Fox Files Investigation finds a pattern of sex assaults on street near Mizzou

COLUMBIA, MO (KTVI) – Mizzou college women report three recent sex assaults, leading some to worry about a serial rapist. Police think they stopped a serial suspect this summer. Then this latest string, which seems to highlight a pattern on one particular street.

It’s on one dark street, only a half mile long, where we found four reports of sex assaults since June of 2013.

A senior female student told us, ‘A lot of girls live together in these big houses that are old and easy to get into.’

She added, ‘I’m always like ‘oh it’s fine. I don’t think anyone will hurt me on this campus because we’re all here for the same reason, to study, but in reality there are a lot of people here for other reasons.’

Our Fox Files investigation found 20 reported rapes, or rape attempts over a 15 month period in Columbia. Most of the victims are reported to be Mizzou college students.

One female student told us, ‘I’ve heard of at least 9 happening that haven’t been reported that people are just too scared to talk about to the police.’

Taylor Stewart added, ‘There’s also a lot of stuff that doesn’t get reported.’

Stewart remembered something that went unreported near her. She lives in the area called ‘West Campus.’ She explained, ‘They went through the back door and I live very close to the back door so that kind of freaked me out.’

Police believe Zane Black was responsible for many of the reported rapes and attempted rapes. He was a university hospital nurse, who police suspect was targeting college women, with four reported sex crimes during the first week of May at ‘The Domain Student Housing” on Stadium. Police believe he attacked his last victim May 9th. He escaped a police manhunt and later hanged himself, according to police.
Columbia Police Lt. Eric Hughes said, ‘We’re looking at all the pieces to make sure it fits.’ Officers are still waiting on DNA results. Hughes added, ‘We’re making sure we have the right person because we never want to put crimes, especially crimes like sexual assault on the wrong person.’

Now students report another cluster of sexual assaults, three of them during a nine day period in September, 2014.

Lt. Hughes added, ‘All indications that we have right now – they are not related. There are on the surface some similarities as far as, going into an unlocked door.’

Senior Taylor Stewart said, ‘A lot of people, they’re really bad about locking their doors and even I have friends, they admit to doing that.’

Another senior added, ‘People have school, they have work, they go out socially. It just depends on who’s coming and going and just because of that, locking the door is almost a second, it’s not a thing I think about, which is not good, but it’s, there’s so many other pressures you just kind of forget to lock your door.’

Predators know this and it may not be the only reason criminals seem to be targeting certain places.

After hearing complaints from students, we went to an area called East Campus. It’s not part of any college campus but many students rent housing there and a lot of them share concerns about what they call spotty lighting.

They say one minute they can be under a street light and the next, they can barely see the ground in front of them.

It’s on East Campus where we found Anthony Street. That’s the street where we found a pattern of sex assaults-four in the last 15 months.

I crunched police dispatch data, since classes began in August. Dispatch calls run the gamut, from suspicious person to traffic hazard. When I crunched Anthony Street together with University Avenue, I found 150 calls to police since August 25th.

Compare that to data I crunched for two similar streets on West Campus. The roads of Bingham and Burnham show 19 police calls during the same time period. It should be noted that police have about a quarter mile less to patrol on the West Campus streets.

Students add that houses are closer together on the East side and that they’re filled with more students.

Taylor Stewart said, ‘Sometimes if I am by myself, I think I’m safe or something because I have my mace in my purse or I have my phone on me, but in reality something could still happen and I just don’t really think it could happen to me.’
That`s a common feeling among students, a feeling of invulnerability. Yet they do talk about certain changes they believe would make it safer, like better lighting.

That`s not as easy a fix as it may sound. I talked about it with a representative from Columbia Water and Light. He explained that people are divided on this issue. He explained that many residents on East Campus are not students and they prefer it dark. The City must get unanimous consent from people around a light pole or have public hearings that lead to a vote.

MUPD reports two rapes

By Ashley Jost

Monday, October 6, 2014 at 1:00 pm

The University of Missouri Police Department on Sunday reported two rape incidents in residence halls over the weekend.

MUPD Capt. Brian Weimer said there is no reason to believe these incidents are related to each other or related to crimes reported last month.

Information about crimes on campus are issued as a so-called Clery release. Campus police nationwide are required by law to disclose information about crimes on or near school property.

On Saturday, a female told MUPD she was raped early Friday morning in a residence hall. According to the Clery release, the victim is unsure in which residence hall the incident took place. The victim described the male suspect as tall and skinny with dark hair and a dark complexion.

Weimer said the victim wants police to continue investigating the case.

MUPD issued another Clery release Sunday morning about an incident that happened either late Thursday night or early Friday morning in Schurz Hall on South College Avenue.

The suspect is described as a tall, white male, 18 to 24 years old with dark hair. The female victim is considering whether she wants police to investigate further.
Four Clery releases have gone out this semester related to five separate sexual assault incidents. The other three took place in September.

Two of the incidents involving rape reportedly happened off campus and are being handled by the Columbia Police Department. Calls to the department’s public information officers seeking updates on those cases were not returned Monday morning.

