

MAR 19 2012



## Emails show extensive efforts to prevent Missouri from leaving Big 12

By DAVID BRIGGS

Sunday, March 18, 2012

**In November, Big 12 interim Commissioner Chuck Neinas steeled for battle as the conference that was temporarily placed in his hands continued to fracture. His secret weapon would be a legal document that he could "wave around" in a meeting with Southeastern Conference Commissioner Mike Slive with the goal of keeping Missouri in the Big 12.**

The lawsuit, slated to be filed in Boone County Circuit Court, never came to pass. But the 12-page draft of a petition for injunctive relief was obtained by the Tribune this month. It charged the SEC with illegally enticing Missouri to breach its contractual commitment to the Big 12 — an effort the suit states was "willful, deliberate and in bad faith" and the cause of "irreparable injury to the Big 12 for which money damages is not an adequate remedy."

The draft requested an injunction to bar the SEC from accepting Missouri before June 30, 2016, the final day of the current Big 12 member agreement.

MU had staged a pomp-filled ceremony on Nov. 6 announcing its decision to join the SEC, effective July 1, 2012. That came less than two months after Texas A&M bolted for the SEC, and the petition argued MU's departure jeopardized the reputation and value of the conference. Television partners Fox Sports and ESPN, for instance, could void or renegotiate nine-figure deals if the Big 12 had less than 10 schools.

Although the Big 12 had added Texas Christian University and West Virginia, it remained unclear at the time if West Virginia could promptly leave the Big East. Neinas wanted MU to stay put for at least one more year and was prepared to confront Slive.

"We need to discuss litigation idea with Slive even if we do not intend to file," Neinas wrote in a Nov. 8 email to Kansas City-based lawyer Kevin Sweeney and Oklahoma State President Burns Hargis, who replaced Missouri Chancellor Brady Deaton as the chairman of the Big 12 board of directors.

"Remember, Slive is a lawyer and was sensitive to what the SEC has done to B12. ... Taking two members within a year appears to be designed to purposely weaken a conference that challenges for BCS positioning."

Sweeney responded three days later with a draft of the lawsuit.

"This gives you something to 'wave around' ... when you speak with Commissioner Slive," he wrote to Neinas.

It was the half-court shot at the buzzer in a push from many directions to keep Missouri in the Big 12.

A review of more than 1,500 internal emails and documents the Tribune obtained from various Big 12 schools underscores the intense pressure Missouri faced from the conference and Kansas City business leaders — and, at times, the mixed messages MU sent to fuel the hopes of the pro-Big 12 coalition.

While Tigers football Coach Gary Pinkel labeled Oklahoma's announcement on Sept. 2 that it would explore opportunities in other leagues as the "defining moment for our chancellor," Deaton wrote he was "optimistic and positive about the Big 12" in a Sept. 24 email to OU President David Boren.

In another twist, former UM System President Gary Forsee prepared to make an 11th-hour appeal for MU to remain in the Big 12. Despite Missouri's move the SEC appearing to be a foregone conclusion, on Oct. 25 Forsee laid out his plan to Neal Patterson, the CEO of Cerner, a Kansas City-based healthcare services firm.

"I have written a 3-4 page 'response,'" wrote Forsee, who resigned from MU in January 2011 to care for his wife, Sherry, after she was diagnosed with cancer. "I'll sleep on it..my sense is time is about up and I need to be clear...I have been trying not to meddle and they may have no choice .. But if big 12 got it close, no question what MU needs to do."

Patterson forwarded the email to Hargis and OSU Athletic Director Mike Holder.

"There is a clear message in here that if you (Big 12) get 'close' there is a chance of saving them," Patterson wrote on Oct. 25, though the concessions to which Forsee alludes are unclear.

"I hope it's not too late," Hargis replied the next day. "Your's and his are big voices."

It is not clear whether Missouri would have remained in the Big 12 if Forsee hadn't left his post as president last year. Forsee declined comment for this story.

The Big 12's dysfunction came into national focus Sept. 22, the day of dueling and conflicting press conferences between Deaton and Boren.

Three days earlier, the Pac-12 had rejected Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Texas and Texas Tech because of reported concerns about the Longhorn Network. After the Big 12 CEOs held a conference call in which they voted to replace Commissioner Dan Beebe with Neinas on an interim basis, Boren and Deaton, the Big 12 chair, held press conferences to update the state of the conference.

