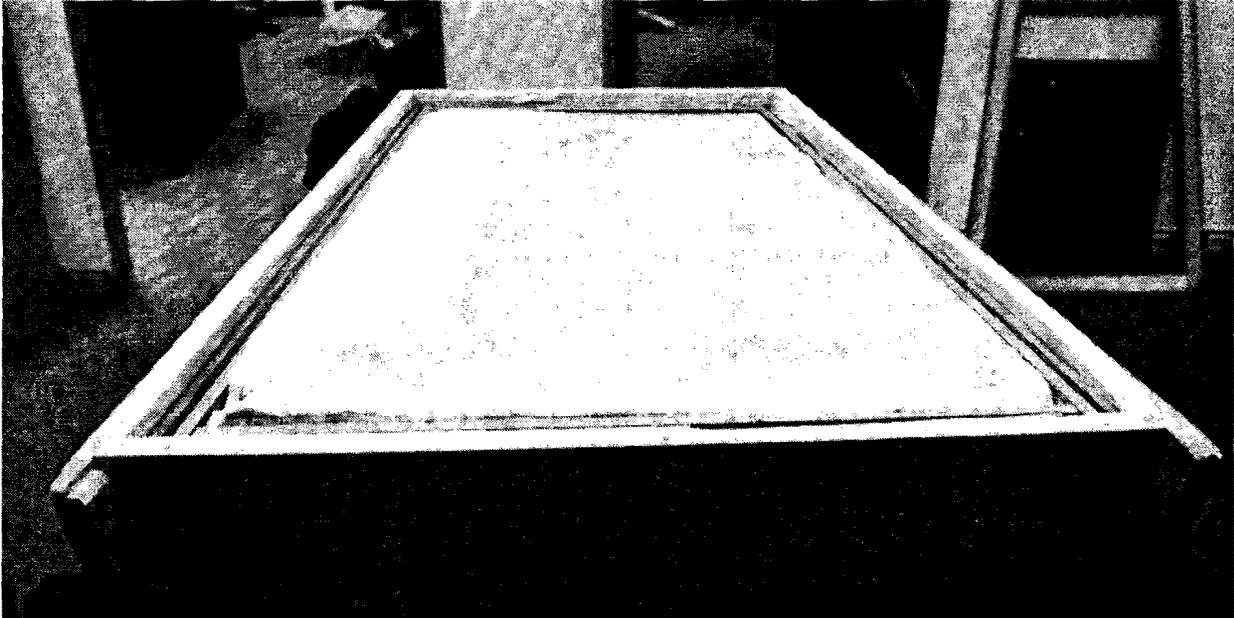


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## ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

### Thomas Jefferson tombstone, now at Mizzou, will be restored



#### MU News Bureau

*Jefferson's grave marker. Jefferson dictated the exact words on the marble slab: "Here was buried Thomas Jefferson, Author of the Declaration of American Independence Of the Statute of Virginia for religious freedom & Father of the University of Virginia." The marker, which has been stored at MU for the past 130 years, will be restored by the Smithsonian Institute.*

January 01, 2013 12:00 am • [By Tim Barker tbarker@post-dispatch.com](mailto:tbarker@post-dispatch.com) 314-340-8350

**On the campus of the University of Missouri-Columbia, in a spot that's easily overlooked just outside the chancellor's home, a worn 9-foot-tall granite obelisk stands 878 miles from where you'd expect to find it.**

It's the tombstone of Thomas Jefferson.

Most of it, anyway.

There's a smaller piece — the portion bearing the grave marker's inscription — that's been languishing for decades in the attic of Mizzou's administration building. That piece needs some

help. It's broken in several spots. The inscription is weathered and fading. Sections of the surface are crumbling.

How it wound up at Mizzou, half a country away from Jefferson's final resting place at his beloved Monticello in Virginia, is its own story.

For now, the attention is on a different migration.

This 160-pound chunk of American history will soon leave the state for a year or so to undergo a full restoration at the Smithsonian Institution.

Of course, most people at Mizzou won't even know it's gone because most people at Mizzou don't even know it's there to begin with.

After all, it's been several decades since the stone made a public appearance on campus, said Kee Groshong, a retired vice chancellor for administrative services, whose domain included Jesse Hall.

Groshong remembers seeing the stone hauled out each year in the 1960s to take part in the annual Tap Day ceremonies, when several campus honor societies welcome new members. But even those brief appearances became too stressful for the deteriorating stone, forcing the school to put it in storage, where it was largely forgotten.

"I'd see it whenever I'd go into the attic," Groshong said. "I'd look and see if the stone was still there."

Always in the back of his mind, though, was the thought that something needed to be done about the stone.

"As you can see, I didn't move on it rapidly," said Groshong, who retired in 2002.

About 18 months ago, he started making inquiries with stone restoration experts and ended up talking with the Smithsonian, which agreed to tackle the project for free.

