Curators begin charting course to find next UM System president

By Megan Favignano

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The University of Missouri System will begin soliciting proposals from search firms this month to help the Board of Curators find the next UM System president.

The curators met for about six hours Wednesday, spending about four hours in closed session. The board’s open session focused on the search process and proposed timeline for finding a new president.

The curators will begin voting on aspects of the search process during the group’s regular meeting next month. The board reached consensus on several aspects of the process Wednesday, including having a “largely closed” presidential search model and the importance of soliciting public feedback on the qualifications candidates should have.

Former UM System President Tim Wolfe resigned Nov. 9 after weeks of student protests calling for his removal and criticizing him for inadequately addressing race issues on campus. The curators selected Mike Middleton as the system’s interim president that same week.

The curators expressed concerns Wednesday that an entirely open search might deter qualified applicants from applying and decrease the candidate pool. In an open search, the names of all applicants would be open to the public.

“From the public’s viewpoint, that has some appeal — they’d like to participate in the process," board chairwoman Pamela Henrickson said. "From the candidate's’ viewpoint, not so much. People are employed, and they don’t want their employer to know they’re searching for another job.”

The board ultimately decided to have a “largely closed” search. Once the university selects a search firm to serve as a consultant, Curator John Phillips said, the board can discuss hybrid options that might open part of the process after the search committee selects finalists. The search committee will consist of the curators and about four faculty and student representatives from the UM System.
Henrickson said the turmoil at MU this fall undoubtedly will affect the candidate pool for the job.

“Whether it affects it negatively or positively remains to be seen,” Henrickson said.

She said multiple factors might influence the pool of candidates, including how many other universities and colleges are working to fill similar positions.

The curators agreed that finding a search firm with experience in the academic world was necessary. Curator Maurice Graham said it would be an added bonus if the firm also has experience with business candidate job searches.

“The primary qualification needs to be someone that has been successful with academic candidates,” Graham said.

As for whether the UM System’s next president should have an academic or business background, Henrickson said the curators are open-minded.

“There are people who have strong opinions that it should be a businessman, and some people have strong opinions it should be an academic,” Henrickson said. "The board … wants to choose the best candidate.”

During the last presidential search, about four years ago, the search committee held open forums on each of the system’s four campuses and in three other Missouri cities.

The forums gave the curators an opportunity to solicit input from faculty, staff, students and the public. The board plans to hold similar listening sessions this time, although locations and dates had not been determined.

Phillips said the search timeline might need to be adjusted. The proposed timeline calls for the board to approve the search committee’s membership in early February, select a search firm by late February and approve qualifications for the position and begin advertising in April. The search firm would then develop a candidate pool by June.

“This an ambitious timeline that we’re probably not going to meet,” Phillips said.

The curators will continue to discuss the presidential search and will start making decisions related to that process at the group’s next meeting, which is set for Feb. 4-5 at MU.

The curators spent the early portion of Wednesday’s meeting in closed session, citing sections of the state’s open records and meetings law that allow the public board to close meetings for communications with university counsel as well as personnel and contract items.

Henrickson said the board’s closed session largely focused on personnel matters. The board did not vote on anything during closed session, she added. Missouri law requires public boards to disclose any votes cast during closed meetings within 72 hours of the meeting.
UM System Board of Curators holds meeting concerning search for next system's president


Columbia, MO — At the University of Missouri System Board of Curators meeting Wednesday, they discussed the search for a permanent system president.

The curators had two meetings, one was an executive session and the other was open to the public.

The first was dealing with personnel matters in on-going situations, but board members say no votes were taken.

During the public session, curator Pam Henrickson said they spoke a lot about how to include various constituencies from all four campuses including students, faculty, staff, alumni, retirees and members of the public so they all have a voice in the process.

They also discussed options of having an open, closed or hybrid search.

Curators say they plan on having a closed search in the beginning, but possibly opening it up towards the end.

Henrickson says the process in the search will be similar to their last.

"There's some adjustments that'll be made - things that we tried last time that didn't work as well we wanted to," Henrickson said. "We're paying particular attention to trying to be efficient with our time because this will involve a lot of people and so we want to proceed as efficiently as possible."

With the national attention the University of Missouri has had Henrickson said she's sure that will affect the pool of candidates, but whether it's negatively or positively remains to be seen.
The next board of curators meeting is scheduled for February 4th and 5th on the University of Missouri campus.

UM curators meet for six hours about picking new president

COLUMBIA - The University of Missouri (UM) Board of Curators met at Ellis Library at MU campus for around six hours, talking about how to pick the next UM system president following Tim Wolfe's resignation last November. Most of the meeting took place during a closed session.

Pamela Henrickson, a UM Board member, said the board discussed the timeline of the process for selecting the next president.

"We were looking at the presidential search very similarly" Henrickson said. "Not that we all agree on every single point, but we have the same opinions, the same attitude, the same dedication to finding the next president of the University of Missouri."

Henrickson said everyone on the board knows picking the next president is its most important job. She said they talked a lot about inclusion and how to include various constituencies: students, faculty, staff, alumni, retirees, members of the public, so they all feel like they have a voice in the process.

"That was one of the primary things we wanted to do is to lay that all out," Henrickson said.

The board touched on the subject of an open versus closed search for the next system president in regards to potential candidates.

"Everyone who sends a resume, their names and qualifications are known to the public," Henrickson said. "From the public's viewpoint, that has some appeal. They'd like to participate in the process. From the candidate's viewpoint, not so much. Because, people are employed. They don't want their employer to know they're searching for another job, issues like that. Those are issues that have to be balanced and weighed."
Henrickson said, to her knowledge, UM has not done an open search while looking for any new administrative position.

Henrickson also commented about lawmakers recently calling for MU communications Professor Melissa Click to be fired.

"Lawmakers like to express their opinions," Henrickson said. "And, we like to listen to what they have to say."

Henrickson said the process of hiring the next system president will be similar to how former president Tim Wolfe was hired, but some adjustments will be made.

"This will involve a lot of people," Henrickson said. "So, we want to proceed as efficiently as possible."

The board discussed debate whether they were looking for a business person or an academic person for the next president.

"There are people who have strong opinions it should be a business man. It's people that have strong opinion it should be an academic," Henrickson said. "And, I don't... I think the board is open-minded and wants to choose the best candidate, and we don't know who that will be at this point."

While MU Interim Chancellor Hank Foley continues to serve as temporary chancellor for the University of Missouri-Columbia, Henrickson said she doesn't believe an interim chancellor in Columbia will delay the presidential search in any way.

The board announced an upcoming meeting in three weeks, close to early February. Henrickson said they will make some more decisions in that time.

UM System Board of Curators work on plan for hiring new president
The University of Missouri Board of Curators held its first public meeting of 2016 on Wednesday. Five board members met in a conference room at the Columbia campus’s Ellis Library while three joined via conference call. Board members immediately voted to enter an executive session, which was closed to the public. Per a media release, the executive session was scheduled to last one hour, but instead lasted for more than three.

When the meeting was opened back up to the public, board members discussed a tentative plan and timeline for the hiring of a new UM System President following the resignation of Tim Wolfe in November. Curators considered a variety of options for the hiring process based on the previous hiring procedure used to hire Wolfe. The Curators decided an approximately fifteen-member search committee of faculty and student representatives from the four MU campuses will spearhead the decision making process. A search firm that will be chosen by the Board of Curators will advise the search committee. Curator Pamela Hendrickson said the search committee will conduct a closed search until the final round of candidates are determined.

“If you have an open search, then everyone who submits a resume – their names and their qualifications are known to the public,” Hendrickson said. “From the public viewpoint, that has some appeal because they’d like to participate in the process but in the candidates’ viewpoint, not so much because people are employed and they don’t want their employer to know they’re searching for another job.”

Curator John Phillips said it is not realistic to expect a new president within six months and said the average university presidential search lasts anywhere from seven to eighteen months. Once the committee and search firm narrow down the candidates, there will be an undetermined number of public forums at all four MU campuses. Phillips said it is important that students and faculty from all campuses feel included in the decision making process. Hendrickson noted that the curators experienced little disagreement during the public portion of the meeting.

“I think that we had an excellent discussion and we were all looking at the presidential search very similarly, not that we all agreed on every single point but we all had similar attitudes and dedication to finding the next president of the University of Missouri which we all know is the most important job,” she said.

The board also discussed whether the final decision of who to hire should be solely up to the board, or whether the committee or students should have a say in the decision, but no solid plan was agreed upon for that final step. Phillips said the Board of Curators will present a more precise plan during its second scheduled meeting on February 4th.
TheChat: Claire McCaskill takes aim at student loan debt

And...Gov. Jay Nixon laments the loss of the Rams

BY STEVE KRASKE
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Good morning.

• “What’s really insulting about these high interest rates that students are having to pay is they’re paying them to the government. The government is profiteering off these young people.” — Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill addressing college loan debt.

• “Tonight’s decision is disappointing, and a clear deviation from the NFL’s guidelines. It is troubling that the league would allow for the relocation of a team when a home market has worked in good faith and presented a strong and viable proposal. This sets a terrible precedent not only for St. Louis, but for all communities that have loyally supported their NFL franchises.” — Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon reacting to the loss of the St. Louis Rams.

You can scoff about this being just another rich sports owner going for the bucks, and you’d be right. But this is a major economic loss for Missouri and a blow to the state’s self-esteem.

• “While we don’t have any clear data, we know that the events this past fall have had an impact, and we are answering any questions that parents and students have about those events.” — MU Director of Admissions Chuck May on a drop in the number of freshmen applying to attend the University of Missouri.
Some 18,377 freshmen have applied compared to 19,318 at this time last year. MU officials are saying there’s no question that all the controversy on campus over the treatment of black students has affected the number of applications.

