Stoplight colors to help chart UM effectiveness

Forsee inspired new measures.

By Janese Henvin

By the end of this calendar year, University of Missouri curators, employees and constituents will be able to see where campuses are succeeding or failing on a color-coordinated report card unveiled last month.

The so-called Accountability Measurement System, the brain-child of UM System President Gary Forsee, is a compilation of roughly 80 measures encompassing all four facets of the university's mission: teaching and learning, research, service and economic development.

For each measurement, the chart contains three years of baseline data, peer averages and, in some instances, goals for 2012. If a campus is meeting that goal by the end of this calendar year, a green sticker will be affixed next to the measurement. A yellow sticker will indicate a campus is making progress toward that goal, and a red dot will imply a school is not making progress.

For instance, the MU-specific report card shows that in 2009, the four-year graduation rate was 41 percent. Administrators aim to increase that rate to 44 percent by 2012.

The charts are available on the system Web site, www.umsystem.edu. Read with caution though: At first glance, the numbers are somewhat misleading.

MU administrators set the 2012 goals months before data from fiscal 2009 was available. When administrators plugged in the 2009 numbers, they found that Mizzou is already meeting 14 of the goals set for 2012.

Those targets will be re-evaluated and will constantly be updated to reflect demographic, economic or other factors that would change the higher education landscape, MU Provost Brian Foster said.

Some MU faculty members say they're OK with the accountability system as long as individuals realize it's a snapshot that doesn't tell the whole story.
"The common concern when you have quantitative measures is it gives as a picture of some things but it leaves out context, which explains the numbers," said Victoria Johnson, associate professor of sociology and vice president of MU’s American Association of University Professors chapter. "There’s some concern with how the numbers might be used and if there might be misrepresentation of what’s actually going on."

Case in point: For the past three years, MU has seen 47 percent of the freshmen accepted into the university actually enroll. The goal for that “freshman yield rate” in 2012 drops to 45 percent, which begs the question: Why would administrators want to see fewer accepted freshmen enroll at MU?

What the chart doesn’t clarify is that the 2012 target reflects a changing demographic, Deputy Provost Ken Dean said. Fewer Missouri students are expected to graduate high school and be ready for college in the coming years, which means MU will have to recruit more out-of-state students to keep enrollment stable.

But, traditionally, fewer out-of-state students accepted into MU actually enroll, causing the “yield rate” to drop even if enrollment rises. Likewise, what appears to be a goal of higher faculty turnover at MU in 2012 is actually optimistically low considering a large number of faculty members are nearing retirement age, Dean said.

The Accountability Measurement System will be used in day-to-day decision-making and to help the system better explain those decisions, Forsee wrote in a letter introducing the charts.

Reach Janese Heavin at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jheavin@columbiatribune.com.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targeted area of improvement</th>
<th>2010 data</th>
<th>2012 goal</th>
<th>Progress to goal</th>
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<td>Average faculty salary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual undergraduate</td>
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<td>Undergraduate enrollment</td>
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<td>2011 graduation rate</td>
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<td>2012 graduation rate</td>
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<td>Number of new (Ph.D.)</td>
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<td>20</td>
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How it will work:
- Goal has been achieved
- In process of meeting goal
- Not making progress toward goal

Source: University of Missouri System
Tax credit bill would finance campus work

Measure targets health care field.

By Terry Ganey

Saturday, February 6, 2010

JEFFERSON CITY — State Rep. Stephen Webber, D-Columbia, filed legislation this week to help the University of Missouri and other public colleges attract funds to build facilities to train nurses and other health professionals.

Webber, who is serving his first term in the House, noted there are hundreds of unfilled positions in nursing, physical therapy, speech pathology and occupational therapy around the state but not enough room to train all those who are needed.

He has proposed raising money for projects by giving donors — individuals and corporations — a 50 percent tax credit against state income taxes for each donation above $5,000.

The credit could be taken by anyone who makes a contribution to a capital building fund for the nursing or other health professions at a public university.

A tax credit is like a voucher that reduces the amount of a tax liability.

Under Webber’s bill, the credits could be transferred to another taxpayer.