So it falls upon the Smithsonian's Carol Grissom, senior objects conservator, to learn more about the stone's various adventures and mishaps. Among other things, she wants to determine why the surface is falling apart in some areas. Some of the damage could have been caused by fire, though she suspects the deterioration may be blamed on salts in the glue material used to hold together the broken slab.

"It's not glued back together very well," said Grissom, who worked at Washington University from 1977 to 1982, specializing in sculpture conservation. "I would eventually like to take it apart and put it back together properly."

None of this, however, explains why Mizzou — which didn't even exist when Jefferson died — would have the grave marker in the first place.

The answer lies in a chain of events that started before Jefferson died in 1826. It seems he had given some thought to how he should be memorialized. And he put those wishes into writing.

The nation's third president wanted an obelisk perched atop a simple cube base, the whole thing measuring 9 feet tall. He chose the words, making it clear that he wanted these words precisely and "not a word more":

Here was buried  
Thomas Jefferson  
Author of the Declaration of American Independence  
of the Statute of Virginia for religious freedom  
& Father of the University of Virginia.

When he died, he largely got his wish. Except for one thing.

Instead of making the entire monument out of coarse granite, the builders decided to put the inscription on a 3 ½-inch thick slab of marble (measuring roughly 29 by 23 inches). The marble undoubtedly made for a nicer writing surface than granite.

But sadly (or happily, for Mizzou), marble isn't as durable as granite.

Almost immediately, according to historians, the monument — particularly the softer marble slab — began suffering at the hands of souvenir seekers. By 1882, the monument had become so damaged that Congress agreed to pay for a new one, leaving it to Jefferson's family to find a home for the original.

After some lobbying by Mizzou, the family agreed on the significance of the school being the first public university west of the Mississippi River and liked that it was modeled after the University of Virginia.

So they sent the monument to Columbia, where the obelisk and cube were put in the Quad, while the marble slab was displayed in Academic Hall. After that building burned in 1892, the slab was given a home in Jesse Hall.

That's where Groshong would like to see it return once the restoration is complete. The stone will always be too fragile to be put outside. But something nice on the first floor of Jesse could be in its future.

"It will not be back in the attic," he said. "I can guarantee that."

## **Missouri misses out on millions in uncollected Internet sales taxes**

**Only half the states belong to an agreement that brings in revenue.**

By **DIANE STAFFORD**

Missouri is among half of U.S. states that are missing out on millions of dollars in tax revenue that could be collected on Internet sales.

Unlike Kansas and 23 other states, Missouri has not joined the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement, a 1999 agreement to simplify and encourage voluntary collection of sales taxes by e-commerce retailers.

**Researchers at the University of Missouri Truman School of Public Affairs estimate that Missouri has lost \$2.3 billion, or an average of about \$468 million a year, in potential e-sales taxes over the last nine years.**

That amount is expected to rise as Internet sales grow as a percentage of retail sales.

Missouri is likely to lose at least \$1.4 billion in potential tax income from 2011 to 2014 by not participating in the Streamlined Sales agreement, researchers said.

Kansas, a Streamlined Sales participating state, received nearly \$9.6 million in e-commerce sales tax revenue in 2010 alone, the most recent year tracked by researchers.

The Streamlined Sales and Use Tax was created by the National Governors Association and the National Conference of State Legislatures to simplify sales tax collection across jurisdictions that have varying tax rates, making it difficult for e-sellers to assess proper tax rates when they ship to various locations.

The agreement also was a response to a 1992 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that said states cannot levy sales and use taxes on entities unless the entities had physical locations in the state.

“For example, when a Missourian purchases a product from an online company that does not have a physical presence in Missouri, the state forgoes sales and use tax revenue on that transaction (such as amazon.com vs. Barnes and Noble),” the MU research report said.

Barnes and Noble, which has physical locations in the state, pays taxes on a book sale that Amazon, without retail locations in the state, does not, unless Amazon chooses to do so voluntarily.

The governing body for the Streamlined Sales agreement says that 1,400 retailers voluntarily collect sales taxes under the agreement.

About \$700 million has been collected — “a very small fraction of the amount of sales tax that remains uncollected,” the board says on its Web page.

Thus, the MU researchers emphasized, it would be only a short-term revenue-enhancement solution for Missouri legislators to authorize participation in the Streamlined Sales agreement.

The better, longer-term solution, the report suggested, is for Missouri legislators to lobby Congress to pass new federal legislation.

The best outcome, said researcher Andrew Wesemann, is to permit sales tax on Internet transactions across state lines.

“But the variations of tax systems among states is too great to require that now,” Wesemann said.

A Marketplace Fairness Act, introduced in Congress and co-sponsored by Sen. Roy Blunt, a Missouri Republican, and Sen. Richard Durbin, an Illinois Democrat, would give states additional enforcement powers over e-sales tax collection.

