MU police look for man who allegedly fondled student

By Alan Burdziak

Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at 1:55 pm Comments (7) Updated: 1:55 pm, Tue Apr 29, 2014.

University of Missouri police are looking for a man who allegedly fondled a woman Saturday afternoon near Francis Quadrangle. MU police Capt. Brian Weimer identified the man as Khaled Fathy Mahmoud Salem Farag, but he also goes by Khaled Salem.

Jesslyn Chew of the MU News Bureau said Farag was a visiting scholar in the Division of Plant Sciences, which is in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Two female students were walking at 5:45 p.m. Saturday between the Residence on the Quad and Pickard Hall when a Middle Eastern man stopped them and asked one of the women to take a picture with him, according to a Clery release from the MU police department. She agreed, and the other student took a photo of the pair with the man's camera.

The man didn't like the first image, the release said, and requested another. As they took the second picture, the man grabbed the woman's buttocks, and she moved his hand to her waist. He then grabbed her chest and fondled her, the release said. She pushed him away, and the students left the area.

Weimer said after the Clery release went out Saturday night, police received additional reports of Farag taking photos with female students.

"Some of the females in these incidents reported that Farag gave them a kiss on the forehead after the incident, but none reported any other inappropriate physical contact," Weimer said in a statement.

Weimer also distributed a photo of Farag that was taken recently.

"Fortunately, one of" the other women "took a picture with her cellphone," Weimer said. "That's how we got that one."

Chew said visiting scholars are not considered employees, thus MU does not conduct criminal background checks on them. Weimer said he did not know anything about Farag's time at MU
and added his department has not spoken to Farag's colleagues yet, but "I'm sure they know we're looking for him."

Police also have received tips that Farag might be leaving the country soon, Weimer said, because of what Farag told people is a family emergency. "We've heard that's what he's told some people," he said. Once the Clery release went out Saturday, Weimer said, the department received a lot of tips, which led to Farag's identification.

Campus police nationwide are required to disclose information about crimes on or near school property as a result of the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Police and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998.

Weimer asked anyone with information on Farag's whereabouts to contact the department at 573-882-7201 or CrimeStoppers at 573-875-8477.

Task force recommends ways campuses can curb sexual assault
Tuesday, April 29, 2014 | 7:21 p.m. CDT; updated 5:37 a.m. CDT, Wednesday, April 30, 2014
BY CAROLINE BAUMAN, KEVIN MODELSKI

COLUMBIA — A new White House report assures universities they do not have to combat campus sexual assault alone, the executive director of the Association of Title IX Administrators said Tuesday.

Brett Sokolow is also the president and CEO of the National Center for Higher Education Risk Management Group, which the University of Missouri System recently hired to evaluate sexual assault and mental health services on its four campuses.

"Not Alone: The First Report of the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault" recommends:

- **Identifying the scope of the problem on college campuses** by providing schools with a toolkit to conduct a campus climate survey to better understand the extent of the problem. Schools are urged to conduct the survey next year.
- **Preventing sexual assault and engaging men** by identifying prevention strategies schools can undertake now and ways to empower men to step in when someone’s in trouble.
- **Effectively responding when a student is sexually assaulted** by identifying who at the university a survivor can talk to in confidence, providing a checklist for schools to use in drafting or reevaluating their own sexual misconduct policies and trauma-informed training for school officials.

- **Increasing transparency and improving enforcement** through a new website, [notalone.gov](http://www.notalone.gov), that will post enforcement actions and offer information to victims about how to seek local help and file a complaint.

Sokolow said the report’s embrace of new investigative protocols was one of the most positive notes.

According to the task force report, some universities have adopted variations of the "single investigator" model, in which a trained investigator interviews the complainant and alleged perpetrator, gathers any physical evidence, interviews available witnesses — and then makes a determination based on the collected evidence.

**Sokolow said this is a much less adversarial and more respectful process than the more traditional system, in which a college hearing or judicial board hears a case, makes a finding and decides a sanction. MU has this type of system.**

Sokolow declined to say which recommendations the UM System could improve on, saying he would not comment until a UM task force completes its evaluations of sexual assault and mental health resources at UM campuses.

**How the task force worked**
The task force based its recommendations on a 90-day review that included in-person interviews and online meetings with victims, advocates and higher education representatives.

The [Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights also released a 52-point guidance document](http://www.ed.gov) Tuesday that answers many frequently asked questions about a student’s rights, and a school’s obligations, under Title IX.

"Prevention and education programs vary widely, with many doing neither well," the task force report states. "And in all too many instances survivors of sexual violence are
not at the heart of an institution's response: They often do not have a safe, confidential place to turn to after an assault, they haven't been told how the system works and they often believe it is working against them."

One in five women is sexually assaulted during her college years, according to a 2007 National Institute of Justice report, which is used by the Office for Civil Rights. According to a Bureau of Justice Statistics report, in 2010 just 35 percent of sexual assaults were reported to the police.

UM System President Tim Wolfe participated in one of the listening sessions that the White House conducted to help prepare this report, along with some other university presidents, Feb. 26 at the White House, UM spokesman John Fougere said in an email. "We appreciate the guidelines and recommendations that have resulted from the White House task force on sexual assault, which the University of Missouri System will utilize as another resource to help us improve the education, reporting and prevention of sexual assault on our four campuses," Wolfe said via email.

The report will help ensure the safety and security of all students, faculty and staff of UM campuses, Wolfe said. MU’s Title IX coordinator, Noel English, referred questions about MU and the report to Fougere.

**Where report fits at UM, MU**

Confusion regarding Title IX reporting surfaced after a report from ESPN’s "Outside the Lines" said MU acted inconsistently with university policy and the law in handling the sexual assault of former MU swimmer Sasha Menu Courey.

Menu Courey took her life in June 2011 after leaving the university. The ESPN report said three football players had allegedly raped her in 2010.

The UM System hired the Dowd Bennett law firm to conduct an independent investigation into the Menu Courey case in February. The firm said on April 11 that
although MU didn’t violate the law, it failed to act on allegations that the swimmer had been raped.

Wolfe issued Executive Order 40 on April 8 that stated all system employees not bound by confidentiality are obligated to report sexual harassment and assault against students to each campus’ Title IX coordinator. Reporting responsibilities for MU employees under Title IX were unclear until Wolfe issued the executive order. However, MU did not define which faculty and staff members were "responsible employees," and it still remains unclear what kind of training employees will receive.

In February, Wolfe created a task force comprised of representatives from the four system campuses to assess each university’s sexual assault and mental health resources in three phases.

Phase I, completed by the task force in March, was an inventory of each campus’ sexual assault and mental health services available for students to contact. The second phase is an evaluation of those services, which are being assessed by the National Center for Higher Education Risk Management Group, hired by the UM System on April 16. The risk management firm’s analysis for the resources will be used to make the task force’s final recommendations in the first week of May — Phase III of the process.

More student awareness needed
Mason Schara, president of the Missouri Students Association, said he has been talking with administrators about issues such as sexual assault, mental health and alcohol consumption.

He said he is in the process of reviewing the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention, or RSVP, Center at MU to further emphasize its purpose and make sure students are aware of the resources on campus.

"Students on campus are not aware of what options there are," Schara said. "We are trying to increase transparency by making sure students are aware of these resources."

As president, Schara also said he is working with the MU Police Department to make sure students realize the police are a reliable resource to report incidents.

"They are approachable," he said. "They are not the enemy."
Columbia police receive sexual assault kit related to November assault

Tuesday, April 29, 2014 | 6:50 p.m. CDT; updated 5:14 a.m. CDT, Wednesday, April 30, 2014

BY MARY LORENZO

COLUMBIA — The MU Police Department received a sexual assault kit related to a November sexual assault at a fraternity house from University Hospital Monday night.