The other incident, which happened in early September, involved a woman who was sexually assaulted by an unknown man near the benches between Jesse and Hill halls. Weimer said the MU Title IX Office is still investigating that case and MUPD is helping the office.

Last week at the Board of Curators meeting, UM System President Tim Wolfe said the system’s four campuses have seen an increase in sexual assault reporting this semester, but he chalked that up to more awareness created by national conversations about sexual assault and discrimination on campus.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU, AT&T doubles cellular coverage at Memorial Stadium

Monday, October 6, 2014 | 7:28 p.m. CDT; updated 11:31 p.m. CDT, Monday, October 6, 2014
BY ELLISE VERHEYEN

COLUMBIA – Enhancing cellular coverage for Missouri football fans at Memorial Stadium is a priority for the MU athletics department, and AT&T is helping it get the job done.

Over the past two years, AT&T has been installing a distributed antenna system at the stadium. Nancy Garvey, AT&T vice president and general manager for the Greater Midwest Region, said the system is a wireless network deployed in challenging situations, such as a stadium filled with 70,000 people.

The system was launched last year. With a new season and a larger stadium, though, AT&T and MU have doubled the network's capacity. Memorial Stadium now houses the equivalent of 150 antennas, a number that would cover a city as large as St. Charles, Missouri.
"We're very excited about our relationship with AT&T," MU director of production David Bartlett said. "It's really a special moment when you can attend a football game, but to then be able to make phone calls, to be able to stream video, to be able to bring texts and statistics with you as you go really enhances the game experience, the fan experience, and ultimately builds a better Mizzou."

Garvey said AT&T won't divulge total spending, but it doesn't expect to stop developing what already has been a multimillion project.

"As demand and new applications with streaming video and that type of thing come out, we'll continue to invest in the system at Faurot Field," Garvey said.

Non-AT&T users will be happy to know that though the system is owned and operated by AT&T, it was built as a "neutral host." This means other carriers can add onto the system as well. As of right now, none have joined the network.

"That's one of the things that AT&T brought to the table that was very attractive to Missouri," Bartlett said. "We wanted one system put in that would serve our needs going into the future."

AT&T Director of Radio Access Network Jim Kientzy said the system is undergoing minor tweaks, but those can be made only when the stadium is packed with people.

The hardware for the network covers the stadium, but the designers factored aesthetic considerations into their plans for building the network. Section markers at the top of the stadium hide the hardware. The north scoreboard alone houses five antennas.

The network also works outside the stadium in tailgating parking lots.

"The phone experience is key. Being able to find your friends, being able to send them messages and just being able to use your phone," Bartlett said. "We take that for granted."

A similar system has been deployed at Mizzou Arena for basketball fans.

The distributed antenna system is part of a national Project Velocity IP project that AT&T has been working on to provide Internet access to more locations. The company has invested $2.55 billion on the project in Missouri.
COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU sorority approved for new parking lot; marijuana proposal on hold
Tuesday, October 7, 2014 | 12:27 a.m. CDT; updated 7:23 a.m. CDT, Tuesday, October 7, 2014
BY ALLISON GRAVES, ROBERT SHUTT

COLUMBIA — The Alpha Chi Omega sorority has the green light to demolish two single-family homes in Greektown to make way for a parking lot. The sorority is relinquishing its current parking lot to the Theta Chi fraternity, which plans to build a new house on it.

Columbia City Council also voted to table a proposal to decriminalize growing marijuana. The council is scheduled to take that up at its next meeting on Oct. 20.

The sorority's parking proposal
Build a new 33-spot parking lot at 809 and 811 Tiger Ave.

- The new parking lot would have 13 fewer spaces than the old one.

Context:
- The City Council rejected the proposal in July in an effort to limit traffic on campus.
- The sorority came back with a proposal for a smaller lot.

Voted for:
Mayor Bob McDavid, Second Ward Councilman Michael Trapp, Third Ward Councilman Karl Skala, Fifth Ward Councilwoman Laura Nauser, Sixth Ward Councilwoman Barbara Hoppe

Voted against:
First Ward Councilwoman Ginny Chadwick

Input from public
Thomas Snider, Chi Mu Alumni Association president:
- Only residents of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority house will receive parking permits.
The proposal will clear the way for the Theta Chi fraternity to build a $4.5 million house.

Theta Chi members live in the two houses, so the two organizations are swapping land.

The lot is not big enough for a parking garage in the future.

**Chad Phillips, chairman of the Missouri Students Association Senate's committee on campus and community relations:**

- There should be a traffic study first.
- There is already a parking lot across the street from subject site, and that might cause dangerous situations during heavy traffic.
- A nearby parking lot, like the one in the proposal, is in the interest of the sorority members' safety.

**Comments from City Council**

*Chadwick:*

- Tiger Avenue is not an ideal place for a new surface parking lot.

*Skala:*

- Moving parking closer to residents makes sense.
- The proposal is acceptable if the lot is used primarily for storage, not commuter, parking.

**Marijuana proposal tabled**

- The proposal would decriminalize growing up to two marijuana plants and possessing up to 35 grams of marijuana.

- Hoppe motioned to table the proposal until the Oct. 20 council meeting, so the City of Columbia's law department can review the proposed amendments.