The Marketplace act would allow states that wish to collect e-sales taxes to join the Streamlined Sales agreement or create a similar tax-simplification program of their own.

The National Governors Association estimates that the Marketplace legislation would allow states to collect \$22 billion in e-commerce taxes by ramping up states’ authority to compel retailers to pay the taxes.

The Marketplace bill has earned backing from the National Retail Federation and some major online companies, such as Amazon.

“The act would bring equity to sellers and consumers in the sense that it would be harder for individuals to evade paying sales and use taxes,” the MU report said.

Also, the report said, the act would “level the playing field” for sellers with locations in the state, allowing them to be more price competitive with out-of-state e-tailers that aren’t charging sales taxes.

It also, researchers noted, would inject some price fairness for low-income people who don’t have computers and don’t shop on the Internet. They pay sales taxes when they shop in stores that someone buying the same product online might not pay.

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## Micro-bubbles detecting artery inflammation in pigs may help people, MU study shows

By Joyce Peng

**A study published by MU researchers found that a technique used to detect artery inflammation in pigs could help identify people at risk for strokes and detect heart disease before in its early stages.**

“The cardiovascular anatomy and physiology of the pigs is very similar to that of humans,” said Isabelle Masseau, assistant professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine, who participated in the study. “The pig model used for this study spontaneously develops lesions of atherosclerosis that are similar to those seen in humans.”

The researchers collaborated with a company called Targeson to develop the micro-bubbles, Masseau said. The bubbles were then attached to antibodies and injected into the pigs with heart disease, according to an MU News Bureau news release.

The antibodies detected the adhesion molecule VCAM-1, found on the internal lining at sites of artery inflammation, and together with the micro-bubbles, fastened to the inflammation sites, Masseau said. With the aid of a contrast-enhanced ultrasound, the team was able to find the micro-bubbles, and therefore, artery inflammation sites.

While it was successful in pigs, human trials still need to take place to determine the effectiveness of the technique on humans, Masseau said. If more studies in the next few years are successful, including those done on animals, MU can request permission from the government to conduct human trials.

“While it would still be a few years away, injecting targeted micro-bubbles into a human and then scanning them with an ultrasound would be a very simple procedure and could potentially help save lives”, Masseau said.

Another part of the research examined how exercise influenced artery inflammation in pigs. The pigs were first subjected to exercise on a treadmill for one hour, five days a week, for 16 to 20 weeks, Masseau said. The pigs were then injected with micro-bubbles to seek out any artery inflammation. The study concluded that exercise did not impact the level of inflammation in the carotid arteries.

MU researchers Douglas Bowles, Michael Davis, Jan Ivey, David Harah and Darla Tharp joined Masseau in the study. The researchers came from the MU Department of Biomedical Sciences

and from the MU Dalton Cardiovascular Research Center, and assisted with different elements of the study. The study began after the group obtained funding from the National Institutes of Health for their study in November 2008.

“(I) really enjoyed working on this project and would hope to work on similar projects in the future,” Masseau said.

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## MU Interactive Theatre Troupe brings topics of health and body image to stage in interactive performance

By [Tracy Cook](#)

### MU professors and students have developed an interactive play encouraging audience members to discuss issues about appearance.

The play, "Nutrition 101," includes an open dialogue between characters and audience members, allowing both groups to discuss issues relating to media portrayal of body image.

Suzanne Burgoyne, Curator's Distinguished Teaching Professor of Theatre at MU, said the interaction between characters and the audience aids discussion on these open-ended topics.

"(Interactive theatre) is for problems where there isn't one right answer," Burgoyne said. "If there was one right answer, we wouldn't be doing interactive theatre on these issues. It's for problems where we don't know what the answer is, or even if there is an answer."

But before the play could promote such discussion, there came months of research. Maria Len-Ríos, associate professor of strategic communication in the School of Journalism, led a team of five undergraduate students who conducted research through a series of focus groups. Beginning in the fall of 2011, the team hosted focus groups to discuss topics such as the social conditioning of body image.

"One of the issues that the play looks at is how people feel about their bodies," Burgoyne said. "How does society condition how we feel about our bodies through advertising and magazine covers and other media? In what ways are we taught to feel bad about ourselves?"

These questions guided discussion, which in turn provided a basis for the script. Carlia Francis, playwright and assistant producer of interactive theatre who writes under the name cfrancis blackchild, used transcriptions of the focus group sessions as the foundation of her script.

"I took the research information, the raw research data, and after reading through the transcripts of the conversations that came out of the focus groups, I looked for recurring themes," cfrancis said. "I also looked for some interesting ways that people expressed their opinions."

In addition to the focus group transcripts, cfrancis said she also wanted to weave a political aspect into the script.

