April 10, 2015

COLUMBIA, Missouri — Billionaires Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield have donated $10 million to help fund a new School of Music building at the University of Missouri's Columbia campus.

The gift, the largest donation for the arts in the university's history, was announced Friday. The university is still raising additional funds for the $74 million building. Construction is expected to start next year.

The building will allow music programs at Missouri to all be housed under one roof. The university says that the School of Music currently uses five buildings.

The School of Music building will be part of a larger project that includes renovation of the Fine Arts Building.

April 12, 2015

Jeanne Sinquefield and her husband, Rex, just gave $10 million to the University of Missouri, the lead gift toward a badly needed new music building.
But the tale of their generosity began a decade ago with what may be Jeanne Sinquefield’s greatest passion: “I want to make Missouri into a mecca for new music composition.”

To that end, the Sinquefields have funded the Mizzou New Music Initiative, a high school summer camp for aspiring composers and their original brainchild, the Creating Original Music Project. On April 18, they will celebrate the 10th year of the COMP program with a day-long concert of the music those kids create.

COMP is a K-12 competition for Missouri student composers. “The winners get a cash prize, and their music programs get a matching cash prize,” Jeanne Sinquefield says. That way, “the music teachers help us find and grow those composers. It’s interesting — there are teachers across the state who seem to find kids year after year. Some of the kids just crawl out of the ground; others are there because some teacher saw them and took an interest.”

The concert is in two parts. The junior division, with works by elementary and middle school winners, begins at 10:30 a.m. The senior division concert, for high school winners, begins at 2:30 p.m. If you can’t make it to Columbia, the festival will also be streamed live online at music.missouri.edu/concert_streaming.html.

“Every year, I’m just amazed by the kids. If we find them early, they keep coming back,” Sinquefield says. “When they get to the ninth grade, they can go to the high school summer camp. That really jump-starts them, because they get to work with full professors and graduate students, and with other composers.

“More importantly — this is absolutely critical — they meet and make friends with other young composers, and they stay friends. I asked one, ‘Do you ever talk with each other?’ and he said, ‘Yes, we text every day.’ One was in Ironton, and one was in (Jefferson City). They send each other their music. They’ll send things off to the grad students they met over the summer.”

The Sinquefields fund scholarships for eight undergraduate composers each year. “I don’t think there’s any place in the country that even offers a full tuition ride for undergraduate composers.”

One success story to whom Sinquefield can point is Stephanie Berg, whose “Ravish and Mayhem” was performed by the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra last year. “We helped her to be a better composer; she helps our kids to be better composers, and they’ll help our younger kids to be better composers.

“We’re making a place where composition is natural,” Sinquefield says. “It’s not geeky, it’s just what you do — and it’s fun.”
Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield donate $10 million to MU for new School of Music building

April 10, 2015

The University of Missouri-Columbia announced Friday the largest gift for the arts in the school’s history. The donors are Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield, who gave Mizzou $10 million for the lead gift for a new $74 million School of Music Building.

“I joke that we started in with a penny, and ended up (in) with a pound,” Jeanne Sinquefield said in a telephone interview.

Sinquefield noted that “I’m not typically into buildings. I’m into the program.” But MU’s music department is spread over five campus buildings, “and it doesn’t make it as attractive as you’d like for attracting new students. It was time to go forward with a first-rate building.”

The university is in the initial phase of fundraising for the building. Tom Hiles, vice chancellor for advancement, hopes to receive other private gifts and matching state funds. Construction is projected to start next year.

The Sinquefields, who have homes in Westphalia, Mo., and the Central West End, began their involvement with music at MU more than a decade ago. They have a strong interest in music composition — Jeanne Sinquefield is the principal double bass in the Columbia Civic Orchestra — and began by funding a high school summer camp. Their commitment grew from there to include a K-12 competition, scholarships and other music-related programs, all under the umbrella of the Mizzou New Music Initiative. The new gift brings their total contribution to MU to $13 million.

“Jeanne has great insights and a strong business perspective,” Hiles said. “She’s a musician and a supporter of the arts, and her passion is for making Missouri a mecca for composition. You don’t always get a donor’s big idea that’s also a priority for the university.”

“No major university has a fine arts and performing arts center that’s worse than ours right now,” said Michael O’Brien, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “It’s just havoc,” with mediocre spaces — classroom, rehearsal, studio and office — scattered through other buildings.
The new building will not only bring it all together under one spacious roof, but free up space elsewhere on campus for other departments.

In 2014, the university bought the Missouri Theatre, a historic movie palace that had been updated and rehabbed. By adding an acoustical shell to the stage, the music department gained a good performance space, and thus reduced the costs of the music building project by $50 million, O’Brien said.

That, in turn, will allow the college to go forward with the new building and with rehabbing the 1960 Fine Arts Building. That building has about 60,000 square feet of usable space in all; the new music building will add 54,000 just for music.

“It was built when the theater department had four faculty” members, said O’Brien; the number is now in the teens. The music and visual art departments have expanded similarly. “The number of students has just blossomed,” he said. The renovated fine arts facility will have costume shops, art studios and rehearsal space.

“It’s inspiring to see someone give an eight-figure gift,” Hiles said. “It also inspires everybody else to give.”

Sinquefield called the new building plans “necessary, but not very exciting.” She does have some ideas for the new building, including a second-floor exterior balcony for the student musicians. “It’ll be nice for the students to have a place to go outside and play,” she said.

“I get credit for all these good ideas,” she added, “but a lot of the time, they’re the kids’ ideas. I’d rather work with ideas than just throw money at a project and walk away. They know I’m not walking away.”

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

MU School of Music gets a record-breaking $10 million gift

April 10, 2015

Jeanne Sinquefield started giving to the University of Missouri’s music program about a decade ago in an effort to nurture young composers.

On Friday, she and her husband gave the largest single gift to support fine arts in MU history.
University officials announced the $10 million gift from Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield toward construction of a new MU School of Music building. University officials expect work on the building to start in 2016.

“The Sinquefields have found a meaningful way to advance their passion for musical composition and performance, and the university community thanks them for their generosity and for their leadership in supporting the arts at MU and in Missouri,” MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin said in a prepared statement.

