PHOTO GALLERY: MU welcomes freshmen with annual Tiger Walk

By Elisa Day
August 24, 2009 | 12:01 a.m. CDT

Freshmen stream through the Columns at the Francis Quadrangle as part of the 15th annual Tiger Walk on Sunday. Tiger Walk symbolizes the students' entrance into the Mizzou community. | Elisa Day

The Tiger Walk, the symbolic walk through the Columns towards Jesse Hall, is a tradition for MU freshmen. After the walk Sunday evening, MU faculty served Tiger Stripe ice cream to the students by MU faculty, and the Marching Mizzou and the Golden Girls, MU's dance squad, performed. When these freshmen are seniors, they'll get to repeat the walk, but away from Jesse Hall toward downtown Columbia.
Reynolds foundation gives $15 million to MU

Sunday, August 23, 2009

The Reynolds Journalism Institute has been awarded a five-year, $15 million gift, the third-largest donation ever awarded to the University of Missouri.

The funds are from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation in Las Vegas, which gave MU the $31 million used to establish RJI in 2004.

RJI works with corporate partners, including Apple, Adobe and AT&T, to create new multimedia products. The institute also provides seed funding for entrepreneurial ventures aimed at sustaining journalism.

The money will be used to continue center operations, foundation Chairman Fred Smith said in a prepared statement.

“This gift from the Reynolds Foundation makes it possible for us to pursue our dream of an institute that supports democracies around the world by developing and testing 21st century models and technologies of journalism to serve civil society,” Chancellor Brady Deaton said in the announcement. “In its first year of full operation, RJI has shown its potential for restoring the connection between citizens and journalists that is essential to political, economic and personal freedoms.”

— The Tribune’s staff
MU journalism institute receives $15 million

By Ben Wieder
August 22, 2009 | 12:01 a.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — The Reynolds Journalism Institute will receive $15 million from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation, the foundation president said Friday.

The grant will be distributed evenly over five years beginning July 1, 2010, foundation President Steve Anderson said. This will continue the foundation’s funding of staff salaries and operating costs for the institute, which is part of the Missouri School of Journalism and located on the northeast end of Francis Quadrangle.

"This gift from the Reynolds Foundation makes it possible for us to pursue our dream of an institute that supports democracies around the world by developing and testing 21st century models and technologies of journalism to serve civil society," MU Chancellor Brady Deaton said in a statement.

"It is a vote of confidence in the leadership and programs," Anderson said.

RJI was created in 2004 with a $31 million gift from the foundation, the largest gift in MU history.

The initial donation funded the institute’s construction and renovation, high-tech equipment and operating costs for six years.

The $15 million picks up where the previous funding left off and will allow the institute to continue its programs. "We want to tell the industry our doors our open and we’re ready to do business," Pam Johnson, RJI executive director, said in a statement.

The institute will have to reapply for support before the new grant expires in June 2014, Anderson said.
The University of Missouri System is implementing a new report card that will reveal how each of its four campuses stacks up against similar schools and whether administrators are meeting expectations.

The new accountability system, unveiled Thursday to the Board of Curators, is a rubric of goals in five key areas: teaching and learning, research, service, economic development and administrative functions.

Each measure comes with a target and a comparison with peer averages. Measures are campus specific: For instance, MU would not be in the same comparison group as the campuses in St. Louis and Kansas City.

The accountability report won’t be complete until the December meeting of the curators; administrators are still filling in data from the 2008-2009 school year. Once that baseline is established, the report can be updated each year to determine whether the system is meeting a goal, working toward a goal or failing to make progress, said Nikki Krawitz, vice president for finance and administration.

To make it easier to understand, a green dot will be assigned to measures that are meeting a specific target. Yellow dots will show progress, and red dots will show where campuses are failing.

A measure looks like this: In 2007, 67 percent of MU students graduated within six years, and that increased to 69 percent in 2008. The target is to boost that percentage to 70 percent by 2012. The peer average is 75 percent, with the best of the group reporting 93 percent. Once 2009 numbers are available, administrators can see whether MU is on track to reach that goal.

UM System President Gary Forsee said an outside auditor will be hired to ensure all 80 measurements are reasonable and that the system is valid.