While Boren said the Big 12's leaders had unanimously committed to granting their media rights to the conference for six years — a pact he likened to "handcuffs" — Deaton said Missouri made no agreement. In fact, Missouri's allegiance at the time was seen as so precarious that Oklahoma State

drafted a "positive" and "negative" press release to react to the conference call — the latter calling Missouri's decision to leave the Big 12 a "complete surprise."

"Can you please explain to me why you had a press conference yesterday and greatly exaggerated the truth — lied, really — about the future of the Big 12 and the 'grant of rights,' " a reporter from the New York Times wrote in an email to Boren. "Do you realize how ridiculous you look having a celebratory press conference while the guy who should be speaking and knows the truth, Brady Deaton, is dispensing reality?"

Deaton, however, showed no ill will toward Boren. When Boren forwarded his MU counterpart the email from the Times, Deaton apologized for the confusion.

The next day, on the morning of the Tigers' football game at top-ranked Oklahoma, Deaton informed Boren he was unable to make the trip to Norman because of an upcoming dental procedure.

"I will be cheering on the Tigers!" Deaton wrote to Boren. "I am sure it will be a spirited engagement! We will miss all of you ... and our champagne celebration! We will do it later!"

He added: "Thanks for your generosity and good spirit through all our efforts. I remain very optimistic and positive about the Big 12. We can work through the growing pains, I am sure."

This week, Deaton told the Tribune through a spokesperson that he still considered staying in the Big 12 after the Sept. 2 date that he and MU Athletic Director Mike Alden have cited as the turning point in the decision to leave.

"While I was serving as president of the Big 12 board, I was still optimistic that the conference, with Mizzou, could work things out. ... There were a number of 'defining moments' as the full picture emerged of the best options for Mizzou," he said.

After the cheerful email exchange, Missouri continued to move toward leaving the Big 12. On Oct. 4, Deaton resigned as chairman of the Big 12 board of directors. And during a closed meeting in Kansas City on Oct. 21, the curators granted Deaton the power to negotiate with other conferences.

By this time, Neinas had informed his constituency that an "inside source in the SEC informs me that Slive now has the votes to admit Missouri." Yet even as the departure was just a formality, conference and business leaders continued to reach out to Missouri and express their frustration.

On Oct. 24, an anonymous Big 12 administrator told the Austin American-Statesman the conference would be better off with West Virginia than Missouri. The official said, "West Virginia has better football than Missouri, better basketball than Missouri, a better budget than Missouri and more passion among its fans than Missouri. They're better, anyway you turn 'em."

In an email, Oklahoma Athletic Director Joe Castiglione wrote to Holder, "Sad and disgusting someone would say that even out of frustration."

"Wow," Alden wrote to Holder. "I didn't know folks harbored that kind of sentiment about us."

"Pretty obvious who feels this way," Holder replied. "Not a sentiment shared in Stillwater."

Holder did not respond to an interview request for this story.

A week before Missouri announced its exit for the SEC, several Kansas City business leaders waged a final push to keep the status quo.

The alliance included Patterson, Hallmark President and CEO Don Hall Jr., Forsee and public relations executive Roshann Parris, who runs Parris Communications.

Patterson, who is also co-owner of the Sporting Kansas City soccer team and a major OSU benefactor, wrote a two-page letter to Deaton on Oct. 25 expressing concerns about the economic impact MU's move to the SEC would have on Kansas City, though privately he wondered if the chancellor needed to be swayed.

"I am certain that Brady is not the decision maker," Patterson wrote in a separate message to Hargis and Holder. "I think he has tried to argue to stay. It is hard to say who decided this."

Asked by the Tribune about this comment, Deaton said, "I cannot speak for others concerning their opinions."

The same day, Patterson directed Hargis to go on the offensive with Missouri and referenced the Cowboys' 45-24 victory over MU a few days earlier.

"Burns, you need to figure out how to get MU to save face," he wrote. "Make them heroes for staring down Texas ... saving the conference. You have to remember that Holder's football team just spanked them a few days ago."

"We'll explore some ideas," Hargis replied.

Among the final ideas was the lobbying of Forsee. In an email, the former UM system president called Patterson's letter to Deaton "well stated" and suggested his voice would be heard. Forsee coordinated his strategy with Parris, whose clients include Forsee's former company, Sprint Nextel, and other Fortune 500 corporations.