The credit would expire six years after the bill went into effect unless the General Assembly approved an extension.

“This would allow them to raise their own money,” Webber said. “It would be a tax credit, and it would take money out of the state budget, but it’s for a public building that the taxpayers would own at half the price rather than paying for the whole thing.”

There is growing opposition in some corners of the legislature to the use of tax credits, which erode state finances.

As state revenues have fallen by significant levels, bills have been filed to eliminate the use of tax credits or to have all the money needed to fund them appropriated by the legislature.

Webber said he didn’t expect to pass his bill this year.
"I know this is a complicated plan," he said. "It’s a long-term plan and is not something we expect to have done in the next couple of months. I want to begin now, and hopefully we can get it done in the next couple of years."

Richard Oliver, dean of the School of Health Professions at the University of Missouri, said having the tax credit would make it much more likely to seek and attract donors.

"Employers are excited about anything that will help the school," Oliver said. "There are hundreds of job openings, and we just need the capacity to respond."

For every training slot at the school, Oliver said, there are eight or nine students applying for it.

With a 50 percent increase in student capacity as the goal, Oliver said initial estimates have pegged the cost of a facility to serve both nursing and health professional students at between $70 million and $90 million.

John Short, president of Rehab Care Group Inc. of St. Louis, said his company could hire every new graduate from the school.

"We are very supportive of anything that helps expand the supply of therapists in Missouri," he said. "We employ 1,000 in the state now, and we have 100 openings."

Short said the positions start at $45,000 to $50,000 in annual compensation, which can grow to $70,000 to $80,000 after three to five years.

Webber’s bill is co-sponsored by Democrats Mary Still and Chris Kelly of Columbia as well as Paul Quinn of Monroe City, and Republican Steve Hobbs of Mexico, Mo.

Reach Terry Ganey at 573-815-1708 or e-mail tganey@columbiatribune.com.
MU evening courses face adjustment

Faculty votes against continuing program.

By Janese Heavin

Friday, February 5, 2010

The University of Missouri Faculty Council voted yesterday to recommend that administrators eliminate the MU in the Evening program.

The recommendation, which came from a committee that evaluated the effectiveness of the program, will now go to Provost Brian Foster for consideration. Details about how or when the program might be eliminated would depend on Foster's decision, MU spokesman Christian Basi said.

MU in the Evening began about a decade ago as a way to give working adults, mostly MU staff members, a convenient way to earn a degree. The evening program offers participants a general studies degree, which requires students to take 120 credit hours in a variety of subjects. The program is revenue-neutral, so eliminating it will not result in any cost savings.

MU's traditional day campus also provides a general studies degree and will continue to do so.

The evening program is administered by MU Extension under the umbrella of MU Direct. Spokeswoman Dolores Shearon said administrators there will go along with whatever Foster decides.

"Our interest is ensuring ... that students currently in the program are able to finish their degrees and over the long term that adults in Mid-Missouri interested in taking classes in the evening or pursuing a degree after hours will have that opportunity," she said. "MU in the Evening has been about removing barriers for working adults who want to go back to the university and not have to sift through lots of course listings. We ensure they have enough courses to complete their degree in the evening."

Faculty Council Chairwoman Leona Rubin said the main advantage of eliminating MU in the Evening is to remove a distinction between day and night courses and to allow more courses in other disciplines to extend into evening hours.

During yesterday's Faculty Council meeting, Professor J. Wilson Watt, who chaired the committee that studied the program, clarified comments he made in November that MU in the
Evening is perceived as a second-rate degree and that MU's human resources department does not recognize the degree.

MU does, in fact, recognize the degree, but staff members who have earned a general studies degree sometimes get passed over for candidates with more specific degrees, he said.

"My unfortunate shorthand led to, I think, something that seemed more extreme and critical of the degree than was intended," Watt said.

Reach Janese Heavin at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jheavin@columbiatribune.com.
COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

UM System looks for new revenue amid funding crunch

By Ben Wieder
February 7, 2010 | 12:01 a.m. CST

COLUMBIA — The academic building of the future in the University of Missouri System may be less, well, academic.

City government, local developers or others might be given office space in new academic buildings to offset building costs.

