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## ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

### Education digest

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI > Chancellor picked for federal role • **President Barack Obama has designated University of Missouri Chancellor Brady J. Deaton as chairman of the Board for International Food and Agriculture Development. Deaton will continue in his leadership role as chancellor at MU while filling the position. His term in this position will begin immediately.**

The Board for International Food and Agricultural Development was created in 1975 to encourage U.S. higher education institutions to advise and serve the country's international assistance efforts via the U.S. Agency for International Development, or USAID. Deaton has previously participated in USAID projects in Haiti and Zambia and has conducted research in Grenada and Kenya on agricultural development and nutritional impacts of food aid programs.

## Brady Deaton's new board seat adds prospects

By **JANESE SILVEY**

**University of Missouri Chancellor Brady Deaton's** recent appointment to a federal administrative post reflects well on MU's reputation, he said, and is expected to bring new opportunities for researchers, faculty and students here.



**Brady Deaton**

President Barack Obama last month tapped Deaton to chair the Board for International Food and Agriculture Development. He has since been confirmed and starts the position immediately. The group meets two or three times a year; the next meeting is in June in Washington, D.C.

The seven-member board advises the Agency for International Development on strategies to promote food production, nutrition and food security worldwide. Among other things, the group recommends practices such as adopting drought-resistant crops or green technologies to help other countries boost food production and economic well-being.

Four members of the board come from the higher education community, ensuring the recommendations are based on the latest research. Deaton's post on the board will allow him to turn to MU's experts in agriculture and life sciences when developing those recommendations.

"At the same time, in every way possible, I'll be keeping my eyes and ears open to ideas that I can bring back to the university," he said.

Deaton joins a prestigious group. Obama also appointed two former World Food Prize laureates, Gebisa Ejeta of Purdue University and Jo Luck, president of Heifer International, as well as Marty McVey, president of McVey & Co. Investments. The board also includes two university presidents and a Syracuse University professor. MU's new ties with those groups should enrich opportunities for students, Deaton said.

Although he's still learning the nuts and bolts about the organization, Deaton is no stranger to foreign relations — one of the reasons Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., suggested him for the role.

Deaton taught agriculture in Thailand as part of his Peace Corps service in the early 1960s and last year received an honorary degree from Prince of Songkla University there. He also has honorary degrees from Chonnam National University in Korea and Kutasi University in the Republic of Georgia. He has developed and led international assistance programs in Haiti and Zambia and conducted research on agricultural development in Grenada and Kenya.

In her letter recommending him for the post, McCaskill praised Deaton's experience. Deaton, she said, "is a proven leader with a strong academic and professional track record in the agriculture sector, and I am confident that he will call on these strengths to help lead BIFAD as chairman in an effective and professional manner."

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## COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

# MU Chancellor Deaton appointed chairman of federal agricultural board

By Victoria Guida

May 3, 2011 | 5:05 p.m. CDT

**COLUMBIA — Brady Deaton is now chairman of a federal advisory board but will continue to serve as chancellor of the MU campus.**

President Obama announced last month his intent to appoint Deaton chairman of the Board for International Food and Agriculture Development. The U.S. Senate confirmed the appointment late last week.

The board advises the U.S. Agency for International Development on agricultural development and international assistance programs. It was created in 1975 as a seven-member board in which four members must represent the academic community, according to the agency's website.

Deaton said it was created to get more input from higher education on international assistance programs.

He said he will be convening meetings, setting agendas and aggregating information brought together by the board members. The board will then use that information to make recommendations about international assistance policies. It will also look at how higher education institutions can contribute knowledge to strengthen U.S. efforts abroad.

"We're concerned about particularly the research programs that are ongoing and the ways in which our faculty and institutions help strengthen other agencies and institutions in other parts of the world," he said.

Deaton said the position will not take away time from his job as chancellor and is, in fact, interrelated with that job.

"I am involved in a variety of national and international issues always," he said. "That's the role of a chancellor in a major university."

Deaton also said this position would not have any bearing on whether he would be a candidate for the University of Missouri System presidency.

"This is the kind of thing presidents of institutions do," he said. "They're involved in a variety of national and international policy issues."

Deaton said the White House contacted him several months ago to tell him he was being considered for the position after Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., brought him to the attention of the president.

He is replacing Robert Easter, interim chancellor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as chairman of the board.

The chancellor has a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics and a master's degree in diplomacy and international commerce from the University of Kentucky. He also has a master's degree and a doctorate in agricultural economics from the University of Wisconsin.