According to the Clery release, the sexual assault took place between 2 and 3 a.m. Nov. 17. The victim said that it occurred off campus in a bedroom in an unnamed fraternity house.

Around 7:10 p.m. Monday night, the MU Police Department retrieved the sexual assault kit from the hospital and gave it to the Columbia Police Department because the incident occurred in its jurisdiction.

MU Police Capt. Brian Weimer said the department was unaware of the case before Monday night. According to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, sexual assault kits can take up to several months to process.

The victim did not want to be contacted by law enforcement officers, according to the release.

Columbia Police Sgt. Joe Bernhard said a victim can go to the hospital after the incident, but if he or she doesn’t want to be contacted by law enforcement the case is turned over to the police, who often receive little more information.

Bernhard said that if the victim wanted to come forward at a later time, Columbia police now have the kit and can investigate the case.
WASHINGTON — The Obama administration pushed its campaign against campus rape forward Tuesday partly by calling on colleges and universities to deal with the issue more openly.

White House officials also unveiled a celebrity public service announcement, a new website — NotAlone.gov — and a series of recommendations aimed at lowering an alarming rate of sexual assaults on college students.

That came as Vice President Joe Biden said college officials, even at risk of their schools’ reputations, “can no longer turn a blind eye and pretend rape and sexual assault don’t occur on their campuses.”

“They need to step up to it,” Biden said.

Higher-education administrators mostly welcomed the White House initiative, even as they stressed that campus rape is a symptom of broader cultural issues that leave both young men and women with confused views about appropriate sexual behavior.

Still, they applauded an effort by the Obama administration to make clear that victims and bystanders alike need to feel safe to report sexual attacks.

“People need to know there is support for reporting,” said Jane McQueeny, who heads efforts at the University of Kansas to improve the reporting of sexual assaults on the Lawrence campus. “Until we do that, we can do all this work, but we are not going to change the underlying culture and viewpoints.”

The White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault estimates that one in five women is sexually assaulted while in college, most often in the freshman or sophomore years. In the majority of cases, it’s by someone the woman knows. Most often, women don’t report what happened.
Biden, introduced Tuesday by a woman who was assaulted at Harvard University, said only 13 percent of women attacked report the crime to their schools.

“They fear they’ll be shamed. They’re embarrassed,” he said. “Or scared they won’t be safe on campus with their attacker roaming around or maybe sitting in the same history class.”

In a report issued Tuesday, the administration outlined its plan to fight campus rape. The steps include identifying the scope of the problem on individual campuses, helping prevent assaults, helping schools respond effectively and making the federal government’s enforcement efforts more transparent.

The recommendations followed three months and 27 sessions with suggestions from more than 2,000 people. The administration plans to hold more listening sessions and revise the report.

University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe joined Biden in February in Washington for one of those sessions. Wolfe has made combating sexual assaults on the system’s four campuses a top priority.

An independent investigation launched by university curators in January found that MU failed to investigate or tell law enforcement officials about the alleged 2010 rape of a former swimmer by at least one of the school’s football players. The swimmer, Sasha Menu Courey, committed suicide in 2011.

Wolfe began a three-part effort to change how sexual assault is viewed, reported and dealt with on his campuses. He ordered his four chancellors to review how they handle sex-crime reports. And he ordered university employees to report claims of sexual assault to the university’s Title IX coordinator. (Title IX of the Civil Rights Act ensures women have equal access to a higher education — including safety on campus.)

Wolfe said he plans to use much of what is in the White House report. He’s not worried that having more sex assaults reported might taint the school’s image.

“I'll take that punch,” Wolfe said, “if we can help more students get the help they need. More students reporting is a good thing.”

The NotAlone website aims to make enforcement data public and other resources accessible to students and schools.

The administration also wants to bring men into the campaign. It released public service announcements featuring President Barack Obama, Biden and actors Daniel Craig, Seth Meyers, Benicio Del Toro, Steve Carell and Dulé Hill.
“If I saw it happening, I’d never blame her,” Craig says in one spot. “I’d help her.”

The administration also will provide training for school officials involved in investigating and adjudicating sexual assault cases.

The White House effort elevates the issue “in a way that will get the attention of college campuses,” said Sen. Claire McCaskill, a Missouri Democrat who has been championing efforts to combat sexual assaults.

Campus climate surveys are intended to show how students feel about their safety and whether they think rape cases are being handled appropriately.

McCaskill is working on a separate survey of 450 schools she says will give a statistically valid sample of what all schools are doing about campus rape.

The senator said individual schools’ responses would be kept confidential to encourage candid responses. Data from the surveys showing the extent of campus sexual assault would be released after a series of meetings beginning in May, she said.

McQueeny, the KU Title IX official, said her school is already doing much of what the White House called for on Tuesday. KU began climate surveys in 2012 to gauge the extent and awareness of sexual assault on campus.

While she called the report “a great road map,” she said it does little to change a victim-blaming environment that has led to under-reporting of the crime.

“By the time kids come to college,” McQueeny said, “a lot of their values and morals are set.”

She recently talked to a group of young men at a fraternity house who seemed confused about what consent looks like and how alcohol changes a situation.

Heather Reed, Kansas State University’s assistant vice president and director of student services, agrees. She said K-State has started making policy changes, including taking sexual assault complaint reviews away from student-conduct boards.

In the fall, K-State is launching an expanded program to train students — victims and bystanders — to report sex offenses.

Reed said that if the national attention and campus awareness plans work, reporting will climb. That, she said, means schools need to be prepared to see bigger numbers for sexual assault on campus crime reports.
From 2010 through 2012 campus police reports showed 37 sex offenses at MU-Columbia; 23 at K-State; seven at KU; and two at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

**Campus walk**

To raise awareness about violence against women, University of Missouri-Kansas City is hosting its seventh annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday at the UMKC Playhouse at 51st and Holmes streets. Men who participate walk a mile in high heels.


**Aggressive Push on Sex Assault**

April 30, 2014

**By**

Michael Stratford

**NO MU MENTION**

WASHINGTON -- As the White House pushes its campus sexual assault prevention efforts this week, colleges and universities once again find themselves in the crosshairs of an administration that has sought time and again to hold institutions more accountable.

That theme of accountability continued Tuesday as Vice President Joe Biden said that it was time for colleges to “step up” their efforts to combat sexual assaults on campus.

“Colleges and universities can no longer turn a blind eye or pretend rape or sexual assault doesn't occur on their campuses,” Biden said in unveiling new administration guidelines and policy recommendations to deal with sexual assault on campus.

Victims’ advocates on Tuesday largely praised the administration’s efforts and said they were grateful for the aggressive policy push on the issue.
Colleges and universities reacted far more cautiously. Institutions’ advocates here said that while campuses recognize the importance of dealing with the problem and being held accountable, they are skeptical about new federal mandates and requirements.

The administration unveiled a trove of new documents on Tuesday that are aimed at getting colleges to do more to combat sexual assault on their campuses: a tool kit for conducting anonymous surveys about the campus climate; a checklist for developing a sexual misconduct policy; a sample confidentiality policy; and templates for agreements between colleges and local law enforcement and rape crisis centers.

**Climate Surveys**

One of the administration’s big pushes on Tuesday was to get all colleges and universities to voluntarily conduct anonymous surveys that gauge the “climate” on their campuses surrounding sexual violence and harassment.

"I challenge every college and university, if they are really serious about protecting students, to conduct anonymous surveys," Biden said. "They have a moral responsibility to know what is happening on their campus."

Climate surveys have become a standard part of resolution agreements between the OCR and colleges where Title IX compliance issues already exist. Advocates widely praised the administration’s effort to get colleges to use these tools on a regular basis.

Nancy Campbell, co-president of the National Women's Law Center, said the anonymous surveys have been used successfully to gauge sexual assault problems in the military.