Mixed-use buildings are one of the options on the table for a series of regional meetings with interested local parties proposed by UM System President Gary Forsee to address the system-wide need for new facilities.

If built, such a project would represent a first for the UM System, Forsee said.

“That has been the control line that we didn’t want to blur,” he said, “but we’re in a different environment now.”

With less money from the state and a proposed continuing freeze in in-state tuition, the university is looking for ways to find more revenue.

The regional capital forums are one of five initiatives Forsee presented Jan. 29 at the UM System Board of Curators meeting as means of achieving this goal.

Another is to create additional public-private partnerships like the Tiger Institute for Health Innovation, formed in September between MU and the medical technology firm Cerner Corp., in which 30 MU Health Care employees were absorbed by Cerner.

Including federal stabilization and stimulus funds, Missouri had a 6.1 percent increase in funding for higher education last year. This was the sixth largest increase in the
country according to the Grapevine Report, an annual survey of public higher education funding released in mid-January.

But with the increase, Missouri’s per-capita funding for higher education is still among the 10 lowest in the country.

Forsee’s remarks came one week after Missouri’s top education official warned officials at state colleges of dire consequences if they do not work together to achieve greater efficiency — including closing campuses, folding independent campuses into university systems and abolishing athletics.

A letter sent by Robert Stein, commissioner of higher education, raised alarm about funding two years from now, after the expiration of $1.2 billion in federal stabilization funds in Gov. Jay Nixon’s budget recommendation for next year.

Nixon and the presidents of Missouri’s four-year public colleges and universities agreed to freeze in-state undergraduate tuition next year in exchange for preserving 95 percent of state funding for higher education. If approved by the legislature, the deal would mean a $24 million reduction in funding for UM’s core programs.

Capital projects

Forsee said at the curators meeting that the first regional capital forum will be in Columbia in the next few months. Earlier, he said he hopes to include state officials in the discussion, but the forums are an acknowledgment that state funding for capital projects has been lagging.

Rep. Chris Kelly, D-Columbia, said he supports the plan, which he discussed with Forsee when it was first introduced in October, and that he would be happy to participate in the forum.

Kelly has also introduced a bill to allow residents to vote on an amendment to the state constitution that would issue bonds for capital projects for higher education.

“Higher education institutions are desperate for facilities,” Kelly said.

A similar amendment passed in 1982, Kelly said, and is expiring this year.
The bill would complete projects originally slated to use funds from the sale of some of the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority’s assets under former Gov. Matt Blunt, including more than $30 million for the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center. The projects were put on hold when Nixon took office and finally canceled when Nixon unveiled his budget recommendation for next year.

Other projects across the state would be funded according to a priority list prepared by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education.

Kelly’s bill has 50 co-sponsors in the House, including House Majority Floor Leader Steve Tilley, R-Perryville. But a similar bill proposed by Kelly last year stalled on the Senate floor after passing the House because of concerns about increased spending.

If the bill passes out of the House again this year, Sen. Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia, will lead it in the Senate as he did last year.

Kelly said the bill has the votes in the Senate. Schaefer said he isn’t sure it will succeed.

“I think it’s going to be a hard fight,” he said.

The funding formula

The state’s higher education appropriation is determined each year by Missouri’s legislature, and the uncertainty of this funding makes long-term planning difficult for colleges and universities, Schaefer said.

House Budget Director Allen Icet, R-Wildwood, said the money could be better divided among public universities.

He said that employing a fixed formula to divide funding would be more fair because it would take lobbying out of the process.

Such a formula does exist, said Nikki Krawitz, UM vice president for finance and administration.

It was developed several years ago in conjunction with the Council on Public Higher Education in Missouri.
The formula would fund schools on the basis of credit hours taught each year, with graduate courses and courses requiring laboratory work counting for more, said Brian Long, executive director of the Council on Public Higher Education in Missouri.

Successful implementation of the formula would require greater funding, Forsee said, because at the current level, money would have to be taken away from some schools to give increased funds to others.

**Tuition's share**

Historically, the state appropriation has accounted for 70 percent of UM's operating budget, with tuition accounting for most of the remaining 30 percent, Long said.