"Am quietly working w/ Gary this morning on the words to communicate his huge voice in response to your needed machine gun fire," Parris wrote to Patterson on Oct. 26. "More coming."

It is uncertain, however, whether Forsee ultimately petitioned Deaton and Missouri's curators. Parris told the Tribune, "Gary elected not to engage on this issue, and never sent a memo." Patterson did not return messages.

More clear is that Missouri had already made its decision.

For the Big 12, its only remaining recourse was to fight back.

While TCU would provide an immediate replacement for Texas A&M, Neinas believed it best for Missouri and West Virginia, which was entangled in a legal battle with the Big East, to stay put through 2013. In multiple emails, Neinas said Slive and Florida President Bernie Machen, chairman of the SEC's board of directors, were receptive to waiting a year for MU.

"Obviously the easiest path would be to have both Missouri and WVU remain in their respective conferences next year ... 2012-13," Neinas wrote in a Nov. 2 email to Brian Wallace, an attorney at Kansas City's Polsinelli Shugart. "Interesting of note is the South Carolina presidents comment that the SEC does not want disrupt another conference. I believe SEC would live a year with 13 teams next fall, but will obviously do what Mizzou prefers."

Missouri, however, declined the proposal, and the Big 12 trained its arms on the SEC. Neinas ordered the draft of a lawsuit against the SEC he intended to use as leverage but not publicly file. Dennis Palmer, another lawyer at Polsinelli Shugart, wrote in an internal company email that "care should be taken to keep it confidential and not to disclose it."

Although the lawsuit was unfinished — one parenthetical note states, "We need to allege that the SEC reached out to MU, not vice versa," — the rhetoric is pointed. The draft accuses the SEC of tortious interference and fraudulent misrepresentation, arguing the SEC assured the Big 12 that it was not targeting Missouri as a new member for the 2012-13 season. The suit requests an injunction preventing the SEC from "taking further actions to assist or encourage the University of Missouri to violate its contractual commitment to the Big 12."

Allowing Missouri to immediately join the SEC, the suit alleges, "will result in irreparable harm to the Big 12 and its members, including damage to the Conference's reputation and goodwill."

Neinas declined comment through a Big 12 spokesman.

West Virginia and the Big East have since settled a suit that will allow the Mountaineers to join the Big 12 next season. Missouri settled with the Big 12 on Feb. 28. The conference will withhold \$12.4 million in revenue from MU in 2012.

In an email to the Tribune, Slive declined to confirm or address the potential lawsuit from the Big 12.

"We are pleased," Slive wrote, "that everything worked out."

**AP** Associated Press

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

**MISSOURIAN**

The★Star  
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

## Emails show Forsee wanted to keep Mizzou in Big 12

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — The group of Kansas City business leaders who tried unsuccessfully to keep Missouri from leaving the Big 12 Conference for the SEC included former University of Missouri president Gary Forsee.

The Columbia Daily Tribune (<http://bit.ly/wDXilg> ) reports Forsee was among a group that included Sporting Kansas City soccer team owner Neal Patterson and Hallmark president Don Hall Jr. Patterson is also CEO of Cerner, a Kansas City-based medical records company.

Forsee, a former Sprint Nextel CEO, stepped down from his university presidency in January 2011. Emails obtained by the Tribune show that Forsee wrote a memo in late October urging Missouri curators and chancellor Brady Deaton to stay in the Big 12. Another participant said Forsee never sent the appeal. One week later, Missouri announced its move to the Southeastern Conference.



## Faculty rule in favor of embattled MU professor

By JANESE SILVEY

Saturday, March 17, 2012

**Greg Engel will remain a tenured member of the University of Missouri's faculty for the foreseeable future.**

A faculty group has again decided there's not enough evidence of wrongdoing — regardless of the type of evidence — to put the associate engineering professor through a firing process. Chancellor Brady Deaton has the power to recommend termination, but his spokeswoman said he will not do so.

"He affirms their decision and accepts it as the final disposition of the case," Mary Jo Banken said in an email.

Engel's peers in the College of Engineering launched a formal complaint against him in late 2010, charging him with being irresponsible as a faculty member and accusing him of discriminating against women and minorities. The faculty committee cleared him earlier this year, saying there wasn't enough clear and convincing evidence to back up the claims.

Provost Brian Foster challenged that ruling, saying members should have based a decision on whether the accusations were more likely than not to be accurate, a standard known as "preponderance of evidence." Deaton agreed and sent the case back to the committee to reconsider — sparking some backlash from MU Faculty Council members.

