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Deaton, Alden have plan for athletics to boost academics

By Janese Silvey

Sunday, September 30, 2012

When Louisiana State University announced that its sports programs would start contributing funds to the school's academic programs, officials there dubbed it a "groundbreaking" and "historic" policy.

Maybe. But it's a model the University of Missouri has been talking about for years, Chancellor Brady Deaton said.

LSU made news earlier this month when its Board of Supervisors approved a plan to send \$36 million from sports revenue to the academic side of campus over a five-year period. Additionally, if LSU's athletics program sees surpluses of \$5 million or more, half goes to academics and research, with a tiered funding plan for profits lower than that amount.

"That's not new to us," Deaton said when asked about the arrangement. "We've been planning that approach for a long time."

He and MU Athletic Director Mike Alden say they started talking about a similar goal after Deaton became chancellor in 2004. The idea was to first make the athletics program self-supporting before turning it into a money-maker that could help support MU's academic, research and service missions.

Now, with MU in the more lucrative Southeastern Conference, they hope that starting in 2015, MU's Athletic Department can dole out an additional \$5 million to campus over a 10-year period. Deaton envisions the money going into the Chancellor's Fund for Excellence, allowing him to invest it in priority areas.

Negotiations for the arrangement continue, though, because athletics budgets are fickle by nature. In addition to up-and-down ticket sales, the department can unexpectedly lose or gain big bucks within minutes. When the Tigers took on Nebraska during a Thursday night football home game in 2009, for instance, storms caused power outages that cost the concession stand about \$200,000, Alden recalled. But when ESPN's College Game Day crew showed up for Homecoming in 2010, millions of unexpected dollars came in through ticket, T-shirt and other

sales. The athletics department tries to budget conservatively, Alden said, "but those kinds of things you can't budget for."

Sports revenue and expenditures already are tricky to track, and conflicting reports leave plenty of skeptics questioning MU's claims that the athletics department pays for itself. Many cite a report from USA Today that says MU contributed nearly \$2.7 million to sports last year.

That figure includes three things, said Tim Hickman, associate athletic director. Every year, MU pays the department \$250,000 in exchange for discounted and free tickets that go to university employees, students and special guests. Another portion accounts for campus activities that occur inside the Hearn Center, which is managed by the athletics department. The center houses MU Extension offices and hosts graduation ceremonies and other campus events. Additionally, the \$2.7 million takes into account the nonresident tuition fees that MU waives for out-of-state athletes.

This fiscal year, MU Athletics expects to hand over \$13.6 million in cash to MU to pay for campus services needed to support the games. Athletics is paying more than \$2.7 million for utilities, for instance, and about \$2.1 million to residential life and dining services. That amount also includes money for police protection, facility crews, MU health services and parking services. There's also a \$1.4 million contribution from athletics to campus to pay for overall institutional support.

In the coming years, athletics also will pay back bonds recently used to fund stadium renovations.

"I'm very proud of the leadership athletics has shown toward this institution," Deaton said, adding that the profit-sharing plan is on the "right track."

When a new arrangement is reached, Alden said it will be rare for a school the size of MU. "To be able to achieve that and come together, frankly, that's remarkable and highly unusual," he said. "It's pretty exciting."



Some UM funds might be shifted

Idea puts focus on priority areas.

By Janese Silvey

Friday, September 28, 2012

University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe is considering a plan to divvy up a portion of state dollars to the four campuses based on strategic priorities.

His idea surfaced publicly at an MU Faculty Council meeting yesterday. UM spokeswoman Jennifer Hollingshead confirmed that Wolfe is looking at a model that would take 5 percent to 10 percent of the roughly \$400 million that comes from the state and distribute it based on priorities and goals.

Faculty members — some hearing the idea for the first time yesterday — had mixed reactions.

Sudarshan Loyalka, a curators' professor of nuclear engineering, said he's fine with the concept as long as faculty members are involved in discussions and help determine priorities.

Others were more hesitant. "My knee-jerk reaction is that it's a bad one," said Nicole Monnier, an associate teaching professor of Russian. "If there's extra money floating around, that's one thing, but it's a horrific thing to do when funding is limited already."

The Missouri Department of Higher Education is moving forward with a separate performance funding model that would dole out extra state money to colleges based on whether they've met certain standards. Unlike Wolfe's proposal, that system would base only additional revenue on performance, not current appropriations, and it is based on four-year universities setting and meeting their own goals.