- “Every member of the Kansas congressional delegation, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general and I each stand at the ready to thwart every action the president takes to transfer terrorists to Kansas.” — Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback in State of the State address opposing President Barack Obama’s plans to close Gitmo and move detainees to the mainland, and possibly Kansas.

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Race protests at Mizzou could stunt freshmen enrollment

Freshman applications to University of Missouri are down

Last year’s protests to improve the racial climate on the campus may be playing a role

BY MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS
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Fewer freshmen are applying to the University of Missouri for fall enrollment than a year earlier, and race protests that put the Columbia campus under a national spotlight contributed to the drop, according to an internal email from MU’s director of enrollment.

So far, the university has received 18,377 freshman applications, compared to 19,318 applications last year. However, this year’s numbers are 123 higher when compared with January 2014, according to the university’s enrollment update.

Student protests last fall over the racial climate at the Columbia campus — including a hunger strike and the football team threatening to not play — led to the reassignment of Mizzou’s chancellor and the resignation of the university
system’s president. The MU protests set off a series of race-related rallies and protests on campuses across the country.

An internal memo from director of admissions Chuck May said the controversy along with several other factors contributed to the decrease in applications, but officials also said it’s too early to accurately forecast what the final enrollment will be.

“While we don’t have any clear data, we know that the events this past fall have had an impact, and we are answering any questions that parents and students have about those events,” May said in the email, which the university released to The Star.

“We are working closely with many on campus to make every effort possible in the coming months to minimize that decrease,” May’s memo said.

University staff who talk to potential students and their parents when they visit the campus have reported fielding specific questions about fall protests and reports of systemic racism on the campus.

“We did receive a lot of national attention,” said Christian Basi, university spokesman. “We would be remiss not to consider that it would have some impact.”

However, he said the university has been expecting a dip in freshman enrollment for some time because of “the last baby boomer echo 18 years ago. We are not seeing as many high school graduates in Missouri, in Illinois and Kansas, areas we also draw from,” Basi said.

Although overall enrollment at MU jumped last fall, freshman enrollment numbers for last fall were down 5 percent to 6,191 from 6,515 the previous year.

Moving to the Southeastern Conference also has affected applications, Basi said, since attractive schools in the SEC now also recruit in Mizzou territory and siphon off potential applicants.

On top of that, May said increased competition, particularly from rival universities in the Chicago area — a major recruiting ground for MU — also affected applications.
The applicant decline is entirely from out of state, with applications from Missouri even with last year. The fall applications included a drop of 78 black students compared with last fall, but an increase of 24 compared with two years ago.

Transfer applications also dropped, down by 94 compared with last year but up 17 from two years ago.

May said University of Missouri schools and colleges are calling prospective students this semester to answer any questions, while faculty and current students have been added to the recruitment travel team to share positive experiences with potential recruits and their parents.

The university’s goal is to increase its enrollment to 38,000 students from about 35,000. Basi said the university has no real deadline for freshmen to apply and puts no cap on enrollment.

Interim University of Missouri System president Mike Middleton said in November that he doesn’t believe the plans to increase enrollment need to be changed in light of the protests.

“There are some parents who are reluctant to send their kids here” after events this fall, Middleton said. “I think the Columbia campus might experience less growth in the immediate future than they had projected. But I don’t think it’s going to be a dramatic drop.”

*The Associated Press contributed to this report.*

**MISSOURIAN**

**UM Interim President Mike Middleton honored for leadership, social justice**

JULIA TERBROCK, 19 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — UM System Interim President Mike Middleton received the Drum Major for Justice Award on Saturday for his leadership in Missouri.
Middleton was honored at the 30th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Statewide Celebration at Harris-Stowe University in St. Louis. Presented by the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission of Missouri, the award recognizes people who provide outstanding and lasting leadership in their communities and service to others, according to the president's blog.

“I am both honored and humbled to receive the distinguished Drum Major for Justice Award,” Middleton said on the blog. “And, I am thankful to my colleagues on the commission for their continued work to celebrate and share the life, legacy and work of Dr. King.”

Middleton has been a member of the commission since August 2000. The governor of Missouri appoints its members.

Commission Chairwoman Constance Gully cited Middleton's years of service on the commission as part of the reason he was honored. She also credited his "stepping out from retirement to lead the University of Missouri System to meet their current leadership needs," his history in promoting civil rights and his work for cultural competency and diversity.

In 1964, Middleton was the first black student to enroll as a freshman and he later graduated with a law degree. After working as a civil rights lawyer in Washington, D.C., he returned as MU's first black law professor and taught criminal law and employment discrimination. He was later named deputy chancellor in 1998.

On Nov. 12, Middleton was named interim leader of the four-campus system after the resignation of former UM System President Tim Wolfe.

"I think he is a stellar person and a great leader," Gully said, "so Missouri is blessed to have him."
Major violations found at Missouri; penalties imposed by school


The University of Missouri admitted NCAA violations in its men's basketball program dating to 2011 and banned itself Wednesday from the postseason this year and vacated all 23 wins from the 2013-14 season.

The NCAA is still investigating and Missouri said it was working with the organization in hopes of limiting the punishment to its self-imposed sanctions, which includes the SEC tournament.

"We have faced this issue head-on," athletic director Mack Rhoades said. "These are not decisions we took lightly. We really felt like it was the right thing to do, and it will help put us in position to move this program forward."

Missouri was 23-12 in 2013-14, Frank Haith's final season. Haith left for Tulsa not long after the school received a verbal notice of inquiry from the NCAA in April 2014.

The Tigers won just nine games last season under new coach Kim Anderson and are 8-8 this season, coming off the worst loss in Mizzou Arena history -- a 94-61 setback to Arkansas on Tuesday that Anderson said made him "embarrassed."

"A lot of things run through your head," Anderson said. "I'm disappointed that the actions of a few individuals have put our program in this type of situation."

Anderson said he wasn't aware of the investigation when he was hired and felt bad for forward Ryan Rosburg, the lone senior on the team. Rhoades said he was aware last March when he replaced AD Mike Alden and said he has "worked extensively from Day 1 to resolve this."

The school hopes the issue will be resolved this spring.

"Every kid's goal is to go the NCAA tournament, so obviously when that's taken away there's disappointment," Anderson said. "I think we did the right thing. We felt like it was best to do it now and then move forward and put it behind us."
Haith was suspended for five games by the NCAA at the start of the 2013-14 season for inadequately monitoring former assistants interactions with a disgraced Miami booster and then trying to cover up a five-figure hush money payment to keep potential violations hidden.

The investigation found that Haith and Miami assistant coach Jake Morton paid Nevin Shapiro $10,000 after he threatened to expose previous improper contact with high school recruits and amateur coaches.

Scott Tompsett, attorney for Haith, said in a statement that Haith "cooperated fully" with the investigation and that they have been informed that Haith will not be charged with any violations and therefore cleared of any wrongdoing.

The Tigers didn't practice Wednesday and Anderson said he told players to "reset your goals." He also said there was no need to "sugarcoat" the message.

"Who knows whether we would qualify for the postseason?" Anderson said. "Today, I would say I don't know."

Besides the postseason ban, the school has stripped itself of one scholarship this season and a second scholarship no later than the 2017-18 season, plus has restricted recruiting through 2016-17. It also said it would pay a $5,000 fine.

The school permanently banned one unidentified donor who the NCAA said provided impermissible benefits to three players and one recruit in 2013-14. The benefits included compensation for work not done at a business through a summer intern program, along with housing, $520 cash, local transportation, iPads, meals and use of a local gym.

"It is clear from our collaborative investigation with the NCAA that a former member of our athletics staff and members of our donor community violated NCAA bylaws, and we take those actions seriously," Chancellor Hank Foley said.

A second donor has been banned for two years after providing 11 players and three members of one player's family reduced rates at a hotel along with meals and a ride on a recreational boat. A student manager also provided transportation for multiple players to the hotel from the campus.

The school was hit with a third major infraction for failing to adequately monitor the internship program.

Two minor infractions were cited. A former associate head coach helped a recruit relocate by providing the phone number of the recruit's mother to the second donor to arrange for rental housing, and the first donor had multiple impermissible contacts with a recruit.

The school said there is no evidence that any current staff members were aware of the violations.

Anderson said he didn't think the self-imposed penalties would impact recruiting, then added, "Yeah, it makes it more difficult."
"This is a great school," Anderson said. "Obviously, we're a program that's rebuilding. The interest level in our program has been very good."

*Information from The Associated Press was used in this report.*

Missouri imposes postseason ban for breaking NCAA rules under Frank Haith

The University of Missouri revealed details from a "collaborative investigation" with the NCAA that spanned 19 months on Wednesday, announcing the findings of several rules violations by the men's basketball program that led the school to self-impose punishment. Most notably, Missouri is vacating all of its wins from the 2013-14 season and imposed a one-year postseason ban for the 2015-16 season, which means the Tigers will not participate in the SEC tournament or any postseason event sanctioned by the NCAA.

The school released a statement saying it received a verbal notice of inquiry on April 14, 2014 and that none of the violations took place under the current coaching staff — meaning the investigation centered on former head coach Frank Haith and his coaching staff. Haith left Missouri to take over at Tulsa, a then an eye-popping move, on April 18, 2014.

The investigation by the university and NCAA showed rules violations dating back to 2011 that included impermissible benefits provided by Missouri donors, illegal contact with recruits by the men's basketball coaching staff, failure to monitor an internship program and a former coach assisting with a prospective student's housing.

"We are obviously very disappointed that the actions of a few individuals have put our program in this situation," Missouri coach Kim Anderson said in a statement. "However, I am appreciative to Mack Rhoades and our staff for their guidance and support throughout this process. I hurt for our kids more than anything and for our only senior Ryan Rosburg in particular, but I am confident we will overcome this and be stronger as a team and as a staff because of it. We are committed to representing this great university and state with honor and integrity and that's what we are going to do."

