Faculty Council creates Nuclear Science and Engineering Institute panel, requests records from UM Press

Thursday, September 19, 2013 | 10:25 p.m. CDT; updated 7:30 a.m. CDT, Friday, September 20, 2013
BY Molly Duffy

COLUMBIA — Members of MU's Faculty Council discussed Information Technology, the Nuclear Science and Engineering Institute, the chancellor search, the University of Missouri Press and Mizzou North at their meeting Thursday.

DISCUSSION ITEM: Information Technology

Gary Allen, vice president for Information Technology, gave a presentation about the MU Campus Cyberinfrastructure Plan.

He said information property theft is a growing issue for academic institutions. To combat that and other issues, Allen is talking to several campus groups to get a sense of the IT services they want and need in order to develop a funding request to sustain those services.

Information Technology does not currently have a line-item allocation in the general budget.

"I'm not saying how big that ought to be, but I'm advocating that it ought to be something," Allen said.

DISCUSSION ITEM: Nuclear Science and Engineering Institute committee

Council members discussed an ad hoc committee created with the mission to "develop a succinct history of the administrative structure affecting the NSEI" and "its current status."

The NSEI is in the process of being dissolved into the College of Engineering, but questions about the administrative process of reaching that decision are still unanswered.

The committee will present information to the Faculty Council to help inform its decisions concerning the NSEI. None of the committee members is from the institute, the College of Engineering or MU administration.
"Faculty Council is not set up to present two sides," said Craig Roberts, Plant Sciences professor and council chairman. "We are Faculty Council. We are not Faculty 'and administration' Council, so we don't really investigate the full picture. That's what this is about."

**DISCUSSION ITEM: MU chancellor Search**

Plant Sciences Professor Bill Wiebold, the council representative on the chancellor search committee, said the search process is "in the quiet phase."

"Applicants are being asked to apply, and so I don't really have much to say except my understanding is it's going pretty well," Wiebold said. "Actually, Mizzou has a pretty good reputation, and so that's helpful."

Wiebold said the search committee has met to discuss the search. Forums were held over the summer to get public input.

To rumors that the search process is all "smoke and mirrors" to hide that Brady Deaton's successor has already been chosen, Wiebold said everything he's heard "would say that that's not correct."

**DISCUSSION ITEM: UM Press**

Council members discussed a resolution they passed last Spring requesting financial information from the UM Press. The council still hasn't seen any data from the press, Roberts said.

"The press got in trouble because of financials," Roberts said. "And if we don't look at financials, what are we doing?"

There was some discussion about waiting for the press's director search to settle down, but that timeline is still unclear.

Roberts will be requesting financial data from the press again. He is asking for information from the last three years.

**DISCUSSION ITEM: Mizzou North/Space Committees**

The council revisited the question of how the decision was made to use the former Ellis Fischel Cancer Center on Business Loop 70 West, or Mizzou North, as substitute space while Pickard, Swallow and Jesse halls are being renovated. Nicole Monnier, associate teaching professor of Russian, spoke about the university committees that deal with space allocation. The status of some of those committees is still unclear, however, as some might be defunct.

Deputy Provost Ken Dean was present to answer council members' questions about the decision. He said he would welcome suggestions and recommendations from the council about future campus planning issues.
"There is a really unique opportunity right now, going forth, (for Faculty Council) to participate in that process and reengage and connect with the campus administration in a way that will be much more productive than what it's been in the past," Dean said.

He said the administration decided to capitalize on the free space on Mizzou North in order to renovate buildings on Francis Quadrangle.

"There was a real fear for some time that we would have to shut that museum (the Museum of Art and Archaeology) down," Dean said. "This presented a unique opportunity."

Dean said he does not know when or if Pickard Hall will be inhabitable again, "but our goal is to make it inhabitable."

The Fall semester general faculty meeting is scheduled for Oct. 2; the Faculty Council's next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 3.
Grants will help MU researchers move ideas to marketplace

Coulter program assists MU teams with awards, advisers.

By Karyn Spory

The University of Missouri's Coulter Translational Partnership Program awarded six grants totaling almost $600,000 to research teams to help take their projects from the lab to commercialization.

Each of the six teams is composed of a faculty member from the MU College of Engineering and the MU School of Medicine, and Chancellor Brady Deaton said the work they are doing highlights the interdisciplinary work being done at MU.

"This is the fruition of efforts that have been going on for years … and speaks to the kind of interdisciplinary work in Mizzou Advantage," which is "now seeing successes in area after area," he said.

Each of the six research teams received approximately $100,000, which is funded from a $5 million partnership between MU and the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation.

For one of the projects, James Stannard, chairman and professor of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, has been working on improved cartilage replacement for joint surgery.