Art Jago, a professor of management, said he is waiting for more information but worries that the UM model would force the four campuses to compete with one another for funding — tough to do when they have "completely different missions."

"I personally think" MU "will come out well," Loyalka said. "If it so happens we are not performing as well as we should, I think it would be appropriate that we strive to do better."

Monnier balked at the idea of MU getting more of money that now supports operations in St. Louis, Kansas City and Rolla. "We're all just strapped," she said. "How much more money can they take from us and redistribute and have us still do our core functions?"

MU Chancellor Brady Deaton said he supports the idea and that it makes sense to have the flexibility to invest in priority areas.

For at least a decade, the system has been dividing state dollars to campuses based on previous years. That model is worth revisiting, Curator Wayne Goode said. "Whether or not we find something better, I don't know."

Kattesh Katti, a curators' professor of radiology and physics who is vice chairman of the faculty council, also likes the proposal. "It's a great idea," he said. Money could be "earmarked for growth. One way is to look for new growth opportunities and invest in those opportunities."



UM System to begin evaluating staff jobs

By Janese Silvey

Saturday, September 29, 2012

The University of Missouri System is in the process of evaluating every nonunion staff job on its four campuses, an exercise that ultimately aims to make sure employees are paid in a consistent manner.

"We don't have a good organizational structure that all the campuses use," said Kelley Stuck, the system's associate vice president for total compensation.

In some cases, employees have similar duties and pay but have different job titles, not only between the campuses but also among different departments on one campus, she said. That makes it tough to explain to one worker why someone else doing similar duties makes more money.

The UM System piloted the pay grade system in 2010 in an MU department and, after it proved successful, got Board of Curators approval to use it across the system. Stuck anticipates the evaluation to be completed in the spring.

Under the proposal, every staff job, including administrators, would fall into one of 21 overlapping pay ranges. Those ranges are determined based on seven specific job factors, such as the knowledge required to perform the work and the effect a job has on a division, department or campus.

Employees could increase their salaries within a range by receiving merit raises but would have to be promoted to climb into the next range. Stuck believes that will make it easier for employees to understand what they would need to do to earn more money.

It also means administrators are going to have to show that an employee's job duties have changed before receiving a new title and higher pay. And that should cut down on a well-known practice of justifying higher salaries by simply changing a person's title.

In 2009, a time when most campus salaries were frozen, for instance, the UM System gave David Russell a nearly \$18,000 raise by changing his title from chief of staff to senior associate vice president without explaining whether there were additional job duties. Russell is currently commissioner of the Missouri Department of Higher Education.

Stuck started in 2010 and wasn't familiar with that particular situation but acknowledged that the university would have a tougher time getting away with that under the proposed system.

"You can't give raises by just changing titles if the duties don't change," she said, later saying the system would "hold our managers accountable."

Evaluating the roughly 4,800 different job titles across the system should also give the Human Relations department a better understanding of how university salaries compare to respective markets. Depending on the job, those might be regional markets, or in cases where a position is unique, such as MU's head football coach, national comparators.

Although the system ultimately could lead to a more consistent and fairer salary schedule, Stuck said current employees won't see much difference, other than possible changes in title wording.

"Nobody's salary is going to go down because of this," she said, "and it's not necessarily for salaries to go up."

Employee groups will be consulted before changes are made.

Jen Rachow, a medical program coordinator and member of the MU Staff Advisory Council, said employees, for the most part, are aware of the evaluation. "The general consensus, I think, is that it will be a good thing in the end."



Committee named to help UM Press transition

By Janese Silvey

Saturday, September 29, 2012

Authors, professors and other interested parties have been tapped to serve on a committee to help transition the University of Missouri Press from UM System hands to the MU campus.

The 21-member group includes individuals who were involved in earlier plans to create a new university press model and those who opposed closing the current press.

Formation of the committee is the latest in a monthslong controversy that began when UM President Tim Wolfe announced in May the system would phase out press operations starting in July. MU later announced plans for a new press model — an idea scrapped when dozens of UM Press authors began demanding rights to their books back.

More than 50 authors are still making that request, although most of them have said they would reconsider if the university either rehires Clair Willcox as the press' editor-in-chief or considers him for the director's position.