Additional punishment includes the loss of one scholarship in 2015-16 as well as recruiting restrictions. The Tigers finished 23-12 in the now-vacated 2013-14 season.
"We have already taken many proactive steps to address concerns, including appropriate self-imposed sanctions," Rhoades said in a statement. "We will win at Mizzou and do so with integrity and class. I am satisfied the University fully cooperated with the NCAA and will continue to do so. We must do better and we will. Our working relationship with the current men's basketball staff is strong and I am confident in their commitment to upholding our standards and values for Mizzou Athletics."

Frank Haith must be held responsible for violations under his watch

Suddenly it's a lot clearer why former Missouri coach Frank Haith made the unusual decision to leave for lower-profile Tulsa almost two years ago.

Haith bolted immediately after learning NCAA investigators once again had caught his scent.

In a news release issued Wednesday, Missouri revealed that it launched a joint investigation 19 months ago with NCAA enforcement staffers into potential violations committed during Haith's tenure. The investigation began after Missouri received a notice of inquiry from the NCAA on April 14, 2014, a mere four days before Haith was introduced as Tulsa's new coach.

The investigation uncovered major rules violations, most notably donors providing impermissible benefits to many players and at least one prospect. In response, Missouri vacated all 23 wins from the 2013-14 season, stripped itself of two scholarships and self-imposed a postseason ban, meaning they will not compete in the 2016 SEC tournament or NCAA tournament.

Haith was not named in the Missouri release and was not charged with any violations, yet it seems unfair if he escapes penalty while the program he was in charge of gets waylaid by major punishment. After all, this is the second time in less than five years that he has switched jobs at a convenient time and left his former program in NCAA shambles.

In 2013, the NCAA "factually concluded" that while at Miami, Haith authorized a $10,000 payment to a recruit, paid off a booster to stay quiet and tried to cover up the violation when investigators began asking questions. By the time the NCAA unveiled its findings, Haith was already at Missouri, so he received only a five-game suspension for those transgressions, a veritable slap on the wrist considering those were games against Southeastern Louisiana, Southern Illinois, Hawaii, Gardner Webb and IUPUI.
Haith embarrassed Missouri when news that he was involved in NCAA violations at Miami broke soon after his 2011 hiring, but Tigers officials stood up for him throughout the ensuing two-year investigation. Not only did Haith keep his job, Missouri athletic director Mike Alden also went so far as to say that he was "proud" to have Haith as his basketball coach and that Haith and his family "deserve closure."

Haith enjoyed a brilliant debut season at Missouri coaching Mike Anderson's holdovers to a No. 2 seed in the NCAA tournament, but he did little to earn Alden's support thereafter.

Haith's Tigers underachieved in his final two seasons, playing erratic defense and turnover-prone offense with a roster that often looked as though the pieces simply didn't fit together right. Worse yet, he relied on transfers in need of a second chance and seldom landed any top high school recruits, leaving a barren roster for the next staff.

When Haith bolted for Tulsa, he tried to insist he was leaving Missouri for a more attractive job, citing Tulsa's rich basketball history, financial commitment to the program and new conference affiliation.

At the time that rang phony because it seemed he was trying to avoid the chopping block and gain greater job security. Now we know it was probably not only Missouri's on-court struggles but also the specter of looming NCAA violations that chased him away.

Will Tulsa learn from Missouri's mistakes with Haith? Or will the Golden Hurricane continue to employ a coach who has now had major violations occur twice under his watch? The latter appears to be the school's choice at this point.

Haith's lawyer Scott Tompsett released a statement on Wednesday evening insisting that his client "acted appropriately at all times" while at Missouri and that the lack of violations against the coach validates that position. Tulsa athletic director Derrick Gragg subsequently sent out a statement supportive of Haith.

"I read the details of the NCAA investigation of the men's basketball program at the University of Missouri, and Golden Hurricane head men's basketball coach Frank Haith was not named in any of the reports," Gragg said. "Coach Haith has cooperated fully with the NCAA during this process and has not been accused of any wrongdoing during his tenure at Missouri."

Tulsa's faith in Haith is unlikely to be rewarded if his past behavior is any guide.

History suggests he'll enjoy modest success with his predecessor's players, he'll struggle to match that after they're gone and he'll leave just before the NCAA hammer drops.
Any ‘faith in Haith’ was misplaced, Missouri basketball fans discover

NCAA violations announced for Mizzou stem from Frank Haith’s tenure as coach
The program already was left in disarray after he departed
Penalties, including recruiting restrictions, only make the rebuilding harder

BY VAHE GREGORIAN
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After hurling itself all-in on Purdue coach Matt Painter only to be jilted in 2011, the University of Missouri had no viable alternative in mind for a men’s basketball coach to replace the departed Mike Anderson.

Then-Missouri State coach Cuonzo Martin had been asked to stay in a holding pattern pending the outcome of the Painter gambit, but Martin was unable to resist the certainty of being offered the Tennessee job while he waited.

With no discernible plan B in place, MU was relegated to hiring Frank Haith from Miami — despite his 43-69 Atlantic Coast Conference record and the likelihood his job there soon would be in jeopardy.

“Huh?” was about the most enthusiasm the widely condemned hire inspired.

When Haith called himself “the luckiest man in the world” at his opening news conference, well, many agreed.

That day, Haith also said he was “here for the long haul.”

Despite his seemingly curious departure for Tulsa three years later, Haith at least had that right:
He is still very much with MU.
The bitter residue of his tenure already was lingering in the fragmented roster he left successor Kim Anderson, who might as well have started from scratch with the jumble he inherited.

As if that weren’t enough of a legacy, NCAA violations announced Wednesday and committed under Haith’s watch have tarnished the program and further sabotaged the rebuilding effort.

Through a joint review with the NCAA, it was determined that Mizzou committed major violations during his tenure.

The upshot is that MU is banned from postseason play this season, including the Southeastern Conference tournament, has had vacated its 23 victories from the 2013-2014 season (Haith’s last at MU) and will lose a scholarship this season and another one in the next two seasons.

Just for good measure, a program that is in dire need of better players will have recruiting restricted through 2016-2017.

But, hey, don’t blame Haith, who, after all, is not specifically named in the report. According to his attorney, he also has been informed by the NCAA enforcement staff that he will not be charged with any violations “and therefore has been cleared of any wrongdoing.”

That may be technically true.

But he’s responsible for what happens in his program.

And the fact that Haith was hired at Tulsa four days after Mizzou received an NCAA notice of inquiry on April 14, 2014, stands out — even if Haith’s attorney Scott Tompsett told The Star’s Tod Palmer that Haith didn’t know about the letter until the next year.

Tulsa has a terrific basketball tradition, but that’s not a move a coach makes unless he’s getting out while the getting’s good — something that took on a whole new complexion as of Wednesday.

At the time, it just seemed like a shrewd move from someone who knew his footing was wobbly at MU and that his revolving-door recruiting and obsession with transfers was coming due the next season.

Now it sure looks a lot more like part of a pattern.
Haith, you’ll remember, had been under scrutiny in an NCAA investigation when he was at Miami — a fact that Haith and Miami officials somehow felt needn’t be shared with MU when it was in the process of hiring him.

After the news of the investigation broke in the summer of 2011, Haith insisted he had done nothing wrong.

But in 2013, the NCAA suspended him for five games for failing to “promote an atmosphere of compliance.” Haith, it said, “failed to meet his responsibilities as a head coach when he did not monitor the activities of his assistant coaches, and attempted to cover up” former booster and convicted felon Nevin Shapiro’s “threats to disclose incriminating information.”

On the day Haith was hired at MU, he asked fans for “faith in Haith.”

For a time, it seemed justified.

He did marvelous work with his first Mizzou team, a veteran group that had grown disillusioned with Mike Anderson and was yearning for someone they could connect with.

That was a dynamic, joyous team to watch. Those Tigers were 30-4 after winning the school’s last Big 12 Tournament before moving to the SEC … only to squander a No. 2 NCAA Tournament seed by losing to 15th-seeded Norfolk State.

Still, it all suggested better days ahead before the program ebbed and failed to make the tournament two years later, and Haith figured he best get out before the posse.

Again.

This astute read of the terrain is what makes him a survivor, now 33-17 overall in his second season at Tulsa.

It’s also what leaves issues behind him.

Meanwhile, Kim Anderson continues to try to mend a broken program, one that had won three of four before getting thrashed by Arkansas on Tuesday night and being dealt another step back Wednesday.

Blame it all on Anderson if you insist, and he knows he has to show substantial signs of more progress soon.
But understand that Anderson was handed at least a three-year project that is the enduring signature of Haith’s time at MU — something that became all the more clear Wednesday.

Major violations found in Missouri men’s basketball program, one-year postseason ban self-imposed

NCAA violations committed by two donors and associate head coach during Frank Haith’s tenure

Tigers will vacate 23 wins from 2013-14 and will skip this postseason

Violations do not involve Haith or current Missouri coach Kim Anderson and his staff

COLUMBIA - Four days before Frank Haith abruptly left Missouri to become the head coach at Tulsa in 2014, the Tigers’ men’s basketball program received another troubling message.

The NCAA enforcement staff, acting on a December 2013 tip about an MU basketball player, issued a verbal notice of inquiry to the school on April 14, 2014. That triggered a nearly two-year joint review with the NCAA that uncovered several major rules violations, the details of which were announced Wednesday by Missouri, as well as a series of self-imposed sanctions including a one-year postseason ban, effective immediately.

“Candidly, obviously, a tough day — and a tough day for a lot of people, because this program means a lot to certainly myself, to Coach Anderson, to our student-
athletes, to all of our fans, our staff,” Missouri athletic director Mack Rhoades said during a news conference. “Again, a tough day.”

The investigation found two donors, one who since has been barred from associating with the program, and a former associate head coach committed infractions. The violations do not involve Haith, or current Missouri coach Kim Anderson or his staff. Anderson said Wednesday that he was unaware of the notice of inquiry when he interviewed for the job at his alma mater in April 2014.