Hoppe said it was possible the council would split the proposal into two: one that amends the medical marijuana ordinance and one that amends the non-medical marijuana ordinance.
Grain Belt Express gathers support

- A 750-mile, direct-current transmission line is being discussed to carry wind energy generated in western Kansas to eastern states. The line would run through counties north of Boone County.

**Votes for:**
Chadwick, Trapp, Skala, Hoppe, McDavid.

**Votes against:**
Nauser.

**Council comments**

*Nauser:*
- The city should be more concerned with local matters.

*Chadwick:*
- This is a good, long-term opportunity to bring in more renewable energy.

*Trapp:*
- The council has a mandate to increase the proportion of energy that comes from renewable sources, but the council should be careful about stepping into nonlocal issues.

**Public comments**

*Mark Lawlor, Grain Belt Express director of development:*
- The project is a cost efficient way to produce alternative energy.

*Kelsey Wingo, MU senior:*
- Endorsing the project would set a good precedent for supporting renewable energy.

*Paul Agathen, on behalf of the Missouri Landowner Alliance:*
- There’s no guarantee the line will carry renewable energy, and the cost might exceed current projections because of transmission upgrades.
Bus system comments
Phillips and Syed Ejaz, a member of the Missouri Students Association, asked the council to allow private shuttles to pick up and drop off riders at the MU Student Center on Rollins Road because:

- The shuttles have been redirected to Hitt Street, where the students have to cross more crosswalks.
- Hitt Street is too narrow for cars to make three-point turns.
- Hitt Street can’t accommodate parking along both sides of the street along with shuttle and bus traffic.

Cosmo-Bethel Park projects
At the Oct. 20 City Council meeting, council members will discuss and vote on:

- Installing new tennis court lights to reduce light pollution.
- Converting the gravel path around the lake to a concrete trail 6 feet wide. This would provide a smoother surface for people with disabilities and give them better access to the lake for fishing.
- The work would cost about $150,000, plus approximately $2,000 in additional electricity costs per year. It will reduce trail maintenance, though.

Arts grants
- The council approved $100,000 for 21 contracts with local arts groups recommended by the Commission On Cultural Affairs.

New landfill buildings
- The council scheduled an Oct. 20 public hearing on the planned construction of a new administration and collections building at the city's landfill.
- The building would cost about $4.5 million.
- The project also includes expansion of a heat system at the Gas to Energy Plant that would heat the new building. That would cost about $320,000.
Campus anti-smoking proposal

- MU can enforce its campuswide smoking ban on portions of Hitt Street, Ninth Street, Rollins Road and Conley Avenue when the streets are lawfully closed to traffic.

Votes for:
Chadwick, Trapp, Skala, Hoppe and McDavid.

Votes against:
Nauser.

Council comment:

Nauser:

- The city funds these streets, not the university; the city has no such ban on smoking.

Supervising editor is Scott Swafford.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Columbia Startup Weekend boosts businesses

Monday, October 6, 2014 | 6:30 p.m. CDT; updated 7:31 p.m. CDT, Monday, October 6, 2014

BY ROBERT SHUTT

COLUMBIA — A vibrant atmosphere filled the Museao on Friday night as more than 100 people anxiously waited to hear the ideas for new businesses that they would help develop over the weekend.

DJ Franco served up a mix of classic rock, hip-hop and pop music from his designated corner. Free beer flowed, and participants enjoyed pulled pork before setting up sleeping areas, complete with sleeping bags and lamps, and mentally preparing themselves for a long weekend of hard work and innovation.

This was the fourth annual Startup Weekend, an event intended to spark a spirit of entrepreneurship that took place Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Museao incubator on Buttonwood Drive.
The event gives a voice to entrepreneurs by allowing them to pitch their ideas to a group of Web designers, software developers, potential investors and advertising specialists.

"This weekend opens a door to entrepreneurs that is normally closed," Gary Lee, a judge for the event said. "It attracts more people to the potential of running their own business."

Since each of the initial 40 pitches was limited to 60 seconds, each entrepreneur had to rapidly describe his or her startup idea and explain why it had the potential to grow into a successful business.

"If the idea solves a problem that people have, you're going to make money off of it at some point," Lee said.

After all 40 ideas had been pitched, the designers, developers and marketers voted to narrow the competition to 18. Participants then chose which team they wanted to join, and everyone got to work on developing a presentation for the competition's seven judges.

Twenty mentors, including MU professors and business professionals, were selected to guide the teams and answer any questions that came up during the weekend.

"This event is great," mentor Bill Turpin said. "It allows everyone here to network and meet a lot of new people."

The teams worked tirelessly all day Saturday, stopping only for meals and a game here and there to relieve some stress. Writing covered every inch of available whiteboard. Notebooks, laptops and empty energy drinks littered every table surface.

As the day turned into night, participants prepared for the final leg of the competition and began perfecting their final presentations.

On Sunday, the judges arrived and excitement filled the air as the teams took every last minute to make their presentations as informative and appealing as possible before 5 p.m.
Each presentation was restricted to five minutes and a one-minute question-and-answer session with the judges. After each team had presented, the judges went to another room to discuss who deserved to be named the winner.