The surveys would help colleges diagnose the specific problems on their campus, she said, noting that the evidence-based questions are aimed at assessing varied degrees of problems.

“It’s the difference between ‘someone touched me on the buttocks’ or ‘someone raped me,’ ” Campbell said. “These will help colleges figure out: what is the extent of our problem and do we have one?”

**Institutions’ Reaction**

Colleges say that, on the one hand, they want the administration to provide useful guidance about how they are expected to comply with the law, but on the other, they do not want the government to be too prescriptive in what colleges must do.

It’s too soon to tell whether that balance was struck in the new guidance and White House recommendations issued Tuesday, according to Ada Meloy, general counsel of the American Council on Education. She said she appreciated the task force’s repeated acknowledgments about the diversity of colleges and universities, and that it did not want to take a one-size-fits-all approach.
The administration’s announcement came a day after civil rights officials in its Education Department, in an unusually aggressive action, found that Tufts University was violating Title IX and warned that it may seek to terminate the university’s federal funding.

The university vehemently denied that finding and reneged on a resolution agreement it had reached over the feds’ handling of the case.

New Title IX Guidance

The Education Department’s Office for Civil Rights also released a 46-page document meant to further clarify how colleges must handle sexual violence cases under Title IX. The new guidance -- a series of questions and answers -- builds on sweeping instructions the civil rights office gave to colleges in a 2011 “Dear Colleague” letter, which prompted widespread changes in how they adjudicate sexual assault cases.

Tuesday’s guidance is far less groundbreaking, Title IX experts said, but nonetheless important.

Olabisi Okubadejo, a lawyer who advises colleges and universities on Title IX compliance, said that Tuesday’s OCR guidance does not represent the “sea change we saw in 2011,” but noted that practically speaking, the totality of the White House’s efforts could portend new requirements for campuses down the line.

“The White House recommendations really put lots of flesh on the requirements beyond the limited elements in the OCR guidance today,” she said. “There is a possibility that the OCR will be looking at the White House recommendations” when they evaluate colleges, she said.

The administration also announced Tuesday that OCR had made changes to how it conducts enforcement actions, including setting a 90-day limit for when Title IX resolution agreement negotiations must be ended after OCR investigators finish their work.

“It seems like OCR is signaling a harder line and more aggressive enforcement,” she said.

OCR, the administration said, would also be maintaining more of a “public presence” on campuses where they conduct investigations. That has already been happening for about a year, Okubadejo said, as investigators have often been holding focus groups with students on campus as they investigate an institution.

Confidentiality of Complaints

One issue stemming from the administration’s 2011 guidance to colleges on sexual assault was whether colleges had a duty to act on all reports of sexual assaults, regardless of whether the alleged victim did not want an investigation.

“It had a chilling effect on a lot of reports because students felt like they couldn’t go and get services on their campus without a full-scale investigation being started,” said Colby Bruno, senior legal counsel at the Victim Rights Law Center.
The new guidance issued Tuesday affirms that students who report sexual assault may, under certain circumstances, have their complaint remain completely confidential. The document outlines that some employees, such as a women’s center counselor, would be allowed under Title IX to keep complaints confidential and not report the incident up their chain of command. Still, it notes that some employees are never going to have Title IX confidentiality, such as the Title IX coordinator.

“Victims want the right to choose how to proceed with their case,” Bruno said. “Clarifying the lines of confidentiality gives them the control over who to tell and what happens with their information.”

“Although the letter of the law didn’t change, these clarifications provide a safe haven for victims to come forward in droves to speak about rape and sexual assault,” she said.

“Single Investigator Model”

The task force report also expresses support -- and the need to explore further -- for the civil rights resolution model to resolving campus complaints about sexual assault and harassment.

Brett A. Sokolow, president of the Association of Title IX Administrators, praised this approach and the report for endorsing a model he said is increasingly gaining acceptance in the field of sexual assault prevention.

“It’s potentially transformative for the field” of sexual assault prevention, he said.

Most campuses currently adjudicate sexual assault and harassment complaints through an adversarial system, a model imported from the criminal justice system that allows for “dehumanizing hearings” for the alleged victim, Sokolow said.

He said the civil rights resolution model has a “promising potential.” Colgate, Vassar, the University of Colorado at Boulder and the University of Virginia are among the institutions that have switched.

Individual rights advocates, however, said the embrace of such a model would undermine the due process protections for accused students.

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, which roundly criticized the department’s 2011 guidance that called on colleges to lower the standard of evidence used in the adjudication of sexual assault hearings, said in a statement Tuesday that the White House report’s was, in general, “doubling down on a broken system.”

The group’s president, Greg Lukianoff, said he was particularly troubled by the task force’s embrace of the “single investigator” model, which he described as empowering a sole administrator “to serve as detective, judge and jury, affording the accused no chance to challenge his or her accuser’s testimony.”
Boosting Transparency

Dana Bolger, the co-founder of the advocacy group Know Your IX, praised the administration’s report for its focus on transparency in Title IX investigations, which includes a commitment to post online all resolution letters and agreements with colleges over Title IX compliance.

Still, Bolger said, she was disappointed that the OCR plans to provide a list of ongoing investigations when someone makes a request, rather than routinely posting the information online.

“We think prospective students and their families have the right to know whether the schools they’re considering are currently being investigated by OCR,” she said, adding that publicly posting that information would help hold colleges accountable through the “threat of bad publicity.”

The complete list of colleges facing Title IX investigations -- which the department has not previously disclosed -- was not immediately available Tuesday.

The department will publicly release the list “in the coming days,” said a spokeswoman, Dorie Nolt.

In addition, Bolger said that a “glaring omission in an otherwise wonderful task force report” was the lack of a proposal to improve enforcement of Title IX violations. She said the current enforcement remedies are too blunt an instrument. The only penalty for a college that violates Title IX is the complete termination of federal funds, a remedy that officials have never exercised and have not even sought in at least a decade.

A better model, Bolger said, would be to allow OCR to levy fines against a college that violates Title IX.

“We’d like to see from the White House task force and Congress suggestions on legislative fixes that allow for intermediate fines,” she said.

Editorial: College campuses must be assault-free zones

By the Editorial Board

The White House is putting some much-welcome muscle into a fight to help make college campuses safer for students in the wake of a series of highly publicized rapes.
Also engaged in the battle is U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill of Missouri, a leader in the fight to reduce sexual assaults in the military. Ms. McCaskill recently launched a survey of 350 colleges and universities to learn how they handle rapes and sexual assaults on campuses.

Ms. McCaskill notes that military and university settings are similarly closed environments where people fear repercussions if they come forward with allegations of sexual violence.

**Ms. McCaskill’s survey is specifically focused on how rapes and sexual assaults are reported and investigated and how students are notified about the services that are available to them. It was begun at the same time an independent counsel was studying the case of University of Missouri swimmer Sasha Menu Courey, who alleged she was sexually assaulted in 2010 and later committed suicide.**

The independent report criticized the university for failing to act on information about the alleged assault and never notifying the campus’ Title IX coordinator. Title IX prohibits schools with federal funding from discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment and assault.

In the wake of the report, UM President Tim Wolfe issued stronger sexual assault reporting requirements for university employees.

The White House Task Force on Protecting Students from Sexual Assault says that one in five female college students has been assaulted but that just 12 percent of such attacks are reported.

**In an effort** to turn around those damning statistics, the Task Force released guidelines Monday that urge colleges to:

- Conduct anonymous campus climate surveys to learn more about sexual assault cases on their campuses.
- Adopt anti-assault policies and offer sexual assault training for school administrators.
- Help schools respond effectively when a student reports an assault.
- Better ensure that the reports of such crimes remain confidential.

In addition, the task force has set up a website, Notalone.gov, that will provide such resources to students as a list of their rights, information on how to file a complaint, details about enforcement data and where to find mental health services in their area. The website will also be used to track enforcement of the recommendations.