Among the self-imposed sanctions, Missouri will vacate its 23 victories from the 2013-14 season, Haith’s last in Columbia. The Tigers also will not play in the Southeastern Conference Tournament, which begins March 9 in Nashville, nor will the university receive any revenue from the SEC or NCAA tournaments this season. Additionally, Missouri imposed a one scholarship reduction this season and will lose an additional scholarship either next season or in 2017-18.

“I’m disappointed that the action of a few individuals have put our program in this type of situation,” Anderson said.

VAHE GREGORIAN: ANY ‘FAITH IN HAITH’ WAS MISPLACED, MISSOURI BASKETBALL FANS DISCOVER

Anderson replaced Haith, who became the head coach at Tulsa on April 18, 2014, signing a six-year contract worth $1.3 million annually and ending his three-year tenure with the Tigers. He offered a similar message in a release: “I appreciate the thoroughness of the NCAA during this process. I echo the sentiments of Missouri’s Kim Anderson in expressing disappointment that the actions of a few individuals have put the Tiger basketball program in this situation.”

Haith’s attorney, Scott Tompsett of Kansas City, said his client didn’t learn of the NCAA investigation at Mizzou until after he started coaching at Tulsa.

“The University of Tulsa and Coach Haith were both told in about February 2015 that the NCAA enforcement staff was conducting an investigation into potential violations at Missouri and that they wanted to talk to him,” Tompsett told The Star. “That’s when we learned about the NCAA investigation. ... We were told last fall that (NCAA enforcement staff) were concluding their investigation and Coach Haith would not be charged.”
The NCAA investigation remains open, which Rhoades said limited what he could say and prompted him not to field questions, but Missouri athletic officials are working with the NCAA in hopes of limiting the punishment to its self-imposed sanctions.

A final report from the NCAA is expected in the spring, but Rhoades warned the investigation could take longer.

“We have faced this issue head on and worked collaboratively with the NCAA on certainly the facts and the violations,” said Rhoades, who was aware of the investigation but not privy to the details as he interviewed for the MU athletic director job last winter. “As such, the NCAA credited us with exemplary cooperation. That’s not a distinction that’s regularly afforded to institutions in major-infrasions cases.”

The infractions occurred as far back as 2011, when Haith arrived.

Tulsa athletic director Derrick Gragg defended Haith in a statement released Wednesday afternoon: “Today, I read the details of the NCAA investigation of the men’s basketball program at the University of Missouri, and Golden Hurricane head men’s basketball coach Frank Haith was not named in any of the reports. Coach Haith has cooperated fully with the NCAA during this process and has not been accused of any wrongdoing during his tenure at Missouri.”

Tompsett released a similar statement, which concluded that, “The fact that the (NCAA) enforcement staff has not charged Coach Haith with any violations validates our position. Coach Haith wishes the best to the University of Missouri, its men’s basketball program and his former student-athletes in getting through this difficult time.”

According to Missouri’s news release outlying the findings of its 19-month review with the NCAA, actions by two donors led to major violations. The first donor provided impermissible benefits to three players and one recruit in 2013-14.

The benefits “included compensating student-athletes for work-not-performed at a business through a summer internship program.” Through the internship, the donor also provided housing, $520 cash, local transportation, iPads, meals and gym access. These violations were classified as Level I, the most serious.
The second donor, according to the release, provided impermissible benefits to 11 players and three members of one player’s family from 2011-14. Those benefits, a Level II violation, included reduced hotel rates, meals and a recreational boat ride. Another Level II violation went to the MU athletic department for “failure to monitor” because it did not fully vet the internship or adequately monitor the internship program.

There were two Level III violations, which are secondary. A former associate head coach helped a recruit move by giving his mother’s phone number to the second donor to arrange rental housing. Although the family was found to have paid market rate for the rental, the coach’s actions violated NCAA rules. The first donor also was found to have made “multiple impermissible recruiting contacts” with a recruit and paid for a meal for a non-scholastic coach.

They were not named in the report, but Tim Fuller was Mizzou’s associate head coach when Jakeenan Gant moved from Springfield, Ga., to Lake Ozark, Mo., before joining the Tigers in 2014. Gant was suspended for the first nine games of the 2014-15 season amid an NCAA investigation into his eligibility.

Asked in January 2015 about the prospect of further NCAA sanctions against Missouri or its staff following Gant’s suspension, former athletic director Mike Alden said, “I think we’re in good shape going forward.”

Instead, Mizzou “permanently disassociated” itself with the first donor, according to the release, prohibiting that donor from receiving tickets, making donations or representing the university. The second donor was banned from representing Mizzou for two years. The former coach was banned from off-campus recruiting for three months during the review.

Anderson declined to comment Wednesday whether the NCAA investigation was related to Fuller’s dismissal as associate head coach in March 2015. Attempts to reach Fuller were unsuccessful. Alden declined to comment.

The players who received impermissible benefits had to pay restitution and Missouri paid a $5,000 fine. MU also placed restrictions on men’s basketball recruiting in 2014-15 that will continue through 2016-17.

“I’m not going to lie to you, for the sake of everyone involved, I’m glad a resolution is nearing ...” Anderson said. “I agreed with Mack Rhoades on this
decision to self-impose, but I don’t necessarily like it just because of the impact it has on our current student-athletes.”

Missouri met with outside counsel and campus leaders in addition to consulting NCAA case precedent and its new penalty structure in meting out the self-imposed sanctions.

“We really felt like that was the right thing to do, first and foremost, and it will help put us in a position to move this program forward,” Rhoades said.

Anderson said he spoke with the parents of the three players who signed with Missouri in November — forward Willie Jackson from Cleveland, forward Reed Nikko from Maple Grove, Minn., and center Mitchell Smith from Van Buren, Ark. — to assure them there would be no postseason ban next season.

Rhoades, Anderson and other athletic department staff, including members of MU’s compliance department, met with the Tigers’ players before holding a news conference. Anderson, who opted not to hold practice Wednesday, had another meeting with Missouri’s players and also met with the players in smaller groups “just to kind of discuss and see if they had any questions,” he said. “I know they’re disappointed.”

No one is more disappointed than the Tigers’ lone senior, forward Ryan Rosburg, whose college career will end March 5 against Florida at Mizzou Arena.

“I was very upset,” Rosburg said. “A lot’s happened in my last four years. If I was a better writer, I’d probably write a book. ... Obviously, not playing in the SEC Tournament is tough, a hard pill to swallow. I know I had a lot of family that was making reservations and flights to come see my last couple games. That hurts, but we’ve just got to make the most of what we’re given. We still have 15 games left and a lot of chances to win and improve.”
Mizzou self-imposes penalties for NCAA violations during Haith regime

COLUMBIA, MO. • As if things weren’t bad enough for the University of Missouri men’s basketball team.

For the past 19 months, Missouri has worked with the NCAA enforcement staff to review violations that occurred on the watch of former coach Frank Haith. On Wednesday, Mizzou announced multiple self-imposed penalties, including vacated wins, recruiting restrictions, scholarship reductions and a postseason ban for the current season.

The investigation uncovered multiple incidents of boosters giving impermissible benefits to Haith’s players dating to 2011, among other violations. In a lengthy statement explaining the admitted violations, Mizzou officials said there was no evidence current coach Kim Anderson and his staff were aware of the offenses.

“I’m disappointed that the action of a few individuals put our program in this type of situation,” Anderson said Wednesday, sitting alongside athletics director Mack Rhoades, who like Anderson was hired after the violations took place.

“These are not decisions we took lightly,” Rhoades said, before adding, “We felt that was the right thing to do and will put us in the right position to move this program forward.”

Among the findings by the university and NCAA, an unnamed booster, Representative No. 1 in MU’s statement, provided improper benefits to three players and a recruit from 2013-2014. The benefits included payments for work not performed at a business through a summer internship program. The donor also provided housing, $520 in cash, local transportation, iPads and meals, and arranged for the use of a local gym — all Level I major violations of NCAA bylaws.

That booster is Christopher Tuley, multiple sources told the Post-Dispatch. Tuley, who goes by his middle name, Mark, is the CEO of T3 Solutions, a national intelligence company based out of Martinez, Ga. A native of Huntsville, Mo., he attended Mizzou from 1998-2000, according to his LinkedIn profile.

Reached by phone Wednesday, Tuley declined to comment on advice from his lawyer.
A source with inside knowledge of the situation told the Post-Dispatch that Tuley was paying several former Mizzou players as part of his internship program, including former Tigers Jordan Clarkson and Jabari Brown, along with Jakeenan Gant, a Mizzou recruit at the time and a current sophomore on Anderson’s team.

MU’s statement said the school did not fully vet the summer internship jobs or follow up to request documentation at the end of the 2013 and 2014 internships, which was cited as a failure to adequately monitor the internship program, a Level II major violation.

Also, an unnamed former associate head coach helped in the relocation of a recruit by providing the phone number of the prospect’s mother to a second donor, listed in the report as Representative No. 2. The former coach’s actions were in violation of NCAA bylaws.

He is not named in the report, but the coach is clearly Tim Fuller, who was the only person with the title of associate head coach under Haith. Fuller also coached at MU last year under Anderson but was not retained after the 2014-15 season. As part of MU’s self-induced penalties, Fuller was not allowed to recruit off campus for three months last season.

Fuller, who last May accepted a job at Harris-Stowe State working for the university president, did not return messages from the Post-Dispatch.

The recruit in question, again, was Gant, who during his senior year of high school moved from Springfield, Ga., to Osage Beach, Mo. Fuller was his primary recruiter. The source, who requested anonymity while sharing sensitive information about the investigation, said Gant and his mother, La’Kenia, were interviewed by NCAA officials in early November 2014 and admitted to receiving benefits but were not aware they were in violation of NCAA rules. Gant served a nine-game suspension to start the 2014-15 season. At the time, Mizzou said Gant was being held out while the school reviewed his eligibility related to undisclosed benefits.