First place went to EquipmentShare.com, a peer-to-peer rental platform that lets contractors and farmers rent out their idle equipment, which saves renters 30 percent to 50 percent per rental. The EquipmentShare.com team received a $2,000 Visa gift card, an opportunity to present the site to Centennial Investors, six months of access to the small business incubator at the downtown offices of Regional Economic Development Inc., and a feature story on Missouri.com.

Second place went to Ombiance, a company that makes yoga mats with unique designs so that yoga enthusiasts can put them in their living rooms and not have to worry about rolling them up and putting them away after they are done using them. Ombiance received $1,000, a chance to present to Centennial Investors and six months of access to the REDI incubator.

Third place went to The Wandering Turtle, a travel website that recommends destinations based on a user's favorite foods, drinks, activities and how far they want to travel. The Wandering Turtle received $500 and six months of access to the downtown small business incubator.

Honorable mentions included ChickenChasing.com, a website that allows users to buy produce locally directly from farmers; Vamped, a website that allows users to submit advertising videos to companies — mainly those involved in outdoor sports — that seek them; and Open Gallery Project, a community-based application that promotes collaboration and sharing among artists, patrons and art-lovers.

*Supervising editor is Scott Swafford.*
COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Laverne Cox tells her story, talks about role in 'Orange is the New Black'

Monday, October 6, 2014 | 11:51 p.m. CDT; updated 5:57 a.m. CDT, Tuesday, October 7, 2014
BY MARY KALETA

COLUMBIA — In third grade, Laverne Cox remembers sitting at her desk with a peacock fan. She had just seen "Gone with the Wind" and was feeling "Scarlett O'Hara fabulous."

Her teacher pulled her out of class and called her mother, and Cox was sent to counseling for the first time.

"The therapist sat me down and asked me what the difference was between a boy and a girl," she said. "I said 'there is no difference.' "

On Monday night, the Emmy-nominated actress told this story and many other about her life as an African-American, transgender woman as part of her lecture to a sold-out crowd at the Missouri Theatre. Her talk, "Ain't I a Woman: My Journey to Womanhood," was held during this year's One Mizzou Week, part of a series to create a more inclusive campus community.

The actress, who came on stage to a standing ovation, is best-known for her role in the Netflix original series, "Orange is the New Black." Her role as Sophia Burset, a transgender woman in jail for credit-card fraud, led her to become the first openly transgender person nominated for an Emmy in an acting category.

Cox, 30, told the audience that she always dreamed of becoming an actress. She was born in Mobile, Alabama, graduated from the Alabama School of Fine Arts in Birmingham and Marymount Manhattan College in New York.

She said she struggled with gender identity early on but didn't start to fully express herself until high school.

"In high school I started experimenting with how I dressed," she said. "I bought girl clothes like a polyester leopard print jumpsuit and wore makeup."
During her talk, Cox discussed compromising gender identity with religion, her acting career and accepting herself as a woman even after her transition.

She used personal stories to tie in larger social issues on gender and referenced being influenced as a child by women such as French author and philosopher Simone de Beauvoir.

"Beauvoir wrote that one is not born a woman but rather becomes one," Cox said. "This idea of acceptance was wonderful to me."

In a media interview before the lecture, Cox said she has also been influenced by opera singer Leontyne Price to use her art as a tool for change.

"She transcended race," she said. "And as an artist, I can transcend race."

Since her rise to fame, Cox has used her popularity to act as an advocate for the LGBTQ community. She recently produced and hosted a documentary for MTV, "Laverne Cox Presents: The T Word," which follows the lives of seven transgender youths between the ages of 12 and 24.

A longer-form documentary, "Free Cece," is set to premier in 2016 and analyzes the intersection between race and gender for transgender women of color.

On Monday night, Cox emphasized the importance of acceptance, especially by family and friends. Her warm, genuine spirit throughout the lecture inspired members of the audience to come forward and seek her advice. She told one high school student who identified as a transgender male to find a solid support group that would help him educate others about his gender.

After Cox's talk, Samuel Wood, an MU freshman who identifies as transgender, said the student's courage and her response impressed him the most.

"I've always looked up to her because she was always true to herself," Wood said about Cox.

Not everyone in the audience had a personal attachment to Cox's story, however. Mickey Moulder, 23, said she decided to attend because she was a fan of the show and wanted to be educated on transgender issues.
"She was authentic and never felt forced," Moulder said. "No matter where you are on the spectrum of knowledge of transgender (issues), you walked away learning something tonight."

*Supervising editor is Jeanne Abbott.*

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**THE KANSAS CITY STAR.**

**TheChat: Boeing makes history in Missouri, Jay Nixon says**

**BY STEVE KRASKE**

10/07/2014 2:00 AM

Good morning.

“A historic moment and a huge win for Missouri.” — Gov. Jay Nixon describing Boeing’s decision to bring commercial aircraft production to St. Louis.

*A big win it is: 700 jobs in St. Louis to build parts for the 777X, Boeing’s next generation commercial aircraft. For the first time in awhile in the wake of Ferguson, a chance for Nixon to crow a bit.*

“Activist judges should not overrule the people of Kansas.” — Gov. Sam Brownback on the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision not to accept any same-sex marriage cases.