Stannard said he and research partner Ferris Pfeiffer, assistant research professor of orthopaedic surgery, were able to determine that if a graft is tapered 3 degrees, it would be able to be placed by hand instead of the traditional method of using a mallet, which can kill cells. "We've proven this very well in animal models. … The final step this Coulter funding will do is to take this to people," Stannard said.

Rebecca Rone, Coulter program director, said in addition to funding, the foundation also provides guidance for the research teams. "We want to teach them to be better translational researchers," she said.
Rone said part of being a better translational researcher is beginning with the end in mind and understanding if the technology will have the interest of industry. "Before they even start a project, they need to better understand what it will take to get it all the way through to the patient and if it's going to be worth it in the end," Rone said.

Rone said Coulter award recipients are paired with a business adviser so they can develop a business strategy.

"We can only do so much in the lab, and then we have to step outside of our comfort zone and start looking at ways" to commercialize our product, said Sheila Grant, professor of bioengineering and award recipient.

Grant said a lot of professors, herself included, haven't been trained to be entrepreneurs. She said the foundation helps professors learn how to how to market and sell their product. Grant is the engineer on a project to better heal anterior cruciate ligament, or ACL, reconstruction surgeries in knees using nanomaterials.
Founding members of Black Alumni Organization reflect on time at MU

Thursday, September 19, 2013 | 9:18 p.m. CDT
BY Sarah Walsh, Tess Catlett

COLUMBIA — Mable Jones Grimes was one of about 100 freshman African-American students at the university in 1961.

"They claimed that our class was one of the largest," Grimes said. "Of the 5,000 students, there may have been 100 or so blacks."

**Grimes is one of several African-American alumni, including Gus T. Ridgel and Barbra A.B. Horrell, attending the Black Alumni Celebration at Reynolds Alumni Center this weekend. The event will celebrate firsts at MU.** For Grimes, this meant being on the first executive board of the Black Alumni Organization.

"This was during Dr. Barbara Uehling's time as chancellor," Grimes said of the organization. "She was into recruitment and wanted to get a larger representation of African-Americans on campus and increase alumni participation."

Established in 1979, the organization hosted engagement opportunities for African-American alumni. For Grimes, homecoming events stand out among the rest.

"There was always something that evening like a dance or a reception," Grimes said. "We did that for several years."

During the day, the Black Alumni Organization welcomed alumni back to campus and hosted several speakers in the old and new black culture center on campus, now known as the Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center.

Now it is Grimes' turn to be welcomed back onto campus and reflect on her time as a student.

Grimes lived in Johnston Hall and shared a room with two others during her freshman year, Sandra Whayne Gautt and Brenetta Perry.

"At first I wouldn't talk to them — mainly because I was checking them out," Grimes recalled. "Then one night we were gathered on the patio and I started talking, and they couldn't get me to shut up."
Life in the residence halls left Grimes with stories to share.

"I was selected to represent Johnston Hall in the 'best dressed' contest," Grimes said. "My mother made all of my clothes."

She was one of 10 female students on campus to be recognized in the contest.

"I learned that I wasn't made for pageants because all of the standing and smiling got on my nerves," Grimes said. She had a girl in her dorm, who was known for having taken 10 years of ballet, teach her how to walk and to pose.

'No, this is Dr. Grimes'

At MU, Grimes earned a 1965 bachelor's degree, a 1968 master's degree and a 1976 doctorate, all in child and family development. Before coming to Columbia, Grimes attended Malden High School in Malden and was one of two African-Americans in her graduating class.

"It was me and my cousin," Grimes said. "I wasn't new to that type of experience when I came to MU."

It wasn't until Grimes became a university employee that she began having a hard time.

"I'm not going to tell negative stories — I try to forget those," Grimes said. "I enjoyed my stint here, whether it be as a student or as an employee."

Grimes worked as a 4-H Youth Development Specialist with University of Missouri Extension for 25 years. Her primary assignment was working with low-income youths and adults.

"There were seven or eight people on the 4-H staff at that time," Grimes said. "We would go out to offices across the state and work."

Grimes recalled that during the 1970s and 1980s, there were not many African-Americans in certain areas of the state, such as the southwest region.

"When we would go into the offices, they always wanted to know if I was somebody's secretary," Grimes said. "The person I was with would say, 'No, this is Dr. Grimes,' and tell them what program I was with."

Everybody has to have a box where they can put you, Grimes said.

"I'm one of those people who didn't want a box, and that was part of the problem," Grimes said. "I didn't want to be boxed in."

Grimes still works for MU, as the coordinator of the parent resource center ParentLink in the College of Education.
'Strong-minded to stay'

Barbra A.B. Horrell, who attended MU from 1959 to 1963 and served as the Black Alumni Organization's first chairwoman, also dealt with others' attempts to dictate her boundaries.