Gant and his mother moved to Missouri so he could enroll and graduate from School of the Osage, the source said. Gant had failed to get qualifying scores on the Georgia High School Graduation Tests, leaving him in danger of failing to qualify academically for college.

The NCAA sent Mizzou its letter of inquiry on April 14, 2014. Four days later, Haith accepted the head-coaching job at Tulsa.

When Haith left, Gant considered asking out of his letter of intent. At the time, Michael Stokes, Gant’s AAU coach with the Southern Stampede, told the Post-Dispatch that Gant’s decision would hinge on Fuller’s status.

After Missouri hired Anderson to replace Haith, Anderson retained Fuller on his staff. Gant met with Anderson soon after he was hired and decided to honor his letter of intent and play for the Tigers.
Around that time, the source said, the NCAA began looking into Gant’s situation and his mother’s move to Missouri. In late April and twice again in December 2014, the NCAA questioned the source about Gant’s relationship with Stokes and a Mizzou booster: Mark Tuley.

“Everything I told (the NCAA), they already knew,” the source said. “They just wanted more details.”

On Wednesday, Anderson said he was not told about the NCAA investigation when he accepted the Mizzou job on April 28, 2014 — even though the school had received the NCAA’s letter two weeks earlier. Former athletics director Mike Alden, the person who hired Anderson two years ago, was not available to comment.

Asked if knowing about the investigation would have changed his decision to take the Mizzou job, Anderson said, “No, no, no.”

“I feel horrible for Kim Anderson for inheriting this situation,” the source said, “because he had nothing to do with it.”

Mizzou admitted to other violations, too. The second booster provided impermissible benefits to 11 players and three members of a players’ family from 2011-2014. The benefits included providing players with a reduced rate at a hotel, plus meals and a ride on a recreational boat.

Also, Representative No. 1, identified by sources as Tuley, had multiple impermissible recruiting contacts with a recruit and paid for a meal for a non-scholastic coach.

As for the penalties, Tuley has been permanently disassociated with the university and is prohibited from receiving tickets, making donations and otherwise representing MU. The second donor has been disassociated for two years. MU will pay the NCAA a fine of $5,000.

MU gave up a scholarship for the current season and another to be incurred no later than 2017-18. MU placed recruiting restrictions on the coaching staff through 2016-17. The Tigers will not be eligible for the postseason this year, including the SEC tournament in Nashville.

Also, Mizzou vacated the 23 wins from the 2013-14 season.

From here, the NCAA Committee on Infractions will consider the violations and decide whether Mizzou deserves additional penalties. If so, MU can request a hearing or accept the penalties.

“This is an ongoing process,” Rhoades said. “We’re hopeful this will come to conclusion some time in the spring, but there’s certainly no guarantee.”

As for Haith, his lawyer, Scott Tompsett, released a statement saying the Tulsa coach had been cleared of any wrongdoing in the NCAA’s investigation.
“I appreciate the thoroughness of the NCAA during this process,” Haith said in a statement released by Tulsa. “I echo the sentiments of Missouri’s Kim Anderson in expressing disappointment that the actions of a few individuals have put the Tiger basketball program in this situation.”

Missouri admits to NCAA basketball violations

By Steve Walentik

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 2:53 pm

The Missouri athletic department revealed Wednesday that an NCAA investigation of its men’s basketball program discovered five violations, including three major infractions, from Frank Haith’s coaching tenure.

Missouri has self-imposed several penalties, most notably a postseason ban — including the Southeastern Conference Tournament — this season. It has vacated all wins from the 2013-14 season when it went 23-12. It has self-imposed the loss of one scholarship for the 2015-16 season and another for no later than the 2017-18 season. Its coaches have been dealing with recruiting restrictions since last season that will continue through 2017.

"We have faced this issue head-on and have worked collaboratively with the NCAA on certainly the facts and the violations," said Missouri Athletic Director Mack Rhoades, who declined to take questions from reporters, citing the ongoing investigation that he hopes to be resolved by the spring. "As such, the NCAA credited us with exemplary cooperation. That is not a distinction that is regularly afforded to institutions in major infractions cases."

The NCAA received a tip about potential NCAA violations on Dec. 13, 2013, and gave Missouri a verbal notice of inquiry on April 14, 2014. Four days later, Haith left to become the head coach at Tulsa in what was regarded as a surprise move.

Missouri admitted to the following violations in descending order of severity:

— An athletic donor, identified as Representative 1, provided impermissible benefits to three men’s basketball players and one recruit from 2013-14. The impermissible benefits included compensating players for work not performed at a business through a summer internship program. Through the internship program, the donor also provided other impermissible inducements and extra benefits including housing, cash in the amount of $520, local
transportation, iPads, meals and arranged for the use of a local gym for the players, all in violation of NCAA bylaws.

Multiple sources identified the Representative 1 as Christopher Mark Tuley, an MU graduate from Huntsville who is the found and president of T3 Solutions, a private defense company with offices in Augusta, Ga. They also identified the recruit as Jakeenan Gant, now an MU sophomore.

Tuley did not reply to an email Wednesday seeking comment.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, citing a source, reported that two of the basketball players were Jabari Brown and Jordan Clarkson, the top two scorers on the Tigers' 2013-14 team.

— A second donor, identified as Representative 2, was discovered to have provided impermissible benefits to 11 players and three members of one player’s family from 2011-2014. The benefits included providing players with a “friends & family” reduced rate at a hotel as well as meals and a ride on a recreational boat. A Missouri men’s basketball student-manager also provided transportation for multiple players to the hotel from the Missouri campus, all in violation of NCAA bylaws.

— Because Missouri did not fully vet the summer internship employment opportunity and follow-up to request documentation at the conclusion of the 2013 and 2014 internships with Representative 1, the institution was cited with a failure to adequately monitor the internship program.

— A former associate head men’s basketball coach — not named in Missouri’s release, but Tim Fuller is the only man to hold that position under Haith — assisted in the relocation of a recruit by providing the phone number of the prospect’s mother to Representative 2 to arrange for rental housing. The family paid a market rate for the rental. However, the actions of the former associate head coach are in violation of NCAA bylaws.

The prospect involved in this violation also appears to be Gant, Georgia’s Mr. Basketball in 2014 whom Fuller recruited from Effingham County High School in Springfield, Ga., and who moved late in his senior year and graduated from School of the Osage High School in Osage Beach.

— Representative 1, i.e. Tuley, had multiple impermissible recruiting contacts with a prospective student-athlete and paid for a meal for a non-scholastic coach, in violation of NCAA bylaws.

"I'm disappointed the action of a few individuals has put our program in this situation," said Coach Kim Anderson, who took over the position Haith vacated on April 28, 2014, and said he was not notified about the investigation during the interview process.

Among the penalties Missouri has already served was prohibiting the associate head coach — Fuller — from recruiting off campus for three months while the investigation was being conducted. The university says it has permanently disassociated itself from Representative 1 and has disassociated itself from Representative 2 for two years.
Missouri said there is no evidence that any current staff members were aware of the violations. Fuller remained at MU as the associate head coach under Anderson, a decision that Gant's AAU coach with the Southern Stampede, Michael Stokes, said at the time was critical in keeping the commitment of Gant when Anderson replaced Haith.

Fuller was not retained after last season, but he received a raise to $325,000 before his one and only season on Anderson's staff. On Wednesday, Anderson would not comment on why Fuller was not retained, saying it was a personnel matter.

Fuller, who took a non-coaching job last summer as an adviser to the president of NAIA-member Harris-Stowe State University on sports-related matters, did not immediately return a message seeking comment. Tulsa Athletic Director Derrick Gragg released a statement regarding Haith's role in the investigation.

"Today, I read the details of the NCAA investigation of the men's basketball program at the University of Missouri, and Golden Hurricane head men's basketball coach Frank Haith was not named in any of the reports," Gragg said. "Coach Haith has cooperated fully with the NCAA during this process and has not been accused of any wrongdoing during his tenure at Missouri."

Haith later issued his own statement, saying: "I appreciate the thoroughness of the NCAA during this process. I echo the sentiments of Missouri's Kim Anderson in expressing disappointment that the actions of a few individuals have put Tiger basketball in this situation."

MU retained the services of Mike Glazier of Bond, Schoeneck & King Attorneys to assist with the matter and is now working with the NCAA enforcement staff to process this case through summary disposition. The summary disposition process does not involve a formal in-person hearing.

"I'm not going to lie to you, for the sake of everyone involved, I'm glad a resolution is nearing," Anderson said.

He noted that he agreed with Rhoades' decision to self-impose penalties.

"I don't necessarily like it just because of the impact it has on student-athletes, our current student-athletes," he said. "They're the ones that are most affected. But given the circumstances, I, we, all of us felt like we needed to take this responsibility, self-impose and then move forward as quickly as possible."

There is no guarantee that MU's self-imposed penalties will be the extent of the punishment. The summary disposition report will be submitted to the NCAA Committee on Infractions for review. If the facts and the violations are accepted, the committee can accept the self-imposed penalties or determine if more penalties are warranted.

If the committee proposes additional penalties, MU could request a hearing on the penalties or simply accept the additional penalties.
"Coach Anderson has been a great leader in the way he's handled all of this," Rhoades said. "When we talked about this the minute I arrived on campus and working through this process, Coach Anderson was there every step of the way. He is a man of great integrity."

Rhoades said he was informed that Missouri was under investigation before he was hired on March 9, 2015, to succeed Mike Alden, although he said MU officials could not share details of the investigation.

Via email, Alden declined comment regarding why Anderson was not told about the investigation. Mary Ann Austin, MU’s executive AD for compliance, said in an email that Anderson was not informed of the NCAA investigation before he was hired because the NCAA had not given the university authority to share any information at that time.