He has conducted research in Grenada and Kenya on agricultural development and led programs in Haiti and Zambia to support the agency's programs, according to an MU news release.

Deaton currently serves on the board of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities, for which he recently chaired the Commission on International Programs. He is also vice chairman of the Council on Public Higher Education in Missouri, as well as serving on the board of the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center in St. Louis.

He said his initial appointment will continue through July of next year, at which point his term may be extended.



# Legislators hash out spending

Higher ed funding is among differences.

By **RUDI KELLER**

## **MU MENTION P. 2**

JEFFERSON CITY — The week appeared set to become a long one for House and Senate budget negotiators as they gathered briefly this morning to announce only that they would meet again later.

The conference committee of 10 House and Senate members yesterday staked out unyielding positions on big-ticket items totaling more than \$60 million in state funds.

Only brief discussions, mainly about procedure, took place after that first meeting on differences between the chambers over the \$23.2 billion budget.

"We have been talking and hope to have something to report," House Budget Chairman Ryan Silvey said today as he told the committee to expect to be called together this afternoon.

But Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Kurt Schaefer said talks are still in preliminary stages. "We haven't had much in the way of substantive discussion," he said.

Lawmakers must complete work by Friday on all spending bills for the year beginning July 1.

Silvey, R-Kansas City, doesn't want to go along with Schaefer, R-Columbia, on a slightly rosier estimate of new revenue available based on the bills expected to pass.

And even if he does, Silvey said yesterday, he wants to keep a bit of money back to cover a looming gap between spending needs and available cash.

Accepting Senate revenue estimates will allow negotiators to agree to fund each chamber's favorite increases in spending, Schaefer said yesterday.

"I understand," Schaefer said. "Our priority is funding education. Their priority is funding social programs."

There are four large items to be resolved.

Schaefer led the Senate to add \$20 million to school transportation funding and add \$20 million to general spending on colleges and universities. The House gave higher education \$12 million extra but targeted it to training rural health care workers.

Silvey is holding out for the House to extend MoRx, a plan that helps seniors pay for prescriptions, at a cost of \$13.6 million, and maintain the wages of home health care workers at this year's rate at a cost of \$8.9 million.

And Silvey set aside about \$35 million as a start on the following year. The budget uses \$600 million from sources that won't be available next year to sustain spending, he said.

"The House is not prepared to spend every dollar we can get our hands on," Silvey said.

Much of the extra spending is dependent on passage of a tax amnesty bill Gov. Jay Nixon proposed. The House included vigorous debt collection in its bill. In the Senate, the tax amnesty bill became a platform for overhauling tax credits.

Passed on a 32-2 vote yesterday, the bill puts new caps on historic preservation and low-income housing tax credits. But it finds most of its \$1.5 billion in new revenue over 15 years by ending a tax credit for low-income elderly and the disabled.

The House isn't ready to embrace the bill, Silvey said. "They are wanting to bank on that money. To say that legislation in its current form has a clear path to the governor is premature."

That's not true, Schaefer said. "If property tax relief for renters is repealed, that is additional revenue," he said. "It is not necessary to fully fund our priorities."

The House and Senate budget plans both give public schools just more than \$3 billion next year. But the Senate plan gives districts \$117.7 million for transportation costs while the House approved Nixon's \$97.7 million recommendation.

The Senate mitigates Nixon's planned 7 percent cut to colleges and universities by adding the \$20 million. Under the plan, **the University of Missouri would receive \$407.4 million, or \$9.4 million more than Nixon proposed.**

So far, only spending bills to pay the state debt and replenish accounts that would run dry by June 30 have been passed and signed by Nixon.

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# St. Louis Business Journal

## Terror threat remains after bin Laden death, Mizzou profs say

*St. Louis Business Journal*

Date: Tuesday, May 3, 2011, 10:54am CDT

The death of **Osama bin Laden** ends a decade-long manhunt, but the war on terrorism may not change much, two **University of Missouri** professors said.

**“Osama bin Laden, the major icon, is gone, but he remains a martyr,” said Paul Wallace, professor emeritus of political science. “The big questions center on the effects within the Taliban’s franchise operations. Will there be further loss of radical legitimacy within the region? Al Qaeda already has been decentralized.”**

Wallace has traveled to Abbottabad, the Pakistan city where bin Laden was killed. He has written a chapter in the U.S. Institute for Peace book on Democracy and Counterterrorism, as well as entries in the World Encyclopedia of Terrorism.

“In a city of more than one million people, it is absolutely unlikely that a 3,000-foot compound, many times the size of neighboring houses, could be inconspicuous,” Wallace said. “There are similar safe houses in Karachi and Quetta, where the Afghanistan Taliban is headquartered. I think reprisals for the killing will primarily take place in Pakistan as the Taliban’s resources are centered there.”