Eddie Adelstein, an associate professor of pathology and anatomical sciences, was one of three professors who asked the council last week to consider a resolution publicly denouncing Deaton's decision. Adelstein said he was pleasantly surprised by the committee's decision. "I'm proud of them," he said. "The letter was spectacular."

In the letter, the committee, chaired by Wilson Watt, an associate social work professor, reaffirmed its earlier finding.

The group went a step further and said members still think "clear and convincing" is the appropriate standard of evidence to use. The letter spells out several rules to Deaton, including a bylaw that cautions

against circumvention of procedures "by imposition of penal sanctions under the guise of purely administrative actions."

The original Faculty Council resolution also cited administrative interference. Adelstein said he'd like the council to pass a document now mostly to send a message.

"I would hope faculty would still approve that resolution saying we disapprove of Deaton's behavior," he said. "It's a horrible thing that they've done. The problem with these guys is they fire a silver bullet trying to kill you, and when they miss, nothing happens. There's no penalty for them."

Engel has been in a battle with administrators since early 2010, when his department heads accused him of stalling on a research project and reassigned a \$2 million federal earmark he had secured. Later in the year, three female Asian students came forward with charges of racial and gender discrimination. A separate student committee cleared him of those charges.

Engel has been suspended from teaching duties for more than a year, although he continues to do research. Earlier this year, he filed a lawsuit against his chairman, dean and the UM Board of Curators seeking \$5 million in punitive damages.

Engel said the committee's decision is "very good news," but he said he isn't sure whether he'll be reassigned to the classroom this summer or in the fall.

"I'm still in a holding position," he said. "It's still a hostile work environment."



# Students, faculty worry as MU Nuclear Science and Engineering Institute dissolves

By Breanna Dumbacher

March 17, 2012 | 5:49 p.m. CDT

**COLUMBIA – Students and faculty are questioning whether a decision to dissolve MU's Nuclear Science and Engineering Institute was completely thought through.**

**Provost Brian Foster and Graduate School Dean George Justice announced Monday that the institute would be restructured effective Thursday.**

According to a past Missouriian report, Justice said the restructuring is necessary because the graduate school does not have the ability to maintain tenured positions and support for faculty research. The research component is moving to the MU Office of Research, and a new academic program, probably to be named nuclear science, will be developed within the Graduate School under a new director.

Justice has said repeatedly that the restructuring will not affect current students because their academic program will not change. But some students are worried about indirect affects such as losing lab space, support staff and accreditation of the medical physics program, which has been part of the institute. Additionally, several faculty and staff members associated with the former institute question whether the decision followed the university's Collected Rules and Regulations.

## **Timing questioned**

Several professors and students have said they knew nothing about the restructuring until the public announcement.

Justice, however, said the process has been a long time coming and referred to the original intention for the institute in 2002 as an experiment that could face changes after being reviewed by an external committee. The institute's four tenured professors — Sudarshan

Loyalka, Mark Prelas, Tushar Ghosh and Robert Tompson — will have to find new departments because of the restructuring. Loyalka said that the decision could have been handled better and that faculty involved have brought the matter to the attention of the MU Faculty Council.

"At this point, I will only note that there had been no prior discussion with the NSEI faculty, staff and students regarding this particular decision," Loyalka said. "Everyone is affected, some far more than others. In my view, it has violated all good principles of faculty shared governance."

Wilson Watt, a sociology professor and council member, wrote an email to colleagues that said the decision did not seem to him to conform to the university's Collected Rules and Regulations. Chapter 300 in the Faculty Bylaws states that faculty have "primary and direct authority" in making decisions that directly affect educational programs.

Watt wrote: "Any reorganization of a program or department will have some affect on the delivery of the 'educational program,' and to that extent the Provost should be providing a clear evidence trail of the interaction with the Faculty Council and/or representatives of that body and with the faculty of the NSEI as the primary faculty with the task of carrying out on a daily basis the 'primary and direct authority' of the faculty." Justice said he thinks the necessary process for restructuring followed the rules.

"We absolutely believe this is indeed in accord with the collected rules," Justice said. "We are not eliminating a program. We are not eliminating faculty positions."

### **Students express surprise**

About a dozen students said they are concerned that the institute was dissolved before a new academic program was clearly defined. They were surprised the decision came after the institute had become so successful, they said.