Jeanne Sinquefield, a musician who plays bass with the Columbia Civic Symphony Orchestra and the Folk String Orchestra, said she began giving to support music composition, first to a program on the MU campus for student composers from elementary grades through high school.

Before the gift Friday, the Sinquefields had given more than $13 million for music and other programs at the university. Neither of the Sinquefields, who live in Westphalia near Jefferson City, attended MU, but their three children are MU graduates.

The new gift will kick off efforts to raise about $35 million for the new School of Music building, planned for the northeast corner of Hitt Street and University Avenue. Eventually, university officials expect to house the entire School of Music in the building, pulling together classrooms, studios, and rehearsal and office space now scattered across five buildings on campus.

“By giving the school its own facility, we can not only take a large step in positioning MU as a leader in music composition but also help to create opportunities for the school to become a leader in music performance and education as well,” Jeanne Sinquefield said in a telephone interview.

The new music building is a part of a larger project that will include renovation of the Fine Arts Building as a home for MU theater and art departments.

The total project is estimated to cost about $75 million. The university expects some of that funding to come from the state.

MU advancement officials, along with the College of Arts and Science, are now in the initial fundraising phase for the music school building.

Julia Gaines, director of the MU School of Music, said in a prepared statement that the Sinquefield gift, along with the renovations, will raise the university’s stature in music composition and fine arts.

“I can’t even begin to express how exciting this is for the MU music faculty, staff and students,” Gaines said. “We’ve had a glass ceiling over us for many years because of our facility limitations. This gift will allow us to grow in so many ways, and we are more than ready for the opportunity.”
Sinquefields give large gift to support Mizzou music building

April 10, 2015

Retired financier Rex Sinquefield and his wife, Jeanne, gave a $10 million gift to the University of Missouri-Columbia to help fund its proposed new School of Music building. This is the largest gift ever given to Mizzou in support of the fine arts, officials said.

The Sinquefields' gift kicks off fundraising for the new music building, which is part of a larger project that includes a renovation of the Fine Arts Building to improve facilities for the MU theater and art departments, at a total estimated project cost of $74 million. Construction is projected to begin in 2016, officials said.

The new building is to be located at the northeast corner of Hitt Street and University Avenue on the Columbia campus.

“We want Mizzou to become an international mecca for music composition,” Jeanne Sinquefield said Friday in a statement. “Currently the School of Music is spread out in five different buildings across the entire campus. By giving the School its own facility, we can not only take a large step in positioning MU as a leader in music composition, but also help to create opportunities for the School to become a leader in music performance and education as well.”

The Sinquefields, who live in Westphalia, Missouri, began supporting Mizzou's fine arts more than 10 years ago with the Creating Original Music Project, a competition for K-12 students statewide. The latest gift from the Sinquefields brings their total giving to Mizzou to more than $13 million.
April 10, 2015

**It is the largest gift the University of Missouri has ever received to support fine arts.**

Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield announced Friday a $10 million gift to help fund a proposed new School of Music building on the Mizzou campus. It is the cornerstone of the university's larger, $75 million plan to upgrade the facilities for the music, theater and arts programs.

The goal, Jeanne Sinquefield told the News-Leader this week, is to "make Mizzou an international mecca for music competition."

"This is my passion," she said.

The billionaire activist couple from Westphalia, Mo. — who have repeatedly made headlines in recent years for donating to conservative politicians and financing an ambitious education reform agenda that includes more school choice and a complete overhaul of teacher evaluations and tenure — also have a passion for music, especially original composition.

They have long supported the music competition program at Mizzou, donating nearly $3 million in the past 10 years.

University officials said Friday's announcement will jump start the effort to raise money for the new School of Music building, as yet unnamed, at the northeast corner of Hitt Street and University Avenue on the MU campus. The project also includes renovating the existing Fine Arts building, across the street, to improve facilities for the theater and art departments.

Michael O'Brien, dean of the College of Arts and Science, told the News-Leader the university's music program is currently spread among at least five buildings and there are portions that are not accessible to students and facility with physical disabilities. The new building would consolidate the music program and free up space in other buildings.

"There is no major university in the U.S. that has worse fine arts facilities than we do," O'Brien said. "...You cannot hear yourself think in that building."

O'Brien said once the new music building is constructed and the fine arts building has been renovated, the university will have "two state-of-the-art facilities within 50 feet of each other." And, the large new music building will include more than 54,000 square feet of classroom, rehearsal, office and performance space.

He said while there is still a significant amount of money left to raise for the project, a "lead gift" like the one provided Friday by the Sinquefields are critical "because they get people excited." If fundraising efforts take off, work on the new building could start as early as 2016.

"It's in the foreseeable future and not just some dream," he said.
The Sinquefields started supporting music and the arts — especially music competition — a decade ago with the Creating Original Music Project, a statewide K-12 competition and affiliated high school summer camp. The winning students, and their schools, receive cash prizes.

"They come to the university and hear their music performed," Jeanne Sinquefield said. The goal for the effort is to find "raw talent" and she said there have been many winners from the Springfield area.

In 2009, the couple donated $1 million to create the Mizzou New Music Initiative, which includes Sinquefield Composition Prize, which is MU's highest honor for a student composer. They also provide full tuition scholarships for eight undergraduate music composition students.

Jeanne Sinquefield said she has long been aware of the university's need for a better music facility and wanted to help. She said music composition is a craft that must be cultivated.

The couple also support an international music competition festival that brings in top composers to perform. In turn, they provide inspiration for the high school and college composers.

"By giving the School its own facility, we can not only take a large step in positioning MU as a leader in music composition," she said, in a news release. "But, also help to create opportunities for the School to become a leader in music performance and education as well."

Julia Gaines, the director of the MU School of Music, says this gift "is a dream come true—a dream that has been talked about for decades."

"I can't even begin to express how exciting this is for the MU music faculty, staff, and students," she said, in a news release. "We've had a glass ceiling over us for many years because of our facility limitations. This gift will allow us to grow in so many ways, and we are more than ready for the opportunity."

