Free speech is one of academia’s cherished values. That extends to university leaders.

So University of Missouri System President Gary Forsee had every right to contact members of Missouri’s congressional delegation to express his opposition to the House cap-and-trade legislation. He said it would be prohibitively expensive for the campuses.

Some faculty members and student groups are upset with Forsee’s message. They also have the right to express their own views to their elected representatives.

But there is a problem with the letter Forsee sent out last month, according to U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman.

Waxman, a California Democrat who chairs the House Energy and Commerce Committee, had his staff analyze Forsee’s calculations. (Who says Washington doesn’t listen to the voices from the heartland?)

According to Waxman, Forsee wildly overestimated the costs of the prospective legislation when he contended it would ratchet up the university system’s energy bills as much as 50 percent for electricity and 30 percent for natural gas.

Waxman contended the university would be exempt from the House bill’s requirements dealing with power plant pollution because the school puts little of the electricity generated by its Columbia power plant up for sale. So it would not need to purchase emission allowances — knocking off a third of Forsee’s projected cost increase.

Waxman’s rebuttal was “in some ways” beside the point, Forsee said Monday. His letter was intended to convey the message that a cash-strapped public university system would be hard pressed to handle new unfunded energy mandates — whatever the costs.

In the letter, Forsee suggests that Congress exempt public universities from cap-and-trade requirements. Another option, he said Monday, would be for Washington to pay for the changes universities need to make to be in compliance with clean energy legislation.

For all the fuss his letter stirred up, Forsee may have partly accomplished his goal. The university system now has Waxman’s written assurance that its power plant in Columbia isn’t a “covered entity” under the legislation. That sounds a lot like the exemption Forsee was seeking.

Forsee is doing his job by protecting the university system’s financial interests. He also should use his role to support energy efficiencies and climate change research on the campuses.

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JEFFERSON CITY — A stream of petitioners, each given three minutes to state their case, began appearing before the Senate Appropriations Committee on Monday afternoon as work began on the process of matching dwindling revenue sources to the state's needs.

Whether for sheltered workshops all over the state or for educational programs for Missouri's brightest students, advocates all made cases for why their services should be funded.

"These are good programs," Chairman Rob Mayer, R-Dexter, said at one point after hearing a pitch for state funding for the Fine Arts Academy at Missouri State University and the Scholars Academy at the University of Missouri. "However, we are entering difficult circumstances."

The committee began collecting public testimony Monday in the first legislative step in developing a budget for next year. The first witness was the committee's own chief of staff, Dan Haug, who said he had no good news to deliver.

Although the state's income had experienced a slight increase in November, early figures for December were disappointing, indicating a 10.9 percent decrease in revenue for the current fiscal year. Haug modified that projection with the fact that the most recent numbers were being measured against a period of time last year in which state revenues were positively affected by buyouts and stock fund increases connected with the sale of Anheuser-Busch to Belgium brewer InBev.

Still, Haug said, between 2008 and 2010, Missouri state government income could be down by as much as $1 billion because of the recession.

Among those appearing before the committee was Larry Hendren of Columbia, representing the University of Missouri Alliance of Alumni Associations. "The university has developed strategic plans to help do more with less as well as show more accountability," Hendren said.

Sen. Tim Green, D-North St. Louis County, said he believed some university programs such as those offered by its Extension division could be combined with similar offerings of other departments of state government. Green said he planned to ask about duplications when UM System President Gary Forsee comes before the committee.

"Over the years, I've seen a lot of overlap," Green said.

Reach Terry Ganey at 573-815-1708 or e-mail tganey@columbiatribune.com.
JEFFERSON CITY — Facing revenue collections that are expected to decrease close to $1 billion compared to fiscal year 2008, the Senate Appropriations Committee met Monday to hear testimony on funding for state departments.

Gary Kremer, director of the State Historical Society of Missouri, said that if his program is considered for cuts, he might suggest just to close the society.

The historical society had its budget cut by 25 percent in October as part of Gov. Jay Nixon's withholdings. An agreement for society staff to take a 20 percent pay cut only makes up for half of the money lost from the withholding.

