

DEC 13 2012

## COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

# MU, Stephens College and Columbia College to hold December commencement ceremonies

By Olivia Hancock

December 12, 2012 | 4:50 p.m. CST

COLUMBIA — **MU will award 2,352 degrees at its December commencement ceremonies this weekend.** Out of those degrees, 1,703 are bachelor's; 481 are master's; 155 are doctorates; nine are education specialists; and four are law.

The ceremonies begin at 1 p.m. Friday with the Sinclair School of Nursing ceremony and end at 10 a.m. Sunday with the ROTC commissioning of officers.

Ceremonies are scheduled to be held in either Jesse Auditorium in Jesse Hall, Hearnes Center or Stotler Lounge in Memorial Union.

There will also be an online commencement ceremony for the 305 students graduating with degrees earned online. The ceremony can be viewed on a website made to honor these graduates.

In addition, 203 students will graduate from the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; 584 from the College of Arts and Science; 231 from the Trulaske College of Business; 51 from the College of Education; 160 from the College of Engineering; 113 from the College of Human Environmental Sciences; 119 from the School of Health Professions; 91 from the School of Journalism; 53 from the School of Natural Resources; 74 from the Sinclair School of Nursing; 24 from the School of Social Work; 645 from the Graduate School; and 266 from the Honors College.

Columbia College will award degrees to 326 graduates at its commencement ceremonies Saturday. Two ceremonies, at noon and 3:30 p.m., will be held in the Southwell Complex Gymnasium.

Of the 326 students graduating, 74 will receive associate's degrees, 225 will receive bachelor's degrees, and 27 will receive master's degrees.

Stephens College's commencement ceremony will award 69 students with degrees. Of those, 26 will be bachelor's degrees and 43 will be master's degrees.

The college's ceremony will be held at 5 p.m. Friday in the Kimball Ballroom in Lela Raney Wood Hall. The keynote speaker will be Deborah Patterson, vice president of global contributions and employee engagement at Monsanto.

*Supervising editor is Elizabeth Brixey.*

## Students learn lessons the hard way about Adderall use

By Gaby Ramirez

December 12, 2012 | 5:34 p.m. CST

COLUMBIA — Only one thing lies between an MU student and a part-time job — a drug test.

After submitting his urine specimen, the student waited for a call he hoped would include a job offer. Instead, he got a call from the doctor saying he had failed. An amphetamine, Adderall, had been detected in his urine, the doctor said.

**The student had been prescribed Ritalin and Concerta after being diagnosed with ADHD when he was 9 years old. After coming to MU in 2009, however, he stopped refilling the prescription because it was easier to get the drug from fraternity brothers than to go to the MU Student Health Center to receive another diagnosis.**

“It was never really an issue getting it from friends here,” he said. “I haven’t really bothered going back to get a new prescription.”

Although the student had been prescribed medicine for ADHD before, the doctor labeled him an “abuser” because his prescription had expired. The doctor's label was unfair, the student said. He said he isn’t addicted and only takes the drug for studying and taking tests.

The student's experience is an example of the legal implications that could arise from possessing Adderall without a prescription. **Possessing the drug is a Class C offense, but distributing it on campus is a Class A offense, said MU police crime prevention officer Jennifer Lynch. MU police makes about one or two arrests a month related to Adderall possession and distribution, she said.**

“I don’t think students know how serious of an offense it is to get caught using it; they think it’s no big deal,” Lynch said.

The number of arrests the MU Police Department makes each month isn't representative of the magnitude of the problem because Adderall use isn't as easily detected as marijuana, Lynch said.

MU police receives most of its leads from anonymous tips or calls. Because these drugs are legal for those with prescriptions, it is uncommon for someone to report seeing another person abusing them, Lynch said.

“(MU police) doesn't see as many arrests for prescription medicines because it's not as noticeable,” Lynch said. “People don't call and report saying, ‘I saw someone taking pills,’ but they will call and say, ‘I saw someone smoking marijuana.’”

However, Adderall is showing up more often in pre-employment drug tests, said Charles Johnson, who worked in MU's toxicology laboratory — or drug testing laboratory — for 31 years until retiring three years ago. He now manages drug test programs for businesses.

Johnson said Adderall began to show up more often in samples later in his career, but that in most cases individuals had valid prescriptions for the drug.

### **MU combating Adderall abuse**

According to the American College Health Association's National College Health Assessment, the percentage of students who reported taking Adderall without a prescription within the last year increased from 4.7 percent in the fall of 2009 to 7.5 percent in the spring of 2012.

Like the MU student who lost his job opportunity because Adderall was present in his system, MU students caught with the drug face serious consequences.

Aside from legal charges, students caught possessing Adderall or distributing it on campus must go to the office of student conduct. Punishment depends on the severity of the crime. If students are caught selling it, they could be expelled, Lynch said.

“We have an issue with it; students get arrested and get several number of years for selling it like all drugs,” Lynch said.