MU gets $10 million gift to help build new music building

By Ashley Jost and Steven Benna

Friday, April 10, 2015 at 11:00 am
Jeanne Sinquefield wants to make the University of Missouri “a mecca for composition.” To do so, she has given MU the largest gift the university ever has received to support the fine arts.

Sinquefield — wife of multibillion-dollar political donor Rex Sinquefield — donated a $10 million gift Friday to benefit ongoing efforts to build a new School of Music building at MU.

“The whole process doesn’t just work with composers,” she said. “To make this work, I need musicians; I need audiences; I need concerts. So the new building is to be able expand not only composition, but all music.”

Jeanne Sinquefield is known for supporting music at the flagship campus and has donated $1.3 million in recent years to MU. In all, the Sinquefields have given more than $13 million to the university.

Michael O’Brien, dean of the College of Arts and Science, said he has been planning the project since he took over in 2006.

“My number one fundraising priority was construction of a new building for the School of Music and renovation of the fine arts building, which currently houses not only the school of music but the departments of theater and art as well,” O’Brien said.

Friday’s donation extends to the $74 million building project, which will be done in phases, said Tom Hiles, vice chancellor of advancement at MU. The new music building is planned to occupy the corner of Hitt Street and University Avenue.

“She has traditionally not given to our capital projects, but I think she realized we won’t achieve this idea of being a mecca for music efforts without the proper space,” Hiles said. He said the Sinquefields usually give to endowments or to programs or scholarships.

The music building was part of a larger project the university put forward to the state as a 50/50 matching fund capital grant. The state program allows universities to request money for capital projects from the state, provided they raise half — if not more — of the funds from donors.

The project also includes renovations of the existing Fine Arts Building on campus to boost the theater and art departments. Art and theater faculty will be temporarily moved out of the fine arts building during the renovation.

The proposed music building will centralize the program, which now uses classroom, studio, rehearsal and office space in five different buildings. Leaders are hoping construction can start in 2016.

The university still is waiting to hear what could happen to the funding request from the state for the music building and other projects after Gov. Jay Nixon withheld those funds.
UM System spokesman John Fougere said in an email that after the release of funds last week for an existing 50/50 matching grant project at the Rolla campus, leaders “feel there is significant momentum” on other pending projects.

$10 million gift supports Mizzou music building


COLUMBIA, MO -- A Mid-Missouri couple gave a $10 million gift to support a new music building at Mizzou.

It was the largest gift ever to support the arts at the University of Missouri.

Westphalia’s Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield’s donation helps fund the University’s proposed new School of Music building.

The proposed site for the new building is the northeast corner of Hitt Street and University Avenue on the MU campus.

The new School of Music building is a part of a larger project that will include the renovation of the Fine Arts Building that houses the MU Theater and Art Departments.

Jeanne Sinquefield said, “I don’t think there is any other place in the world that would let a crazy lady like me come in and do all of these crazy things and come up with where we are going here.”

The Sinquefields have donated more than $13 million to MU.

Sinquefields Donate $10 Million to MU
Sinquefields Donate $10 Million to MU for Music Building

Watch the broadcast story: http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=12d4a0d5-1d72-41d1-901e-583d992533d9

Sinquefields Donate $10 Million to MU for Music Building

COLUMBIA MISSOURIANS

Sinquefields donate $10 million to MU's College of Arts and Science

Friday, April 10, 2015 | 4:17 p.m. CDT; updated 9:46 p.m. CDT, Friday, April 10, 2015

BY MARY HILLEREN

COLUMBIA — MU's College of Arts and Science received a $10 million gift to renovate the Fine Arts Building and construct a new School of Music building on the northeast corner of Hitt Street and University Avenue.

A standing ovation from students, faculty, staff and artists greeted Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin's announcement Friday in the Reynolds Alumni Center. Since 1988, plans to renovate the Fine Arts Building have been considered and repeatedly pushed back.

Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield gave MU the largest gift ever to support fine arts, according to a news release from the MU News Bureau. The Sinquefields hope to enhance the School of Music, especially its composition programs, which they have been supporting for over 10 years. They hope the renovations will attract larger audiences and more students to the program.

“We're making this place a Mecca for musical composition,” Jeanne Sinquefield said.

The Sinquefields created a statewide summer camp called Creating Original Music in 2005. They started the Mizzou New Music Initiative in 2009 with two monetary...
donations that extended scholarships, ensembles and faculty support. The initiative included the Sinquefield Composition Prize for student composers and the creation of the Mizzou International Composers Festival.

College of Arts and Science Dean Michael O’Brien said every area of the Fine Arts Building will benefit greatly from the renovations. Currently, the fine arts classes are spread across campus, and the School of Music inhabits five separate buildings. The construction will consolidate MU’s arts and theater programs in the current Fine Arts Building. A new, three-story music building will house the School of Music.

The Art and Theatre departments will gain more studio space, storage space and offices for graduate students and faculty. Across the street, the new School of Music building will be a three-story, 100,000-square-foot facility. There will be a 410-seat recital hall in addition to extra faculty studios and offices, practice and rehearsal rooms with sound isolation panels, and a constant humidity level.

$10 million gift supports Mizzou music building

April 10, 2015

COLUMBIA, MO -- A Mid-Missouri couple gave a $10 million gift to support a new music building at Mizzou.

It was the largest gift ever to support the arts at the University of Missouri.

Westphalia’s Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield’s donation helps fund the University’s proposed new School of Music building.
The proposed site for the new building is the northeast corner of Hitt Street and University Avenue on the MU campus.

The new School of Music building is a part of a larger project that will include the renovation of the Fine Arts Building that houses the MU Theater and Art Departments.

Jeanne Sinquefield said, “I don’t think there is any other place in the world that would let a crazy lady like me come in and do all of these crazy things and come up with where we are going here.”

The Sinquefields have donated more than $13 million to MU.

$10 million dollar gift presented to MU for student music building


April 10, 2015

COLUMBIA, Mo. - A Missouri music lover gave $10 million to the University of Missouri to help fund a state-of-the-art student music building on the MU campus.

Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield from Westphalia donated the money for the building project. It's the largest amount ever given to the MU Fine Arts Department.

Right now, the School of Music has classes in five different buildings.