Anderson said Wednesday he would have taken the job even if he had been informed of the investigation.

Last Jan. 20, while Fuller was still employed at MU, Alden was asked if Missouri's coaches were in the clear regarding the NCAA investigation of Gant's eligibility.

“Jakeenan had to sit while we were reviewing his eligibility, things like that," Alden said. "Right now, I think we’re in good shape going forward.”

Not quite a year later, Missouri has been penalized for or admitted to major violations for the third time the history of its basketball program with other major infractions cases occurring under Norm Stewart and Quin Snyder.

It is also the second time a program led by Haith has been connected to NCAA violations. He served a five-game suspension at the beginning of the 2013-14 season as punishment for violations that occurred during his 7-year run at Miami. A report at the conclusion of that case indicated that the NCAA Committee on Infractions did not find Haith's testimony believable.

Anderson is 8-8 overall and 1-2 in the SEC in his second year in charge. The postseason ban means the team's only senior, Ryan Rosburg, won't have a chance to play beyond the regular-season finale against Florida on March 5 at Mizzou Arena.

"It hurts because I feel like I'm punished the most," Rosburg said, "and I wasn't involved."

**MISSOURIAN**

**UPDATE:** Missouri men's basketball announces NCAA violations, self-imposed punishments
COLUMBIA — The Missouri men's basketball team announced Wednesday via a news release it had committed multiple NCAA violations dating back to 2011.

All of the violations occurred from 2011-13, when Frank Haith was the Tigers' coach. The most severe violation came from an unnamed donor, who provided "impermissible benefits" to three different unnamed Missouri basketball players. Current Missouri men's basketball coach Kim Anderson, Missouri athletics director Mack Rhoades and others involved addressed the violations Wednesday.

In December 2013, the NCAA received reports of potential violations committed by the Missouri men's basketball program, according to the release. A verbal notice of an investigation was given to MU on April 14, 2014. Four days later, Haith left the Tigers to take the coaching position at Tulsa.

Tulsa athletics director Derrick Gragg released a statement in light of the announcement of the investigation.

"Today, I read the details of the NCAA investigation of the men's basketball program at the University of Missouri, and Golden Hurricane head men's basketball coach Frank Haith was not named in any of the reports," Gragg said. "Coach Haith has cooperated fully with the NCAA during this process and has not been accused of any wrongdoing during his tenure at Missouri."

Haith also released a statement.

"I appreciate the thoroughness of the NCAA during this process," Haith said. "I echo the sentiments of Missouri's Kim Anderson in expressing disappointment that the actions of a few individuals have put the Tiger basketball program in this situation."

Fifteen days after the investigation began, Anderson was hired to replace Haith by then-Missouri athletics director Mike Alden. Rhoades took over for Alden on April 30.
Anderson said Wednesday that he was not aware of the ongoing investigation when he took the job in April 2014. Rhoades said he knew about the investigation when he was hired, but he said the people hiring him could not discuss details of the investigation.

"Since I've arrived on campus, we have worked extensively since day one with our compliance office," Rhoades said. "(We) tried to resolve this and navigate this as best we could to move this program forward."

Three of the violations were considered major infractions, according to the NCAA bylaws. Missouri's most severe infraction involved a donor compensating athletes for "work-not-performed" during summer internship programs. The donor, who is identified as "Representative #1" in the release, also provided "impermissible benefits" including housing, $520, local transportation, iPads, meals and access to a local gym.

A second donor was also found to have provided 11 men's basketball players with benefits illegally. Those benefits included a discounted hotel rate, meals and boat rides.

A member of the Missouri coaching staff was also cited for breaking NCAA rules. A former associate Tigers' basketball coach assisted in helping a prospective athlete's mother arrange for rental housing.

The NCAA told the Missourian on Wednesday it cannot comment on ongoing investigations, including the one involving the Missouri men's basketball program.

Former Missouri associate head coach Tim Fuller held the position during the timeframe referenced by the report. Fuller joined the Tigers in 2011 and was the lone assistant to stay on Anderson's staff when he was hired. Fuller left Missouri after the 2014-15 season and is now an adviser for the Harris-Stowe men's program. Anderson said Wednesday that Fuller's departure is a "personnel issue" and would not comment further.
This is the first time the Missouri men's basketball team has faced a major NCAA investigation since 2004, according to the NCAA's Legislative Services Database. In 2004, the Tigers were put on probation for three years because of illegal benefits and impermissible phone contact.

As a result of the violations under Haith, Missouri is self-imposing multiple penalties. This includes vacating all 23 wins from its 2013-14 season, paying the NCAA a $5,000 fine, losing one scholarship during the 2015-16 season and not participating in the postseason during the 2015-16 season. That means the Tigers will be left out of the Southeastern Conference tournament. The university also permanently disassociated itself with one of the donors, "Representative #1."

Rhoades said Wednesday the school will also have to pay a fine for not participating in postseason play. He said the school will not know the exact amount of the fine until all of the postseason tournaments are completed.

The athletics department determined these self-imposed penalties based on previous NCAA cases and the NCAA's current penalty structure, which was adopted in 2013, Rhoades said.

As of now, the NCAA is still working on its own investigation and could punish Missouri with additional penalties. Rhoades said he hopes the investigation will be finished by the spring but does not know when it will be completed.

After giving a statement, Rhoades did not answer any questions from media members. Missouri spokesperson Ryan Bradley said Rhoades will answer questions when the NCAA investigation is completed.

Rhoades, Anderson and Missouri deputy athletics director Wren Baker delivered the news of the penalties to the team Wednesday. After that, Anderson addressed the team individually and then met with players in groups of three or four.

"Certainly, there was a great deal of disappointment," Anderson said. "I'm sure it will be hard for a while. We'll see how they react."
After suffering one of the worst home defeats in school history against Arkansas on Tuesday, a 94-61 loss that was the worst in conference play since 2006, the Tigers will resume SEC play on Saturday at South Carolina. Anderson said he has been dealing with this investigation for some time and jumped at any opportunity to talk about his team's play on the court.

"I'm disappointed that the actions of a few individuals have put our program in this type of situation," Anderson said. "For the sake of everyone involved, I'm glad a resolution is nearing."

MU forfeits men's basketball wins after review finds NCAA violations


COLUMBIA, Mo. - Updated (7:01 p.m.)- Former Missouri men's basketball coach Frank Haith releases the following statement: "I appreciate the thoroughness of the NCAA during the process. I echo the sentiments of Missouri's Kim Anderson in expressing disappointment that the actions of a few individuals have put the Tiger basketball program in this situation."

Updated (5:05 p.m.)- ABC 17 reached out to former Missouri athletic director Mike Alden for comment. Alden told Sports Director Austin Kim he is out of town visiting family.

Below is ABC 17's original story.

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COLUMBIA, Mo.- The MU athletics department released details of NCAA violations involving the Mizzou men's basketball team Wednesday afternoon. The violations of NCAA bylaws apparently occurred dating back to 2011.

According to a statement released by the MU athletic department Wednesday, MU has imposed a one-year postseason ban for the 2015-16 men's basketball season. That prohibits the team from participating in the 2016 SEC Men's Basketball Tournament and any other postseason
competition sanctioned by the NCAA. The statement said that means the university will not receive any revenues from the 2016 SEC or NCAA men's basketball tournaments.

It also said the university has vacated all wins from the 2013-14 season as a result of this review.

The University of Missouri has apparently been working with the NCAA for more than a year and a half on the review. It started after the NCAA enforcement staff got information in December of 2013 about potential violations involving a men's basketball student-athlete. The MU athletic department said the NCAA gave MU a verbal notice of inquiry in April of 2014.

There are four levels of violations in the NCAA enforcement process, ranging from Level I and Level II, considered major infractions, to Level III and Level IV, which are secondary in nature.

The MU athletics department said both the university and the NCAA agree the evidence shows violations occurred on levels I, II and III.

The news release said a Level I violation occurred when an MU Athletics donor provided impermissible benefits to three men's basketball student-athletes and one prospective men's basketball student-athlete from 2013-2014.

The impermissible benefits included compensating student-athletes for work not performed at a business through a summer internship program. Through the internship program, the donor also provided other impermissible inducements and extra benefits including housing, cash in the amount of $520, local transportation, iPads, meals and arranged for the use of a local gym for the student-athletes, all in violation of NCAA bylaws.

The news release said a Level II violation occurred when a second donor was discovered to have provided impermissible benefits to 11 student-athletes and three members of one student-athlete's family from 2011-2014.

Those benefits apparently included providing student-athletes with a "friends & family" reduced rate at a hotel as well as meals and a ride on a recreational boat. The news releases said a Missouri men's basketball student-manager also provided transportation for multiple student-athletes to the hotel from the Missouri campus, all in violation of NCAA bylaws.

The MU athletics department said another Level II violation occurred when the University of Missouri did not fully vet the summer internship employment opportunity and follow-up to request documentation at the conclusion of the 2013 and 2014 internships with the providing donor. The news release said the institution was cited with a failure to adequately monitor the internship program.

The MU athletic department said a Level III violation occurred when a former associate head men's basketball coach assisted in the relocation of a prospective student-athlete by providing the phone number of the prospect's mother to a donor to arrange for rental housing. The family paid a market rate for the rental. However, the actions of the former associate head coach are in violation of NCAA bylaws.
The news release said another Level III violation occurred because a donor had multiple impermissible recruiting contacts with a prospective student-athlete and paid for a meal for a non-scholastic coach, in violation of NCAA bylaws.

The MU Athletic Department said the university took action to hold student-athletes, staff and donors who were involved accountable as soon as the NCAA violations were substantiated.

Among those actions were the post-season ban for the 2015-16 and the forfeiting of winnings from the 2013-14 season. You can read the full list of actions MU has taken here.