To combat abuse, the student health center has created the ADHD Medications & Evaluation Policy, a protocol for students refilling prescriptions for ADHD medicines, said Stephanie Bagby-Stone, chief of psychiatric services at the MU Student Health Center.

Students who want to refill their prescriptions meet the diagnostic criteria of the Student Health Center. To make an appointment to receive an ADHD prescription, a student must provide:

- a copy of all ADHD testing, assessments and evaluations.
- a letter or record from the prescribing physician with documentation of the diagnosis, medication and dose.
- ADHD questionnaires that require parent or guardian input.

"We are aware these are meds at high risk for misuse," Bagby-Stone said. "This is the reason why we have our protocol — to make sure people aren't misusers and they actually have ADHD."

Although the intensive diagnosis process deterred him from refilling his prescription at the student center, the student understands why it is necessary. "They don't want any kid coming in there and trying to make money off the drug, but it's definitely a huge factor in me not going to refill it there," he said.

Meanwhile, he said he has learned lessons from his experience, such as being more careful of when he takes the drug. When he enters the workforce after graduation, he plans to stop taking Adderall.

*Supervising editor is Katherine Reed.*



**The★Star.**  
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

## Missouri wineries bloom over past decade

**COLUMBIA -- A University of Missouri researcher says the number of wineries in the state more than tripled over the past decade.**

Fabio Chaddad is an assistant professor of agricultural economics. His research on behalf of the U.S. Department of Agriculture shows Missouri had 108, mostly small wineries last year, compared with just 31 wineries in 2000.

The national growth rate is even greater. Chaddad says there are more than 8,000 wineries in the U.S., compared to 1,000 in 1940.

He presented his research at the university's recent Grape and Wine Symposium.

# COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

## **A unit of Ellis Fischel Cancer Center to be named after late oncologist**

By [Ashley Crawford](#)

December 13, 2012 | 6:00 a.m. CST

**COLUMBIA — The ambulatory infusion unit in the new home for the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center will be named after the late oncologist Dr. Michael Clinton Perry.**

The ambulatory infusion unit provides a team of oncologists with a focus on caring for patients and their families through top-notch treatment, education and service, according to Hal Williamson, vice chancellor of MU Health Care.

"It is my firm belief that Dr. Perry personified the goals of the AIU and, thus, his name appropriately conveys the spirit of healing for a unit that is an integral part of Ellis Fischel," Williamson said.

Perry was the medical director and associate cancer center director for clinical and translational research at Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, according to a [previous Missourian report](#).

"Dr. Perry joined the Mizzou family in 1975 and served as a renowned clinician, educator, researcher and administrator until his passing last year," Williamson said.

MU and the MU Health Care thought the opening of the new cancer center would be the perfect opportunity to honor the memory of Perry, Williamson said.

The new Ellis Fischel Cancer Center facility and seven story patient care tower are on budget and on track to open in March of 2013, according to Colin Planalp, media relations coordinator for MU Health Care.

"The new facility for Ellis Fischel is part of a large expansion of the University Hospital," Planalp said.

According to Planalp, the budget for the entire seven floor patient care tower is \$203 million with \$52 million allocated for the Ellis Fischel part of the facility and spending is within budget so far.

The patient care tower will have six operating rooms and 90 private rooms with the first two floors being the home of the new Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, according to MU Health Care's website.

"Right now we're nearing completion on the construction for the Ellis Fischel portion," Planalp said. "The construction crew is moving in furniture, hanging artwork and beginning to install medical equipment."

One of the pieces of artwork in the cancer center was donated by Joanne and Jerry Berneche, who are artists in Columbia. The Berneche's have received awards for their work together and individually.

"I am a patient at Ellis Fischel and when my oncologist, Dr. Perry, passed away his patients were sent a letter asking if they wished to contribute to his memorial," Joanne Berneche said. "He had a wonderful sense of humor and his daughter traveled with us (her and Jerry) on our first trip to Florence, Italy."

So, she responded by offering a painting for the new cancer center.

Two or three representatives from the hospital came to the Berneche's home to look at their art and ended up choosing a beautiful spring landscape by Jerry, Joanne Berneche said.

The painting is a watercolor of a wooded Missouri landscape called "The Secret Place," Planalp said.

"If you're sitting in the waiting room not knowing whether your cancer has come back, it's very soothing to look at," Joanne Berneche said.

*Supervising editor is Zach Murdock.*

# The Dallas Morning News

## Spending level has little impact on student test scores, state expert testifies

By TERRENCE STUTZ

AUSTIN — How much Texas schools spend on their students has little impact on achievement test scores, an expert witness for the state testified Wednesday in the school finance trial.

**Michael Podgursky, an economics professor at the University of Missouri, said his analysis of TAKS results showed that spending per pupil in school districts does not predict how students will perform on achievement tests.**

“I don’t agree with the belief that if you spend a certain amount of money, you can predict that there will be a certain level of improvement in student achievement,” he said, noting that some districts in Texas are spending a great deal but getting poor test results in return.