The new building would house all of those classes as well as give students a new recital hall and practice space.

The project will also include remodeling of the existing fine arts building that houses the theater and art departments.
"This is a moment in time which I truly appreciate. Gift announcements like this come along every now and then and this one is so special for so many reasons. The givers, the recipients, the motivation, the vision, are all very special," said Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin.

The entire project is expected to cost around $74 million. MU administrators said they hope to receive state funds and other private donations to complete the project.

Construction will begin in 2016.

Sinquefields give millions for state-of-the-art MU music facility

Watch story: http://mms.tveyses.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=f01d68ef-ab02-4f82-aa32-eea56012afde

COLUMBIA - A major Missouri political donor and financial mogul donated $10 million Friday to the University of Missouri to help fund a new building for the School of Music.

Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield's donation is the largest gift ever to support the fine arts at MU.

The proposed new building for the school would be located at the northeast corner of Hitt Street and University Avenue. The building is part of a larger project to revamp the fine arts department which includes renovating the Fine Arts building and improving facilities for the theater department. The overhaul includes a new recital hall for the School of Music, renovations to the Rhynsburger Theatre, and an expansion of the Bingham Gallery.

The whole project is estimated to cost $74 million and construction is set to begin in 2016. The theater and arts departments will share the Fine Arts building once the School of Music moves to the new building.

Michael O'Brien, dean of the College of Arts and Science, said, "Once completed, this project will facilitate continued enrollment growth, enable more students to explore the fine arts at
Mizzou, attract outstanding students and faculty and enhance the aesthetics of our already beautiful campus."

Julia Gaines, the director of the MU School of Music, said, "We've had a glass ceiling over us for many years because of our facility limitations. This gift will allow us to grow in so many ways, and we are more than ready for the opportunity."

MU said in a news release Friday the Sinquefields are long-time supporters of music and the arts. In 2009, the couple gave $1 million to MU to create the Mizzou New Music Initiative. MU's Sinquefield Composition Prize is MU's highest honor for a student composer. The Sinquefield's total giving to MU now amounts to more than $13 million.

Jeanne Sinquefield said, "We want Mizzou to become an international mecca for music composition."

MU Receives 10 Million Dollar Donation for Fine Arts Renovation Plan

April 10, 2015

This Friday the University of Missouri announced a $10 million donation from Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield for a renovation of the Fine Arts Building and construction of a new School of Music. This is the largest donation the university has ever received in support of fine arts. The entire project is estimated to cost approximately $74 million.

The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Michael O’Brien said this project has been in the works since 1988.

“I can remember in 1988 when it was sort of a glint in somebody’s eye and there were some sketches drawn up,” said O’Brien.
He said there are double the number of art, theater and music faculty in the building compared to when it was first built in 1960. That, with an increase of 10,000 new students in the past 10 years led to the need of the renovation and the new music building.

“The facilities are outdated, they’re cramped, they’re horrible. It’s worse than anything I’ve ever seen, so this will allow all three departments to flourish. They’re great departments now, they’ll get even better.” O’Brien said.

Currently, the MU School of Music is spread out between five different buildings on campus. Jeanne Sinquefield said housing the program under one roof will help the school become a leader in music performance and education.

This is not the first donation the Sinquefields have made to the fine arts department at the university. Jeanne Sinquefield said she has been working for 10 years to make Missouri a mecca for music composition. In the past the Sinquefields have started camps for young musicians, funded scholarships for undergraduate composers and created an international composer festival.

Sinquefield said her family chooses to fund these programs through the University of Missouri because they allow her to try fun ideas.

“I can do things here that other universities wouldn’t let an outsider do,” Sinquefield said.

In total, the Sinquefield’s have given more than $13 million to the university. Sinquefield said she supports the fine arts because of her love of music.

“The joy of life is music. I don’t think you can go a day without hearing music, on the radio, on the television, your friends playing. Can you imagine a life without music? And do you want that music always to be what was written before you were born? No,” said Sinquefield.

The project is currently still in the fundraising stage. O’Brien said that this donation helped solidify the project and will hopefully encourage more donations.

Former DFA execs make record-breaking donation to music school expansion

For years, MU administrators struggled to relieve music students of the constrained and limited resources of the School of Music. But a recent donation might give new momentum to a project to renovate and expand the music program.
A $10 million donation, the largest MU has ever received, will fund a facility for the school, MU officials announced Friday. The gift comes from Jeanne and Rex Sinquefield, former executives of Dimensional Fund Advisors and residents of Westphalia, Missouri.

“We want Mizzou to become an international mecca for music composition,” Jeanne Sinquefield said in a news release. "Currently the School of Music is spread out in five different buildings across the entire campus. By giving the School its own facility, we can not only take a large step in positioning MU as a leader in music composition, but also help to create opportunities for the School to become a leader in music performance and education as well.”

The Sinquefields did not receive their education from MU — they received their master’s in business administration from the University of Chicago — but are “heavily engaged” with MU. Jeanne Sinquefield currently serves as a board member for the All We Call Mizzou steering committee, which raised $1 billion in scholarships for the university in five years, according to the release.

And this is not the first time the Sinquefields have donated to MU. The couple spends their retirement days running the Sinquefield Foundation and donating to programs and projects with which they are passionate.

According to the foundation’s website, Jeanne Sinquefield is a bassist in three central Missouri symphonies and her passion for music is reflected in the foundation’s past gifts. She gifted $1 million in 2009 to create the Mizzou New Music Initiative, which expanded university scholarships, ensembles and faculty support in the School of Music. The foundation gifted an additional $1.4 million in 2013 to keep the initiative going.

Prior to their retirement in 2005, Rex and Jeanne Sinquefield led DFA, a multi-billion dollar investment firm based in Austin, Texas, as chief executive officer and executive vice president, respectively. The firm has enjoyed great financial success over the years; DFA amassed a record growth of assets — $16.7 billion in new assets — in the first three quarters of 2013, according to a 2013 Forbes report.

Rex Sinquefield, a Saint Louis native, continued his affiliation with the firm he founded in 1981 as a board member until he voluntarily stepped down in 2013 after a national teachers union accused him of being linked to people who favored cutting teachers’ pensions.