"Getting Clair back is the first priority because he's the one the authors respect and know," said Jane Lago, a former UM Press employee who agreed to serve on the committee. "He has the contacts with all of the historians and could most quickly turn the press back around and build a new lift."

Bruce Miller, a Chicago book representative and co-creator of the Save the UM Press Coalition, said he'd also advise the committee to recommend the university give the press an increase in its previous subsidy of \$400,000.

"The increased subsidy would not only help to replace the decimated editorial staff and help guarantee that the remaining staff members in sales and marketing and business would stay on, but some of the money could be earmarked for digitizing the remaining backlist and hiring a digital publishing manager," Miller wrote in an email.

Craig Roberts, a plant sciences professor who has experience as an editor-in-chief for an academic society, will serve on the committee. He said he thinks the UM Press just needs a

better business model and hopes the committee helps the organization "get on track financially," in part by expanding their subject areas.

"A press on a university campus should be publishing scholarly works, and I guess I'm hoping that the press produces scholarly works from all disciplines, not just poetry and not just history, but all disciplines," he said.

Simply publishing more books isn't a solution, said Lago, who worked at the press for more than 30 years. "If every book loses an average of 'x' dollars and you double your books, you double that cost and double the amount of money you lose," she said. "The press needs to grow, but that's not just a matter of saying 'publish more books.' Your books have to be of quality and have to be books that deserve to be published."

She agreed to serve on the committee in hopes of giving other members insight into operations. "There are so many misconceptions about the press," Lago said. "The committee needs to have somebody on it who's aware of ... what the press has done and hasn't done."



Up market not ideal time for retirement

By Janese Silvey

Saturday, September 29, 2012

People delaying retirement until the economy improves might want to reconsider: A University of Missouri researcher has found that retiring during economic booms can cause problems for one's long-term financial stability.

Rui Yao, an assistant professor of personal financial planning in the College of Human Environmental Services, knows once people meet their targeted retirement savings goals, they're tempted to retire in an up market.

The problem, she said, is the economy runs in cycles, meaning the more into an up market one retires, the more chance there is the economy will take a downturn afterward.

"People who have retired shortly before an economic downturn run a serious risk of losing a significant portion of their retirement savings, which will shorten the longevity of their retirement income," Yao said in a statement. "This could result in many retirees outliving their retirement savings and facing financial hardships toward the end of their lives."

In the study, Yao examined data from the Health and Retirement Study, a national biannual survey conducted by the University of Michigan. Yao found that the probability retirement-eligible Americans would choose to retire increased as the number of consecutive up-market years increased. And those with a retired spouse were more likely to retire, which also could create financial problems.

"It makes sense that many married couples would want to retire around the same time," Yao said. "However, if both spouses decide to retire close to the end of an up market, the household would have little to no cushion should their retirement portfolios be affected by an economic downturn."

Yao recommends potential retirees hold off on retiring immediately after reaching their savings goals, especially during an economic boom.

Potential retirees should retire during an economic downturn, she said, as long as they have saved enough to live comfortably. That way, once the market recovers, their savings will increase and create a cushion for future downswings.

Yao's study was funded by a grant from Prudential Insurance Co. of America and published in the Journal of Personal Finance.

Foster kids can overcome extra financial obstacles

By STEVE ROSEN

Eddy Vanderkwaak's life story is really two tales.

There's the girl who grew up in a dysfunctional home in Iowa until she was 14, living primarily with her father. It was a week-to-week existence, with her father borrowing from friends and family members to cover the bills.

Then there's the girl who rebounded in the foster care system and now at age 21 is about to earn an associate degree in liberal arts from a Des Moines community college. That success has inspired her to apply to law school with the hope of becoming a judge overseeing child welfare cases.

It's been a dramatic transformation — one that Vanderkwaak admits might not have happened if not for Opportunity Passport, a financial education program developed by the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative.

"I'd like to think I would have made it on my own," she said in an interview. "But it would have been very difficult."

Last week, Vanderkwaak attended a conference in Washington for the release of a report, "Enduring Assets: Findings From a Study on the Financial Lives of Young People Transitioning From Foster Care." The study was prepared by researchers that included several from the University of Missouri in Columbia. Their research focused on how personal financial education can play a key role in helping youngsters move from the foster care system into college and independent living.

That's part of the mission of the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, named in memory of the founder of the United Parcel Service.