“There is no evidence of a positive relationship between student performance and spending by a school district.”

His testimony was aimed at bolstering the state’s position that more money for schools is not needed to boost achievement — a key argument of the more than 600 school districts suing the state in the school finance lawsuit. He later acknowledged he did not take into account different types of students in schools, such as the percentage of low-income or limited-English pupils, who are more expensive to educate.

Not all of Podgursky’s testimony was helpful to the state.

Under cross-examination by plaintiffs attorney Philip Fraissinet, Podgursky was asked about a school spending study he presented during a trial over Kansas’ school funding system earlier this year. The study compared Kansas and other states on expenditures per pupil.

Podgursky, who was an expert witness for the state of Kansas in that trial, took a national study on school spending and made some adjustments he said were necessary to make it more accurate. While the adjustment improved Kansas’ ranking, it lowered Texas from 42nd to 48th in per pupil spending.

So Podgursky was forced to acknowledge Wednesday that Texas ranked near the bottom in spending per pupil in his analysis. The study was then offered into evidence by the plaintiffs, who have argued that Texas is shortchanging its students — particularly after a \$5.4 billion cut in education funding approved by the Legislature last year.

Podgursky also said under questioning he had no opinion on whether Texas spends too little or too much on education. He further said he was unfamiliar with a study in the last Texas school finance trial several years ago by Texas A&M professor Lori Taylor that asserted improvements in student achievement would require additional funding.

Taylor, a consultant in the case for the state, was seated with state attorneys Wednesday when her study was brought up during Podgursky's testimony.

Podgursky also was asked about teacher salaries in Texas, which school districts argued have actually dropped in the last decade when inflation is factored in. Districts presented a study showing that in neighboring states, teacher salaries increased by double digits during that period while Texas teacher pay decreased.

Podgursky said the study is flawed because it doesn't take into account the large number of new teachers hired at lower salaries in Texas schools over the past several years.

Further, he said, if Texas increased class sizes to the national average — from 14.6 students per class to 15.4 students — it could significantly improve teacher salaries. He did not mention that increasing class sizes would also mean elimination of thousands of teaching jobs.



## ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

### MU to award more than 2,300 degrees

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) - The University of Missouri will award more than 2,300 degrees at fall commencement ceremonies in Columbia this weekend.

About 1,700 of those degrees will go to undergraduates. Nearly 500 students will receive master's degrees, with about 150 earning doctorates. Some students earn more than one degree.

The school says more than 300 of the degrees were earned online.

Graduation for individual colleges and schools within the university, such as business and journalism, begin on Friday and continue through Sunday.

Nationally known architect Antoine Predock will receive an honorary degree on Saturday. Commencement speakers include University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe. He is scheduled to speak at the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources ceremony on Saturday.



# Law's impact on public health remains hazy

## MU mention pg 2

By Jodie Jackson Jr.

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

County health departments in Missouri likely will still see a large demand for services even if the state eventually accepts federal money to expand its Medicaid program under the Affordable Care Act, but whether funding for public health keeps pace is another question.

Public health professionals from around the state met yesterday in Columbia to discuss how the ACA might affect public health systems. Several aspects of the law — particularly in Missouri — remain in flux because the General Assembly so far has balked at establishing a state-run health insurance exchange and has opted not to expand Medicaid, even though the federal government would pay most of the tab.

Although most of the public and legislative debate over the ACA focuses on primary care at a doctor's office or emergency and critical care at a hospital, little has been said about the role of county health departments and community health centers that primarily serve low-income and uninsured people.

Some public health officials worry that funding for their programs could get cut if lawmakers assume family physicians and hospitals will carry out all the preventative and screening services county health departments now provide.

"I think we're still trying to figure out what our role is going to be," said Scott Clardy, assistant director of the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services. Public health departments in smaller and more rural counties are already struggling to stay afloat and might combine as a regional operation, he said. Clardy also sees the possibility of health departments contracting with primary care doctors and clinics to provide immunizations and other services.

But the question about Medicaid expansion needs to be answered "before we can really determine where we go from here," Clardy said.

If the state does expand Medicaid, roughly two-thirds of the 875,000 Missourians now without insurance would be covered. That would still leave almost 300,000 Missourians without

insurance. In a scenario where Medicaid expansion occurs, there's no guarantee that all of the newly insured people could see a doctor because of the mass exodus of older doctors retiring and fewer medical students pursuing family medicine.

**"Just having access to insurance doesn't mean you have access to health care," said Debra Howenstine of the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Missouri School of Medicine.** Howenstine, the medical director for the Columbia/Boone County health department, raised the alarm yesterday about the prospect of more patients entering the health care system via Medicaid at a time when there aren't enough primary care physicians to care for them.

She advocated for county health departments and community health centers continuing to provide services to low-income residents.

"Health departments are particularly skilled at being able to provide services to people who lack insurance," Howenstine said. "My hope is those services will continue to be provided."

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