"I tried to bring in some of the politics of agriculture, not in a big heavy way, but the politics of fertilizer and food access," Francis said.

Upon completion of the script, Burgoyne and graduate assistant Kate Wintz worked with the actors to make the play come to life. The troupe performed for [Mizzou Advantage] (<http://mizzouadvantage.missouri.edu>), the group that provided the grant for funding of the production.

After some more collaboration with members of the original focus groups, the MU Nutrition and Exercise Physiology Department and Mizzou Advantage, the team fine-tuned the script for presentation.

"We had about 10 people with expertise on these issues who came in, observed a reading of the script and gave us suggestions," Burgoyne said. "After that we made a few more revisions and then we started rehearsing."

Burgoyne said the troupe performed "Nutrition 101" twice last spring semester, and had five showings this past fall. She said the production will continue this spring, but they will be required to ask departments or other sponsors to cover the costs.

"Mizzou Advantage funded the development of the script, but they did not give ongoing funding forever for performances," Burgoyne said. "Because we pay actors, we have to have someone who is willing to sponsor us."

The interactive aspect of the play allows the actors in character to tailor discussion for each audience, or the focus of each class. Joshua Johnson, graduate student in Department of Theatre, said the play's design allows for various interpretations among student groups.

"It's different for each audience because they find different parts of the script to identify with," Johnson said. "It really just depends on the purpose of the group and why they're bringing us in."

Johnson, who also acts in the play, said that his personal experience with an eating disorder was one of the reasons he got involved with the production. He said "Nutrition 101" rejects stereotypes that body image issues are associated solely with females.

"Men are depicted in the media as needing to have a certain body image," Johnson said. "There are pressures on men, especially when they're athletes, that they really need to live up to, and sometimes it's not realistic for them to be able to live up to it."

Johnson also said the interactive aspect also challenges the actors, as they must improvise depending on the audience's response.

"Doing this particular (production) is always kind of like wading in shark infested waters because you don't know how an audience might react to it," Johnson said. "For that reason, I love doing it because I love finding out those ways that you can reach out to people to make sure that you're getting the message across, the message of the script."

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## MU graduates Goode, Downing, to chair UM Board of Curators

By Claire Boston

**On Jan. 1, Wayne Goode began his term as chair of the UM System Board of Curators and Don Downing assumed the position of vice chair.**

The Board of Curators is the governing body of the university system, Goode said. Among other duties, its members are responsible for approving university budgets and audits and overseeing investments and retirement accounts.

Members of the Board of Curators are volunteers, UM System spokeswoman Jennifer Hollingshead said. Gov. Jay Nixon (D) appointed Goode and Downing to the board in 2009, according to a news release. Board members are appointed to serve six-year terms, and members elect a chair and vice chair to serve for one year. Goode served as vice chair of the board in 2012.

Both Goode and Downing are MU graduates. Goode received a bachelor's degree from MU and later received an honorary law degree from the University of Missouri - St. Louis, according to the news release. Downing received a bachelor's degree from MU and a juris doctorate from the MU School of Law.

After graduating from MU, Goode was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1962. He later served in the Missouri State Senate from 1984 until his retirement in 2005. Goode is also the chair of the Missouri State Capitol Commission and is a member of several other boards, including the board of the Missouri Historical Society. Downing is an attorney with the St. Louis firm of Gray, Ritter and Graham, P.C., according to the news release.

Despite his ties to MU, Goode said it is not challenging to balance the needs of all schools in the UM System.

"We all take a statewide view," Goode said. "It's not difficult for me to balance the needs of all four campuses. They're each somewhat unique ... so that's not difficult."

Goode said one of the board's primary goals for the upcoming year will be implementing UM System President Timothy Wolfe's strategic planning initiative, a program that is designed to help each campus outline strategies and financial plans to guide them in future years.

“There are ongoing issues such as teaching a planning process that the president started with the board about nine months ago,” Goode said. “That’s a several year process and it should have a long-term impact on the university.”

Goode said the board’s biggest challenge is budget shortfalls, which can lead to tuition increases that are larger than what the board considers ideal. He said the state legislature is currently considering a bond issue for voters, which would increase the MU System revenue and allow funding for building projects.

In the board’s role in overseeing funding, Goode said the board tries to stay out of the day-to-day operations of the system’s four campuses.

“We try not to get too deeply involved in the actual management (of the campuses),” Goode said. “We leave that to the president for the most part. But sometimes it happens the other way around and we get some things that get a lot of public attention.”

The board will also work on other issues in the upcoming year. Goode said he would introduce some of the topics at the board’s first 2013 meeting on Jan. 31.

“There are some smaller items that I will talk about at our board meeting at the end of January that I want to focus a little attention on, but none of those are monumental issues,” Goode said. “Our real responsibility is making sure that the university is well run, serves the public and serves the students.”