Although a report about the institute's progress by the external committee in 2010 listed areas in which the institute could improve, a separate report in 2011 by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Educational Programs praised the institute for being interdisciplinary — the lack of which had been a main criticism of the 2010 report.

Although the commission's review recommended several changes such as specific roles for co-directors and a clearer curriculum, the students thought it reaffirmed that the institute was

successful and did not need to be restructured. The plan to restructure was less well-considered than leaving the previous institute in place, they said.

Justice said the plan is to set up an academic program that will be similar to those of a current master's program in public health and a doctoral program in informatics. These have directors who are in charge and faculty members from various departments who are associated with the academic programs. Justice said he plans to begin searching for a new director soon, with the goal to have a director in place by July 1.

The new director and involved faculty members will then be in charge of deciding details about the program. Justice said the name of the degree will likely change from nuclear engineering to nuclear science for future students. Degrees for current graduate students will still say nuclear engineering when they graduate.

Students are also concerned what the academic program will look like in the fall semester. Justice said engineering professor Tushar Ghosh, who was in charge of these decisions when the institute was in place, will still be responsible for making them until the details of the new system are straightened out. Justice said he would not expect a new director who was hired over the summer to make decisions for the fall semester.

### **Potential problems**

Even if the academic programs are guaranteed for current students, they worry that the physical consequences of the restructuring will affect their research. Currently, the nuclear engineering lab spaces are in the Engineering Building. Doctoral student Veera Rajesh Gutti worries that lab spaces might be moved or disappear without professors having offices in a central location. Paul Harden, also a doctoral student, said moving lab spaces could hurt in the long term.

"We have lots of delicate equipment that we don't want to move," Harden said. "If we break it while we move, it could set us back a month or more (in our research)."

Justice said it is "absolutely possible" that the lab spaces might be moved because the dean of the College of Engineering is in charge of assigning lab spaces in the Engineering Building and has a formula for doing so.

Under the institute, "these faculty members have been exempted from these policies," Justice said. "And that's caused a lot of problems."

## **Accreditation might be at risk**

MU is one of 36 schools with a medical physics program accredited under the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Educational Programs, according to the organization's website. Ghosh and Loyalka as well as students are concerned that the change in the program could jeopardize this accreditation. The commission has the ability to take away the accreditation if it thinks the program is different than the one that originally received accreditation.

"We need to have our structure in place," Harden said. "If our structure is falling apart, we have a chance of losing the accreditation."

The accreditation is particularly important for current master's degree students because without it they can't apply for residency, Harden said. If these students cannot participate in a residency program, it will be much more difficult for them to get jobs in the industry, Harden said. Justice said the students and faculty are "right to want to make sure the program remains accredited." He said he hopes the program can grow and change in a good way. He said agencies that award accreditation are often looking for positive changes in programs to continuously be improving for future students.

"Programs change all the time, and the accreditation doesn't go away," Justice said. Academic changes will be the decisions of the new director and faculty involved with the academic program, Justice said. "Before we make major changes to the curriculum, we would certainly be consulting with the accreditors."

## **Staff members jobs on the line**

Although the tenured professors' jobs are guaranteed, the two staff members associated with the nuclear institute, senior secretary Latricia Vaughn and financial officer James Bennett, do not know what their fate will be come July 1.

With the restructuring, they will have to find new departments. Their jobs at the university are not guaranteed, and Justice said the decision about what support staff will be needed for the new academic program will be up to the new director. Justice said he could not comment on individual situations. The students said Vaughn keeps the program organized and running — doctoral student Jenny Schutte described her as the students' "dorm mom."

"I want to know who's going to do my job and where I'm going to go," Vaughn said.



## Surgeon hired by MU seeks \$15 million in lawsuit

By JANESE SILVEY

Saturday, March 17, 2012

**An orthopedic surgeon hired by the University of Missouri to take over a position at a partner hospital is now suing his employer for allegedly trying to ruin his career.**

Avinash Jadhav is seeking \$15 million in punitive damages, according to the lawsuit filed earlier this month in Boone County Circuit Court.

The 300-page petition includes internal emails, memos and a July 2010 offer letter in which orthopedic Chairman James Stannard and School of Medicine Dean Bob Churchill say they're "delighted that you anticipate accepting our offer."