But in the past several years, state funding hasn't kept pace with costs, he said.

In the UM System, tuition now accounts for roughly half of the operating budget, Krawitz said.

"Clearly, the burden has shifted from the taxpayer to the student," Long said.

Despite increases in tuition, UM enrollment has increased over the past 10 years.

"The pricing of higher education is not unlike any other commodity," Krawitz said. "If people associate a high enough value with a program, they will be willing to pay more."

She said that it might be worth exploring pricing in which popular programs charge more in tuition.

**Private partnerships**

In November 2009, when Forsee and Nixon announced the tuition plan, Forsee said that the funding model for public higher education is broken.

With its two major sources of funding essentially frozen — in-state students account for nearly 85 percent of all students in the UM System, Krawitz said — the UM System is exploring other options.

It's not alone in doing so, Forsee said.
Universities across the country are starting to look at ways to increase revenue, Forsee said, as they've run out of areas in which to make cuts.

He cited MU Health Care's partnership with Cerner to form the Tiger Institute for Health Innovation, announced in September, as one approach to help the problem.

The institute aims to complete development of electronic medical records technology that was already underway by the former MU employees, with potential profits from any research to be split evenly between MU and Cerner.

While examples abound of corporate support for scholarships or specific programs, Forsee said the Tiger Institute is unique in that a "corporate entity has come in and started to underwrite our operating costs."

Forsee said he is optimistic about several similar deals in progress, but because they are complicated, they may not be formalized anytime soon.

"This is not what, historically, a university has done," Forsee said.

**Out-of-state students**

A New York Times article in October 2009 examined public universities like the University of Michigan and the University of Virginia that have made up for insufficient state funds by attracting more out-of-state students and charging them in excess of $30,000 a year in tuition.

Other schools such as the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and the University of Wisconsin-Madison are following their lead.

Forsee said he doesn't think this is the answer because so many other states are looking to do the same thing.

"If you've got all of us saying that," he said, "that will cause you to want to pay attention to your in-state students."

Krawitz said some of these states have achieved these goals by denying access to some qualified in-state students, which is not the policy of the UM System.
The university's role in the state

Last year, Forsee set a five-year goal of increasing economic development revenue to $50 million, which would mean increasing the amount of university research that is commercialized through licensing to outside companies or creating small companies.

At the January curators meeting, Forsee announced a $5 million Enterprise Investment Program to aid this process.

The university hired a transactional lawyer last year to help put deals in place and is looking to hire an intellectual property lawyer, said Mike Nichols, UM vice president for research and economic development.

Under the terms of most licenses, the university receives anywhere from 2 to 10 percent of net revenue from a product after it has been developed, Nichols said.

Licensing income in 2009 increased to more than $10 million, from $6.7 million the year before. The biggest moneymaker is Zegerid, a heartburn medication developed at MU that was recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration to become an over-the-counter medication.

The university signed 77 licensing deals last year. Nichols said that the success rate for venture capital is generally low, with one out of 10 deals a "home run" and two or three breaking even. More than half fail.

The $50 million target is a stretch goal, Nichols said, but if the university were to achieve 70 percent — producing $35 million in revenue — no one would complain.

Beyond its impact on the university, Forsee frequently touts the impact UM's economic development will have on the state by creating jobs and increasing the state's tax base.

At the tuition announcement in November, Nixon said education plays an important role in the economic recovery of Missouri. He pointed to the deal as proof of the value the state places on keeping education affordable.

But as state funding accounts for a decreasing portion of UM's operating costs and the university is forced to look to outside sources to supplement these funds, it brings into question UM's relationship with the state.
At the University of Michigan, state funding accounts for only 7 percent of the university's operating budget.

If the state appropriation were to be supplanted in its share of the budget by outside sources, Long said, there would certainly be an instinct to pay attention to the people who are providing this funding.

But he said that UM campuses – and other state institutions – would still remain committed to the public.

While Forsee emphasizes the need for growing outside revenue streams, UM and the state are "inextricably linked," he said.