After graduating from the then-all-black Douglass High School in Columbia, Horrell entered MU as one of a handful of black freshmen.

"We were a small group that stayed together," she said. "We couldn’t hang out in most of the places on campus. We weren’t welcome (in some campus hangouts), so we found our own places to be within Columbia’s black community."

Horrell, who earned a bachelor's degree in education, recalled instances of discrimination that she and her classmates faced, including widespread use of racial slurs and a hopeful tennis player being unable to find a partner who would play alongside a black student.

"You had to be very strong-minded to stay," Horrell said. "You knew that you would either conquer or you would leave, so you had to have a mission. Ours was to get an education."

Becoming involved in the Black Alumni Organization provided a chance to connect current and former black students, extend networking opportunities and build a sense of community, she said.

"I think that in general, the Black Alumni Organization was a necessary component to get us recognized on campus. It got people talking and working with others," Horrell said. "It made folks take a different look at MU, think differently about sending their kids there, because they could see some progress in our integration."

Since graduation, Horrell has worked steadily in a variety of positions on campus. Beginning in secretarial work, she eventually spent 30 years as the head of recruitment and retention for the MU School of Medicine. Later, she split her time between veterinary and agriculture programs before retirement.

Horrell said that, although there is always more to be done, she has noticed many positive changes at MU since her graduation, both large — such as the existence of black fraternities and sororities — and small.

"I was on campus a few years ago, before I retired, and I noticed that for the first time the bookstore was carrying black hair care products," she said. "That was something we never had. We had to drive all the way across town to find a barber who knew what to do with black hair."

Ultimately, Horrell believes that increased diversity at MU will benefit all students as they enter the adult world.
"You can’t stay in Columbia your whole life, and when you hit the real world, it’s not going to be just one color or one culture anymore," she said. "It’s in the benefit of all students to have as many races and cultures welcomed on campus as possible."

'Honoring their service'

Both Horrell and Grimes will be honored this weekend.

"On Saturday, we're looking forward to the opportunity to celebrate our black alumni," said Robert Ross, coordinator of affinity relations for Mizzou Alumni Association.

The association partnered with Greek Life and the National Pan-Hellenic Council to host the alumni celebration. Weekend highlights include a step show, campus tours and the reception celebrating MU’s firsts.

"I'm personally looking forward to visiting those alumni, honoring their service and celebrating their contributions," Ross said.
COLUMBIA—If you're walking down Hitt Street on Friday, you might notice something other than cars in the parking spaces.

**Two metered parking spaces between the MU Student Center and the Agriculture Building will be transformed into miniature parks as part of an event called PARK(ing) Day.**

Members of MU's Parks, Recreation and Tourism Graduate Student Association plan to fill parking spaces with sod, lawn chairs, umbrellas and yard games to create the temporary parks.

The association was started last fall; PARK(ing) Day is the organization's first advocacy event.

"We want to remind people the importance of parks," said Laura Thal, the organization's president. "It's important that we rethink how we plan urban space, and this is a fun way of advocating that."

PARK(ing) Day was created by Rebar, a San Francisco-based art and design studio, to rethink the way public space is used and promote the need for changes to urban infrastructure, according to a news release.

"In urban centers around the world, inexpensive curbside parking results in increased traffic, wasted fuel and more pollution," said Matthew Passmore, Rebar public-space advocate and artist. "The planning strategies that generated these conditions are not sustainable, nor do they promote a healthy, vibrant human habitat.

"PARK(ing) Day is about re-imagining the possibilities of the urban landscape," Passmore said in the release.

The mini parks will be there from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday for students to stop by and learn about the importance of parks. Trail maps, tree brochures and other park-related information will be handed out.
Online orders replace mom's college care packages

17 hours ago • Associated Press

MU MENTION P. 3

In the decade Sarah Tetley has worked with college students, she's seen a change in care packages sent from home.

The box of homemade goodies "is something of a lost art," says Tetley, director of the First Year Experience program at Webster University in St. Louis. "And it's sad, because there's nothing like seeing a student get excited about a package from home."

The change is partly because parents are more in touch with kids, thanks to cell phones, than they used to be: "They don't send as many care packages because they just talked to them," Tetley said.

But it's also due to a rise in commercially prepared options _ not just generic gift baskets, but care packages designed specifically for college kids. And those parents who do pack their own care packages are apt to skip homemade brownies in favor of laundry pods, and get their "ty" via text.

