Key MU fundraiser plans to retire

By Janese Silvey

A search is under way for a University of Missouri administrator to lead the next major campus fundraising campaign.

David Housh, vice chancellor for development and alumni relations, announced yesterday his plans to retire after a decade in the position. Housh will leave the full-time post Oct. 31 but will continue to work part time and help train a replacement, MU spokeswoman Mary Jo Banken said.

Chancellor Brady Deaton said in an email sent to campus leaders and alumni groups that a national search will begin soon. Deaton plans to appoint a committee to spearhead that search, which could take up to a year, Banken said.

The next vice chancellor for development and alumni relations will be expected to lead a fundraising effort intended to bring more than $1 billion to the campus over the coming years. The “quiet phase” of the yet-to-be-named campaign began July 1, allowing the university to reach out to large-scale donors before unveiling the campaign publicly. The goal is to raise half of the target amount before announcing it. The focus of the campaign will be on people — creating endowed faculty positions and providing scholarships — Catey Terry, a spokeswoman for the Development Office, said earlier.

Housh joined MU in 1987 as a director of development for the business school before taking the vice chancellor job. He is credited for much of the success of the For All We Call Mizzou campaign, which raised more than $1 billion for the campus.

“Dave’s passion for Missouri’s proud flagship, his devotion to enhancing our reputation on so many fronts and his total integrity in representing Mizzou will be difficult to replace,” Deaton said in the email. “But he would be the first to say we must move on for Mizzou.”

Housh has been eyeing retirement for several years, Banken said. He was not available for comment this morning.

Reach Janese Silvey at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jsilvey@columbiatribune.com.
Ozarks Technical Community College will host a signing ceremony at 10 a.m. Friday for three new transfer agreements between OTC and the University of Missouri-Columbia.

The ceremony will be held in the Board of Trustees Room in the Information Commons on OTC's Springfield campus, 1001 E. Chestnut Expressway.

The agreements are designed to provide a seamless transfer for qualified OTC students into online programs at Mizzou.

OTC Chancellor Hal Higdon and MU Provost Brian Foster will be present for the signing, along with other administrators and program leaders from both institutions.
MU wrestler dies in car wreck

By Mike DeArmond - Posted on 03 August 2011

Phillip Perry, a University of Missouri wrestler from Hannibal, died Tuesday morning in an automobile accident when the car Perry was driving went out of control and down an embankment.

The incident, according to the Missouri State Highway Patrol, took place at about 2:30 a.m. near Hannibal.

The accident was not immediately discovered because of the depth of the embankment. Perry, who was 19, was dead on the scene when the Patrol was called to the scene early Tuesday afternoon.
MU wrestler Phillip Perry dies in car accident

By David Briggs

University of Missouri wrestler Phillip Perry died early yesterday morning in a one-car accident just outside his hometown of Hannibal.

Perry, set to begin his second season at MU, lost control of his 2000 Lincoln while speeding through a curve and overturned down a 20-foot embankment at about 2:30 a.m., Missouri State Highway Patrol Trooper Brad Ritter said.

The patrol’s report stated that Perry overcorrected after veering off the right side of the road, sending his car plummeting into a wooded ravine not visible from the road. Perry, 19, was dead when troopers were called to the scene at 1:06 p.m., nearly a half day after the accident. Ritter said he believes Perry, who was driving alone, died instantly.

Ritter said he wasn’t sure if alcohol played a role in the crash.

Missouri wrestling Coach Brian Smith said Perry’s death “just crushes you.”

Smith had known the three-time all-state wrestler at Hannibal the past six years through Perry’s older brother, Tyler, a former MU heavyweight who graduated last spring. Perry tagged along for his brother’s matches and spent 10 days in the Missouri dorms each summer for the Tigers’ wrestling camp, even befriending Smith’s 16-year-old son, Quinn.

“Of course, he always wanted to be a Tiger,” Smith said. “So it was an easy recruiting process to get him.”

He said the 165-pound Perry, who went 12-5 in tournament exhibitions during his redshirt year last winter, was approaching this season with a revived purpose after an uneven spring semester academically.

“He came to me two weeks ago and said, ‘Coach, I’m doing really well in my summer school classes, getting A’s,’ ” Smith said. “He said, ‘I’m going to be back, I’m turning my life around.’ Then you hear this. It just crushes you. This is tough, real tough. A young kid in the prime of his life.”

Perry’s biography on the Missouri website said he was majoring in secondary education and hoped to become a teacher.
Psychiatrists give free help to Joplin residents (AUDIO)

by Allison Blood on August 3, 2011

in Fires/Accidents/Disasters, Health & Medicine, Human Interest

Psychiatrists say after a natural disaster, people need someone to talk to. The University of Missouri has more than fifteen psychiatrists on hand to give help over the phone for free to Joplin residents who need someone who can listen.

Laine Young-Walker is the head child and adolescent psychiatrist with the University of Missouri. But lately she has been talking with adults from Joplin through telehealth. She says a lot of these people just need someone to reach out to.

She says telehealth is a crisis hotline. Between May 22 and July 6, the hotline received 1,752 calls, compared to 371 calls in the month of April, according to Ozark Center. For the first 90 days, sessions with the MU psychiatrists are free.

Walker says the most common problems she hears about from Joplin residents are trouble sleeping, anxiety and feeling overwhelmed about having to put their lives back together after the tornado.