Even if the society laid off employees, Kremer said, it would still not be able to cut enough from its budget because of the benefits and severance packages required for MU employees.

Laying off one employee making $30,000 "would have cost $26,000 in transition costs," Kremer said.

Others who testified acknowledged the state's dire financial situation, but they also asked the committee to keep funding at current levels.

"Nobody wants to see their program cut, but the state needs money to operate," said state Sen. Tim Green, D-St. Louis. Green asked many of those providing testimony to suggest other areas where funding could be cut.

"Everyone is coming up asking us please don't cut," Green said. "Well, if we don't cut you, where can we cut?"
Earlier in the day, Dan Haug, director of the Senate Appropriations staff, said that revenue collection is down close to 11 percent for the fiscal year that began July 1 compared to fiscal 2009. While collections saw its first increase in November, Haug said, "December has not been kind."

Following Haug's statement, the hearing began with witnesses testifying on behalf of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Testimony centered on funding for vocational services, high school drop-out programs, the Missouri Research & Education Network or MOREnet — which provides Internet services for education — and the Parents as Teachers program.

"Additional cuts would have a devastating impact," said Jane Callahan, public policy director for the Parents as Teachers National Center in St. Louis. State funding to Parents as Teachers was cut by 10 percent during the past year.

Callahan's testimony was echoed by Mary Lou Bussabarger, who testified on behalf of the Missouri Institute of Mental Health.

"The state will lose tens of millions of (federal grant) dollars because we are not going to have enough grant writers," Bussabarger said, describing the effects of further cuts on the Institute.

The day ended with a request from the Office of Administration for the state to update a 15-year-old disparity study aimed at identifying the needs of minority- and female-owned businesses.

Updating the disparity study would cost the state about $600,000, said Denise Farris, a Kansas City attorney testifying at the Administration Office's request.

Keith Savage, founder of Logistical Resource Solutions in St. Louis, argued that the state is required by law to update the study.

"The disparity study will be paid for one way or another," Savage said, referring to legal action that could be taken if Missouri does not update the study.

State Sen. Jim Lembke, R-St. Louis, questioned why businesses would want to deal with the state given its current financial situation.
"If I was a small business owner, this wouldn't be the time I would want to do business with the state," Lembke said. "We're looking at a billion dollar budget shortfall this year, and it will be worse next year. I would want to do business with someone other than the state."

The committee will continue hearing testimony Tuesday and is set to begin work on the budget after Nixon gives his State of the State speech in January.
Scholarship sends student to Oxford

By Janese Heavin

Monday, December 7, 2009

A University of Missouri student has received a prestigious scholarship that will allow him to study Middle Eastern issues for two years at the University of Oxford.

Senior Brian Pellot — who is double-majoring in convergence journalism and international studies — is one of 35 American students to receive the Marshall Scholarship. The program was founded in 1953 as a way to give young Americans the chance to study at a British university of their choice.

MU administrators believe Pellot is the first MU student to receive the scholarship since 1983, spokesman Christian Basi said. He will begin work toward a master’s degree at Oxford next year.

“We’re thrilled to see him get the Marshall Scholarship,” said Brian Brooks, associate dean of the Missouri School of Journalism. “He’s a terrific young man. He’s bright and driven.”

Pellot said he hopes to pursue a career as a foreign correspondent or in some other foreign service in hopes of better educating Americans on the historical and religious context behind Middle Eastern issues.

“I’ve done a lot of reporting in the region, and what I see is not always covered in U.S. media the way I would like it to be covered,” he said. “The context and history are necessary to understanding the central issue.”

Pellot has extensive experience in the Middle East. This summer, he reported on the Lebanese election while embedded with a domestic monitoring organization in Beirut. Last year, he represented MU at the American University in Cairo’s first journalism boot camp, where he reported on environmental issues in Egypt and Qatar for the Huffington Post. He then served as a
Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, taking cultural excursions through Cyprus, Lebanon, Jordan and other countries in the region.

Pellot said his interest in the Middle East stems from his high school days in Wausau, Wis., where his class conducted a videoconference with Kuwaiti students. Pellot became pen pals with some of the Kuwaitis and became interested in their country and culture.