Once the accountability system is in place, it needs to be in front of the board as the curators discuss key issues, Curator Doug Russell of Lebanon, Mo., said. “As we talk about any of these
issues, we need to bring the measures along with it and keep this in front of us through the year,” he said. “It’s important to live these measurements and not just report on them.”

Other curators said they were impressed with the reporting process. “This is what I have been looking for for a long time,” Curator David Wasinger of St. Louis said.

Although the report will be used to show lawmakers and Missourians how the UM System is faring, Forsee said, it also could be used when evaluating the performance and salaries of university employees.

Reach Janese Heavin at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jheavin@columbiatribune.com.
Angus W. "Mac" McDougall, a mentor for scores of professional photojournalists around the nation and the former head of the Missouri School of Journalism photojournalism sequence, died Thursday (August 20, 2009) in Columbia. He was 92.

As a professor from 1972 through 1982, Mr. McDougall taught hundreds of students who later became photojournalists at newspapers around the country.

He co-authored what his former students and colleagues call the definitive picture-editing book, "Visual Impact in Print." He also co-wrote "Picture Editing and Layout" and "Pacesetters in Journalism," which was published last year. Another book, "A Photo Journal," showcases Mr. McDougall's newspaper photography.

David Rees, associate professor and the current chairman of the photojournalism faculty for the Missouri School of Journalism's photojournalism sequence, called Mr. McDougall a "legendary force" in his field, who "set standards of excellence in photography, photography editing and photojournalism education."

Mr. McDougall was born in Milwaukee, grew up in Waukesha, Wis., and later married his high school sweetheart. After earning a master's degree in English, he taught in high schools in Wisconsin and studied in New York City.

Mr. McDougall worked during the 1940s and 1950s as a photographer for the Milwaukee Journal, where he pioneered electronic strobe photography, Rees said. He then became a photographer and associate editor at International Harvester World, where he honed his ideas about the use of multiple photographs to create a visual narrative, Rees said.

Mr. McDougall was named Magazine Photographer of the Year in 1955 and Picture Editor of the Year in the 1965, both in the Pictures of the Year competition. He served on the faculty of the Missouri Photo Workshop. In that role, he guided students to create documentary photography to report on everyday life in small Missouri towns, Rees said.

Mr. McDougall received numerous honors during his career, which Rees said included the National Press Photographers Association's Joseph A. Sprague Memorial Award and the Robert F. Garland Educator Award, the Missouri Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism. He also was inducted into the Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame.
Betty McDougall, his wife for 70 years, died in February. Survivors include a daughter, Bonnie Latimer of Elgin, Ill., and a son, Angus Craig McDougall of Louisville, Ky., four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. A daughter, Lorna, is deceased. A private service was held Friday.

As a legacy, Mr. McDougall and his wife established The Angus and Betty McDougall Center for Photojournalism Studies to preserve the work of photojournalists.

Memorials may be sent to the McDougall Center at the Missouri School of Journalism. Checks may be made payable to the McDougall Center, School of Journalism, 103 Neff Hall, Columbia, Mo., 65211.
UM considers impact of lagging benefits, salaries
By Janese Heavin

Friday, August 21, 2009

Advertisement

A five-hour overview of University of Missouri salaries and benefits presented to the Board of Curators yesterday was long on problems but short on solutions.

MU ranks 32nd, next to last, among a list of peer universities when it comes to average faculty salaries. And benefits aren’t much better. The employer-paid value of MU’s retirement benefits dropped from third to seventh place out of 15 similar universities when employees began paying into the system last month. All benefits were just slightly below the average of the group.

“The enlightening thing for me is that I’ve been laboring with the misconception about our benefit program,” Board Chairman Bo Fraser of Columbia said. “I’ve had the misperception our salaries were below par but our benefits were on the richer side.”

MU lags behind its peers because other universities have been able to give significant pay increases over the past several years, said Betsy Rodriguez, vice president for human resources. Even with systemwide UM faculty salaries increasing 7.2 percent from 2007 to 2008, MU’s ranking did not change.

“That shows you how far behind we were,” she said.

Attracting new faculty members will become more important as UM looks to replace retiring employees, Rodriguez said.

“The problem is exacerbated by an expected work force shortage and assuming our current turnover continues,” she said. “So as we have people going out the door, we’re going to be less competitive in replacing these people.”

Annual raises are limited, so it’s important to hire someone at the correct salary, Rodriguez said. But that creates another problem: New hires sometimes end up with higher salaries than more experienced employees.