**Katharine Floros, an assistant professor of political science, praised the decision to bury bin Laden at sea. “Funerals tend to be to be really dangerous in these types of situations,” she said.**

Looking ahead, Floros said the safety of Americans remains unclear.

“As far as the day-to-day operations, I think the threat levels will be similar to what they were before bin Laden was killed,” she said. “Symbolically, bin Laden’s death is important, but I don’t think the terrorism threat is lessened. In the short term, the threat level may be raised.”



## Committee schedules hearing for one of two UM curator nominees

By **RUDI KELLER**

JEFFERSON CITY — One of the two University of Missouri Board of Curators nominees waiting since January for confirmation will have a hearing this week, but Sen. Rob Mayer said he's making no progress gaining concessions from Gov. Jay Nixon on other appointees.

The hearing for attorney Donald Cupps of Cassville is scheduled for 9 a.m. tomorrow. But Mayer, R-Dexter, has been holding off on hearing the nomination of Columbia attorney Craig Van Matre as he negotiates with Nixon over appointments Mayer would like to see.

Cupps, a Democrat, would replace John Carnahan III of Springfield, whose term expired Jan. 1. Van Matre, a Columbia attorney, would take the vacant Ninth District seat that has been open since Bo Fraser resigned last year.

At his weekly session with reporters yesterday, Mayer said he was unable to reach an agreement with Nixon for appointments he is sponsoring. Mayer has declined to name who he wants appointed or to which posts.

Lawmakers go home for the year on May 13, and Mayer said he'll be done after tomorrow holding hearings in the Gubernatorial Appointments Committee he leads. "That is the last one I plan on having," he said.

Cupps and Van Matre were both nominated to the board on the same day in late January. A Republican board member, David Steward of St. Louis, was appointed one day before Cupps and Van Matre and received confirmation early last month without opposition.

Nominees who are not confirmed may be withdrawn. If Nixon does not withdraw Van Matre's name, the Columbia attorney would be barred from being appointed to the board in the future.

Nixon could appoint Van Matre or someone else to the board after lawmakers adjourn, and that person could take part in curator decisions until they were confirmed or rejected by the Senate next year.

Also yesterday, Nixon signed a bill to fix a problem created when Missouri lost a congressional seat. Previously, with nine curators, there was one from each district. There now will be at least one curator from each district and one district with two members of the board.

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## Chancellor: MU's AAU status is safe — for now Nebraska voted out of group.

By **JANESE SILVEY**

The University of Missouri's membership in the Association of American Universities isn't in jeopardy — at least right now.

But after the prestigious organization ousted the University of Nebraska last week for not meeting its criteria, which are based largely on research funding and faculty accomplishments, Chancellor Brady Deaton is guarding MU's spot in the club.

"We're not in danger in the immediate sense, but is it something we have to be concerned about? Yes," he said.

Forty-four of the AAU's 62 member organizations voted to remove Nebraska, the first time in AAU history that a member has been voted out. Deaton wouldn't say how he voted but said he expressed "strong views" to fellow members before the vote was taken.

"The decision of the AAU concerns all of us for a variety of reasons," Deaton said. "We see Nebraska as an institute that we admire and part of the important public land grant universities of this country."

Nebraska was one of the oldest AAU members, admitted along with MU in 1909.

Nebraska Chancellor Harvey Perlman has blamed the AAU criteria, telling the Chronicle of Higher Education they're flawed.

That's not surprising, but it is concerning, MU Faculty Council Chairwoman Leona Rubin said.

"We always worry we're sort of turning over our peer evaluation to financial sources," she said. "We've done that in sciences all along, though. Our best critics are those who pass out money; they review grants and say, 'Yeah, this is worth funding.' We've relinquished control to granting agencies to decide what's important."

Nebraska was somewhat disadvantaged because its medical school is not considered part of the flagship campus at Lincoln, so research funding going to the University of Nebraska Medical Center didn't count. AAU also takes into consideration how many faculty members belong to national academies as well as faculty citations and awards.

MU isn't one of AAU's strongest members, Deaton said. Administrators have to be vigilant about improving MU's position among AAU members to ensure the campus remains part of the group.

"We need the support of the" UM System "Board of Curators, the public, the governor and the legislature to ensure we have the right resources to remain a strong, active and leading member of the AAU," he said. "We've all got some work to do."