Founded 11 years ago, the St. Louis-based initiative provides financial support through Operation Passport's matched savings program of up to \$1,000 a year to young people in foster care who are coming into adulthood.

The donor-supported program is currently organized in 15 states --- but not Kansas or Missouri --- for young people ages 14 to 23 who were in foster care after their 14th birthday.

More than 6,000 teens and young adults have collectively saved \$5 million to be used for education, an apartment, a car or other assets, according to the youth organization.

Vanderkwaak is one of them.

At age 18, with four years in foster care and a high school diploma, Vanderkwaak joined Opportunity Passport.

But before receiving any financial help, she had to participate in an education training program to learn about budgeting, banking and other money matters. Gaining this knowledge opened her eyes to the possibility of attending college.

Handling money and even maintaining a checking account with a debit card can be a financial mind bender for many youths in foster care. Part of the problem is that foster kids frequently change addresses and hometowns, don't receive an allowance and don't make much money from part-time jobs.

Compared with a typical teenager, Vanderkwaak said, foster kids have "a bigger sense of urgency to find ourselves and get things right."

Given the difficulties many teens and young adults face in getting a grip on money issues, Vanderkwaak urges them to:

- Keep a budget and track spending. It's important to know how much money you make, when and how often you get paid, and what fixed expenses you have each month, she said.
- Plan ahead — especially for the unexpected. "A rule of thumb that I live by is to set aside all the money I know I need each month to pay my bills, and then set aside an extra percentage of my income to cover things that may not happen but that I'll need if the situation arises," Vanderkwaak said.
- If you need to borrow, always repay your debts on time.
- Do your research, and never be afraid to ask questions.

As Vanderkwaak learned, it's OK if you don't know all the answers . It's also OK to reach out for help.

Vanderkwaak found her lifeline in Opportunity Passport. Despite her rough start in life, she's ready to tackle new challenges and fulfill her hopes and dreams.

"I want to be self-sufficient in all aspects of my life," she said.

In the foster care system, that's called having a sense of permanency.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Man robbed and assaulted near MU Medical School Library

By Alyssa Schueneman

September 29, 2012 | 5:19 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Early Saturday morning, a man was robbed and **assaulted near the MU Medical School Library on the southeast side of Stankowski Field.**

At around 2:30 a.m., the victim said he was approached from behind by a male, according to a release from MU police. The suspect demanded money and then struck the victim twice in the face and knocked him to the ground.

The release described the suspect as a 6-foot-tall black male of average build between 20 and 30 years old with bad acne and a small cross tattoo on the inside of his right forearm.

MU police have issued a composite of the suspect, who was last seen running eastbound toward the MU Student Recreation Complex, the release said.

Police were asking anyone with information to contact the MU Police Department or Crime Stoppers at 875-8477.

Supervising editor is Zach Murdock.

MU civility campaign echoes others around the country

By [Janine Brownridge](#)

October 1, 2012 | 6:00 a.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — As director of MU Equity for the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative, Noel English has heard of plenty of uncivil acts on campus — sometimes with serious consequences as with sexual harassment and bullying cases.

A number of factors through the years helped inspire English to champion a civility campaign at MU. They included the 2010 suicide of 18-year-old Rutgers University student Tyler Clementi, which became a nationally known case of cyberbullying. Another was MU's [campus climate survey](#), which asks students about their experiences on campus.

"I brought it up at the staff meeting," English said of the campaign. Subsequent to the staff meeting English said, "Every single person that I've talked to said, 'That's a great idea.'"

[Show Me Respect: Promoting Civility at the University of Missouri](#) officially kicks off at a diversity summit in late October. Such civility campaigns have been happening at college campuses around the country.

"I think people are just getting to the place where they're like, 'You know what, this is not the way the world is suppose to be,'" English said of the trend.

At the time of Clementi's death, in September 2010, Rutgers had been planning a civility campaign. Shortly after the public suicide, [Project Civility at Rutgers](#) was launched and ran for two years, according to the campaign website.

The hope of Project Civility was to reduce bullying in all forms. The website said that since the campaign began, more people on campus have been thinking about their actions.

Clementi's suicide also affected Peter Groenendyk, director for Residence Life and Dining Services at the University of Memphis and co-chairman of the civility campaign there.

The University of Memphis Civility Campaign ran for the 2011-2012 school year. Activities included students signing a large banner of a civility pledge promising integrity, respect and civility. More than 20 programs were sponsored during the year, 23 departments and organizations were involved in the campaign, and 3,000 students participated in some manner.