President Barack Obama formed the task force early this year, and his administration has indicated it is likely to ask Congress to pass measures that would enforce the recommendations and assess penalties for colleges that fail to do so.

Critics were looking for more action from the president’s administration on what is being called a crisis on college campuses and criticized the White House response as being too weak.
Actually, it’s a step in the right direction. Exposing the insularity on college campuses to the light of day is a way to keep sexual assaults from being hidden.

**Like the military,** where a variety of actions are underway to prevent and crack down on sexual assaults, university and college campuses generally operate without much public scrutiny. A cultural atmosphere based on male dominance plays a key role in sexual violence, and efforts to change that culture must be encouraged.

Letting students know that sexual violence will not be condoned, that victims will be protected if they come forward and that perpetrators will be punished to the fullest extent of the law are the only ways to change the existing culture.

Confidentiality plays a large role in whether students feel safe enough to report a sexual assault, so that is one area in which university leaders must beef up their efforts. Similarly, the White House task force found that many assault-prevention training efforts are not effective and recommended programs already underway on some campuses that train bystanders on how to intervene.

Colleges and universities and local law enforcement authorities have proven themselves largely unable to control sexual assaults on college campuses, which is why the federal government is stepping up its efforts.

Fines, the withholding of federal funds and other punitive measures against schools that fail to respond to the recommendations are reasonable efforts to ensure that they are not ignored.

The only thing students should fear about getting an education is what their grades will be. Sexual violence must not be a part of the college experience.

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**Notalone.gov to assist campus rape victims**

By KIMBERLY HEFLING

**NO MU MENTION**
WASHINGTON (AP) — Want to know whether there's been a history of sexual assaults on your college campus? The Obama administration has created a new website that will post enforcement actions it's taken against schools and provide information for victims on where to go for help.

A White House task force on sexual assault recommended actions Tuesday that colleges and universities should take to protect victims and inform the public about the magnitude of the problem, such as identifying confidential victim's advocates and conducting surveys to better gauge the frequency of sexual assault on their campuses.

The recommendations stem from a 90-day review by the task force that President Barack Obama created after his administration heard complaints about the poor treatment of campus rape victims and the hidden nature of such crimes.

The task force also promised greater transparency. A new website, notalone.gov, will post enforcement actions and offers information to victims about how to seek local help and information about filing a complaint.

"Colleges and universities can no longer turn a blind eye or pretend that rape and sexual assault doesn’t occur on their campus," Vice President Joe Biden said in announcing the results of the task force’s work.

Advocates praised the rare, high-profile attention being given to the issue, even as they acknowledged that much of the action required will still need to come from college administrators.

Lisa Maatz, vice president for government affairs with the American Association of University Women, said the "smart schools" will take the recommendations and adopt them.

Rory Gerberg, a graduate student and advocate at Harvard University, said that while the task force recommendations will play a central role in determining how universities deal with sexual assaults, they only go so far.

"As students, it will be our responsibility to put pressure on our university administrations to ensure these recommendations are put into practice," Gerberg said.

Molly Corbett Broad, president of the American Council on Education, said her organization representing college and university presidents welcomed the chance to collaborate with the government on handling sexual assaults, "which the task force notes is a 'complicated, multidimensional problem with no easy or quick solutions."

Eileen Wilson-Oyelaran, president at Kalamazoo College in Michigan and the immediate past chair of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, said there's room for improvement in how college campuses and communities handle sexual assault cases. She said college presidents will have to review the recommendations to determine what works best in their particular situation.

"If you ask a president what keeps them up at night, more than anything it's the safety of our students," Wilson-Oyelaran said.
On the same day, the Education Department issued "questions and answers" that spelled out to colleges and universities and K-12 schools how to handle circumstances under Title IX, which prohibits gender discrimination at schools that receive federal funds. The 1972 Title IX law is better known for guaranteeing girls equal access to sports, but it also regulates institutions’ handling of sexual violence and increasingly is being used by victims who say their school failed to protect them.

Among the directives:

— A victim’s sexual history cannot be brought up in a judicial hearing unless it involves the alleged perpetrator and that those working in on-campus sexual assault centers can generally talk to a survivor in confidence.

— A school is required to process complaints of alleged sexual violence that happened off campus to determine whether it occurred in the context of an education-related activity.

— In a K-12 setting, when a school learns that a teacher or other employee has sexually harassed a student, it is responsible for taking "prompt and effective" steps.

— Straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students are all protected and a school must resolve "same sex" violence in the same way it does for all such complaints.

In its report, the task force said the Justice Department will help develop training programs in trauma care for college officers and assess different models for schools to use to adjudicate such cases, since some sexual assault survivors are wary of a legal process that can expose them to potentially painful or embarrassing questions by students or staff.

While 1 in 5 female students is assaulted, the White House said the review was also about protecting male victims and engaging men in discussions about preventing such assaults. Research has shown that most campus sexual assault victims know their attackers, alcohol or drugs are often involved and only 12 percent of college women attacked report it to police.

**COLLEGE MENS BASKETBALL - WIRE**

**New Missouri coach Kim Anderson introduced to his 'dream job'**
COLUMBIA, Mo. — **Cracking one-liners and seemingly at ease despite a row of TV cameras and an audience that spilled out the doors of the Great Room at the Reynolds Alumni Center, Kim Anderson was introduced Tuesday as Missouri's 18th men's basketball coach.**

During the festive news conference, which was interrupted by three standing ovations from fans in attendance, Anderson promised to develop an identity and return Tigers basketball to the place of prominence it once owned under his mentor, Norm Stewart.

"As you all know, I played and coached for coach Stewart," Anderson said. "It may be 2014, but smart, disciplined, hard-nosed team basketball never goes out of style. That's the only way we know how to do it here. That style of play embodies our state and our fans, and that's what we are going to try to bring back."

It's a homecoming for Anderson, a Sedalia native and a "True Son" of Missouri. He was a star for the Tigers from 1973-77 and was chosen Big Eight player of the year as a senior before serving as an assistant under Stewart for 11 seasons during two stints.

But Anderson, who turns 59 next month, intends put his own stamp on MU basketball.

"He's not coming here to be Norm Stewart's protege" said forward Ryan Rosburg, who will be a junior next season. "He's coming here to win games."

**Anderson was riding his bike on Katy Trail when he was first contacted by Collegiate Sports Associates, the firm MU paid $42,500 to assist in its coaching search.**

He said he was interviewed by MU athletic director Mike Alden at his Warrensburg home on Thursday and first spoke with the university's new chancellor R. Bowen Loftin on Saturday.

Anderson’s contract is still being finalized, but he will make at least $1.1 million per season on a five-year deal.

Alden said Anderson's base salary will be $300,000 with an additional $800,000 in guaranteed money annually. Anderson also will receive $100,000 per year in deferred money and heavy incentives that could push his salary above $2 million to a maximum of $2.4 million per year.

There are no option years on the back end of the contract.
Anderson was a finalist for the job along with Wichita State's Gregg Marshall and Louisiana Tech's Michael White, a source with knowledge of the situation told The Star. But Marshall, according to his agent, never got to the point of considering a move and White reportedly removed himself from consideration as well.

In the final analysis, the stars aligned perfectly for Anderson - coming off an NCAA Division II national championship at Central Missouri, where Anderson went 274-95 in 12 seasons - to land his "dream job" after Frank Haith's sudden departure April 18 for Tulsa.

It's an opportunity Anderson wasn't convinced would ever materialize unless last week.

"Here's a guy who's done a tremendous job, over the last several years in particular, at what he does," Alden said. "He's grown tremendously as a leader. I think he provides a great consistency and stability for our program, and I thought that from a timing standpoint this is just a perfect time for Kim Anderson."