Jadhav was hired to work at Fitzgibbons Hospital in Marshall with the understanding that he would take over the current resident orthopedic's caseload, said his attorney, George Smith. But that never happened.

"Fitzgibbons is not a big enough hospital to handle two orthopedic surgeons," he said. "For whatever reason, they didn't let" the other doctor go.

The lawsuit details how the situation unraveled after Jadhav failed to build up a profitable practice in Marshall within his first year on the job.

According to court records, Jadhav was brought into a meeting last summer during which Stannard allegedly told him the hospital was upset because "they were losing money hands over fist" to support his salary.

Jadhav argued that it's unreasonable to expect a profit after one year and pointed to his contract, which guaranteed his salary for two years.

He recaps his version of events in a letter to Stannard, included in the court file, which accuses Stannard of asking him to resign effective the day after the meeting.

Jadhav went on to accuse Stannard of threatening that if he did not do so, he would encourage two of Jadhav's patients to take legal action against him for allegedly violating a standard of care in two surgeries.

Jadhav in the meantime was accused of substandard care in four cases and told to "stop seeing any patients" in the hospital during the review. The rules say that suspension should have lasted 30 days but instead has stretched for months, Smith said.

Jadhav is on a tenure track and was not informed that a committee was meeting to vote on whether he should retain his employment, Smith said.

"He should have had the opportunity to present materials so they can make an honest decision on whether he's progressing or not," he said.

Adding insult to injury, Smith said, was when Jadhav received an offer from a Veterans Affairs hospital in Idaho, but MU would not release a credentialing form the VA needed from Jadhav.

"We're not talking about 40 or 50 pages, we're talking about one document with five questions," Smith said.

Instead, the lawsuit says MU administrators prepared a special release for Jadhav to sign, saying they would release the form if he agreed not to sue the university.

He refused to sign, and the VA offered the job to someone else.

"The whole argument is they're out to destroy him," Smith said. "Why wouldn't you want to get rid of somebody by having them move on so they don't sue you?"

The suit accuses MU of breaching contracts and not following due diligence.

The university does not comment on pending litigation.



## Friendly Muslims

What's that you say?

By HENRY J. WATERS III

Saturday, March 17, 2012

**Wednesday afternoon at the University of Missouri, former Sen. Kit Bond hosted the first in a series of lectures bearing his name. The initial episode in the Christopher S. "Kit" Bond Distinguished Lecture Series asked, "Can we achieve worldwide food security?"**

The topic and the guest panelists reflected the deep interests of Bond and MU Chancellor Brady Deaton. Aside from the obvious importance of the subject matter, several elements of the lecture stood out for me.

First, the obvious passion and intelligent interest Deaton has in this subject. His person and career were built working among poor people in deprived areas whose primary need is a safe and secure supply of nutritious food, including time in Southeast Asia, the geographical focus of Wednesday's lecture. I have listened on several occasions to Deaton's description of his earlier years working in Appalachia and overseas, experiences that continue to affect his attitudes about education and society. He can make you want to hoist a shovel and strike out for the wild.

And Bond's acquired interest in Indonesia and the region led to an association between those governments and the United States that continues to bloom, to the great potential benefit of the involved nations and the world. He personally knows the several luminous visitors who were at the head table and scattered throughout the audience, from Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines and including the former president of the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, a person known and respected around the world in food research and technology.

Yes, the program was impressive, but a throwaway line delivered early in the remarks made by Indonesian Ambassador Dino Patti Djalal caught my ear. In his earlier introduction of Bond, Chancellor Deaton mentioned the book the former senator co-wrote titled "The Next Front," describing the moderate strain of Islam prevalent in Southeast Asia, particularly Indonesia. When he took the stand, Ambassador Djalal cited this characteristic of the region's dominant religion as a strong foundation for a strong relationship between his country and ours.

Indonesia is the nation with the world's largest Muslim population. Bond reported that leaders over there say the tension between the West and local Islam is based on "mutual ignorance."

I had read Bond's book when it first came out because I was intrigued at the prospect of such a large and compatible Muslim contingent in a land so important for future U.S. involvement. Bond urges America to aggressively develop our relationship over there in large part to head off what might become a less friendly Islam. He says trade and exchange of ideas are the answers, not guns. People who happily engage in trade will have a hard time fighting over religion.

Of course, the ultimate answer for the world is for its people to ignore religion as they seek to interact with strangers, seizing instead on obvious areas of mutual benefit, chiefly the efficient production and distribution of food in developing countries.