Nebraska is leaving the Big 12 Conference to join the Big Ten. When it joins this summer, Nebraska will be the only Big Ten school not in the AAU

Although a Big Ten director has told various media organizations the AAU decision has no bearing on Nebraska's status, Perlman told the Chicago Tribune last year that Nebraska's AAU membership was vital to the Big Ten.

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# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

## Former NFL star pushes for youth concussion bill in Missouri Senate

BY JASON HANCOCK • [jhancock@post-dispatch.com](mailto:jhancock@post-dispatch.com) > 573-635-6178 | Posted: Tuesday, May 3, 2011 11:07 am

**JEFFERSON CITY** • Former St. Louis Rams linebacker Mike Jones visited the state Capitol Tuesday to testify in support of legislation that would prevent high school athletes from returning to games if they appear to have a concussion or brain injury.

Jones, who is best known for tackling a Tennessee Titans wide receiver at the one-yard line to preserve a Rams victory in the 2000 Super Bowl, is now the head football coach at Lincoln University in Jefferson City. He said during a Senate committee hearing that as we continue to learn about brain injury, more has to be done to educate parents and athletes about the risks.

“We are learning today that returning to play with a sprained ankle or swollen knee is one thing. Returning to play before being fully recovered from a concussion or other head injury is a great deal more serious,” Jones said. “Young athletes and their parents need to be educated on the symptoms and dangers of concussions and should not be allowed to return without medical clearance. That is what the bill before us is about.”

Under the bill, student athletes suspected of sustaining a concussion or brain injury must stop play for at least 24 hours and could not return without written permission from a medical professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussions. It would also create the “Interscholastic Youth Sports Brain Injury Prevention Act” to educate parents and protect student athletes from the risks of brain injury.

In addition, parents would be required to sign a concussion and brain injury information sheet prior to participation in any practice or competition.

“Sometimes, we need people in our life to tell us what we need to hear, not what we want to hear,” Jones said in an interview following the committee hearing. “This takes the decision out of the hands of the coaches and athletes and give it to doctors, and that’s the way it should be.”

The bill would also provide uniformity to the system, he said.

**Dr. Tom Martin, a clinical associate professor at the University of Missouri and past president of the Brain Injury Association of Missouri, testified that an estimated 140,000 high school athletes sustain a concussion each year in the United States. However, he said that figure represents only a best guess and is considered “a gross under representation” of**

**the actual number of youth who annually sustain concussions around the country. A recent study estimates that more than 40 percent of high school athletes return to participate in school athletics before they have fully recovered from brain injuries.**

Martin said the legislation helps educate students and parents about the dangers of concussions, as well as helps protect youth from long-term damage associated with brain injury.

“While the brain is nothing short of amazing in its ability to recover from the consequences of a mild traumatic brain injury or concussion, kids who return to play before being afforded appropriate time to heal from their injury are at increased risk of incurring another brain injury as well as more severe symptoms, including consequences that may be long-term and life-altering,” he said.

The topic of concussions and brain injury in sports has risen in prominence in recent years in part due a study by the National Football League that revealed an array of medical problems suffered by former players. The league has since implemented its own rules governing how players return to games after such an injury. Kenneth Edmonds, director of government relations and public policy for the NFL, said the league has pushed for legislation similar to Missouri’s in at least 10 states this year.

“The league has strict return-to-play guidelines that apply to some of the best athletes in the world,” Edmonds said. “We believe a similar approach is necessary when dealing with some of the youngest athletes. This legislation does that.”

The bill unanimously passed the House last month. A Senate committee held a public hearing on the bill Monday afternoon, and one provision -- which says volunteer medical professionals can't be sued for their decision to let athletes compete again -- was singled out to be changed. The bill will likely come back before the committee Wednesday afternoon.

## COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

# Gov. Nixon approves shake-up to composition of higher education boards

By Alex Keckeisen

May 3, 2011 | 12:55 p.m. CDT

**COLUMBIA — The composition of the UM System Board of Curators, Coordinating Board for Higher Education and Missouri State Board of Governors will see a minor shake-up with the loss of a congressional district in 2012.**

On Monday, Gov. Jay Nixon signed HB 174, which requires at least one, but no more than two, members from each district for each board. Currently, each board has nine members with no more than one from each congressional district.

The change was necessitated by the loss of a congressional district in the 2010 census, bringing Missouri down to just eight districts. The Missouri Constitution requires nine members on each of the boards. That is accomplished by allowing two from a district if necessary.

Members already serving on their respective boards by Aug. 28 will not be affected.

The bill was introduced by Mike Thomson, vice chairman of the Higher Education Committee in the House.