In addition to the financial benefits, the Marshall Scholarship program will give him unique access to the British government, Pellot said.

"That's something I'm really interested in, seeing the special relationship between the U.S. and U.K.," he said. "That relationship affects policies in the Middle East."

Reach Janese Heavin at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jheavin@columbiatribune.com.
State review clears MU veterinarian

Farmer made complaint after deaths of 17 calves.

By Janese Heavin

Monday, December 7, 2009

A state licensing board has dropped a complaint against a local veterinarian, but Hallsville farmer Gary Morrison said he’s now considering legal action.

Morrison filed a complaint with the Missouri Veterinary Medical Board earlier this year against Loren Schultz, a food-animal veterinarian at the University of Missouri’s College of Veterinary Medicine. Morrison said 17 of his cross-breed black Angus calves died shortly after Schultz treated them last winter.

The board notified Morrison in October that members reviewed the case and decided not to take disciplinary action. Dana Hoelscher, director of the state board, would not discuss the review, saying cases are closed records unless disciplinary action is taken.

College administrators expressed support for Schultz in a prepared statement.

“We are pleased with the Missouri Veterinary Medical Board’s decision to take no disciplinary action against Dr. Schultz,” said John Dodam, chairman of the college’s Department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery. “Loren Schultz is a hard-working, dedicated and talented veterinarian who exemplifies our college’s commitment to provide excellence in animal care to Missourians who own livestock and companion animals. We are privileged to have Dr. Schultz on our team.”

Morrison said he’s disappointed but not surprised by the board’s decision. The online complaint form, he said, doesn’t provide enough space to fully explain what happened.

“I wasn’t able to tell my side of the story,” he said. “They never called me to ask for more information.”

Schultz vaccinated about 70 calves for Morrison last December. Morrison said Schultz offered to use a sample medication on the cattle, but Morrison declined. He originally thought that medication was similar to Ivomec, a common de-wormer, but this morning Morrison said that had only been an assumption because the sample medication’s name ended with “mec.”
Morrison said he has not been able to get any more information on the sample medication, which he believes was used on his calves without permission.
Morrison said Schultz told him the animals died of “inherited stress syndrome,” but cattle experts told the Tribune in August that there’s no such condition in cattle. Morrison had an outside group perform necropsies on three of the calves. Results showed they died of pneumonia, but Morrison said he believes the respiratory illness was a secondary condition.

Morrison said he asked the college to reimburse him $25,000, but the request was denied. He has retained Columbia attorney Mark Wilson and is considering legal options.

Reach Janese Heavin at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jheavin@columbiatribune.com.
State academies' funding cut

Summer camps will be forced to charge tuition.

Jefferson City -- For the first time, two summer camps for Missouri's most gifted high school students will have to charge tuition.

That's because state lawmakers slashed funding for the Missouri Fine Arts Academy and Missouri Scholars Academy from $710,000 annually to $259,000 in 2010.

The cuts will result in a tuition rate of up to $1,200 per student to attend the three-week Missouri Fine Arts Academy next summer at Missouri State University, said Julie Bloodworth, director of the program.

Bloodworth testified Monday before the state Senate Appropriations Committee about the impact the cuts are already having on the program, which traditionally has been almost fully funded by taxpayers.

"My plea to you is to continue the Missouri Fine Arts Academy at whatever level you can manage," Bloodworth said.

The Senate Appropriations Committee began public testimony Monday on the 2010-11 budget, the first of two days of hearings before the legislation session begins Jan. 6.

The four-hour hearing began with a sobering budget shortfall estimate from Dan Haug, the appropriations committee's top staffer.

Haug estimates the current fiscal year's budget will be $1 billion less than budgeted by lawmakers in the spring.

Gov. Jay Nixon, a Democrat, has already slashed $634 million in spending the Republican-controlled legislature authorized in May.

Haug said the revenue shortfall could get worse in late 2010 and early 2011 as the recession wears on.

"If you want good news, you probably shouldn't talk to me," Haug told lawmakers. "Because I don't think I'm going to have any."