The MU athletics department said the violations originated under the tenure of the previous men's basketball staff and there is no evidence that any current staff members were aware of the violations.

It said, "Though self-imposing a postseason ban for this season is difficult for our student-athletes, our coaches and our loyal supporters, it is an appropriate measure in holding the institution accountable and is consistent with the NCAA penalty structure for these levels of violations."

The news release said the university cannot provide additional details at this time regarding the violations or the sanctions because the NCAA enforcement process is ongoing.

MU announces basketball punishments for 5 NCAA violations

Watch story: http://www.komu.com/player/?video_id=32185&zone=5&categories=5

COLUMBIA - MU Athletics announced Wednesday multiple self-imposed punishments for five NCAA rules violations related to the MU men’s basketball team. Punishments include a postseason ban, the vacating of wins from a previous season and a fine.

Head coach Kim Anderson said, “We are obviously very disappointed that the actions of a few individuals have put our program in this situation.”
The biggest violation, a level one infraction, involved a donor who provided impermissible benefits to three men’s basketball athletes and one prospective student from 2013-2014.

Those benefits included compensating the students for work not performed, housing, cash, transportation, iPads, meals and gym access.

That donor was also involved in a lesser violation by having multiple impermissible recruiting contacts with a prospective student and paying for a meal for a non-scholastic coach.

A second donor was involved in a level two infraction by providing impermissible benefits to 11 athletes and three members of one athlete's family from 2011-2014.

Those benefits included providing the students with a “friends & family” reduced rate at a hotel, meals and a boat ride. A Missouri men’s basketball student manager also provided transportation for multiple athletes to the hotel from the Missouri campus.

In another level two violation the University of Missouri was cited with a failure to adequately monitor the internship program.

A fifth violation at a lower level involved a former associate head coach who helped a prospective athlete's family arrange rental housing.

MU Athletics said "the university took action to hold student-athletes, staff and donors who were involved accountable." The steps taken were:

- The university vacated all wins from the 2013-14 season.
- The university imposed a one-year postseason ban for the 2015-16 men’s basketball season, which prohibits the team from participating in the 2016 SEC Men’s Basketball Tournament, and any other postseason competition sanctioned by the NCAA. As such, the university will not receive any revenues from the 2016 SEC or NCAA men’s basketball tournaments.
- The university self-imposed the loss of one men’s basketball scholarship in 2015-16 and an additional scholarship loss to be incurred no later than the 2017-18 season.
- The university placed restrictions on the recruiting activities of the men’s basketball staff during the years of 2014-15 through 2016-17.
- Restitution and withholding from competition for impermissible benefits received by student-athletes was imposed as necessary.
- The former associate head men’s basketball coach was prohibited from off-campus recruiting for a period of three months while the review process was underway.
- The university permanently disassociated Representative #1, prohibiting him from receiving tickets, making donations or otherwise representing the university.
- The university disassociated Representative #2 for a period of two years, prohibiting him from receiving tickets, making donations or otherwise representing the university.
- The university will pay the NCAA a fine in the prescribed amount of $5,000.

Anderson said he "hurts for our kids more than anything."
"I am confident we will overcome this and be stronger as a team and as a staff because of it," he said. "We are committed to representing this great university and state with honor and integrity and that’s what we are going to do."

Chancellor Hank Foley said, "We have an obligation to adhere to all NCAA and SEC rules as a member institution and we will continue to improve our education and oversight to ensure that we compete with integrity."

In wake of NCAA violations, Kim Anderson looks to carry Missouri basketball program forward

Dave Matter reports that Mark Tuley is reported donor in violations involved with Missouri basketball.

Missouri fans probably wish Ryan Rosburg was a better writer.

Why? Because over his four-year career with the Missouri men’s basketball program, the Chesterfield, Missouri, native said Wednesday, “If I was a better writer, I’d probably write a book (about everything that’s happened).”

What an interesting chapter Wednesday would have been. On an overcast day in the middle of Missouri, news wasn’t expected. But, in terms of news in Columbia over the past few months, expect the unexpected.

On Wednesday, the Mizzou athletics department announced via news release that the men’s basketball program had admitted to violations under former coach Frank Haith.

Situations like, “compensating student-athletes for work-not-performed at a business through a summer internship program” were cited in the release. So too was a donor who, “provided other impermissible inducements and extra benefits including housing, cash in the amount of $520, local transportation, iPads, meals and arranged for the use of a local gym for the student-athletes.”

Ultimately, five violations were cited by Missouri, each ranging from the NCAA’s level I infractions — the most serious — to level III, which are secondary in nature.

According to a report from Dave Matter at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on Wednesday night, a source told him the donor was Christopher Mark Tuley, the CEO of T3 Solutions, a national
intelligence company based out of Martinez, Georgia that “provides intelligence support primarily to the US Special Operations Command.” He also attended Mizzou from 1998-2000, per his LinkedIn profile.

Matter also confirmed in his report that the players involved in the violations were Jordan Clarkson and Jabari Brown — both NBA players — and sophomore forward Jakeenan Gant.

These interactions between Tuley and the players violated the NCAA bylaws, and Missouri will vacate all 23 wins from the 2013-14 season, face a fine and loss of scholarship for the 2016-17 season, and they will be imposing a postseason ban — including the SEC basketball tournament — for the 2015-16 season.

“Obviously, it’s a tough day for a lot of people because this program means a lot,” Rhoades said. “We asked and received permission from both the SEC and the NCAA to provide and share these specific details in the spirit of transparency to provide as much context as we possibly could and please note, this is an ongoing process.”

Haith had baggage when he arrived at Missouri. In 2013, he served a five-game suspension in accordance with the situation involving the Nevin Shapiro scandal at the University of Miami.

After that suspension, former Missouri athletic director Mike Alden said of Haith: “During his time here, Coach Haith has been forthright with me and our compliance staff throughout this long process. After all this time, Coach Haith, his family, the University of Missouri, our student-athletes, and our fans, deserve closure. We are extremely excited about the direction of our program and look forward to his continued leadership for our young men. I'm proud to have Frank Haith as our men's basketball coach.”

Turns out, the direction of the program has done a complete-360 since that day. Haith left on April 18, 2014, right before the NCAA notice was investigated, but his chapter at Missouri ended Wednesday with the self-imposed sanctions at Mizzou.

Haith was cleared by the NCAA and according to an ESPN report, his attorney said that he was unaware of the situation. Regardless, Tulsa, his new team, will face no fines, they’ll face no postseason ban and they’ll recruit, like all schools, free of limitations.

Now, Rosburg will miss his last opportunity to play in Nashville in the SEC tournament.

“Ryan is a great guy and he’s a great young man,” Anderson said. “I think, for him, I think it was tough. You know, we don’t need to sugar coat this anymore. I mean, who knows whether we would qualify for the postseason, I mean I don’t know. I think it was tough on him and you know he’s a great young man and he’s been a great representative of our university.”

But it’s not solely Rosburg who’s affected by this.

It’s players like freshman Terrence Phillips who were hoping to gain experience by playing in the postseason for the first time. It’s coaches like Rob Fulford who will be hindered on the
It’s the brand of the program that will have to rebound after the negative connotation that a situation like this brings.

It’s up to Anderson to manage this program. On April 14, 2014, Anderson took the Missouri job unaware of the NCAA notice. On that, Missouri compliance director Mary Ann Austin told Columbia Tribune sports editor Joe Walljasper, “the NCAA had not provided the institution authority to share any information at the time of the Head Men’s Basketball search.”

Anderson didn’t know that situations dating back to 2011 would hamper a rebuilding job that was challenging enough. And with only 15 games remaining in the 2015-16 season, Anderson said the team must reset their goals.

“You know, I think you have to talk about getting better, improving as a team, improving as an individual, having the opportunity to be a spoiler,” Anderson said. “I talked a little bit about — and I don’t say this casually — just, let’s go out and play and let’s get better. With the exception of Ryan, we need to focus ourselves on this year, doing the best we can, improving and then moving on into next year and being even better.

“I’m sure it’ll be hard for a while, but maybe not, we’ll see how they react.”

Kim Anderson doesn’t know how the last chapter in Rosburg’s book will end, but it’s all up to the head man to keep it stapled together.

**MISSOURIAN**

**Civil rights leader joins MU's MLK Day celebration**

JIAYI WANG, 14 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — Diane Nash, a 1960s civil right leader, is coming to Columbia next week as part of MU's celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Nash will present “From Jail in Jackson to the Distinguished American Award: My Life as an Activist.” The lecture will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. next Wednesday at the Missouri Theatre, 203 S. Ninth St.
Nash was involved in the civil rights movement when she studied at Fisk University in 1959. About a year later, she became the chairperson of the Nashville student sit-in movement, which lasted four months.

Nash was jailed several times for her role in the movement. According to a 2013 USA Today report, in 1962, she faced a two-year prison sentence while she was six months pregnant with her daughter. Her sentence was reduced to 10 days in jail.

Nash has received several awards for her leadership in the civil rights movement, such as the War Resisters League Peace Award, the Distinguished American Award and the LBJ Award for Leadership in Civil Rights, according to an MU news release.

Tickets for the free lecture are available through the MSA/GPC box office and the Missouri Theatre box office.

Besides Nash's lecture, several King-related events are scheduled in Columbia next week:

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Candle Light March & Memorial Celebration: 6:30 p.m. Monday, starting at Douglass High School, 310 N. Providence Road, and continuing to a memorial celebration at the Second Missionary Baptist Church, 407 E. Broadway.

- Poor Man's Community Breakfast: 8-10:30 a.m., St. Luke United Methodist Church, 204 E. Ash St. Free, but donations are welcome. Donations of food and money to help with the breakfast can be dropped off during the day at Moser's Discount Foods, 705 Business Loop 70.