*In a statement, Brownback reminded the media that he took an oath to uphold the Kansas Constitution, and that’s the same constitution that voters amended to define marriage as between a man and a woman. But the governor and voters should brace themselves for a new legal reality, which seems to be coming down the pike at breakneck speeds.*
“I see him as being fairly tenacious. I don’t think he’s a dilettante at this. I think he’s planning on being a player in Missouri politics for a long time.” — University of Missouri political scientist Peverill Squire talking about conservative billionaire Rex Sinquefield’s efforts to influence state policy. (link via johncombest.com).

Sinquefield has lost a lot of races, but Squire says some of that is to be expected because Sinquefield often takes on incumbents. “I think for the most part he really has a strong set of policy ideas and that’s really what he wants to promote,” Squire said.

“You know, I haven’t thought of it.” — independent Kansas Senate candidate Greg Orman on whether his wealth will be an asset or a liability in his campaign.

Politico points out that Orman is turning the tables on Republicans. For once, he’s the rich guy in the race, and he’s made his business record a key part of his campaign. Orman regularly tells voters that he knows how to create jobs. Republicans counter that Orman’s wealth raises questions.

“We have a consensus that we do not have a route at this time to go to court and to stop this law from going into effect — as disappointing and as frustrating as that is.” — Paula Gianino, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri, on the state’s new 72-hour waiting period for an abortion.

Planned Parenthood, as well as the American Civil Liberties Union, plan no last-minute lawsuits. According to the Associated Press, Missouri’s law will impose the second longest abortion waiting period in the nation behind only South Dakota, where the 72-hour period can sometimes extend longer because it doesn’t count weekends and holidays.

“If we do not get an indictment and there is no conviction, they are talking about burning our whole state down.” — Angela Whitman, 44, about the need to formally charge the police officer who shot and killed Michael Brown in Ferguson.
Whitman, who began protesting in Ferguson shortly after the shooting, repeated her belief that widespread burning will occur if there is no murder conviction of Officer Darren Wilson. “Why do we have to go through that?” Whitman said. “This is simply about what’s right and what’s wrong.”

**COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE**

**Jury in mock trial finds Salem accuser not guilty**

By [Roger McKinney](mailto:roger.mckinney@columbiatribune.com)

Monday, October 6, 2014 at 10:30 am Comments (2)

After hundreds of years, Thomas Putnam got his day in court Sunday at the Missouri Theatre.

A mock trial conducted by the Historical and Theatrical Trial Society at the University of Missouri School of Law tried Putnam, a leading accuser in the Salem witch trials, for the murder of four of those executed.

Nineteen people were executed for witchcraft between June and September of 1692 in Salem, Mass. Eighteen were hanged. One, Giles Corey, was crushed by stones, a procedure that lasted three days.

Thirteen law school students and three professors participated in the mock trial, said law school student Kayla Kemp, who handled publicity. The trial wasn’t scripted or rehearsed.

Professor Frank Bowman played Putnam. On his defense team were Associate Professor Ben Trachtenberg and law school student Kristen Shively Johnson. The prosecution team comprised Professor Chuck Henson and student Andrew Crane. Nanette Laughrey, U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Missouri, presided.

The prosecution claimed that Putnam engineered the trials to have his enemies executed, even buying their land to enrich himself. Putnam wrote some of the depositions of the accusers, many of them young girls. None of those accused was from the Putnam family.
A leading prosecution witness was Thomas Putnam’s daughter, Ann, played by student Therese O’Brien. Ann Putnam had been one of the girls afflicted by witchcraft who made the accusations against alleged witches.

“My father, Thomas Putnam, caused me to accuse and be an instrument of death to 19 innocent people,” O’Brien said.

O’Brien, as Ann Putnam, said her father never instructed her to accuse anyone of witchcraft but encouraged her to find people to accuse.

She said since the trials, she had been unable to find a husband.

“Vengeance is swift in Salem,” she said.

Student Jillian Dent played another accuser, Mary Warren, using a valley girl accent for comedic effect. “Those women weren’t witches,” she said.

She said she was accused herself before realizing that the other girls were faking. She spent time in jail. She was asked what she did when released.

“I accused a bunch more people of being witches,” she said.

Law student Matt Vineyard played Samuel Sewell, one of the judges in the Salem trials who later had regrets.

Vineyard, in character, said Putnam wrote in a letter to him suggesting pressing Giles Corey to compel him to enter a plea. Corey never pleaded. Vineyard said Putnam bought Corey’s land in a private sale days after he and his wife, Martha, had died. Martha had been hanged.

Vineyard, as Sewell, said in the beginning, he thought he was doing God’s work. “I became less sure as the trials went on,” he said.

Tituba, a slave of Samuel Parris, was played by student Leonore Carlson. As Tituba, she said she initially resisted confessing to being a witch, but a confession was beaten out of her.

“They told me to confess,” she said. “They told me it was best for Salem.”

She said Putnam told her “the witches were the best thing to happen for Salem.”

A defense witness was Cotton Mather, played by student Nicholas Jain. Jain, as Mather, said he witnessed the execution of George Burroughs, the village’s ex-minister. He said he and others were surprised that Burroughs could recite the Lord’s Prayer, something witches supposedly were unable to do.