"We reached out to every corner of the campus," Groenendyk said.

"We did a civility campaign for a full year because we wanted to expose our students to civility for a long time," said Colton Cockrum, assistant director of the Helen Hardin Honors Program at the University of Memphis and co-chairman of the civility campaign.

The plan is to make it an annual event held for one week starting this fall.

Tulane University also had a civility campaign called the One Wave Campaign, a reference to the sports team's nickname, the Green Wave.

Ross Bryan, assistant vice president of Housing and Residence Life at Tulane, said this is the second campus he's been on that started a civility campaign — University of Alabama being the other one.

Bryan said the Tulane campaign was well received by the students, faculty and staff. Banners and T-shirts were made for events with the school motto, "Not for one's self, but for one's own," on them.

American University in Washington, D.C., started the "Civitas" campaign after a student affairs staff retreat in 2003. Every year for the retreat, they choose a book to read, and that year they chose "Choosing Civility" by P.M. Forni.

In what was a soft launch of the Show Me Respect campaign, Forni spoke at MU in August. The author and professor at Johns Hopkins University, where he co-founded a civility project in 1997, talked about life as a relational experience.

The Civitas campaign at American started based on an overall observation of the manner that individuals treat one another.

"The purpose was to promote a civil and responsible campus community," said Bernie Schulz, special assistant to the vice president of campus life at American.

Schulz worked with various departments and divisions, including student groups, to produce a Civitas week that would include a keynote speaker, banner contest among student organizations and a segment for random acts of kindness.

The nine-year campaign continues with events spread throughout the year instead of a week.

"I think it was time well spent," Schulz said. "These are the skills in our society that are definitely beneficial."

At MU, Show Me Respect launches formally at the Mizzou Diversity Summit on Oct. 29-30. A schedule and registration for the event can be found on the [Mizzou Diversity page](#).

The summit begins with activities focused on making MU a place where everyone is included. The keynote speaker will be David Livingstone Smith, author of "Less than Human," a book about why humans are capable of committing acts of violence and other hateful actions.

The campaign goal is to create an atmosphere of civility at MU by having consideration for others and treating them with respect, according to the campaign website. It also is an effort to bring civility ideals such as respect, courtesy and acknowledgement of others into the classroom and work environment.

Incorporating them into different environments will allow people to get more out of their campus experiences, said English, who is one of 19 committee members leading the Show Me Respect campaign.

"I would be happy if we just started having those conversations," English said.

Supervising editor is [Elizabeth Brixey](#).



Supreme Court denies local attorney's appeal

By Janese Silvey

Saturday, September 29, 2012

The Missouri Supreme Court has sided with a Boone County circuit court judge who disqualified a local attorney for becoming a necessary witness in his own case.

This summer, Judge Jodie Asel ruled that George Smith was the only person who could offer testimony in a case involving the University of Missouri. By law, an attorney cannot serve as both an advocate at a trial and as a necessary witness.

The high court did not offer a written opinion on the case; it simply denied the attempt to overturn the decision through a writ of prohibition. Columbia attorney Bill Rotts had submitted that petition on Smith's behalf.

"I wish they had written an opinion to give us some guidelines," Smith said.

The case involves Avinash Jadhav, an orthopedic surgeon who sued MU School of Medicine administrators in March, saying they breached contracts with him and hurt his chances of getting another job.

Jadhav's first language is not English, so Smith helped him write letters to administrators, including one that recapped Jadhav's version of events.

Heidi Doerhoff Vollet, one of the defense attorneys, said last month that the letters offered Smith's opinions, not necessarily Jadhav's, making Smith the only person who could give testimony about them.

Smith said attorneys regularly co-sign documents with clients, but he admitted that he typically does not co-sign letters to clients' bosses as he did in this case.

"I won't co-sign letters with a client anymore," he said. "That was the only thing I did wrong."

Professors discuss effect of right to pray law

By Janese Silvey

Saturday, September 29, 2012

University of Missouri System attorneys are trying to figure out how professors should best respond if students complain that a homework assignment violates their religious beliefs after Missouri voters overwhelmingly supported the so-called "right to pray" act last month.

Under Amendment 2, "no student shall be compelled to perform or participate in academic assignments or educational presentations that violate his or her religious beliefs."