“There’s a loyalty factor,” John Carney III, chancellor of Missouri S&T, said. “When the salary differences turn into the $20,000 to $25,000 a year range, it’s a serious problem.”
Rodriguez said she’s heard that the system has lost new hires to schools that pay more, but there’s no clear data that indicates UM has a hard time recruiting new employees. But turnover is high among employees who have worked for the university for less than five years. The Kansas City campus is beginning to conduct exit interviews to find out why.

Administrators don’t plan to begin implementing solutions until later this year. But several curators said solutions would require trade-offs.

“If total compensation is a priority, that means something else has to be no longer a priority,” Warren Erdman of Kansas City said.

One option discussed was providing new employees defined contribution retirement plans, similar to employee-contributed 401(k) plans, instead of the current defined benefits plan. Offering the contribution package might be more attractive to young employees, who are more mobile and likely to change jobs, Erdman said. Making the switch would be expensive, though, because current employees would still receive benefits without new hires paying into the system.

This morning, UM President Gary Forsee said employees shouldn’t expect to see any changes in the short term. The meeting was more to create awareness and see what the current situation is.

“At the same time, leadership has to take this on to find solutions,” he said.

Faculty members can expect to weigh in on the discussion, though. The system plans to interview faculty members this fall to find out what they value most in their compensation packages.

Reach Janese Heavin at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jheavin@columbiatribune.com.
MU drops off U.S. News & World Report’s list of top 100 colleges
By Janese Heavin

Friday, August 21, 2009

Advertisement

The University of Missouri is no longer one of the nation’s 100 best colleges, according to U.S. News & World Report.

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

To see the Best Colleges rankings, go to www.usnews.com

MU ranks 102nd on the 2010 Best Colleges list, down from 96th last time. MU ranked 91st on the 2008 list and 88th for 2007.

MU was among 262 national universities surveyed for the annual list, released yesterday. Researchers look at academic programs, research opportunities and learning experiences.

Christian Basi, a spokesman for MU, said administrators don’t place a lot of emphasis on the rankings.

“Our priorities are to provide a safe environment for our students along with the best possible education to prepare them for the workforce,” he said in an e-mail. “We’re also committed to providing prospective students with information that truly reflects the opportunities available at Mizzou. We believe that our growing enrollments demonstrate that more and more students believe MU provides a quality education.”

The School of Medicine ranked 22nd for primary care out of 146 universities, and the College of Education ranked 41st out of 278. The Trulaske College of Business ranked 55th out of 426 MBA programs surveyed, and MU’s School of Law ranked 65th out of 184.

Columbia College’s place in the list of top Midwest schools improved to 44th this year, up from 51st last year.

Although making the list isn’t something the college aspires to, “we’re very happy when we find ourselves in these rankings because it means we’re doing the right things,” said Terry Smith, executive vice president and dean for academic affairs. The list is “shorthand for getting good
information out about the things that really matter in higher education. I do believe families and prospective students look at it.”
Rankings: Do they matter?
By Janese Heavin

Posted August 21, 2009 at 3:01 p.m.

If you look at two recent lists, MU is a pretty average school.

Yesterday, MU slipped to 102 on the U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Colleges list. Earlier this month, Forbes ranked MU 342 out of 600.

There's all sorts of complicated methodology behind these reports, but what do they really mean? Is UM's flagship university -- which houses a law school, business college, education college, medical school, engineering program and leading journalism school all on one campus -- really average?

If you talk to alumni and current students, you'll likely get a different picture. MU grads have gone on to do some pretty impressive work. (If you don't believe me, try Google searching University of Missouri news every day like I do. I was going to routinely blog about what MU alumni are up to, but there was too much to keep up with -- and those are just the ones making news).

Also worth noting is that the U.S. New & World Report's ranking system is under fire. You can read about that here.

I didn't go to MU, so I honestly can't tell you what student life is like there and whether the rankings make sense. What do you think?
MU School of Medicine requests early review of probation status

By Virginia Pasley
August 21, 2009 |

The accreditation council that placed the MU School of Medicine on probation will visit the school on October 27 — earlier than planned — to reassess its accreditation status.

The accreditation body raised concerns about the school's resident education program last April.