“The devil taught him to say the Lord’s Prayer,” Jain said. “That confused some people. We executed him and saved the world.”
Bowman, as Putnam, took the stand in his own defense. He said his only role in the trial was to assist the authorities in gathering information. The authorities then took the appropriate steps.

“To doubt this is to be an agent of the devil,” he said with passion in the direction of the prosecution table.

Audience members served as jurors, unanimously voting Putnam not guilty on a second try. John O’Brien of St. Louis initially voted to convict Putnam. He changed his vote, he said, because he had reasonable doubt about whether Putnam intended to cause the deaths.

He said there was no doubt that Putnam manipulated the trial.

“He lacked the courage to stop what he started,” O’Brien said. “He started a fire he couldn’t stop.”

O’Brien is the father of Therese O’Brien, who played Ann Putnam.

Shively Johnson of Jefferson City said it felt good to be on the winning side of a case, even if it is a mock trial.

**COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN**

Accuser in historic Salem Witch Trials found not guilty in MU mock trial

Monday, October 6, 2014 | 7:41 p.m. CDT
BY BRIAN HAYES

COLUMBIA — Even if the judicial system in 17th Century Salem, Massachusetts, followed modern court procedures, widespread hysteria and paranoia still would have hindered the prosecution of leading witchcraft accuser Thomas Putnam.

Townspeople would have chased Putnam’s slave, Tituba, out of the courtroom during her testimony against Putnam because they feared that Tituba, who claimed to see spirits, was a witch.

Witness Mary Warren would have interrupted her own testimony when she voluntarily charged out of the courtroom, afraid of the devil’s presence in the birdlike creature that appeared in the courtroom.
And two witnesses, Abigail Williams and Cotton Mather, even would have accused the assistant prosecuting attorney of being a witch himself. The attorney, played by MU law student Andrew Crane, would have responded, “Do you accuse anybody of being a witch?”

Acting as Williams, MU law student Whitney Fay would have responded: “Only when they act like a devil.”

**Suspicion about the devil’s presence was abundant at the Missouri Theatre, where MU School of Law’s Historical and Theatrical Trial Society staged its annual mock trial Sunday night. This year, Thomas Putnam, played by MU law professor Frank Bowman, was put on trial. Putnam accused many of the people who were convicted and executed as a result of the 1692-93 Salem Witch Trials. The mock trial focused on Putnam’s responsibility for procuring the executions of four of these people, and ultimately, the jury ruled that he was not guilty.**

Despite several comical interruptions that resulted from common fears of the colonial Puritan community, the trial followed typical modern court procedures. It began with an opening statement from the prosecution in which Crane set the tone as both professional and whimsical.

He explained how the prosecution intended to prove Thomas Putnam responsible for causing the four unwarranted executions. He broke up the serious accusations with references to Will Ferrell’s pretend witchcraft in “Bewitched” and a “Pulp Fiction” clip of Samuel L. Jackson passionately warning, “And you will know I am the Lord when I lay my vengeance upon you.”

After the video clip, Crane immediately shifted his focus back onto the legal battle at hand.

“Thomas Putnam has poisoned and destroyed his brothers, and he will know the name of the Lord when the court lays its vengeance on him.”

In the defense’s opening statement, assistant defense attorney and MU law student Kristen Shively Johnson denied that Putnam ever lied or controlled the trials. She said there was evidence of witchcraft in Salem at the time of the trials, demanding that Putnam be acquitted on all charges.
The prosecution brought forth several witnesses in an attempt to prove Putnam used control and manipulation to procure the executions.

Putnam’s daughter, Ann, played by MU law student Therese O’Brien, testified: “My father caused me to accuse and be an instrument of death to 19 innocent people.”

Lead prosecuting attorney, played by MU law professor Chuck Henson, used Ann’s testimony to argue that Putnam convinced his daughter that her friends were afflicted by witchcraft, leading to divides within the previously tight-knit community, and, ultimately, accusations, convictions and executions.

Since Christianity was such a strong force in Puritan Salem, the biblical value of truth was used as leverage regularly throughout the trial.

“It must be confusing keeping track of which of your testimonies are true and which are false,” lead defense attorney and MU law professor Ben Trachtenberg said during his cross-examination of the second witness, Mary Warren, MU law student Jillian Dent.

Warren had testified that she had accused many people of being witches, some because she thought they actually were and some because she wanted to avoid being accused herself.

The next witness to testify was Samuel Sewall, played by MU law student Matt Vineyard. Sewall had been a judge during the infamous Salem trials. He suggested that Putnam had manipulated the trials by writing thank-you notes to the judges and then capitalized by taking the land given up by the people who were convicted of witchcraft.

“Writing to the judges is horribly inappropriate,” Sewall said.

During cross-examination, Sewall admitted that he had been uncertain about the trials.

“Initially, I felt that I was doing it to the best of my ability,” Sewall said when questioned by the defense attorney. “I became less sure as the trials went on.”