His resignation was announced six days after the American Federation of Teachers blacklisted DFA, claiming Rex Sinquefield and other executives had ties to people “advocating for the elimination of traditional defined benefit plans,” according to a 2013 St. Louis Post-Dispatch report.

According to the report, AFT pointed to Rex Sinquefield’s affiliation with the Show-Me Institute, a pro-free market conservative think tank he founded. He is still listed as president of the institute as of April 10, 2015.
Rex Sinquefield is widely regarded as a key influencer of Missouri politics. In October 2014, he contributed $750,000 to former federal prosecutor Catherine Hanaway’s gubernatorial campaign, according to PoliticoMo.

MU spokesman Nathan Hurst said the Sinquefields have been “long-time donors and friends of the university,” but was not able to confirm whether university administrators and advancement staff knew of Rex Sinquefield’s political affiliations. Vice Chancellor for Advancement Tom Hiles was not available for comment.

The long-awaited project

The project to revitalize MU’s music program has been in the works since 2013. The School of Music occupies 31,000 square feet of space, according to previous Maneater report.

Michael O’Brien, the College of Arts and Science dean, told The Maneater in 2013 that the less-than-sufficient facilities have not kept up with years of unprecedented enrollment growth at MU. Between fall 2003 and fall 2013, MU saw a 29 percent increase in its total enrollment.

“The Fine Arts Building is totally inadequate and structurally needs a lot of work,” O’Brien said in 2013. “I can’t imagine anyone is learning there. This is the worst facility in the Midwest.”

O’Brien’s solution to these problems is an ambitious one: A new 100,000-square-foot facility and renovation of the Fine Arts Building. The project’s wishlist includes a new 410-seat recital hall, 100-seat lecture hall that can double as a recital hall, 50 new practice rooms, 41 faculty studios and 30 graduate-student studios, just to list a few features.

The vision has been talked about for nearly two decades, but only picked up speed a few years ago, O’Brien said. However, fundraising remains to be the project’s main obstacle.

The entire project runs a price tag of $74 million, according to the news release. Construction of the new building alone would require more than $37 million.

In August 2013, O’Brien told The Maneater that MU had raised about $3 million at the time. He said the university will make a proposal to the state to match private donations once enough funds have been raised.

MU officials were not able to confirm how much funding has been raised at the time of this reporting. Hurst said the newest contribution is considered to be the “lead donation” that will help advance the project.

“The Sinquefields’ gift will further advance the MU School of Music as a recognized leader in music composition nationally and internationally,” Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin said in the news release. “The Sinquefields have found a meaningful way to advance their passion for musical composition and performance, and the university community thanks them for their generosity and for their leadership in supporting the arts at MU and in Missouri.”
University of Missouri President Tim Wolfe told the UM Board of Curators on Friday that he supports an initiative called the Missouri Promise that would help pay for tuition at colleges and universities.

State Treasurer Clint Zweifel is spearheading the effort to put a tobacco tax increase on the ballot, with the money going into a scholarship fund to help pay in-state tuition for high-achieving students at two- and four-year schools.

“I emphasize that this is something we’re ‘talking about,’ because it’s not in stone,” Wolfe said. The idea came from discussions Zweifel, a Democrat, led earlier this year and has gained the support of other officials, including Attorney General Chris Koster, a Democrat, and former gubernatorial candidate Dave Spence, a Republican.

Under the Missouri Promise, the state would pay tuition and fees at a Missouri college or university for students who earn a 3.0 grade point average in high school and perform community service. Students would need to maintain a 3.0 average in college to keep the scholarship.

Wolfe stressed to the board of curators at its meeting in Rolla that the Missouri Promise proposal is part of a conversation about priorities for the state, and outlined how the program could ultimately affect workforce development efforts. Statistics from a similar program, Georgia HOPES, show that students who receive partial or full tuition aid are more likely to stay and work in-state after they graduate.

Leaders of two-year colleges have already talked about the idea, but Wolfe said four-year institutions are getting ready to rally their forces in support of Zweifel’s plan.

The discussion about raising money to win voter support and get the signatures required to put the issue on the ballot would begin after the institutions make their support of the Missouri Promise plan public. Officials would like to get an amendment on the November 2016 ballot to take advantage of increased voter turnout during a presidential election.
Wolfe said polling by the treasurer’s office shows support for the proposal.

Though other tax increase efforts have failed — including a tobacco tax hike voted down in 2012 — Wolfe said he feels confident this round could be different. Wolfe said some people in rural areas where the 2012 increase met major resistance voted no on that tax because of distrust that the money would be used as promised. The failed 2012 measure was designed to benefit K-12 education, higher education and smoking cessation efforts.

This tax, if implemented, would be solely for the purpose of the Missouri Promise, Wolfe said.

Chris Koster, attorney general and 2016 Democratic gubernatorial candidate, endorsed the Missouri Promise at the annual Democrat Days.

“This would transform the most daunting financial question facing Missouri families from ‘Can my child afford to go to college?’ to ‘Can my child afford not to go to college?’ ” Koster said at the event.

Curators approve new operating, patient care space in MU Health tower

By THE TRIBUNE'S STAFF

Friday, April 10, 2015 at 2:00 pm

The University of Missouri Board of Curators approved a $11.3 million project to fill out the existing shells of the third and fourth floors in the Patient Care Tower for MU Health Care in Columbia.

The university’s top leaders approved the project unanimously at the first day of their meeting at the Missouri University of Science and Technology on Thursday. The funding for the project will come from MU Health’s general operating fund.

UM System Chief Financial Officer Brian Burnett said the floors will primarily house patient care rooms and operating rooms.
"Missouri Promise" could make college more affordable

ROLLA - Higher education officials have endorsed a new plan Friday that would make college more affordable for graduates of Missouri high schools.

UM President Tim Wolfe showed his support for "Missouri Promise," the creation of Missouri State Treasurer Clint Zweifel. Wolfe explained to attendants at the UM Curators meeting that Missouri high school students with a 3.0 GPA or higher could see the cost to attend a college in Missouri greatly reduced.

Hickman High School Senior Mikayla Logan said this is exactly what Missouri needs.