In America, we are so well fed we don't think much about food deprivation. Wednesday's panelists reminded the audience that many citizens in the developing world spend some 65 percent of total income on food. We spend 12 percent. Even if most of us are not likely to feel the passion of Deaton and Bond, we might push our rich nation to help achieve food security in areas like Southeast Asia for more selfish reasons, such as the promotion of peaceful international interaction with moderate Islam. Food for peace, sure enough.

We do not judge people for what they are in themselves, but by what they are relative to us.



# COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

## **Brian Wansink explains dangers of eating mindlessly at Food Sense symposium**

By Ashley Fowler

March 16, 2012 | 9:53 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Small changes such as eating from a smaller plate can have profound effects on how much you eat.

Those are the kinds of conclusions best-selling author Brian Wansink has come to. **He shared his research as the keynote speaker Friday at Jesse Hall for the eighth annual Life Sciences and Society Symposium: Food Sense and Nutrition and Exercise Physiology Research Week.**

In his lecture, Wansink discussed eating mindlessly, which often leads to overeating or eating unhealthy food. His solution to mindless eating is not "mindful eating," but changing one's environment to mindlessly eat less. In other words, make healthy food choices just as convenient and easy as unhealthy ones, so you don't have to think about them.

Wansink is a John Dyson professor of consumer behavior and director of the Food and Brand lab at Cornell University. He is the lead author of more than 100 academic articles and books on eating behavior, including the best-selling "Mindless Eating: Why We Eat More Than We Think."

Among other findings, his research shows that childrens' eating habits are highly affected by lunch line layout.

Children make more healthful choices when a salad bar stands between them and the check-out register, he said. If milk and water are placed in front of sugary beverages, milk and water sales increase. Displaying fruit choices in an aesthetically pleasing bowl in a well-lit area at the beginning of the lunch line also proved to have positive effects.

Though Wansink focused mainly on school lunches during his lecture, he also gave some tips for healthier living:

- Eat food from a smaller plate — it decreases how much you eat.
- Keep names in mind — giving a mediocre dish a fancy name subconsciously affects our perceptions of its taste.
- Sit far away from the Chinese buffet, and use chopsticks — you'll eat slower.
- At home, keep healthy foods visible. Make sure you have easy access to them when you're walking out the door.



## Eating expert dishes on mind's influence on taste

By JANESE SILVEY

Saturday, March 17, 2012

**A national expert on eating habits gave audience members a few take-home tips and touted his plans to change school lunchrooms yesterday at a University of Missouri event on Food Sense.**

Brian Wansink, a Cornell University researcher, provided a keynote address last night that kicked off the eighth annual Life Sciences & Society Symposium this weekend. Wansink is the author of "Mindless Eating: Why We Eat More than We Think," a culmination of findings from his hands-on studies of how people eat.

Some tips seem obvious — replacing large plates with smaller ones to trick perception of portion sizes and hiding the chips behind the fruit bowl — but Wansink also shared some eye-opening observations.

In one experiment conducted at a University of Illinois-run restaurant, diners were treated to a free bottle of wine at the beginning of their meals. In reality, the wine was a \$2 off-brand, but the labels had been soaked and replaced with either a label from a fake vineyard in California or a made-up winery in North Dakota.

Those who thought they were drinking California wine, Wansink said, were much more likely to say they enjoyed it, their meals and the overall dining experience than those who thought they'd been given cheap wine.

He warned attendees not to judge: Most people's expectations influence their taste buds. In another experiment filmed for ABC's "20/20," the program's interns were given samples of chocolate-syrup ice cream in various strawberry-themed containers. Asked which sample had the most strawberry taste, all of the participants responded, weighing what they thought were varying degrees of strawberry flavor. Even later, when told there was no strawberry in the samples, the participants were adamant that they tasted it.

"We have less taste sensitivity than we think," he said.

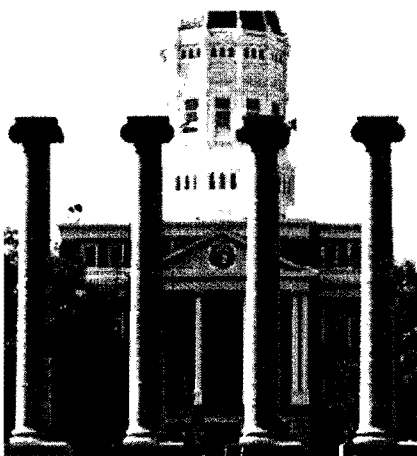
Wansink has taken what he's learned about psyching out one's palette to school cafeterias, helping lunch ladies figure out how to get youngsters to go for the fruits and veggies. Just taking the bad stuff out of schools won't work: Kids simply won't eat school meals any longer, he said.