Anderson was joined by his wife, Melissa, and his son Brett, who graduates from MU with a degree in marketing next month. His father, Keith, and sister, Kathy, also were on hand. Anderson's oldest son, Ryan, works at North Dakota State and could not attend.

Twice, Anderson got choked up twice when talking about telling his Central Missouri team that he would be leaving, but he also made it clear that he was grateful.

"I just want to come in and maybe bring some consistency and stability from the fact that I'm not going anywhere," Anderson said. "I'm not going. I'm here."

Anderson met Missouri's players for the first time Monday after his contract had been approved by the University System Board of Curators and he was officially announced as the Tigers' next coach.

"I told our guys last night that we're here to win rings, earn diplomas and make a big impact on those around us," Anderson said. "This is bigger than basketball and that's a special opportunity we all have."

Anderson said he looks forward to working with the remnants of a team that went 23-12 last season under Haith but lost its top three scorers. He sees an athletic bunch and believes the Tigers could have the makings of a good defensive team, which he hopes will become a hallmark of the program moving forward.
"We're not done recruiting either," said Anderson, who has at least three scholarships to fill - a number that could rise if early signees Jakeenan Gant or Namon Wright opt out of their national letters of intent.

Alden passed on hiring Anderson in 1999 after Stewart retired, a fact Anderson addressed. "I wouldn't have hired me either in 1999," he said. "I wasn't ready."

Anderson said that if a rift ever existed between Alden and Stewart's supporters - a point he wasn't willing to concede - that divide has been repaired.

"Hopefully, I can reach out to the guys from the last 15 years and have them feel like, 'Hey, come on and be a part of this. And come watch the Tigers play. And come down here in the locker room, talk to these guys,'" Anderson said.

Loftin, who was in Washington, D.C., for a meeting of the American Association of Universities, said in a statement Anderson was "a perfect fit for Mizzou" and "a positive reflection of who we are, now and into the future."

Addressing some of the perceived issues with his hiring, Anderson relied on his folksy wit.

"Anytime a new coach comes in, there'll be some questions," he said. "... I've heard some of them already - about my age, my ability to recruit, our staff and my Division I head coaching experience."

He addressed each in order.

"These are some of the things I've learned in the past 24 hours," Anderson said. "Apparently, I'm old. I really had no idea of that until yesterday, and I've got to tell you, it devastated me. I didn't think I was old. I work out every day. I'm in pretty good shape. Hey, I'm not playing, you guys. I'm just coaching."

Anderson also insisted that recruiting relationships don't change. Besides, he said, "We recruited and signed Division I-caliber players at the University of Central Missouri."

While Anderson didn't officially name any assistant coaches, Central Missouri associate head coach Brad Loos will join his staff, sources told The Star. Loos has been with Anderson for 12 seasons, including the last five as the associate head coach.

Anderson said he spoke with the members of Haith's staff who didn't go to Tulsa - associate head coach Tim Fuller, director of basketball operations Bryan Tibaldi and director of video operations Toby Lane. Fuller remains a candidate for the vacant Florida A&M coaching job.
As much as homecoming and identity emerged as themes Tuesday, so too did Rosburg's optimism.

"If you can coach, you can coach," Rosburg said. "I know they're going to get players here and I know he's going to hire a great staff. I'm not worried about it. They're going to get pieces here and you've seen what he's done and his track record. He's going to get us to play together."

Anderson hopes that translates into greater support at Mizzou Arena on game days. He ended his news conference by imploring MU fans who hold lower-level tickets "where all that yellow is" to show up or . . .

"For God's sake, give the tickets to somebody."

Read more here: http://www.kansascity.com/2014/04/29/4991642/new-missouri-coach-kim-anderson.html#storylink=cpy

Anderson's homecoming is dream come true

By Dave Matter dmatter@post-dispatch.com 314-340-8508
COLUMBIA, Mo. • The first phone call came as Kim Anderson was pedaling his bike along the Katy Trail through a small town, Bryson, Mo., on April 19, a day after Frank Haith had been announced as the new basketball coach at Tulsa.

Anderson didn’t recognize the number. He answered but couldn’t get a clear reception. He went back to his car and drove to nearby Windsor to get better cell service.

The call was from a North Carolina-based consulting firm, contacting Anderson on behalf of Missouri — the place where he played college basketball in the 1970s, the place he coached as an assistant in the 1980s and ‘90s, the place that passed him over for the head coaching job 15 years ago and two more times after that. Anderson had just won a Division II national championship at Central Missouri, and Missouri needed a new head coach — again.

How many times had Anderson thought about receiving that phone call?

“Every day,” he said.

There would be some harrowing moments over the next 10 days, but for Anderson, the embodiment of what Mizzou fans like to call their own, a True Son, the dream came true Tuesday when a throng of fans, former players and school administrators — and what seemed like half of Columbia — greeted their new basketball coach at the Reynolds Alumni Center.

From the moment he walked in the room, Anderson received the first of three lengthy standing ovations. The 58-year-old later described himself as “just a homegrown guy from Sedalia.” Perhaps. But he sure knows how to make an entrance.

“It took a long time to walk up those stairs,” he said as he took the stage alongside athletics director Mike Alden. “It took 15 years.”

For Anderson, those 15 years took him to Dallas to work for the Big 12 and later to Warrensburg, Mo., where he built a Division II powerhouse that won five conference titles in his 12 seasons, reached three Final Fours and last month captured the national championship.

“Timing is everything,” said former Mizzou player Gary Link, who works as Alden’s special assistant in the athletics department. “There’s no question about it. He wins a national championship and Coach Haith decides to leave. If (Haith) leaves four weeks before, who knows what happens. But you know what, he’s our coach now.”

Alden interviewed Anderson for the job at Anderson’s home in Warrensburg last Thursday. Anderson met with MU chancellor R. Bowen Loftin on Saturday. Alden also met with Wichita State coach Gregg Marshall in the final days of the search. Louisiana Tech’s Mike White, who at 37 was the youngest coach left on MU’s radar, was under consideration late in the process, a university source said.

By Monday, though, the search was down to one. Shortly after the UM Board of Curators approved Anderson’s contract, he officially accepted the office and shared the news with his wife Melissa and former coach Norm Stewart before making the 90-minute drive to Columbia to meet his new players.
Anderson agreed to a five-year contract with a guaranteed salary of $1.1 million. If he hits all his incentives, he can make up to $2.4 million.

Alden praised Anderson’s track record as a player, assistant and head coach who at each step has won “at an extremely high level” and noted his reputation for “unbelievable relationships throughout the entire country in the basketball community.”

Link, Mizzou’s longtime radio analyst whose passion for MU basketball might run deeper than anyone in Boone County, broke down in tears when Anderson accepted the job — and then again Tuesday when he drove him to the press conference.

“He’s the right fit right now for the University of Missouri,” Link said.

But Anderson isn’t naive. He knows this is a polarizing hire. He bravely flipped through sports talk radio during Monday’s drive, hoping to hear positive reviews on the hire. He was relieved to hear former Mizzou star Jon Sundvold praise Alden’s choice. He knows others won’t be so kind.

“There will be skeptics,” he said.

Anderson had the skeptics in mind when he prepared his introductory speech and confronted each of the four prevailing criticisms of Mizzou’s decision: His age, his lack of Division I head-coaching experience, his ability to hire a staff and his recruiting prowess.

The age question — he’ll be the oldest SEC head coach next season by four years — he deflected with humor.

“Apparently I’m old,” he said. “I really had no idea of that until yesterday. I’ve got to tell you it devastated me.”

Anderson called the Central Missouri job better than “a lot of Division I programs in the country,” and said his experiences there trained him for his newest challenge.

“My time at Central Missouri is an asset,” he said.