"We and the state have to be partners in educating Missourians as a first priority," Forsee said.
Soy chicken has numerous health benefits

ANI, 5 February 2010, 01:49pm IST

To create the soy chicken, lead researcher Fu-Hung Hsieh, an MU professor of biological engineering and food science in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and the College of Engineering, extracts soy protein extracted from soy flour.

The soy then goes through an extrusion cooking process that uses water, heat and pressure while pushing the mixture through a cylinder with two augers.

"Early tests provided some of the fibrous texture to the final product, but it tasted more like turkey," Hsieh said.

"In order to produce a more realistic product, we had to tweak the process and add extra fibre to give the soy a stringy feeling that tears into irregular, coarse fibers similar to chicken."

"This particular soy substitute is different because we are working with a higher moisture content, which is up to 75 per cent. The high moisture content is what gives the soy a very similar texture to chicken — in addition to the appearance," Hsieh added.

The soy chicken provides health benefits for consumers. Soy foods contain important nutrition components, some of which help maintain healthy bones and prevent prostate, breast and colorectal cancers.

Soy foods also are a good source of essential fatty acids and contain no cholesterol.

The findings are published in the Journal of Food and Agricultural Chemistry, Journal of Food Science, and Journal of the American Oil Chemists' Society.
Developers scale down plans for Missouri Innovation Park

Kansas City Business Journal - by Mike Sherry Staff Writer

BRAD HARBOULD | KCBJ
Missouri Innovation Park

Developers of Missouri Innovation Park in Blue Springs have slashed the project size by nearly a third.

Unveiled in December 2008 as a roughly 500-acre project, plans now call for a development of about 340 acres, said Brien Starner, president of the Blue Springs Economic Development Corp.

The master plan — which envisions the University of Missouri as a large tenant — still includes a roughly 216-acre municipal golf course. But the plan now calls for assembling about 120 acres from private landowners — down from about 275 acres initially envisioned.

Talks might reopen for additional land, but Starner said a small start makes sense in an uncertain economy.

msherry@bizjournals.com | 816-777-2214
MU investing $5 million in tech transfer

The University of Missouri System announced that it plans to invest up to $5 million during the next three years to accelerate commercialization of intellectual property.

"This new fund is designed to help fund start-up companies in Missouri that can move the discoveries of our faculty from the laboratory to the marketplace," President Gary Forsee said in his annual State of the University speech on Jan. 29. "This will create more high-quality jobs, build the state's tax revenues and cultivate new revenue streams for the university."

Forsee added that he anticipates the new Enterprise Investment Program will leverage the university's expertise in areas that include, but are not limited to, the life sciences, nano science, information technology, engineering, medicine/medical devices and energy.

Forsee said an outside advisory panel representing, for example, key technology, science and business sectors will be formed to review funding applications and recommend funding awards. This panel's review process, which will include evaluation of business plans and proposed use of the funds, is slated to begin this summer. The university hopes to make its first awards this fall.

Eligible start-up companies — including those that operate out of university incubators across the state — must obtain an investment at a level that shows a commitment to the company's success.
Discovery property being refinanced

Forum Development Group President Jose Lindner said an agreement has been reached with Bank of America to refinance a loan that a subsidiary company used for the purchase of about 76 acres of commercial property along U.S. Highway 63 in southeast Columbia.

A trustee's sale scheduled for Feb. 2 was postponed until Feb. 23, but Lindner said he is certain the deal will be signed before that date to avoid foreclosure.

"We have a deal negotiated with Bank of America," Lindner said. "They've canceled the sale. We're in the process of getting the documents finalized."

Lindner said the new notice was filed "to keep the pressure on us."

The legal notice indicated that the Forum subsidiary Bristol Development Group had defaulted on a loan made by LaSalle Bank, which was acquired by Bank of America in October 2007. A document filed in the county recorder's office said LaSalle had issued Bristol Development Group a $9.5 million loan in January 2007 secured by 225 acres on the west side of U.S. 63 at the Gans Road overpass. The trustee's sale involves two of the five tracts of that property.

The trouble arose, Lindner said, because Bristol "inherited" Bank of America after it acquired LaSalle. The loan officers Forum dealt with had left, he said, and the company had difficulty making contact with a bank representative for months.