Some of the interest groups who testified Monday have already sustained budget cuts from the legislature or Nixon's withholding of spending this year. Others were in the Capitol to make a case for why they should be spared the budget ax.

The fine arts and scholars academies were a victim of last year's budget cuts because they were not viewed, by lawmakers, as core government services. Lawmakers also cited that they serve a select number of Missouri students as another reason to cut the programs by nearly two-thirds.

Students are nominated by their teachers to attend. As part of its plan to stay in business, the Missouri Fine Arts Academy will also charge $50 to each high school if one of its students attends the interdisciplinary program.

Bloodworth said the new tuition for the Missouri Fine Arts Academy will be based on a sliding scale of a family's income, meaning the most a student would pay is $1,200.

It will cost $500 per student for each of the 330 students who attend the Missouri Scholars Academy next summer at the University of Missouri in Columbia, said Theodore Tarkow, director of the program and associate dean of arts and sciences at MU.
Students from families with the means to pay the tuition will partially subsidize the cost for those who can't afford it, Tarkow said.

"We want to make sure that students from economically-challenged families can still attend," Tarkow said.

Bloodworth and Tarkow said they've sought private donors, but found it was hard to leverage that underwriting with such little state support remaining.

Lawmakers seemed sympathetic to their plight, while remaining pragmatic to the state's looming budget crisis.

"We're under difficult circumstances, but hopefully we can find a way to find it," said Sen. Rob Mayer, a Republican from Dexter and the new chairman of the Appropriations Committee.

*Chad Livengood*
Open Column

MU prices fans out of basketball games

Monday, December 7, 2009

Editor, the Tribune: Last season the University of Missouri Tigers men's basketball team made the Elite 8 in the NCAA Tournament. But now, shame on Mizzou and other Division 1 universities pricing games out of the common fan market. Average second- and third-generation supporters can no longer afford to attend. Not to mention a recession.

When I was younger, I never dreamed that one day I wouldn’t be able to afford a ticket to attend a simple single MU basketball game! I thought a nice Christmas gift for my wife would be a pair of tickets to a Tiger home game Jan. 30 against Oklahoma State. Online ticket info told me I could sit in the cheapest seats if I would donate $250 per seat plus the cost of the seat! Decent seats went for $625 to $25,000, plus the increased cost of the seat.

Obviously, we won’t be attending any basketball in Columbia anymore! For this disabled alum — for $500 plus the cost of the seats, we could use our binoculars in the rafters or watch the game on TV. I’ve sworn that as a 1970 Mizzou alum I bleed black and gold, but I will not bleed real blood for MU’s almighty dollar for the sake of tradition. This makes the entertaining Missouri Valley Conference mid-majors and smaller colleges basketball a good value. I’m attending the Missouri Valley Conference tournament in March.

Ken Rhoads 8782 Highway 101
Gamaliel, Ark.
University of Missouri, Navy to battle in Texas Bowl

The University of Missouri will take on the United States Naval Academy in the 2009 Texas Bowl on Dec. 31 at Reliant Stadium.

The Texas Bowl, which generates about $25 million in economic impact annually, was formed in 2006.

This year's Texas Bowl will move to ESPN and be part of the network's Capital One Bowl Week, which will feature 23 bowl games from Dec. 19 to Jan. 2. It previously aired on the NFL Network.

The Missouri Tigers are 8-4 overall, and finished second in the Big 12 North.

Meanwhile, the Navy Midshipman, which accepted its invitation to the Texas Bowl last month, is the first Division I Football Bowl Subdivision team to accept a bowl invitation. The Navy is 8-4, with one game left on Dec. 12 against the U.S. Army.

Last year, Rice University — in its first bowl game win since 1954 — defeated Western Michigan 38-14 in the Texas Bowl.

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MUPD investigating assault in Hitt Street garage

Aggravated assaults on Missouri campuses have risen since 2005.

By Rachel Allred
Published Dec. 8, 2009

The MU Police Department is investigating an assault that happened at the Hitt Street garage early Sunday morning.

The assault is one of about 80 that have occurred in Columbia since November.

MUPD Capt. Brian Weimer said officers were called to respond to an assault involving a male who was confronted by people he did not know, while walking from the library to his car.

