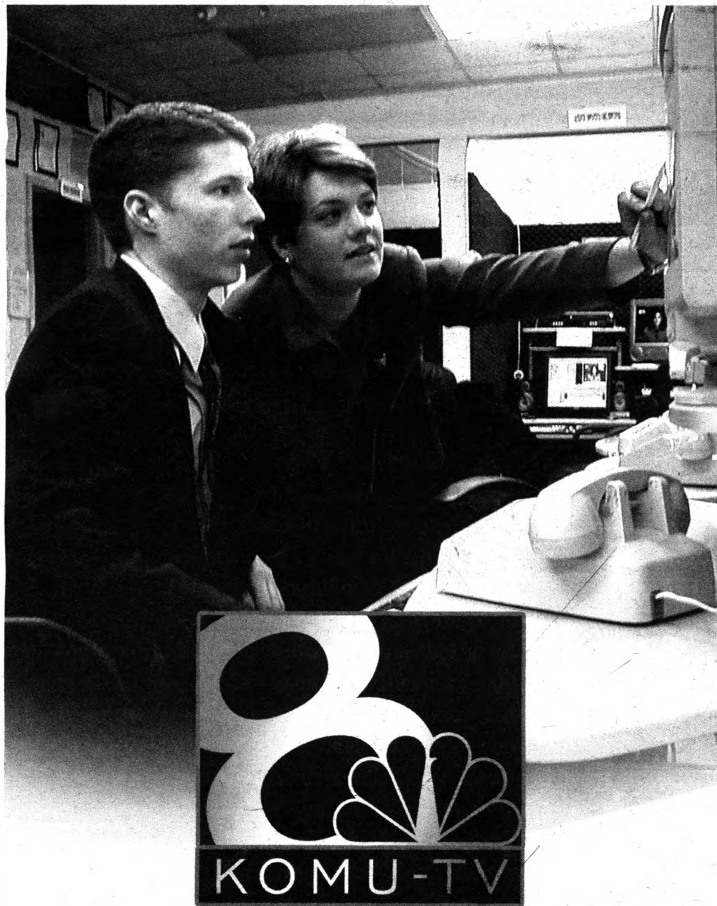


2007 Spring Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievements Forum

Monday, April 30, 2007
McQuinn Atrium
Bond Life Sciences Center
University of Missouri-Columbia

Poster and Oral Presentations.....1-4pm
Awards Ceremony.....4pm
Monsanto Auditorium

For more information visit
undergradresearch.missouri.edu



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SALARIES from Page 1

Over that same five-year time period, states around the country increased their support for higher education by an average of 15.1 percent, while Missouri's appropriations

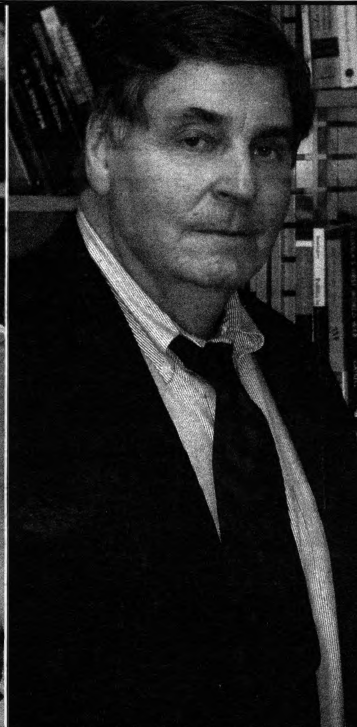
for colleges and universities dropped by a negative 9.9 percent, according to research by the Center for the Study of Education Policy at Illinois State University. "The point is simple,"

Deaton said. "We're lagging behind what's happening in the rest of the nation. This ought to be of great concern to the state's leaders."



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