"There are a lot of good schools that are only a few hours away, or I could stay home and be able to save a lot of money," she said. "That would be great, it's an incentive to go to college."

Logan will run track for Southeast Missouri State in the fall as a construction management major.

According to Chief Communications Officer for the University of Missouri System John Fougere, 28,000 Missouri high school students graduated with a 3.0 GPA or higher last year. 40 percent went out of state or did not go to college.

Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals Executive Director Phil Lewis fully supports the program.

"I think it might be the best thing that's ever happened to our Missouri colleges," Lewis said. "As principals and educators in Missouri we think that it is really important to keep our best and brightest students here in Missouri."

Fougere said Missouri Promise will be modeled after a similar program in the state of Georgia called Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally.
A tweet from the official UM Board of Curators account explained how it works in Georgia. Students with a 3.0-3.6 GPA earn a 75 percent discount. Those in the 3.7-4.0 range do not have to pay for tuition.

Fougere said the increase of the quality of students attending colleges in Georgia is a major contributor to why they were accepted into the Association of American Universities, an elite circle of higher education in which only 62 universities have received invitations. The University of Missouri is the state's only member.

Lewis said the exodus of Missouri's talent has been happening for years, and keeping Missourians in the state would also boost business.

"If our students are here in Missouri, educated in Missouri, then I think their network grows from Missouri out," Lewis said. "When that happens we have the opportunity to improve our business climate and help our businesses and industries here in Missouri."

The issue is how to pay for it.

"Trying to find money to keep students in Missouri is sometimes a difficult chore," Lewis said.

Fougere said the strategy is to get a ballot measure in 2016 to raise the tobacco tax and other taxes.

Another idea is to fund the plan through legislation in the Missouri state government next session.

Curators hear update on Title IX efforts, safety app

By Ashley Jost

Friday, April 10, 2015 at 2:00 pm

The University of Missouri System is committing $2.2 million in recurring funds to address Title IX goals on system campuses, leaders told the Board of Curators on Thursday afternoon.
The curators got a full overview of completed and planned efforts to address sexual violence on the four campuses, plans for how to use the allocated funds. They also received an update on smartphone apps designed to connect students with campus resources.

“It’s important to understand that this is not one-size-fits-all,” said Betsy Rodriguez, UM System vice president for human resources. “We’re trying to meet the students where they are — where they are physically, mentally and socially. This is not about prescribing something to them.”

The iPhone and Android apps still are in the works by most campuses.

At MU, the existing “GoMizzou” app was updated in early March to include a safety module, Rodriguez said. The safety module includes a “crisis safety button” that provides campus alerts, and the app also has contact information for mental health and sexual violence survivor services.

MU and UM System Chief Information Officer Gary Allen said in an email that GoMizzou is used by about 2,500 unique visitors daily. Allen said the safety module has been viewed more than 3,100 times since it was added to the app March 2.

Rodriguez said the campus is working to address concerns about data security and false reporting.

The app is being offered to other campuses to be rebranded and repurposed for the campus’ needs. The Missouri University of Science and Technology and the University of Missouri — Kansas City are testing different phone apps, Rodriguez said.

Don Cupps, chairman of the Board of Curators, said he was expecting a standalone security app, rather than incorporating it into something that already exists.

The idea behind adding the safety module to an existing app is that the campus community already uses the software, Allen said. Since the GoMizzou app was launched in 2010, it has been downloaded more than 111,000 times.

The $2.2 million in recurring funds will be used for what the campuses are identifying as “strategic priorities” in addressing prevention and education related to sexual violence.

At MU, that priority is to enhance education and prevention by developing an outreach plan for the counseling center. The St. Louis campus is looking to create a 24/7 confidential reporting hotline, the Kansas City campus is working toward trauma-focused training as well as culturally competent therapy, and the Rolla campus is working toward hiring an investigator, a case manager, a counselor and additional support staff.

Leaders on the issue of Title IX from all four campuses plan to meet in the coming weeks to discuss cross-campus support opportunities and to share ideas.
Shedding Light On Human Cancer By Studying Canine Cancer

If you have cancer – and your dog has cancer – it turns out you may be treated with the exact same drugs.

**Dr. Carolyn Henry, a veterinary oncologist at the University of Missouri veterinary school, says that, unlike lab mice, dogs get cancer naturally, just like humans. So their cancers are more likely to behave like human cancer when treated.**

“It’s the same disease, it really doesn’t matter what the species is,” Henry says. “It’s the same disease if it occurs naturally. And so, answers in one species should translate to answers in other species in many cases.”

On a recent afternoon at the University of Missouri animal hospital, Dr. Jeff Bryan, a veterinary oncologist, treated a 13-year-old dog named Susie for a possible tumor in her bladder.

He says our pets face the same environmental risk factors for cancer that humans do.

“They have all the same exposures that we have in our lives,” Bryan says. “They breathe our air, they may breathe our cigarette smoke. They live in our houses, they drink our drinking water.”

Thanks to an initiative called One Health/One Medicine, university researchers and doctors are working together to develop new treatments for cancer. Some of the drugs, like one called Quadramet, were developed at the university’s nuclear research reactor.

David Robertson, the reactor’s associate director of research and education, says timing is crucial while working with radioactive isotopes.

“If I make Samarium 153 in the reactor on Monday, by Wednesday half of it is gone,” Robertson says. “By Friday I only have a quarter of it left. If I’m going to use this radioactive material in new drug development for something that has a half-life that short, it’s very convenient to have the vet school, the med school, the chemistry and isotope production all located on the same campus.”
Quadramet was tested first in dogs at the university’s veterinary school. Because dogs age much faster than humans, their cancers also advance much more quickly. That means if you’re a clinical researcher, you’ll see results sooner.

“What you would see as a five-year survival success rate in people would probably correlate to a one-year survival rate in a dog, so we definitely get our answers more quickly,” Dr. Henry says.

Dr. Bryan says pet owners who have been touched by cancer themselves are often the ones to seek more experimental treatment for their pets.

“And so, they have a really personal motivation to try and help their animal,” Bryan says. “And those are often the patients we see in clinical trials because they want the cancer their animal has to be meaningful in the whole large scheme of fighting cancer.”