Instead, he helps schools find easy, low-cost ways to revamp their cafeterias, making fruits and milk easier to grab than cookies or fruity drinks. And names make a difference, too, he said, noting that in one middle school, a bean burrito sold out for the first time after it was renamed "big bad bean burrito." By the end of the year, Wansink said he plans to have worked with more than 10,000 schools to rethink their lunch menus.

The Life Sciences & Society Symposium is an annual event that focuses on bringing together researchers and individuals from a wide range of disciplines to talk about science in the social context, said co-chairwoman Stefani Engelstein, an associate professor of German Studies.

## **MU animal surgeon hones cartilage storage method**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS | Posted: Monday, March 19, 2012 7:22 am | (0) comments.



*Jesse Hall and the columns on the campus of the University of Missouri-Columbia, pictured July 28, 2010. Erik M. Lunsford [elunsford@post-dispatch.com](mailto:elunsford@post-dispatch.com)*

**COLUMBIA, Mo. • Medical patients awaiting joint transplants may soon have greater access to donor cartilage thanks to a new storage method developed by University of Missouri researchers.**

Dr. James Cook is a professor of orthopedic surgery in the university's College of Veterinary Medicine. A Cook-led research team that includes colleagues from Columbia University has discovered a way to more than double the storage time of joint cartilage taken from cadavers. The cartilage is used to repair damaged ligaments in patients' knees, ankles, shoulders, hips and elbows.

The current maximum storage time is 28 days. Cook says those limits mean nearly 80 percent of donated tissue can't be used. The researchers' new system preserves transplant-quality tissue for up to 63 days

The research will be published in the Journal of Knee Surgery.

---



## City, MU expect bus reports soon

By ANDREW DENNEY

Friday, March 16, 2012

**The fate of bus routes serving south Columbia student apartments is still uncertain as transit officials develop a report on other cities' bus systems and the University of Missouri's consultant continues to assess student needs.**

Last week, city officials and MU students visited Champaign-Urbana, Ill. — home to the University of Illinois — to assess its bus system. It was the last of three trips to Midwestern college towns to observe successful bus systems fueled by student fees. Visits were made last month to Ames, Iowa, and Lawrence, Kan.

Drew Brooks, Columbia's transportation supervisor, said observations from the trips will be gathered for a presentation to the Public Transportation Advisory Commission and to the Columbia City Council, but a date has not been set for discussions.

He said officials also have discussed hiring an outside consultant to review the city's bus system, something MU has done already to specifically assess students' transit needs.

"Obviously, that's the biggest dog in the hunt, so to speak," Brooks said of students, the heaviest users of the bus system. "But that doesn't mean other members of the community don't need good, quality service."

Karlan Seville, a spokeswoman for MU Campus Facilities, said the consultant, Solstice Transportation Group, held two open forums for students. Solstice also took head counts and calculated ride times on the Black and Gold student-focused routes and Columbia Transit's shuttle service that takes students to the MU Student Center from remote parking lots.

A representative also accompanied students and city officials to Lawrence.

Seville said the consultant is developing a transit survey and plans to bring three transportation directors from peer institutions to meet with MU administrators. She said the consultant plans to make recommendations by the end of May.

The city arranged the trips to the other college towns after talks with MU students and administrators about a proposed student bus fee went sour. The Black and Gold routes usually are suspended at the end of the spring semester, but the city has posted notices saying the routes could be eliminated. According to a city report, Columbia Transit ridership — which in recent years has reported more than 2 million rides annually — could be reduced by more than 900,000 if those routes are eliminated.

The city made a proposal for south Columbia apartment complexes to pay roughly \$62 per bed to maintain the routes. Brooks said Grindstone Canyon and Gateway at Columbia apartments have confirmed they will pay the city for bus service, and Campus View Apartments is "on the fence."

He said none of the complexes has signed a contract. Of the 11 south Columbia apartment complexes the city has contacted, five have declined to take part and three others haven't decided, Brooks said.