"The individuals yelled at him," Weimer said. "He didn't acknowledge them and he continued walking to his car. Someone threw an empty plastic bottle, hitting him in the right leg."

Weimer said the victim did not report any injuries and refused medical treatment. The suspects' vehicle was a medium sized dark blue SUV. The police have a possible license plate number, but have not released it due to the ongoing investigation, Weimer said.

Law enforcement considers the incident a simple assault. Weimer said officers analyze the situation and refer to guidelines in order to label an assault.

"They have to look at the facts and look at the laws to see what the severity matches up with," Weimer said.

According to the Campus Security Data Analysis Cutting Tool Web site, aggravated assaults have decreased at MU since 2006. The site reported 10 aggravated assaults at MU in 2006, five in 2007 and six in 2008.

The average number of aggravated assaults on Missouri campuses has risen since 2005, the Web site stated. In 2005, 60 aggravated assaults on Missouri campuses were reported, 70 in 2006 and 85 in 2007.

Columbia Police Department Sgt. Ken Hammond said Columbia has a much higher clearance rate of assaults than the national average. The clearance rate is based on Uniform Crime Report statistics.

According to the Crimereports.com, 78 assaults happened in Columbia between Nov. 1 and Dec. 3, six of which involved a deadly weapon.
Faculty on the lookout for ghostwriting

The practice occurs when companies write articles attributed to scholars.

By Caitlin Jones
Published Dec. 8, 2009

As students get ready to turn in final projects for many classes, teachers are on the lookout for plagiarism. But according to a letter to the National Institutes of Health from Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, plagiarism happens in medical documents in a practice known as ghostwriting.

The letter states ghostwriting is when drug and device companies hire a group to write a draft journal article and then have academic professors and researchers sign onto them as the lead author.

Jerome Kassirer, a professor at both the Tufts University School of Medicine and the Stanford University School of Medicine has spoken out against the practice in the past.

"It violates integrity. If an author signs his/her name to a manuscript, one should be able to assume that they are the real author and that they take responsibility for its content," Kassirer said in an e-mail. "It is also wrong because ghostwritten articles are often biased in favor of the company that had it written, and thus provide a false impression of the facts."

Kassirer went on to compare ghost writing to plagiarism.

"A plagiarist copies big chunks of text from an original manuscript into his/her own," Kassirer said. "A ghostwriter simply signs his/her name to material he or she did not write. The two are not all that different; both are deceptive practices."

Kassirer said no one really knows how often ghostwriting occurs in important medical research, but steps are being taken to prevent ghostwriting from occurring.

"Many journals are now requiring that authors attest that they are the sole authors of submitted manuscripts," Kassirer said.

Committee on Publication Ethics Chairwoman Liz Wager has been involved in developing an anti-ghostwriting checklist.

"Our COPE Best Practice guidelines recommend that editors should consider developing a transparency policy to encourage maximum disclosure about the provenance of non-research articles, adopt authorship or contributorship systems that promote good practice and discourage misconduct," Wager said in an e-mail.

MU spokesman Christian Basi said the School of Medicine does not have a policy dealing specifically with ghost writing.

"We don't have a specific policy that is dedicated to the issue of ghostwriting," Basi said. "We have policies that cover with research misconduct or plagiarism that this type of situation would fall under."
The Collected Rules and Regulations of MU states research misconduct is the fabrication, falsification or plagiarism in proposing, performing or reviewing research or in reporting research results.

According to this section of the university's rules, a finding of research misconduct requires there be a significant departure from accepted practices of the relevant research community, misconduct be committed intentionally, knowingly or recklessly and the allegation be proven by preponderance of the evidence.

A campus faculty committee is in charge of hearing any case involving a charge of research misconduct and each campus of the university has a standing committee to hear cases of research misconduct.

When addressing allegations of research misconduct, there are three principle phases: an inquiry as to whether the allegation has substance and that an investigation is warranted; an investigation which develops a case; and determination by the chancellor as to whether misconduct occurred.