"They didn't know the area or the property," Lindner said.

In August 2008, Bristol hoped to submit plans for a mixed-use development at the U.S. 63 and Gans Road site. The company hoped the development would play off MU's research park, Discovery Ridge, across the highway, helped finance the Gans Road overpass and planned on getting reimbursed with revenue from a Transportation Development District established on the site. They dubbed the conceptual development "Discovery."

But the next month, at the height of the financial panic, several large retailers pulled out of talks with Bristol about locating in the development, Lindner said. Since then, the project has been static, and Lindner said the company has been negotiating a potential sale of some Discovery land for months.

Despite the sale's cancellation Tuesday, several people showed up to the Boone County Courthouse steps, including Paul Land and Mike Grellner, commercial realtors, and former City Manager Ray Beck, who is involved with a plan to build a Catholic High School near the Discovery site.
Feedback to MSA president’s proposal: Hold that tiger!

By Janese Heavin

The president of the Missouri Students Association wants to set the record straight. He never intended to cage a wild tiger and parade it around the football field during home games at the University of Missouri.

Rather, Tim Noce said his idea was for Mizzou to build an appropriate habitat for a neglected or abused tiger, allow animal science faculty and students to care for it and make the animal a sort of school mascot, not to replace the costumed Truman the Tiger.

Noce, a business administration major, made news in recent weeks when he publicly talked about the idea, which hadn’t been fully thought out. Criticism served as a “valuable lesson” in communication, Noce said.

“What I meant in the first place was: ‘Let’s try to help out a tiger while having a live tiger for students to collectively call their own here at Mizzou,’” he said.

Over the past couple of weeks, Noce has formed a committee to study rescuing and keeping a live tiger on campus. He estimates it would take $2 million in upfront costs, plus annual upkeep. All tiger-related expenses should come from donations, he said, and potential donors already have contacted him.

Both Louisiana State University and the University of Memphis use private funds to support the live tigers on their respective campuses.

Noce realizes any live tiger at Mizzou would require years of planning. In the interim, he’s talking to zoos in Missouri about possibly sponsoring their tigers. He envisions an official Mizzou tiger but is not advocating bringing that tiger to MU home games.

Janet Powell, director of public relations at the Saint Louis Zoo, said MU students could become official Zoo Parents. The parents program allows people to “adopt” an animal by donating money for its daily care and feeding.

Reach Janese Heavin at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jheavin@columbubtribune.com.
MU photography exhibit celebrates Black History Month

By Jonathan Hinderliter
February 5, 2010 | 6:29 p.m. CST

COLUMBIA — Two photography exhibits are currently on display at MU in honor of Black History Month.

The first exhibit, "Documenting the Black Experience in Small Town Missouri," is a collection of 25 photographs from the Missouri Photo Workshop archive depicting life in small towns during the last 60 years. The exhibit was compiled by workshop co-directors David Rees and Jim Curley, who sought to show a balanced portrayal of black Missourians.

"It was an opportunity to recognize lives that had been hidden from mainstream America," Rees said. "These photographs help validate those people and provide insight."

Rees said he wanted to show a range of life experiences African-Americans have had in small towns. In order to do this, pictures were chosen that depict blacks in their environments, such as their homes, churches, schools and professional settings.

The exhibit, on display until Feb. 26, is in the main lobby of Ellis Library, marking the second exhibit by the Missouri Photo Workshop in three years at that location. For more information go to mophotoworkshop.org.

The second exhibit, "Dream, Hope, Change: Photographs Honoring the African American Culture and Experience," examines black culture from a national standpoint. It comprises 48 images from the Picture of the Year International (POYi) archive, a yearly photography competition held at MU each spring. The images, taken from 1948 to 2008, are intended to show a cross-section of black culture and experience, said POYi director Rick Shaw. The photos depict the civil rights movement, black urban culture, black athletes and the presidential election of Barack Obama.
“Challenges in African-American communities have not been resolved, but accomplishments have been made,” Shaw said. “The election of Barack Obama as the nation’s first black president seemed like a good time to stop and reflect.”