- Columbia NAACP annual celebration: 11 a.m., Martin Luther King Memorial at Battle-King Garden, 800 W. Stadium Blvd. A celebration and free lunch will follow at noon at Second Missionary Baptist Church. David Mitchell, an associate professor of law and newly named chairman of the University of Missouri System’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force, will speak.
COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Two University of Missouri sororities are planning to build new homes on the Columbia campus.

The Columbia Board of Adjustment on Tuesday granted variances to allow Zeta Tau Alpha and Delta Gamma to demolish their current houses and build new ones.

The Columbia Daily Tribune reports (http://bit.ly/1Kfegd6 ) membership in Greek Life has increased by more than 2,000 on the Columbia campus in the last five years.

Zeta Tau Alpha's 50-year-old building can house 79 students, while the new one will house 86. Delta Gamma's 90-year-old building and annex holds 80 students. The new building will house 92 under one roof.

Delta Gamma plans to start work in May, with students moving in to the new house in fall 2017. Zeta Tau Alpha has not set a timeline for its project.

Two MU sororities to build new houses in Greektown

By Megan Favignano

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 2:00 pm

Two University of Missouri sororities — Zeta Tau Alpha and Delta Gamma — are planning to demolish their houses and build new ones.
The Columbia Board of Adjustment granted variances to both sororities’ building projects Tuesday night, allowing the projects to proceed. The board voted to allow both sororities to exceed the 35-foot height restriction for houses zoned R-3.

Garrett Taylor, Zeta Tau Alpha’s lawyer, said the group’s proposed building design aims to make the sorority more competitive with other sororities on campus.

The Zeta Tau Alpha house at 912 Richmond Ave. will be 44 feet high, and the Delta Gamma house at 900 S. Providence Road will be 45 feet 5 inches high.

Taylor said the number of students entering the Greek system on campus grows each year. In the past five years, the number of students associated with Greek Life on campus has increased by more than 2,000 — almost 6 percent — according to Greek Life statistics.

If Zeta Tau Alpha were to change its plans to remain within the city’s height limit, board of adjustment member Dennis Hazelrigg said, the organization would likely have to build a flat roof. Flat roofs, he said, can be more prone to leaking.

“They’re attempting to replace an older building with something similar with more amenities and more space,” Hazelrigg said. “More amenities — if you look at every other university building, that’s what they’re putting in, and that’s who they’re competing with along with all of the apartment complexes.”

Tim Crockett, the engineer for Delta Gamma’s project, said the building’s new design — like Zeta Tau Alpha’s — will include more bedrooms to increase the number of students the house can hold and decrease how many students have to share each room.

Zeta Tau Alpha’s current, 50-year-old building can house 79 students, and the new one will house 86. Delta Gamma’s 90-year-old building and annex can house 80 students, and the new building will house 92 under one roof.

Additionally, the board voted to allow the Delta Gamma house to violate the yard setback requirement and approved the sorority’s request to have 34 parking spaces instead of 47. The city requires one parking space for every two residents of the building.

“I think this is a unique area adjacent to the campus and perhaps deserving of some unique solutions,” board member Janet Hammen said of Greektown.

Hammen had safety concerns with Delta Gamma’s proposed new porch encroaching into the city’s front-yard length requirement, given the property’s location on Providence Road.

“This is going to be a structure that is boundary line to boundary line,” Hammen said. “This is on Providence Road. This is a major corridor coming in.”

Hammen was the only board member to no vote against each of Delta Gamma’s requests. The board gave Zeta Tau Alpha unanimous approval.
Delta Gamma hopes to start work in May after school is out, with students able to move into the new house in fall 2017. A timeline for the Zeta Tau Alpha project has not been set.

What Cosby Scandal Teaches Us

No MU Mention
Revocation of an honorary degree has risen to the forefront again, occasioned by the recent arrest of Bill Cosby for sexual assault in Pennsylvania in a case for which the statute of limitations has not yet expired. In his lifetime, Cosby has received somewhere in the neighborhood of 50 honorary degrees, and three dozen higher education institutions have not, as of now, rescinded them.

It is high time these colleges and universities did so. If ever an easy case for degree revocation existed, this is it. Indeed, within the last few days, George Washington University rescinded the degree it awarded Cosby, reversing an earlier stand on this issue. That said, the fundamental issues go beyond Cosby and beg for us to answer a much broader question: Under what specific circumstances should an honorary degree be revoked?

I appreciate the difficulty some individuals -- as distinguished from institutions -- may be having with dropping the proverbial hammer on Cosby. He was, for many, an icon -- a mentor and role model to celebrities and noncelebs alike. He broke new ground in terms of race relations, and he had remarkable talent as a comedian. Indeed, I suspect that many people believed he was the character he played on television in the '80s and '90s: the high-minded father Dr. Cliff Huxtable.

Yet however hard it is for us as individuals, institutions of higher learning have deeper and wider obligations to their students, faculty members, administrators and alumni. Institutional leaders need to speak up and out -- as the victims of Cosby have -- about his serial sexual assaults. And revocation of an honorary degree does just that: it signals that the awarding institution will not sanction this egregious behavior. As we enter 2016, now would be a good time to clean up old messes and send forth a message on and off campuses that serial sexual predators are not deserving of our highest institutional accolade.
Most institutions do not have established clear rules or guidelines about honorary degree rescission. The Cosby case creates an opportunity to provide institutional guidance for possible future and less clear-cut -- and thus thornier -- situations.

This subject is especially complex in today’s campus climate. Hot topics continue to proliferate on campuses, including concerns over campus sexual assaults and campus culture, the increase in student protests over racial and ethnic discrimination, claims of First Amendment violations when speakers who disagree with prevailing student norms are disinvented from or silenced on campus, and critiques of political correctness as a way of masking students who are privileged and coddled.

Given the problems with the Cosby situation, it seems wise indeed to craft a written solution for when an honorary degree can and should be revoked and the process that is required to make that happen wisely. That would fill an existing void and facilitate action in the rare case in which it is needed. Developing such a document or documents, however, is easier said than done. We must be cautious about setting criteria that are so broad that almost any honorary degree can be withdrawn in a changed or changing political environment. Yet, if we are too specific and target the criteria to fit Bill Cosby or a Cosby-like situation, we are not providing solutions for situations down the road. In some ways, the dilemmas here resemble the question of whether named buildings, murals and statues of individuals who were honored in their time but were slave owners or robber barons or misogynists (among other things) should be eradicated. The criteria also raise the issue of governance. Who should decide whether an honorary degree should be withdrawn and by what voting margin (simple majority or supermajority)? What role, if any, should the president or chancellor play in recommending or championing a degree rescission? What role can and should faculty members and current or graduated students play? Trustees or members of a governing board?

Then there are issues surrounding the timing of the deeds leading to a rescission decision. Are the causes related to events before or after the actual honorary degree was awarded? Does an honorary degree confer ongoing obligations for the recipient, or is it an award for past deeds and actions?

And what about the larger looming question: how to ensure that the criteria do not limit the selection of honorary degree recipients to only those with whose ideology or actions we agree -- philosophically, politically or morally.
Here are my recommendations, appreciating that a one-size-fits-all solution will not work and that campuses need to craft language that is consistent with their own institutional culture and governance protocols.

- Within the honorary degree, as it is written and as it is ultimately read when conferred, the recipient should be awarded the degree with “all the appertaining rights, privileges of and obligations to” the awarding institution. By adding the word “obligations” to the award itself, colleges and universities are each signaling that with the degree come not only benefits but also ongoing duties. And those duties would include the recipient having acted and continuing to act in ways that are legally and morally consistent with the societal and campus norms. In many cases now, the word “obligations” is absent.

- Consider this language: “The Board of Trustees, upon motion of a trustee, the faculty and/or staff senate or student body president [wording would be adjusted to reflect actual governance structure in place at a given institution and how the awarding process functions], shall revoke an honorary degree by a two-thirds vote of trustees if it is determined that the action(s) or inaction(s) of the honorary degree recipient are or were so egregious that they violate existing state and federal law and/or the rules and guidelines governing the behavior of students, faculty and staff at [the institution] as reflected in the campus handbook [or other applicable document] as now exists or may hereinafter exist.

It is my hope that these suggestions will spur campuses to add this or similar language to whatever documents govern their procedures for awarding and rescinding degrees. Perhaps what is needed is an entirely new section in any applicable institutional documents related to honorary degrees that reference both the language to be used within the degree itself and the criteria upon which a degree can be rescinded.

It is the expectation that recession of an honorary degree will be a rare and will occur only in circumstances that truly reflect that the recipient’s actions or inactions are so contrary to established legal and social norms that the degree is no longer merited and does a disservice to the integrity of this institution and its stakeholders. Honorary degree recipients will be notified in writing of the institution’s decision to revoke their previously awarded degree.

The best way to test out the language that I’ve suggested is to plug in the names of people to whom this might apply -- now or down the road. What about degrees awarded or to be awarded to former President Bill Clinton or former Secretary of State and Senator Hillary Clinton? Eliot Spitzer or Richard Nixon? Tom Brady or Pete Rose? David Irving or Arthur Butz? Cardinal Law, Bishop Eddie Long or Rabbi Barry Freundel?
We in higher education can and should ask which of these people merited or might merit in the future an honorary degree. To be sure, that is another topic, but it is a worthy line of inquiry. And we can rightfully ask whether such individuals violated the law and/or have been prosecuted civilly or criminally or reached an out-of-court settlement. We can consider whether we object to their beliefs or to their conduct in the past or on a go-forward basis (for those still living). I get that we are on a slippery slope. I get that we may differ as to whether a particular individual’s conduct warrants the granting or revocation of an honorary degree. But each institution needs to set boundaries and know where it stands because the issue of degree rescission will not disappear over time. While the Bill Cosby case may be clear to many of us, the next one may be far less so. We should prepare now to deal as effectively as we can with what the future has in store.

BIO

Karen Gross is a former president of Southern Vermont College and former senior policy adviser at the U.S. Department of Education.