Anderson is still finalizing his staff, though longtime UCM assistant Brad Loos is expected to join him in Columbia. On Monday, Anderson met with Tim Fuller, Haith’s associate head coach. Fuller is still in talks with Florida A&M about its head coaching position but has not ruled out working for Anderson.

As for recruiting, Anderson said he’ll focus on signing high school players instead of transfers. While Haith loaded up on Division I transfers the last three years, Anderson said he prefers to develop players that fans can identify with over four years.

And that starts immediately with the returning core from last year’s 23-12 team.

“There’s no place on Earth that I’d rather be than Columbia, Missouri,” Anderson said, “and there’s no other group of players I’d rather work with than our current roster wearing black and gold.”
“Thanks for bringing me home.”

COLUMBIA — Kim Anderson was brought to Missouri to win tournament games, but first he had to win the news conference.

On Tuesday morning, he spoke publicly for the first time since being hired as Missouri men’s basketball coach.

“It took a long time to walk up those stairs,” Anderson said after reaching the podium in the Reynolds Alumni Center. “It took 15 years.”

Anderson was a consideration for Missouri coach in 1999, but athletics director Mike Alden hired Quin Snyder instead.

“As I look back, and I’m not saying this to brown-nose the AD, I wouldn’t have hired me either in 1999,” Anderson said. “I wasn’t ready.”

Four years later, Anderson took the head coaching job at Central Missouri, where he went 274-94 and won a Division II national title in March.
After former coach Frank Haith’s departed for Tulsa, Missouri hired a search firm for $42,500. Alden said the key factors in the search were finding a candidate with character, integrity and a winning history.

“How could you bring all those things together to be able to embody the characteristics that we were looking for to be the leader of our basketball program at the University of Missouri?” Alden asked rhetorically. “We identified the one person that we felt had all of those characteristics and more that could be able to represent our institution, and that was Kim Anderson.”

“There’s also a value added component that goes along with that, too.” Alden added. “How about a person that’s Missouri made?”

The crowd applauded, commending the hire of a Sedalia-born coach who played and coached for Missouri.

The packed house at the Reynolds Alumni Center seemed generally pleased with Anderson’s introduction. His jokes landed, and references to his ties to the Missouri program were especially well-received.

“This is my dream job,” he said. “You all probably figured that out a long time ago. I’m Mizzou through and through.”

“Amen,” an audience member responded.

“This is my home state, this is my alma mater, and I know how special this program is to so many people,” Anderson said. “And it holds that same significance to me.”

Some believe the hire of Anderson, who coached under Missouri’s Norm Stewart, could breach a divide that had existed between Stewart’s supporters and the program under subsequent Missouri coaches.

“The only thing I would say if there was one (a divide), there’s not one anymore,” Anderson said.

Anderson elaborated on the kind of team he hoped to coach at Missouri. He emphasized an aggressive, defense-first approach that he said reflected his own style of play.
“It may be 2014, but smart, disciplined, hard-nosed team basketball never goes out of style,” Anderson said.

Critics of Anderson’s hiring have raised issue with his Division I coaching experience, recruiting ability and his age, 58.

“Apparently, I’m old,” Anderson said. “I really had no idea of that until yesterday, and I gotta tell you, it devastated me. I didn’t think I was old. I work out everyday, I’m in pretty good shape — hey, I’m not playing, you guys.”

In terms of recruiting ability, Anderson said he recruited many D-I players while at Central Missouri.

“A lot of the guys I’d recruit, I always felt like they came into my office singing ‘One Shining Moment,’ because they thought they were gonna go Division I,” he said, referring to the song that accompanies the Division I national championship montage each year.

However, Anderson said he convinced those players to come to his D-II school, because they would have the opportunity to win a championship.

Anderson said he first heard from the search firm on April 19, while he was biking on the Katy Trail near Windsor. He said Alden interviewed him at his home in Warrensburg. Anderson met with Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin on Saturday.

Anderson said he received the job offer via telephone around 2:15 p.m. Monday.

“It was a pretty exciting ride from Warrensburg to Columbia, to think that you were gonna be the coach at your alma mater,” he said.

Alden said Anderson’s contract is for five years, with $1.1 million guaranteed per year. With incentives, that total has the potential to reach $2 million. Specific details will be released in a week or so, Alden said.

Anderson met with his new team Monday afternoon. Current Missouri players Ryan Rosburg and Keanau Post were in attendance for the news conference. Post was happy with Anderson’s first public comments.
“It reassures my thoughts of him,” Post said. “He’s real passionate. You could see it today during his press conference. This is good.”

FOUL: Mizzou wastes money on coaching search

FOUL: University of Missouri Athletics Director Mike Alden didn’t need a compass, let alone a coaching search consultant, to find Kim Anderson. Mr. Anderson, who was hired as the new Tigers basketball coach on Monday, was working about 95 miles west on Interstate 70 at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg.

The Tigers’ rabid fan base has multiple opinions about Mr. Anderson already. He’s the Second Coming. He’s too old. He’s a Norm Stewart retread.

Whatever.

We wish Mr. Anderson the best of luck. What bothers us about his hiring is the $42,500 the Kansas City Star reported the state’s largest public university wasted on Collegiate Sports Associates Executive Search and Consulting. The reason Mr. Alden (and others like him) hire such firms (which are generally run by former coaches and athletic directors), is so they can do their work in secret. It creates a game of sanctioned lying that goes like this:

Mr. Alden has the consultant reach out to coach X, say, Gregg Marshall of Wichita State. Mr. Marshall denies he’s been contacted by the University of Missouri, which is kinda, sorta true. Then when the search is over, because it benefits the coach’s future earnings power, his agent later confirms, yes, he was contacted by the university, through the third party which pocketed a little easy cash.

It’s a silly game for a public university to be playing, particularly one overseeing one of the top journalism schools in the country.

— Tony Messenger
Missouri nursing schools rank high on online journal’s ‘A-list’

April 29

In its first “A-list” of U.S. nursing schools, an online college ranking journal has included four Missouri schools among its top 20.

The University of Missouri topped the College Atlas list. Southeast Missouri State in Cape Girardeau was ranked fourth, Truman State University in Kirksville was sixth and Missouri Southern State University in Joplin was seventh.

In Kansas, Emporia State University was 14th and the University of Kansas 17th.

College Atlas derives the list of schools it measures from the U.S. News & World Report annual best colleges list, then considers which schools are most affordable and easiest to get into while also having good academic programs.

The elite schools that usually top college rankings get knocked off the College Atlas list because those schools are so selective about their admissions, said Branden Neish, general manager of College Atlas.

Read more here: http://www.kansascity.com/2014/04/29/4990717/missouri-nursing-schools-rank.html#storylink=cpy

Four Missouri nursing schools make top-10 list in quality and accessibility

By Michele Munz mmunz@post-dispatch.com 314-340-8263
The University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing was rated the best nursing school in the country by an on-line college ranking journal, and three other nursing schools in Missouri made the top ten.

This is the first time the College Atlas Encyclopedia of Higher Learning at CollegeAtlas.org has ranked nursing schools. The rankings are based on affordability, accessibility and academic quality. Researchers consider tuition, nursing board exam pass rates, U.S. News Best Colleges rankings, acceptance rates and enrollment size “resulting in a lineup of colleges and universities that deliver the best academic and economic value to students, while admitting a relatively high percentage of applicants,” according to the website. The rankings do not take into account scholarships and financial aid.

Southeast Missouri State in Cape Girardeau was ranked fourth; Truman State University in Kirksville was sixth; and Missouri Southern State University in Joplin was seventh.

Michele Munz is a health reporter at the Post-Dispatch. Follow the health news on twitter at #STLhealth

Tax critic tours Missouri

Norquist rallies support for cut facing a veto.

Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at 2:00 pm

JEFFERSON CITY (AP) — Anti-tax crusader Grover Norquist traveled across Missouri in support of an income tax cut yesterday as business and education groups stoked a long-smoldering battle over a tax cut promoted as an economic benefit and criticized as harmful to schools.