To further discredit the judge, the defense attorney presented Sewall’s notes from the original trials, with the following exasperated exclamation scrawled in the margins:

“Doleful Witchcraft!”
The creditability of three of their witnesses having been challenged, the prosecution brought forth handwriting expert Peter Grund to redirect the blame onto Putnam.

Grund, played by MU law student Mike Polwort, accused Putnam of writing the depositions that were used in the original trials as girls’ accusations of other Salem townspeople being witches. The ensuing dispute over who wrote the depositions was unresolved.

Tituba, played by MU law student Leonore Carlson, was the final witness to testify against Putnam. Ironically, she wasn’t able to finish her claim about Putnam personally benefiting from the witchcraft and resulting executions because she attracted too much suspicion about her being a witch.

At one point, she said, “Well I was a witch then, but I’m not a witch anymore,” a statement she later contradicted: “I’m not sure if I’m a witch anymore.”

Tituba was chased out of the courtroom during the middle of her testimony after pointing to spirits all around the room. The townspeople of Salem in attendance feared Tituba was using witchcraft.

And that drew the prosecution’s witness testimonies to a close.

The chaos in the courtroom, however, did not end there. Both of the first two witnesses to testify on behalf of the defense accused Crane of being guilty of witchcraft.

Abigail Williams was first to blame Crane, also accusing Tituba of witchcraft: “She presented these things to us as games, but, as we all know, they are evil, evil processes.”

Putnam himself was the final witness to testify, emphasizing that he was merely the person who reported the accusations and had no influence in the actual trials.

After both attorneys made their closing arguments, the jury made up of the front row audience members came on stage to discuss the case in a refreshingly relaxed, non-paranoia-stricken tone. Nothing outrageous happened, and no accusations of witchcraft were made. Following brief deliberation, the jury ruled unanimously there wasn’t enough evidence to prove beyond reasonable doubt that Putnam was guilty. Putnam’s explanation?
“This was a simple manifestation of the Lord’s justice,” Putnam said after being found not guilty. "No other outcome was possible."

_Supervising editor is Bailey Otto._

**Forgetting the Faculty**

October 7, 2014

By _Philip G. Altbach and Martin J. Finkelstein_

**NO MU MENTION**

The academic profession is squeezed from all sides. _A recent white paper_ from the Presidential Innovation Lab of the American Council on Education focuses on “unbundling” and redesigning faculty roles — in a way assigning professors to specific functions in an assembly line of higher education. Some will teach only, others will do research, and so on.

Fewer and fewer faculty in the United States now have full-time tenure-track positions that lead to a stable career. Indeed, for the past 20 years, the majority of “new hires” (between 50-58 percent) to full-time faculty positions have been off the career ladder; and over the past five, the number of part-time faculty has risen to match the number of full-time faculty — _three-quarters of a million each_. Many current policies are destroying the traditional tenure system without formally dismantling it: only 47 percent of full-time faculty, and only about one-third of the headcount faculty, are now tenured or tenure-track.

The fact is that much of the debate, in the United States and elsewhere, about the challenges facing higher education is focused in the wrong direction. Rather than constantly squeezing the professoriate and trying to ensure maximum productivity in narrowly defined areas — and ultimately blaming the professoriate for the ever-expanding list of the university system’s shortcomings — the focus should be on how to
lure the best and brightest into academe, and how to create an attractive career for those who choose what used to be termed the “academic calling.”

If those who are teaching, conducting research, providing service to students, and creating the most innovative online courses and degree programs are not well-motivated, reasonably paid, and intellectually able, the entire academic enterprise must fall short. After all, presidents and rectors, not to mention state legislators or even President Obama, do not design and deliver the academic program. Technology experts do not create innovative MOOCs. The ideas, and the delivery, come from the professors.

In our recent survey of faculty salaries in 28 countries, we found that in no country were academics paid an equivalent salary to their peers in other fields outside of the university. In at least half the countries, including China and Russia, academic salaries did not permit a middle-class lifestyle, and moonlighting was necessary. Other data show that, in general, academic salaries do not keep up with the rate of inflation. This is certainly the case in the United States, where the situation is better than most.

The pressures continue to mount. Massive open online courses threaten traditional professors — but at same time the faculty members who create MOOCs typically do not own them. Online programs are seen as a less expensive way of providing degrees, but few faculty members are trained to work with them. Great stress is placed on increasing faculty productivity, but at same time the means of measuring that productivity, particularly in terms of teaching performance, is haphazard and not well-developed. Performance expectations are not clearly articulated and are constantly changing. The list could go on — our point is that the conditions of academic life for faculty are deteriorating.

**What Do Professors Think?**

Evidence of that deterioration is apparent in the results of an international survey of the professoriate in 2007-08. Faculty in the U.S. reported a precipitous decline in working conditions over the past decade — in line with other English-speaking countries — and a majority confirmed that “it is not a good time to begin an academic career.” When it comes to one of the most essential requirements of the profession, only about 40 percent of U.S. faculty agreed that “administrators support academic freedom,” significantly lower than the two-thirds in Canada and Hong Kong and the 55 percent in Norway, Finland and Germany — a relatively disturbing picture. Institutional loyalty has
plummeted from 9 of 10 who indicated a strong or moderate sense of loyalty to their institution in 1992 to 6 of 10 — a drop over a 15-year period second only to the United Kingdom and Australia.