"We don't know exactly what that means," MU Deputy Provost Ken Dean told MU Faculty Council on Thursday. But, he said, "It does apply to us because the word 'student' is used, and we're a public institution."

Dean said he hopes to have more guidance from the UM System's General Counsel's office in the coming weeks. Until then, he advised faculty members not to take a "draw-the-line position right off the bat" if the situation arises but rather to contact the system's legal office.

The constitutional amendment mainly was pitched as a way to protect Missourians' right to pray in public, including in schools and local governmental bodies. Because religious rights already are protected by the Missouri Constitution, Dean said much of the new act overlaps with existing laws.

The ballot initiative partly came about because of an incident at a public university. In 2006, Missouri State University student Emily Booker sued after the school accused her of violating standards when she refused a class assignment asking her to write a letter to lawmakers in support of gay and lesbian couples' right to adopt. The school settled the case.

Dean, who has a law background, does not foresee students being able to use the provision as a way to forgo biology lessons dealing with evolution. Rather, he said, students should be asked to understand the theory of evolution, not asked to believe it.

Students also "cannot bring it up to get out of final exams," said Gordon Christensen, a professor of infectious diseases and MU's Interfaculty Council representative.

The student must be able to demonstrate that the assignment is clearly something that he or she morally objects to because of religious beliefs, Christensen said.

Christensen told professors the General Counsel's office might not be able to provide guidance just yet but notifying system attorneys will give them a better understanding of "how this is impacting us."

Science Sleuth event excites students

By Janese Silvey

Sunday, September 30, 2012

Grace Remelius didn't hesitate when asked why she likes science so much.

"I'm prepared for an explosion in science," she said.

And although it might be true, don't assume the 9-year-old is talking about an explosion in science-related jobs.

"I like to blow stuff up," she clarified.

Grace joined hundreds of area schoolchildren yesterday on the University of Missouri campus for the first Science Sleuth event co-sponsored by MU and Columbia Public Schools. The four-hour afternoon event featured science-themed activities spread across three MU buildings.

The activities fair was the brainchild of Mike Szydowski, coordinator of the school district's science department. He was involved in a similar fair in his former district and talked to MU administrators about hosting it in Columbia, said Anna Waldron, MU's director of science outreach who became a co-coordinator.

Although new, Science Sleuth is similar to the spring Adventures in Education day hosted by the MU Graduate School.

Inside the Jesse Hall rotunda, children were learning engineering concepts by building bridges and sculptures. A chemistry lab let kids experiment with water pressure in tubes. And outside, kids got to test out some unusual noisemakers.

Russell Boulevard Elementary student Nick Kanne was there for the bugs. "You get to hold cockroaches," he said, getting ready to move from Jesse Hall to the Anheuser Busch Natural Resources Building and another station in Memorial Union. He heard about the event at school and thought "it sounded really cool." Friend Sam Spell joined him, saying the activities are a fun way to learn science.

"The goal is to keep kids excited about science," Waldron said. "Not to get them excited about science — most already are. And it gets parents engaged and doing science with them."

Grace already has plans to be a chemist, although some also have suggested she consider a medical career. But, really, she likes anything scientific. Within an hour of being at the event, her mom's purse already was filled with feathers, acorns and other environmental finds Grace picked up on campus.

"She loves science," Susan Remelius said, "so this is a nice way to spend a day."

SHOW ME THE RECORDS: UM System student financial aid data

By Zach Murdock

October 1, 2012 | 12:01 a.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — *Most government records are open to the public at no charge. These records give citizens the opportunity to find out what's going on, how their elected officials are spending tax dollars, how the various departments within a governmental entity work and other valuable information needed to make strong decisions for the future. Each week, the Missouriian highlights a government record that is available to the public.*

For a complete list of Show Me the Records, go to columbiamissourian.com/records.

The records: The University of Missouri System's Institutional Research and Planning department records data for how much and what kind of financial aid UM students are receiving.

Why you'd want them: To examine the details of what types of financial aid students are receiving and how much aid is being awarded by the UM System.

Where you get the records: Go to www.umsystem.edu/ums/fa/planning/ and scroll down to "Students" heading. Click the second-to-last link, titled "Student Financial Aid Awarded by Source and Type," to download a Microsoft Excel file containing data for each UM campus.

How much it will cost: The information is free.