This week, Democratic Gov. Jay Nixon is likely to veto for the second time in as many years the tax cut passed by the Republican-led General Assembly. But Republicans are vowing to try to override the veto, and they appear to have a better shot at success than last year.

With a veto showdown looming, Norquist rallied support for the tax cut by appearing with Republican House Speaker Tim Jones at news conferences in Cape Girardeau and Springfield.

"The tax cut will happen," Norquist, the president of Americans for Tax Reform, predicted in an interview with The Associated Press. "You're going to have thousands and tens of thousands more people employed because of this," Norquist added.
Like Missouri’s Republican lawmakers, Norquist contends that the tax cut will leave small businesses with more money that can be used to expand. But there are no official projections on whether the tax cut will create jobs or simply result in more money in people's bank accounts.

While Nordquist traveled the state, business and education groups held dueling news conferences in Jefferson City criticizing or praising the measure. The scenario was reminiscent of last year’s highly publicized battle, when the GOP ultimately fell 15 votes short in the House of overriding Nixon's veto.

This year's measure is significantly less complex and smaller in scope.

A veto override requires a two-thirds vote of support by both chambers. Republicans hold a supermajority in the Senate. But because of several vacancies, House Republicans will need to vote as a block and pick up support from at least one Democrat for an override to succeed. One Democrat did support the tax cut when it passed the House earlier this month, but he has since said he is reconsidering his position.

The Missouri legislation would gradually cut the state's top individual income tax rate from 6 percent to 5.5 percent and phase in a new 25 percent deduction for business income reported on personal tax returns. It also would expand an existing deduction for lower-income individuals and start indexing the tax brackets with inflation.

The incremental tax cuts would start in 2017 but would occur only if revenue grows by $150 million over the previous high mark from the previous three years.

**Economists at the University of Missouri have estimated that the tax cut legislation will eventually reduce state revenue by $620 million annually.**

But Nixon raised concerns last week that the legislation could punch a $4.8 billion hole in the budget. He said the bill's wording would eliminate taxes on all income over $9,000. Republicans contend that Nixon is misinterpreting the bill to manufacture a crisis and try justifying his veto.

Seizing on Nixon's concerns, a coalition of education, mental health and senior citizen groups said yesterday the uncertain wording of the bill likely would spark a legal fight. They noted that Missouri already is underfunding its public schools this year by about $600 million, compared with what's called for under a 2005 state law.
Striving for greater personal financial capability

by Mary C. Suiter

NO MU MENTION

With college graduates facing a challenging employment landscape, rapidly increasing student debt and an aging generation to help support in the years to come, it is perhaps more important than ever for young Americans to understand how to manage their personal finances.

The seeds of financial capability are sown early in life, and financial education is crucial for building that skill. Yet progress in personal finance education has slowed since the mid-2000s, according to the Council for Economic Education’s 2014 Survey of the States, which examined K-12 economic and financial education in the United States.

April is National Financial Literacy Month, an opportune time to examine some troubling findings in progress on personal financial capability (understanding personal finance concepts and applying that knowledge) in Missouri and Illinois.

Twenty percent of Missourians and 18 percent of Illinoisans who participated in a 2012 study reported spending more in the previous year than their annual income that year — and those expenditures didn’t include what they spent on a home, car or other big investment. The study, by the Investor Education Foundation of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, also found that 59 percent of Missouri participants and 51 percent of Illinois participants lacked a rainy-day fund sufficient to cover expenses for three months in case of emergencies. FINRA also asked participants five questions on personal finance topics that the average person might encounter in everyday life. Only 41 percent of Missouri participants and 37 percent of Illinois participants could answer more than three correctly.

Personal finance education in K-12 classrooms is one way to try to reverse these trends. Research by the University of Arizona showed that those who receive personal finance education early in life are more likely to seek additional financial education later. The 2011 research also showed that financial education promotes self-efficacy and drives financial behavior.

In Missouri, efforts have been made to that end. The state requires students to take a high school course on personal finance. The Center for Financial Literacy at Champlain College in Burlington, Vt., in 2013 gave the state an “A” for its personal finance requirements.
Illinois, however, does not require students to take a personal finance course, nor does it require that a standalone course be offered. Still, Champlain College gave Illinois a “B” for its personal finance education efforts because the state mandates that personal finance be part of another course.

While it is good news that both states have some requirements for personal finance education, there is evidence that teachers could use some support. According to a 2009 study from researchers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, many teachers lack confidence in their ability to teach personal finance content.

We must work together to find new ways to increase financial education from a young age and help educators feel confident in teaching the subject. At the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, we work with educators across the St. Louis metropolitan area and the rest of our seven-state district to develop and offer free K-16 classroom materials and professional development opportunities for teaching economics and personal finance. The classroom materials and information about professional development events are available at stlouisfed.org/education.

Being equipped to make informed financial decisions is an important component of enduring financially difficult times and emerging on firm footing. Every child deserves the opportunity to receive the personal finance knowledge necessary for a financially secure future. If we provide these opportunities, our children in Missouri and Illinois will grow up to be financially capable and they — and our nation’s economy — will be better for it.

Mary C. Suiter is assistant vice president and economic education officer at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Campus rape addressed by White House task force

KIMBERLY HEFLING AP EDUCATION WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration admonished colleges and universities — “No more turning a blind eye” — in new guidelines designed to stem sexual assaults on campuses and help the victims.

A White House task force on sexual assault recommends in a report being released Tuesday that schools identify trained, confidential victim’s advocates and conduct surveys to better gauge the frequency of sexual assault on their campuses, since these types of crimes are underreported.

It says the Justice Department will help develop training programs in trauma care for school officers and assess different models for schools to use to adjudicate such cases, since some sexual assault survivors are
wary of a legal process that can open them up to potentially painful or embarrassing questions by students or staff.

It also promises greater transparency. A new website, notalone.gov, posts enforcement actions and offers information to victims about how to seek local help and information about filing a complaint.

The task force is providing a checklist for schools to use in drafting or reevaluating sexual misconduct policies, including ideas a school could consider when defining what is or isn't sexual consent.

"Prevention and education programs vary widely, with many doing neither well," the task force said. "And in all too many instances survivors of sexual violence are not at the heart of an institution's response: They often do not have a safe, confidential place to turn to after an assault, they haven't been told how the system works and they often believe it is working against them. We heard from many who reached out for help or action, but were told they should just put the matter behind them."

Lisa Maatz, vice president for government affairs with the American Association of University Women, called the recommendations a "game changer" that can "only be helpful in addressing this issue and dealing with it head-on."

Advocate Laura Dunn, who founded the group SurvJustice, said there's "definitely a lot of joy in the community that confidentiality is being taken seriously," but she wished that the recommendations emphasized enforcement consequences for perpetrators.

In addition to recommending that schools have a victim advocate, the task force provides to schools a sample reporting and confidentiality protocol and asks that, as a minimum, schools make clear "up front, who on campus will (or will not) share what information with whom."

Ada Meloy, general counsel at the American Council on Education said it's a complicated matter to try to satisfy a victim's sensitive feelings and at the same time comply with legal reporting requirements, and it's one in which her association representing colleges and universities raised with the task force. She said she is now reviewing all the information but that presidents would likely be applying "the best" of the recommendations.

The task force, appointed by President Barack Obama in January, was making its recommendations following a 90-day review that included dozens of in-person and online meetings with victims, advocates and higher education representatives. It was made up of Obama's Cabinet members, including Education Secretary Arne Duncan and Attorney General Eric Holder.

"Colleges and universities need to face the facts about sexual assault — no more turning a blind eye or pretending it doesn't exist," said Vice President Joe Biden, who was to make remarks Tuesday when the task force findings were released. "We need to give victims the support they need — like a confidential place to go — and we need to bring the perpetrators to justice."