Julie Jacob, a spokeswoman for the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, said the organization's next visit to the School of Medicine has been moved up from the previously scheduled date of April 2011. The school had requested the date change, Jacob said.

After the daylong visit, the council's review committee will meet in January to discuss the visit report. The council will announce its decision on the school's accreditation status within 60 days after the meeting.

If the council decides the school hasn't made adequate changes, it would be given another year to comply with requests before losing its accreditation.

However, Dr. John Gay, associate dean for graduate medical education, is confident that the decision will be a favorable one. He said it is "unheard of" for a medical school to lose accreditation during this process.

"They want to get your attention," he said of the accreditation council's report last spring.

The school is one of five medical schools in the nation currently on probation, according to the accreditation council's Web site.
The school's undergraduate medical education program is reviewed independently of the graduate program, by a separate association called the Liaison Committee on Medical Education.

The graduate accreditation council's last visit to the school was in February 2008. It announced the school's probation status in April of the following year, and released a report detailing the reasons behind the probation in May.

These reasons, according to the school's Web site, included: "the proper referencing of policy language in manuals, resident representation at meetings on campus . . . and the level of resources and oversight associated with institutional administration of residents' daily work."

Gay said that the probation status is something "everybody's concerned about."

"It's a black eye," he said.

The Missourian was unable to independently review the report because peer review reports are confidential by law in Illinois, where the council is based.

But the balance between patient service and resident education at the residency program is good, he said. He also said that the status of the residency program does not affect the accreditation status of any one medical program.

In response to the report, the residency program has made an effort to reassign non-medical, administrative tasks to non-physician staff members, in order to ease residents' workloads. Gay said that each team of residents is now assigned its own nurse manager and social worker, and the program has worked on the computerization of patient records.

He said the nationwide movement toward electronic medical record systems ensures that patient "hand-offs" — when a patient is admitted, moved to another level or discharged — are safer and more efficient.

The school made several organizational changes in August 2008 — nine months before the probation report's release — including the creation of a new vice chancellor position to oversee the medical and nursing schools, as well as the hospital and clinics, to facilitate communication among administrators.

"These were things we had been looking at all along," Gay said of the council's concerns. "We had been moving in the same direction — they didn't think we were moving fast enough."
During the October visit, the council representative will focus on the school as the sponsoring institution of the resident education program.

There is a separate process for reviewing and granting accreditation status to individual programs.

The MU School currently has two programs with unfavorable statuses: the Orthopaedic Surgery program, which is on probation; and the Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine program, which does not have accreditation because the school decided to withdraw it from the council’s system.

Gay said the school decided to withdraw the program because several faculty members retired, so there were not enough faculty to do research or maintain the required faculty-to-resident ratio. He said the school has since hired a new neonatologist, and plans to rebuild the program and reapply for accreditation status.

The Orthopaedic Surgery program is also in negotiations with the accreditation council over its status, having been placed on probation after a site visit a year ago. Gay pointed to leadership changes and resulting instability as the reason behind the program’s probation status and said that adhering to the council’s resident duty hour limits had been a problem — one which has now been resolved, he said.

The accreditation council mandates a duty hour limit of 80 hours per week for residents — averaged over four weeks — and four days off per month. The maximum shift length permitted is 30 hours, with a limit of 24 hours spent admitting patients.

The MU School’s spokesperson, Rich Gleba, said residency programs at prominent medical schools such as The Johns Hopkins University and Harvard University have also had problems with duty hour limits.

Some worry that the limits are too high. Studies published in the "New England Journal of Medicine" have shown that staying up for 24 hours can hinder a resident’s performance as much as having a blood alcohol level of 0.10 would.

The Institute of Medicine last year recommended increasing residents’ days off from four to five days a month, limiting hours spent admitting patients during a shift to 16, and counting external moonlighting work as part of the permitted 80 hours.
The institute's proposal pointed out that European medical schools generally have lower duty hour limits: ranging from 37 hours per week in Denmark to as much as 64 in the U.K.

Gay said that the Institute of Medicine's recommendations were "not unrealistic at all," but that a dramatic decrease in permitted duty hours — such as those in Europe — would be an expensive process requiring longer training programs.
Recycler's services dumped

MU strikes deal with city instead.

By T.J. Greaney

Friday, August 21, 2009

Advertisement

After 25 years of collecting the recyclables for the University of Missouri, Brett Allen said he has been undercut by a competitor he can’t outbid: the city of Columbia.