Here, Dr. Bryan is echoing something oncologists frequently say: that clinical trials are key to innovation in cancer research – both for humans, and for our dogs.

**MU warns employees of tax fraud schemes**

Watch story: [http://www.komu.com/player/?video_id=28338&zone=2,5&categories=2,5](http://www.komu.com/player/?video_id=28338&zone=2,5&categories=2,5)

COLUMBIA - The University of Missouri sent out an email to its employees Friday warning that some of its workers have reported being victims of a "fraudulent tax scheme."

According to the email, "Criminals are collecting information from a variety of sources to file fraudulent tax returns on other people's behalf."

MU Spokesperson Christian Basi said identity theft related to tax returns has been increasing across the country and is affecting some MU employees.

"We've received reports from our own employees here that they too have experienced problems when filing their tax returns," Basi said.
Basi said this form of fraud can affect anyone and MU wanted to notify employees as a "public service."

"Tax deadline is coming up and we wanted to make sure people were aware of various resources in case they do find themselves victim to identity fraud," Basi said.

He said many find out they are victims when they attempt to file their tax return electronically.

"The IRS reports back to them that the return has already been reported using the same social security number," he said.

To combat tax fraud and identity theft, the university suggests that anyone affected follow these steps:

- Contact the three major credit reporting agencies (Experian, TransUnion, and Equifax) and place a fraud alert on your credit report
- Contact all creditors involved
- Close any accounts that have been tampered with or opened fraudulently
- File a police report
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission
- Keep a record of all contacts

To better assist employees in protecting and fighting identity theft, the university has contracted with Experian to provide fraud protection at a discounted rate.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Two bills might threaten gender-neutral spaces in Missouri

Sunday, April 12, 2015 | 8:36 p.m. CDT

BY DANIELA SIRTORI

JEFFERSON CITY — Since their introduction on March 12, two bills that would restrict the creation of gender-neutral spaces in Missouri have triggered a flurry of news coverage and conversation.

But it's unclear what impact the bills, sponsored by Rep. Jeff Pogue, R-Salem, would have.

That might be OK with Pogue. When asked about potential implications of the proposed measures, House Bills 1338 and 1339, Pogue said he designed them "to shed light on
this entire subject" of gender-neutral environments.

Pogue's bills don't define the term but, generally, gender-neutral environments are spaces that any gender can use, or that are not gender-segregated.

"This is an important enough issue that it needs to be handled correctly, and the best way to handle it is to talk about it in these chambers, the House and the Senate. It's tailored right now to make people talk about what policy should be and what policies cannot be allowed, Pogue said in an interview.

Part of the conversation surrounding the bills has been whether their passage would curtail MU's plans to offer gender-neutral housing in the fall. At that time, the university will also open a new residence hall, Gateway, which will have unisex bathrooms.

No gender-neutral spaces
House bill 1339 would prohibit appropriation or spending of state funds for entities that have programs, projects or policies that create gender-neutral environments. Spaces mandated by federal or state court to be gender neutral would be exempted from the ban.

"The best way to influence policy and change is through appropriation of the budget," Pogue said.

The bill doesn't specify to what "entities" it would apply, or what it implies by "gender-neutral environment."

Such broad definitions make gauging the potential impact of the bill difficult, said Kyle Piccola, a lobbyist with PROMO.

Pogue introduced his bills roughly a month after MU announced its gender-neutral housing project. In the 16-bed space on the first floor of College Avenue Hall, students of any gender will be able live together in the same room or suite.
MU’s initial motivation for implementing gender-neutral housing was to create an inclusive environment for students who identify as transgender or gender nonconforming, director of MU Residential Life Frankie Minor said.

But the project will also allow relatives, such as twins of different genders, to room together. In the past, the department has received such requests but it hasn’t been able to accommodate them because all rooms are designated male or female, Minor said.

If Pogue’s bills passed and MU’s project went on as planned, the Department of Residential Life might have little to lose — it doesn’t get money from the state.

About 92 percent of the department’s funding comes from housing fees, Minor said. Additional sources of cash, such as vending machines and summer camps that use the department’s residential buildings, bring in the remaining 8 percent.

In addition, Pogue’s bills might not hurt future construction or renovation of residence halls. Money for those projects comes from revenue bond issues, not from the state.

The picture looks similar at Northwest Missouri State University, which has had gender-neutral housing for about four years.

There, Residential Life is also funded with student housing fees, and construction and renovation projects don’t receive state dollars, said Scott Shields coordinator of Residential Life Operations.

"If they’re saying we’re not going to give money to your school if you have gender-neutral housing, it would potentially hurt us on the academic side of the house, but not the housing side," Shields said.

About 750 of Northwest Missouri State’s 2,500 beds are part of the gender-neutral housing option, Shields said. Several room configurations are available, most of them featuring a single-occupancy private bathroom inside the living unit.

Limitations on public gender-neutral bathrooms
Pogue’s other bill, House bill 1338, would require all public restrooms to be gender-divided unless they are single occupancy.
The legislation would also prohibit state subdivisions, businesses, buildings or facilities with public restrooms from having policies against the bill's provisions.

Gateway, a new residence hall at MU, is set to open in the fall. The bathrooms there will be unisex, and they will have common sink areas and private toilet and shower rooms with full-height walls and full-height lockable doors, according to the Department of Residential Life website.

"Amnesty International includes gender-segregated toilet facilities among its list of recommendations to protect the safety of girls in school," according to Pogue's press release. "This thought can easily be expanded to restroom facilities outside of the school. "I believe that if the state of Missouri were to change a social norm of this magnitude, it should be held consistent across the state, and the General Assembly should be the only and sole part of government to make this call."

Even if House bill 1338 passes, the opening of Gateway might not suffer. In residence halls, only restrooms in the lobby are considered "public," Minor said. The bathrooms on the main floors are reserved for residents or their guests, who have to be escorted at all times, according to Residential Life policies.

**Any wings?**

PROMO's Piccola called the bills an "attack" on transgender people.

"They want a space where people feel they can be themselves, that they're welcome, and if this bill is aimed at stopping that, then that's definitely disheartening to see," Piccola said.