Jessie King, a graduate student at the Missouri School of Journalism, put the exhibit together. The 48 photographs were selected from an archive of more than 44,000.

“I did not want redundancy,” King said.

King, who is researching exhibits for her master’s project, said “this exhibit reflects what photojournalism is supposed to do.”

“It provides immediate impact on an audience,” she said.

The “Dream, Hope, Change” exhibit can be seen in the Donald W. Reynolds Journalism Institute foyer until mid- to late March.
‘Jeopardy!’ entrant advances

MU senior’s win turns on a book.

By Janese Heavin

“The Da Vinci Code” was no mystery for Lindsay Eanet. The University of Missouri senior smiled confidently at the camera during the Final Jeopardy! round that made her a winner.

University of Missouri senior Lindsay Eanet poses with “Jeopardy!” game show host Alex Trebek in a publicity photo. Eanet advances to the semifinals after winning a College Championship quarterfinal round broadcast Friday night.

Eanet racked up a total of $22,100 on the trivia-based, televised game show that aired yesterday. That’s not her earnings, though. The win means she advances to the semifinals of the “Jeopardy!” College Championship next week and competes for a grand prize of $100,000.

Eanet, a journalism student, correctly asked, “What is ‘The Da Vinci Code’?” to the answer that challenged players to name the 2003 novel in which an Italian cardinal rebutted claims in a lecture called “A Story Without a History.”

She wagered $7,500 in the final round, boosting her $14,600 enough to beat Yale challenger Leah Anthony Libresco.

Libresco proved tough competition.

The Yale student led the first round after taking the majority of a Bible category, and she swept a category about nuclear energy during Double Jeopardy. But in the end, her $9,000 Final Jeopardy! wager put her total at $21,000.

Eanet led as the contestants went into Final Jeopardy! after correctly responding to answers about the civil rights movement, funny celebrities, prisoners and palindromes — words spelled the same forward and backward.
As of the Tribune's deadline, the show guide on the "Jeopardy!" Web site did not say when Eanet will appear again on the game show. A student from Washington University in St. Louis, Nick Yozamp, also made it to the semifinal round, which will air next week.

Eanet was not available for comment after the show but told the Tribune earlier this week she would be watching with friends at The Heidelberg in Columbia.

Eanet has been a "Jeopardy!" fan since childhood and said being on the show was a life goal.

Reach Janese Heavin at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jheavin@columbiatribune.com.
COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU Children's Hospital, Y107 win radio contest

By Rachel Post
February 7, 2010 | 12:01 a.m. CST

COLUMBIA — **MU Children’s Hospital will be given $50,000 as a result of nationwide voting.** When voting in the Children’s Miracle Network’s North America’s Most Caring Radio Station contest closed Friday night at 11:59 p.m., radio station KTXY/106.9 FM had garnered more than 1.1 million votes to earn first place.

“We’re amazed by the show of support to Y107 and Children’s Hospital,” MU Health Care spokesman Matt Splett said. “We heard stories of people voting for us around the world, so it’s just been an amazing experience to watch people and watch the vote tally go up all week.”

Children’s Miracle Network will present MU Children’s Hospital with a $50,000 check at the annual Children’s Miracle Network Radiothon, local disc jockey "JC" from Y107 said. The Radiothon is held by Y107 and three other Zimmer Radio Group stations each fall.

Last year, the event earned more than $225,000 for MU Children’s Hospital, Splett said.

“To all the people who supported Y107 and Children’s Hospital for the past three weeks in this contest, we say ‘thank you,’” Splett said.
MU student wins Jeopardy! College Championship quarter finals

By Jessica Stephens
February 5, 2010 | 6:04 p.m. CST

COLUMBIA — MU student Lindsay Eanet won the Jeopardy! College Championship quarter finals, ending the game on Friday evening with $22,100.

Eanet, a senior at the Missouri School of Journalism, will go on to compete in the semi-finals next week after winning a close game against students from Yale University and the University of Texas — at Dallas.

Eanet’s next appearance on the game show will air next week at 5 p.m. Wednesday on KMIZ-17. If she wins her next challenge, Eanet will go on to compete in the two-day final on Thursday and Friday.