"In the past 16 years, I cannot recall when ghostwriting has been an issue for our faculty," Basi said.
Letter to the Editor:

MU needs clean energy

By Paul Rolfe, Coal Free Mizzou faculty coalitions coordinator
Published Dec. 8, 2009

The other day I saw two political pundits on TV debating the reality of climate change and I was astonished. Glaciers are melting, a hurricane decimated New Orleans and most scientists concur that global temperatures continue to rise. While controversy and debate may sell well with the media, human-caused climate change has been widely recognized as the reality. Clearly our world’s climate is on a slippery slope to chaos.

Science has shown the cause of these effects comes down to greenhouse gases, mainly carbon emissions. In the U.S., coal contributes nearly 40 percent of carbon dioxide emissions.

Simply put, coal equals carbon. With every light switch flipped, TV show watched and adjustment of the thermostat, we are feeding the coal habit. We are feeding it with 183,000 tons of dirty coal a year here at MU. To put that in perspective, if you piled all that coal onto Faurot Field, that pile would be over 150 feet high.

Many people will claim it’s too expensive to move to renewable sources of energy. This has been shown to be false on a long-term scale or when including the externalities of coal. If you include the external cost of miners’ lives, destruction of environments and communities destroyed by mining, chemicals put into the air when coal is burned and the way carbon emissions are throwing our climate into an erratic mess, it quickly becomes clear that using clean and renewable energy is by far the most economical option we have. It is also the only option that will improve our families’ health, protect our climate and create permanent, sustainable job growth in our stagnant economy.

MU has made some noteworthy sustainability efforts of course, with some biomass fuels, natural gas, and a new biomass boiler to be installed by 2012. Yet over 80 percent of all the campus energy supply still comes from coal burned locally at the MU Power Plant, with even more being burned by our outside energy supplier.

The real concern with our energy consumption is there is no plan or vision to ever stop burning coal. Chancellor Deaton has said he agrees with implementing clean sources of energy, but he won’t take the next step of commissioning a plan to phase out coal. Change won’t come instantly, but if we don’t take action now, the most destructive effects of coal will be inescapable.

Other schools are already moving beyond coal. The University of Wisconsin has begun the transition to move completely off coal to a combination of natural gas and biomass by 2012. Ball State University is moving completely to geothermal power. These solutions will massively cut carbon emissions at both schools, provide a greater mix of locally sourced biomass and geothermal energy, create new construction and clean energy jobs and drastically cut air and water pollution from coal use.

Here at MU, we can help launch the clean energy revolution rather than hanging on to our dirty coal habits. Moving beyond coal at MU is a crucial step to show leadership for getting others to kick the habit.
too. To do so, we need a strong commitment by Chancellor Deaton and the MU administration to move beyond coal by increasing investments in solar, geothermal, more biomass, energy efficiency, and conservation. These solutions exist today and could be employed immediately to reduce our dependence on coal in the short term and eliminate its use entirely as quickly as possible.

Let's take the lead in moving beyond coal, starting right here at Mizzou.
CDS suffers loss in total revenue

The loss of Brady Food Court played a main factor in the revenue decline.

By Zach Toombs
Published Dec. 8, 2009

Campus Dining Services retail locations are experiencing revenue increases, but for the second consecutive semester, they’re not making up for the loss of Brady Food Court.

"The major exception is at the student center because we closed Brady Food Court, T.A. Brady’s and Mizzou Market-Brady Commons in December 2008," CDS Director Julaine Kiehn said in an e-mail. "The decrease from the Brady locations is greater than the increase in the other retail locations."

The retail locations, including the four Mizzou Markets and four on-campus cafes, brought in 23 percent less revenue from July 1 to Oct. 31, compared to the same time period last year. The majority of the loss comes from Brady Food Court’s absence. Truman’s Takeout made approximately $500,000 less than the restaurants in old Brady Commons last year.

Mizzou Market on Hitt Street, located near the newly opened Hawthorn, Dogwood and Galena residence halls, experienced the largest increase in revenue, making $183,314 more from July through October 2009. CDS spokesman Andrew Lough said the opening and closing of residence halls and other CDS locations have a large effect on locations' revenue across campus.