While 1 in 5 female students is assaulted, the White House said in announcing the task force that the review was also about protecting male victims and engaging men in discussions about preventing such assaults.
Within higher education, many campuses have been working to make improvements, but the issue is complex and some college administrators have sought answers from the federal government about how to interpret federal law. Research has shown that most campus sexual assault victims know their attackers, alcohol or drugs are often involved and only 12 percent of college women attacked report it to police.

A key tool the government has against campus sexual assault is Title IX, which prohibits gender discrimination at schools that receive federal funds. The 1972 law is better known for guaranteeing girls equal access to sports, but it also regulates institutions' handling of sexual violence and is increasingly being used by victims who say their school failed to protect them. Fifty-one campuses currently have such an ongoing investigation involving sexual violence, the Education Department said.

Title IX requires that schools proactively work to prevent sexual crimes, promptly investigate complaints and discipline the accused if it's more likely than not that violence occurred. The school can't retaliate against students who file complaints and must ensure that victims can continue their education free of ongoing harassment.

Complaints have ticked up in the past couple years, after the Education Department publicized guidance on Title IX's sexual assault provisions in 2011. The department can withhold federal funding from a school that doesn't comply, but so far has not used that power and instead negotiated voluntary resolutions when they find violations.

On Tuesday, the Education Department also released additional information related to the 2011 Title IX directive. It said a victim's sexual history cannot be brought up in a judicial hearing unless it involves the alleged perpetrator and that those working in on-campus sexual assault centers can generally talk to a survivor in confidence.

It also said a school is required to process complaints of alleged sexual violence that happened off campus to determine if it occurred in the context of an education related activity.

"If so, the school must treat the complaint in the same manner that it treats complaints regarding on-campus conduct," the Education Department said.

Another law that campus sexual assault cases fall under is the Clery Act, which requires colleges and universities to annually report crime statistics on or near their campuses, to develop prevention policies and ensure victims their basic rights.

**MU Researcher identifies coding gene needed for key locomotor skills**

*By Natalia Alamdari*
Samuel Waters, assistant professor of biological sciences at MU, has identified a coding gene linked to locomotor skills and central nervous system development, which may lead to a better understanding of locomotor defects that can result from strokes or Alzheimer’s Disease.

Waters’ research explores transcription factors Gbx-1 and Gbx-2, proteins responsible for binding specific DNA sequences. Scientists were beginning to learn more about the function of Gbx-2 in the central nervous system when Waters began his research as a post-doctoral student at the National Cancer Institute.

“With Gbx-1 there was nothing known at all, so as a (postdoctoral student), I cloned its sequence (because) the gene sequence wasn't known at the time,” Waters said. “In that study, I did an expression analysis of the genes to see what's located in the developing embryo.”

Following analysis, Waters then observed the influence of Gbx-1 on mice through a loss of function study. By inactivating Gbx-1 in mice, Waters was able to see the walking defects that result from lack of Gbx-1.

“Studies that I'd done at the National Cancer Institute were not very insightful as to why this locomotor defect was occurring,” Waters said. “Once I got here, I followed up on that work and we were able to show how Gbx-1 is affecting development of the central nervous system and different components within the central nervous system that could contribute to our ability to walk.”

Even though he has identified the essentiality of Gbx-1 and its influence on the development of neurons in the spinal cord, Waters said he still has plenty of research left to do.

“We're not sure which combination of those interneurons are required specifically for locomotion since multiple neurons are impacted,” Waters said. “Now we'll have to address each neuronal population specifically, and we'll do that again with loss of function studies.”

By figuring out which neurons are directly targeted by Gbx-1, Waters and his research team can work toward therapeutic methods.

“There are a number of developmental defects or disorders that affect locomotion as well as just injury to the spinal cord,” Waters said. “Whether it be a blunt injury like a car accident or a stroke or something like that, this type of research will definitely shed some light to those areas.”
Alveda King, niece of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., came to the University of Missouri on Monday night with an anti-abortion message tailored to college students.

King, a pastoral associate at Priests for Life in Atlanta, spoke to a crowd of about 100 people — about 50 of whom were college age — in Jesse Auditorium, sharing her personal experiences after having two abortions and how her own past and her family's past have shaped her beliefs and advocacy.

"I believe colleges are special," she said during a news conference. "That's where you get the energy for transforming society. When people don't have the information they need, they can't make the right decisions or the best decisions."

King said abortion shouldn't be an option even if a woman is impregnated because of rape or incest because "two wrongs can never make a right." To her, women should seek alternatives. College-age women make up a third of those who have abortions, she said.

"We are beginning to discover that women don't want abortions," she said. "Women want love and support."

King advocates for adoption but also spoke about communities being supportive of pregnant women. She talked about the importance of clinics that help teach "family planning," including teaching women how to parent as well as other life skills such as balancing a checkbook and how to obtain an education and a job.

King said she's a feminist. "I believe the woman has the right to choose what to do with her body, but that baby is not her body," she said.
Her discussion was rescheduled from February, Black History Month. King said her talk was broader this time than she had planned for the scheduled February appearance, which was concentrated on her belief that abortion is a form of genocide for the black community.

King said large crowds at events such as last night's show her that people "are looking for answers."

"College students are so intelligent, but nobody is giving them good information," she said.

MU's Students for Life chapter sponsored King's talk.

Reagan Nielsen, former Students for Life president, said she wanted to bring King to campus because she thinks students and the community can benefit from her message.

"We want to expose the truth," she said. "When they know the truth, they can make decisions for themselves."

City, group celebrate acts of kindness

Tuesday, April 29, 2014 at 2:00 pm

The University of Missouri's Show Me Respect Civility Committee and the city of Columbia have partnered to celebrate "Acts of Kindness Week" this week.

The goal of the week is to "promote a culture of kindness at MU and throughout Columbia," according to a news release. The MU civility committee has created a list of suggested acts of kindness, such as opening the door for someone or starting a conversation with someone new.

The week ends with a dedication of Children's Grove at 1 p.m. Saturday at Stephens Lake Park. The grove will serve as a visual representation of the community's support of mental health issues in youths, the release said.
Former death row inmate to talk at MU

Former Missouri death row inmate Reggie Griffin will speak at 6:30 Tuesday night in Room 6 of Hulston Hall on the University of Missouri campus, according to a news release from the Mid-Missouri Fellowship of Reconciliation.

The program, titled "Exonerated: Reggie Griffin's 26-Year Ordeal, Surviving the Death Penalty and Delayed Justice," is co-sponsored by the MU School of Law’s chapters of the American Constitution Society, the ACLU and the Equal Justice Law Association; the MU Criminal Law Association; the Mid-Missouri Fellowship of Reconciliation; and Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty.

Murder charges against Griffin were dismissed in October after the Missouri Supreme Court had earlier overturned his conviction. He was the 143rd person nationally and the fourth in Missouri who was sentenced to death to have the conviction overturned, according to the news release.

Griffin will be joined by MU Law School Associate Professor Paul Litton, who co-chaired a blue-ribbon committee that reviewed Missouri's capital punishment system.

For more details, contact Jeff Stack at 573-449-4585 or by email at jstack@formissouri.org.

MU students, community have chance to 'meet' their meat

COLUMBIA — Kade spent a rainy Tuesday afternoon penned up under a tent outside. The 1,150-pound Hereford was on display at MU for the fifth Meet Your Meat event.
Hosted by the student group Mizzou Collegiate CattleWomen, the annual event focuses on educating the community about farming, beef production practices and nutrition.

Attendees were able to purchase rib-eye sandwiches, and the group had enough meat to make more than 600 sandwiches. The Collegiate CattleWomen also offered educational materials, including beef recipes and nutritional facts.