Finally, when it comes to overall jobs, two out of three American faculty express high or moderate satisfaction. This places the American faculty in about the middle of the global pack among the survey’s 19 participating countries.

**Lagging Salaries**

Academic salaries have atrophied, especially in response to the recession of 2008. Most faculty have yet to recover to the pre-2008 level — and in fact salaries have not kept pace with inflation since 1980. Emerging evidence from the Delta Cost Project (as well as other studies) has shown that the exploding costs of higher education are not primarily caused by a heavily tenured faculty and their “big” salaries. Indeed, over the past decade or two, as the faculty had been reconfigured, total institutional expenditures for instruction have declined — offset by increased expenditures for administration, student support, and auxiliary enterprises.

American higher education has not put itself on a diet. Rather it is being starved by state governments, which have dramatically decreased their support for higher education generally, and by budgetary reallocation from the faculty — and teaching — to administrators and elsewhere.

**Research Universities**

Research universities are a small part of any academic system. In the United States, there are perhaps 200 research universities out of a total of more than 4,500 postsecondary institutions. But these universities are of great importance because they are at the pinnacle of the system, produce most of the new knowledge, train the graduate students who will be the future professors in all of higher education and have a complex mission. Research university professors are, in many ways, a special breed. Although a larger proportion of their faculty is in tenure-track positions, pressures for increased productivity are immense and often ill-defined, and attrition in the pre-tenure period is heightened. Increased pressure to obtain external funding (ideally pay their own salaries from external funds), to publish articles that can be measured by their “impact” factor, and in general to produce more is universal.
Many universities have created a two-track system of faculty with research responsibilities and those who teach only. The research faculty are on the tenure track while the others are often subject to renewable term appointments. This idea of a dual-track faculty is contrary to von Humboldt’s concept of the university, where teaching and research are integrally linked — the Humboldtian model has been the guiding principle of the American research university since the beginning.

**Mass System**

Most colleges and universities, in the United States and elsewhere, are mainly focused on teaching. The faculty in these institutions are perhaps under even more pressure than their colleagues in the research universities. The proportion of full-time faculty, tenure-track or not, has declined, and part-time teachers are increasingly common — in the community colleges, part-timers have dominated for years. Conditions for work have deteriorated — teaching loads are up, many do not have their own offices (how do you have serious conversations with students without office space?), and administrative controls are increasingly stringent. This sector is under great pressure to admit more students, often regardless of qualifications, and to graduate the vast majority of them — on time. Access and completion are the slogans of the day — and the academic profession is tasked with ensuring student success.

**Dissing of the Profession**

No one — the media, government officials, and university and college administrators — has anything good to say about professors. They are seen as lazy, unresponsive to students, too focused on their research, unwilling to adapt to online education or other innovations, and opposed to needed changes in their institutions. They are part of the problem — indeed, they are often seen as the problem. Higher ed associations and think tanks constantly propose the need for new models for teaching to change the presumably flawed existing models. The only people who seem to like professors are students — most students evaluate their professors positively.

**Killing the Goose that Lays the Golden Egg**

The fact is that the entire higher education enterprise depends on the academic profession for its success. No doubt, if current trends continue and the best-qualified and committed young people leave the academic profession or choose not to enter it in the first place, the work of teaching will go on. Perhaps MOOCs will take over. Or the entire teaching force will be part-time, rushing from one university to another to teach
a class. Since research will have no role — why bother about requiring a Ph.D. of faculty hires? The research universities will have three classes of professors, like the airlines. A small first-class cabin of researchers, a business-class section of academics who will teach and do some research, and a large economy cabin of poorly paid teachers. The idea of an academic community and of shared governance goes out the window with any of these models. Who would want to spend the time, energy — and money — to prepare for such a profession?

**What Can be Done?**
Maintaining, and in part rebuilding, a committed academic profession is hardly rocket science. In fact, until fairly recently, such a profession was largely the norm in the United States — and it still exists in some elite institutions. The following elements are required:

- A career structure that permits reasonable security of tenure and clear expectations for evaluation and promotion. In fact, the traditional tenure system has done this fairly well — although reforms that provide for stringent post-tenure review and additional flexibility are desirable.
- Salaries that permit a middle-class life style for academics.
- Strengthening, not weakening, of shared governance so that a community of scholars can be maintained.
- Better differentiation of institutional functions so that faculty in research universities can, with few exceptions, maintain their traditional commitment to both teaching and research, while much of the rest of the academic system can be even more focused on teaching and serving an increasingly diverse student population.
- Less reliance on part-timers, and reasonable remuneration for those who are hired, while at the same time recognizing the legitimacy of hiring full-time contract teachers outside of the research university sector.

These suggestions will be seen by the “unbundlers” as soft and overly traditional. The fact is that the American higher education system has been quite successful, and also quite innovative, by global standards. Over the past century, it has supported massive expansion of enrollments while at the same time it has built high quality at the top. By any measure, the United States remains home to more top research universities than any other nation. These are revolutionary times for higher education. If we do not take the academic profession more seriously, we truly are in danger of killing the goose that lays the golden egg.