"The mix of offerings we have also plays a part in both individual and total revenue," Lough said. "The addition or expansion of locations may generate additional revenue, but may also shift revenue from other locations. While some shift is expected anytime a new location is added, we aim to have the total grow."

Lough cited several other causes for changes in revenue, both positive and negative, including larger freshman classes.

"Enrollment is always an issue we consider relevant to revenue," Lough said. "As enrollment continues to rise, we hope to see total revenue rise."

The economic recession might have also played a part in students' selections regarding meal plans and how often to eat in dining halls on campus, rather than dining out.

"Economic conditions have implications across the industry," Lough said. "As discretionary income changes, our revenue is affected. Dining plans offer a very economic option for purchasing quality meals."

Starbucks and Wheatstone Bistro, located in Memorial Union, also saw steep increases in revenue, bringing in approximately $56,000 more from July through October 2009.

Lough said CDS works to promote nearby dining locations to students based on where they live on campus.
"We continue to execute marketing plans to raise awareness of locations," Lough said. "We work with Residential Life closely to inform students living in residence halls of options, particularly in or near those buildings."

Kiehn said CDS projects the dining options offered in phase three of the new student center will more than make up for the loss of old Brady Commons.

"We expect the revenue at the new student center — when it opens in early 2011 — will surpass that of the former Brady Food Court, T.A. Brady's and Mizzou Market-Brady Student Commons," Kiehn said in an e-mail. "We will know in a little over a year."
MU in the Evening could be merged with regular program

Night classes could become available for fulltime students.

By Jared Grafman
Published Dec. 8, 2009

MU administration is discussing how to incorporate MU in the Evening into the general MU program at the recommendation of Faculty Council.

In a recent meeting, the council recommended to Provost Brian Foster the university discontinue MU in the Evening, which operates as part of MU Extension. Faculty Council Chairwoman Leona Rubin said MU in the Evening is a successful program but is too limited.

"Students and staff attending MU in the Evening expressed an interest in alternative degree programs," Rubin said.

Foster said he agrees it would be in the best interest of all students to incorporate the MU in the Evening programs into the rest of the university's programs. Rubin said by eliminating the distinction between MU in the Evening and the regular MU classes, non-traditional students would have the same degree options as daytime students.

Foster said evening courses would become part of MU in general and there would be more opportunities to take classes, which would lead to more degrees.

The discussions about ending the MU in the Evening program are not about terminating opportunities for students as some people might be led to believe, Foster said.

"I think this whole topic has been framed in sort of an odd way, as if we're eliminating something," Foster said. "In fact what we want to do is expand opportunities in the evening. The evening classes will become part of MU in general."

Rubin said Faculty Council has identified several limitations imposed by the MU in the Evening program structure, the most obvious being a separate administrative structure.

Another limitation is a Bachelor of General Studies is the only degree offered in the MU in the Evening program, originally designed for faculty members and people who, for various reasons, were unable to attend daytime classes.

"MU in the Evening originally targeted MU staff who could not attend day classes, but desired access to a degree program for professional advancement," Rubin said. "To expand degree offerings in the evening requires a larger infrastructure commitment than is possible through MU Extension."

The availability of the Bachelor of General Studies degree as part of the general MU program also negatively affects the benefit of MU in the Evening. The Bachelor of General Studies degree is offered in both the regular MU program and MU in the Evening. Foster said.
"Most of the students in the bachelor of general studies program are in the program during the day," Foster said.

Rubin said the discussion of merging MU in the Evening with the regular MU program is focusing on helping every student.

"We are trying to eliminate the administrative distinction between day and night with the hope of seeing more opportunities for evening and day students," Rubin said.

Sophomore Mary Kampelman, who takes a night class once a week for her pre-nursing program, said she's hesitant to jump at the opportunity for later classes as part of the regular MU program.

"If there was an option to take a long course for two or three hours in one night, I'd be interested, but if it was like Monday through Friday late at night then I'm not sure I would want to take it," Kampelman said.

How and when MU in the Evening will be incorporated into the regular MU program is still being discussed by the administration, Foster said.

"There really isn't a timeline right now, discussions are on-going about how to achieve the restructuring and expand the evening offerings," Foster said.