Allen, the owner of Civic Recycling at 3300 Brown Station Road, was told yesterday that beginning Jan. 1, his crew will no longer be permitted to pick up the hundreds of thousands of pounds of cans, bottles, paper and cardboard generated at MU each month.

Instead, MU has elected to enter into a contract with the city’s Commercial Recycling Program to handle recyclables. The city will collect the recyclables at no charge and split the profits earned by reselling the material on the open market with MU. Civic Recycling, by contrast, keeps all the profits.

MU also renegotiated its solid waste pickup contract with the city and will begin paying a volume fee for pickup as opposed to a flat fee each month. Both moves likely will save MU money.

The new contract “gives everyone on campus an incentive to recycle more,” MU spokesman Christian Basi said. “The less we throw in the trash, the less we will pay for that service. The more we recycle, the more money comes back to MU, which can be reinvested in sustainable practices or other cost-saving measures.”

Allen, however, believes he is being stabbed in the back by a once-loyal customer and being outcompeted by a tax-collecting municipality with the ability to spread costs around and raise rates on other customers.

“I’m a little bit miffed. I didn’t do anything wrong,” Allen said. “We bent over backwards for” MU, “like right now the students are coming back, and we’re picking stuff up every day,” as opposed to the normal weekly pickup.

Allen said university officials did not call him directly to break the news that he was losing his biggest customer. Instead, he heard about it from a driver who had been told the rumor by a janitor. Allen said he never had the opportunity to put in a competitive bid.
"I feel like I'm getting screwed," Allen said. "I thought the city was supposed to serve you, not compete with you."

Civic Recycling, Allen said, has $100,000 worth of bins, compactors and rollers scattered around campus. He said the change will likely mean he will have to lay off four or five of his 20-person staff, and it could mean he has to close his plant altogether. He never had a formal contract with MU and relied on a working agreement with Campus Facilities.

The city of Columbia said the massive amount of solid waste and recyclables produced by MU — Civic Recycling picks up 150,000 pounds of recyclables every month from campus — makes the contract good for both sides.

"Recycling and trash go hand in hand, and there are synergies when these collections can be combined," city Solid Waste Utility Manager Richard Wieman said. "It is logical to recycle as much trash as possible to reduce trash cost. Utilizing the same or similar equipment and personnel to perform both activities will save money."

But the city also has not been shy about its intention to compete with Allen. Since the city began processing recyclables for commercial customers in 2003, it has lured away many of Allen's biggest customers, including Columbia Mall and Columbia Regional Hospital. The city of Columbia now has more than 140 customers, and Civic Recycling has about 400.

Allen, who started his business in 1980 with $1,500, said this might be the last straw that puts him out of business. "We're getting stepped on," he said.

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Freshmen lend a hand

Students volunteer to help community.

By Janese Heavin

Sunday, August 23, 2009

More than 200 new University of Missouri students woke up early yesterday to put their best foot forward in Columbia.

As part of the annual Step Forward Day, students volunteered to help out at not-for-profit agencies around town. They gathered at 8 a.m. at Tiger Plaza on campus, where they got their assignments, a free breakfast and a T-shirt.

An hour later, students were bused to various agencies, including Cedar Creek Therapeutic Riding Center, a Salvation Army thrift store and Camp Hickory Hill.

"I think of it as 'pay it forward,'" said Bryan Goers, a graduate student who helped coordinate the event. "They're going to spend the next four or five or six years on campus. This is a way for them to give back to the community before they even start."

Freshmen Spencer Lambdin of Edwardsville, Ill., and David Schlessman of St. Louis opted to volunteer at the Central Missouri Humane Society, where they stacked pet food and swept out a shed.

"I'd feel bad not doing it," Lambdin said. "It's better to get up and lose sleep and make life easier on somebody working here."

The trip to the animal shelter off Big Bear Boulevard in north Columbia also provided a short tour of the town, Schlessman said.

"It's another bonding opportunity, an opportunity to meet people and get acquainted with Columbia a little," he said.