---

THE PREMADE CARE PACKAGE

GourmetGiftBaskets.com "started to see a trend emerge a few years ago" with more orders sent to campus addresses, according to spokesman Chuck Casto. So the New Hampshire-based company introduced products like the "Exam Cram Care Package," which includes microwave popcorn, cookies, candy, chips and pretzels. They've sold thousands of them, with sales up 75 percent this year over last.

Many colleges also offer in-house care package programs. At Connecticut College, parents can order the $35 "Birthday Bash," with a cake or cupcakes, or "Health Nut," with fresh fruit, rice cakes and yogurt smoothies, $25. The packages are made in a dining hall for same-day pickup.

Minimus.biz also offers a "College Student Care Package of the Month," with themed packages like the Dorm Laundry Kit and the Dorm Medicine Chest.
Andy Fortson, 27, co-founded CoedSupply.com after looking online for something to send to a brother in the Marines and a cousin at Penn State. "I was pretty appalled by the options," he said. "They were overpriced and full of junk food."

So he and a friend launched a hipper alternative last year with a monthly mix of health-food snacks, personal care items (like Old Spice or a new fragrance from Rihanna) and entertainment (such as CDs), ranging in price from $16.50 to $35 a month. "The response has been overwhelming," Fortson said. "We're already shipping to colleges in 45 states."

Kelley Garland, a sophomore at Providence College in Rhode Island, saw a post about CoedSupply.com on her school's Facebook page, asked her mom to sign her up, and says she loves "having that little surprise at the beginning of every month."

___

FROM HOME, WITH LOVE: CLIPPINGS, COOKIES AND CONDOMS

Parents who do send care packages say socks, laundry pods (premeasured detergent packs) and cookies are staples. But they also say it's not so much about sending necessities as it is a message of love, from home.

"There's no way I can send him a copy of `I'll Love You Forever,' even though that is what I feel like reading right now," joked Jill Troderman of Soquel, Calif., referring to the classic children's book about parental devotion.

But she did send her son at the University of Washington socks, a flannel throw and homemade chocolate-chip cookies. She figured he could share the cookies with friends since he's a "bit of a health nut ... he doesn't want to gain the freshman 15." (For the record, researchers say it's a myth that college students gain 15 pounds their first year _ it's more like three or five pounds.)

Laura Kessler tries to send monthly care packages to her two sons, but she "can't bake to save her soul," so instead sends things like Nutella and trinkets. Asked to name a favorite item from one of mom's packages, son Brian Kessler, a sophomore at the University of Dayton, posted on Facebook, "Gonna have to go with Silly String."

Dori Wile's daughter was raised in Texas but is now getting a master's degree at Chatham University in Pittsburgh, so she wants "anything unique to Texas." Wile sends condiments from the regional Whataburger chain, Mexican spices, and pictures: "The kids today don't print out photographs. This way they have something to put on their fridge."

Twentieth-century college kids often received envelopes stuffed with newspaper clippings from home, but today's parents email links to articles of interest. Still, one mom snail-mails the local police blotter to her son if a kid they know gets arrested, writing on the clipping, "Don't let this happen to you!"

And Inez Caspi of Bellevue, Wash., sends to her son at Claremont McKenna College in California "articles on safety or drinking or use of cell phones," along with columns about playing bridge, one of his favorite pastimes, and "an occasional comic strip, usually mocking moms."
Some moms send condoms. Mary Kay Russell of the Chicago area has sent her three college-age sons "a Costco-sized box of prophylactics."

Parents of kids at Baylor University, a Christian school in Texas, have different priorities: They hold parent meetings around the country to assemble care packages together, and they tuck Scripture verses in with the toothbrushes and snacks.

SAYING THANKS BY TEXT, POST OR VINE

When it comes to saying thank-you for the effort, acknowledgements are often by text ("Thx" or "ty") or pictures posted online. "I've even seen a student taking a Vine using all the things inside the care package, saying `Look what my mom bought me!'" said Tetley, referring to the app for six-second videos.

**Jackie Parker sent her daughter, a freshman at the University of Missouri at Columbia, a Starbucks gift card two weeks ago and was happy to get back, via text, "a picture of her drink and cake."**

Julie Davis sends her son Sam black-and-white cookies _ a New York City specialty _ from a Manhattan bakery because it's something he can't get at the University of Colorado in Boulder. "The kids are so independent these days, they have access to everything, and it makes it harder to find something to send them," she said. She knows he's received the package when she gets his one-word text: "Amazing."

Kate Sutherland posted a picture on Instagram and Facebook when her mom sent a "make-your-own party kit with princess stuff and decorations" for her 22nd birthday last spring _ one of many care packages she received as a student at the University of Tennessee-Martin.

"My friends thought it was really neat _ I think everyone got a little jealous," Sutherland said. "You really don't see the homemade care packages that much anymore because it's so easy to get on the Internet and ship something."