So far, they said they've been too busy with welcome activities on campus to explore the town. On Friday, both Schlessman and Lambdin helped paint rocks that make up the "M" at Faurot Field, and they kissed the 50-yard line — a must-do for MU students, the young Tigers agreed.
Freshman Michelle Fiesta also volunteered at the animal shelter, mopping the hallways and lobby area in the main facility. Even though she's not sure how long she'll remain at MU, she said she wants to help the town where she'll spend at least the next nine months. Plus, Fiesta just likes doing the work.

"I always volunteered in high school," she said. "I think it's a lot of fun, and it's fulfilling — a way of giving back to the community."

The annual Step Forward Day also helps local agencies recruit students they hope will become longtime volunteers.

"We're able to talk about who we are and what we do at the shelter," said Halley Taylor, relations coordinator for the Central Missouri Humane Society.

"That's so important because we rely on volunteers, especially from MU, to spend the weekend or a couple hours a month here," Taylor said. "That's so important to the animals. We're grateful for the opportunity to influence freshmen who will hopefully want to continue a relationship with the shelter until they graduate."

Back-to-school activities were to continue today with the annual Tiger Walk at 6:30 p.m. followed by a public concert at 7 p.m. on Francis Quadrangle. The Tiger Walk allows new students to walk through the MU Columns, symbolizing the start of their college careers.

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COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU students prepare Tiger Garden for upcoming year

By Hye Soo Nah, Pinar Iste
August 22, 2009 | 12:01 a.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — A lush assortment of green plants, bamboos and orchids line the shelves of Tiger Garden, a student-operated floral shop located inside the Agriculture Building at MU.

In the back of the shop, the aromas of earth and flowers spread throughout the room as a student orientation took place for new students who will be running the shop this semester.

A partnership between the Division of Plant Sciences and the University Bookstore, Tiger Garden has been serving MU students since 2005 with a variety of services including greenery such as bamboos, betta fish planters and gift baskets.

Mary Ann Gowdy, a plant sciences professor, used the garden as a tool to teach students how to run a business. She supervises the students, who manage the shop. Students make decisions, come up with new ideas and calculate prices.

Because students direct the garden, training time is limited. Although job opportunities are not restricted to students with experience in plant sciences, those with a floral background are preferred.

Many of the students are hired out of Gowdy's classes.

"Taking the class is kind of an interview. You never know what your professors look for," said Kim Martin, the event coordinator.

Revenues are used to develop the business and make it a better place for students to learn as well as for the payment of the students who work there.

The floral shop offers several free classes and workshops. Because most of the attendees are MU faculty, classes are held mostly during lunchtimes and in the evenings.

People interested in livening up their dorm rooms, apartments or offices can visit the Tiger Garden Web site at tigergarden.missouri.edu or call 884-1191. Tiger Garden is located at 2-34 Agriculture Building and is open from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Law enforcement plans DWI checkpoints near MU

By Brennan David

Saturday, August 22, 2009

Local law enforcement agencies are targeting the University of Missouri campus and surrounding areas with additional DWI checkpoints in collaboration with the nationwide “You Drink & Drive You Lose” campaign.

DWI checkpoints will be set up around the campus sometime between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. through Aug. 30, said MU Police Capt. Brian Weimer. One or more checkpoints can occur during that time, he said, and at various sites around campus.

“We are not targeting students,” Weimer said. “We want them to read in the newspaper about the checkpoints and send the message that driving while under the influence will not be tolerated. We want them to think about it throughout the school year. They need to find designated drivers.”

Weimer added that only half the DWIs issued by his department are to students, which is why the campaign also targets other motorists.

The Boone County Sheriff’s Department, Missouri State Highway Patrol and Columbia Police Department will be assisting with the checkpoints, and the sheriff’s department also will be conducting checkpoints of its own through Sept. 7 throughout the county in collaboration with the nationwide campaign.

Sheriff’s deputies will be working extra shifts during the DWI saturation enforcement period.

Deputy Brian Leer said the sheriff’s department has received an undisclosed amount of grant funding through the Missouri Department of Transportation to pay deputies for overtime while working the checkpoints. Eight deputies will be working four-hour shifts through Sept. 7 in the enforcement effort, he said.

MU Police did not receive a grant to operate checkpoints. “We actually do this several times a year,” Weimer said. “Not just when students arrive.”

According to the Missouri Department of Transportation Division of Highway Safety, 262 people were killed, 1,113 were seriously injured and 3,398 received minor injuries in Missouri crashes involving an impaired driver in 2008.