Although PROMO considers Pogue's bills harmful to the transgender community and the public in general, the organization hasn't taken any action yet. Neither of Pogue's bills has been assigned to committee. Legislation filed this late in the session usually doesn't get much traction, Piccola said.

"We're just waiting to see if the bill even has any wings and hear the conversations and hear the reason as to why the bill sponsor decided to present the bill," Piccola said.
UPDATE: Gov. Nixon signs bills to help dairy, agriculture

Friday, April 10, 2015 | 10:48 a.m. CDT; updated 7:13 p.m. CDT, Friday, April 10, 2015
BY SUMMER BALLENTINE, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JEFFERSON CITY — Gov. Jay Nixon signed bills Friday aimed at boosting Missouri’s dairy and $12.5-billion-a-year agriculture industries through insurance subsidies, scholarships, eased restrictions during parts of the year and other provisions meant to help crop and livestock farmers.

One measure would create a state subsidy for federal dairy insurance and would authorize scholarships for eligible college students studying agriculture who plan to work in that sector in Missouri. Another would allow trucks to carry heavier loads of livestock and grains during harvest season.

"Agriculture is our state's No. 1 industry, and the bills I'm signing today will help to further strengthen this important sector of our economy," Nixon said in a statement.

Similar proposals had failed last year, when the Democratic governor vetoed legislation that also would have shifted state regulation of deer farms from the Department of Conservation to the Department of Agriculture.

Republican Sen. Brian Munzlinger of Williamstown, who took the lead in Senate efforts to boost the farming industry, dropped the contested measure and other sticking points from this year's Senate agriculture bill to make the measure more palatable to Nixon.

The measure passed 101-48 in the House and had unanimous support in the Senate, despite concerns from Democrats who said allowing trucks to carry heavier loads could damage state roads at taxpayers' expense.
And while the legislation has support from the Missouri Farm Bureau, some rural farmers say it could lead to more foreign land ownership and additional taxes on beef producers.

At issue is a provision that will require the Department of Agriculture to review land sales if buyers do not have a W-9, a tax document completed upon employment.

Currently, the director must approve all land transfers.

Munzlinger said the new method will give the department the ability to monitor foreign land acquisition.

Missouri Rural Crisis Center program director Rhonda Perry said it creates a loophole that would allow foreign businesses to bypass a current 1 percent cap on ownership of Missouri land by creating a domestic limited liability company to use to submit a W-9.

Perry, whose group promotes rural and family farms, also criticized a provision that would allow beef producers to vote on levying a state tax for a marketing program, which she said could allow a limited number of producers to vote on increasing the tax for all state producers. Munzlinger said the legislation leaves an increase up to producers.

The dairy bill, sponsored by Rep. Bill Reiboldt, R-Neosho, will mean dairy farmers can be reimbursed for 70 percent of premiums for the federal margin protection program. That reimburses farmers if profit margins fall below $4.

That legislation also allows up to 80 scholarships for $5,000 to go to eligible students studying agriculture if state funds are available. MU also will be required to create an annual report detailing how to further spur growth in the dairy industry.

The bills are set to take effect Aug. 28.

**COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN**

Friends and colleagues remember MU art professor
COLUMBIA – Eric Sweet was enthusiastic about everything he did. “You don’t have to, you get to,” was his motto.

Friends, family, colleagues and students of the Columbia artist and MU adjunct professor remembered that gusto Saturday evening during a celebration of life in Cosmopolitan Park.

The crowd listened to music, ate food and wrote messages to Sweet’s wife, Catherine Armbrust, on button-up shirts he loved.

Friends said they admired Sweet for his authenticity, respect for everyone regardless of their beliefs and his ability to make people feel comfortable. Students said his teaching went beyond techniques and that he instilled in each of them a love of art.

Eric Sweet died Monday, April 6, 2015. He was 44.

He was born on Sept. 15, 1970, and grew up in LaBelle, according to previous Missourian reporting.

According to a Facebook post from Armbrust, Sweet came to MU in 1988 on an art scholarship, but left four years later and worked as bartender. He also moved to Alaska with a friend for a short time before realizing that “you can’t run away from yourself.” He came back to Columbia and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting from MU in 1997.

He then moved to Kansas City and began designing and building stained glass domes for G\R Interiors. He traveled all across the country installing his creations for seven years, taking time for his own work whenever he could.

He also worked as a chauffeur, blacksmith and a dealer in vintage items during his time in Kansas City.

In 2005, he began work on a master’s degree in printmaking at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and started running the UMKC Gallery of Art.
He completed that degree in 2007, returned to MU the following year, and earned a his Master of Fine Arts degree in printmaking from MU in 2011.

He joined the MU art department as an adjunct professor shortly thereafter.

In November, he had several works on display throughout the Midwest. He was most proud of the work featured at Columbia College, consisting of three pieces of his series on the theme of failed utopias.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

GUEST COMMENTARY: Achieving diversity must be a priority for new journalism dean

Friday, April 10, 2015 | 6:00 a.m. CDT
BY KOUICHI SHIRAYANAGI

A new dean of the MU School of Journalism, David Kurpius will inherit the helm of a first-rate program at the cutting edge of teaching the profession of journalism.

The “Missouri method” of teaching journalism by doing journalism in the school’s many learning laboratories — print, online and broadcast — has a proven track record of working well. MU graduates are considered prized hires in news organizations across the country.

The school scores well in almost every way quality can be measured in an academic program, but gets a failing grade in one category — diversity.

Historically, not just African Americans, but every person with black skin was excluded from the Journalism School. The school, like the rest of the university, was “integrated” by court order in the 1950s. Integration did not come voluntarily in the state of Missouri.

While the Journalism School did change its policy to include African-American students, the undergraduate and graduate programs have never enrolled a number equal to or exceeding the ratio of African Americans in the state.
The Missouri legislature is moving forward to recognize Lucile Bluford, the former editor and publisher of the Call, Kansas City’s African-American newspaper. She was denied admission to the school in 1939 and six consecutive semesters thereafter.

Bluford became a local civil rights icon in Kansas City for her efforts to desegregate the Journalism School. Kansas City has a library named after her, and her story is prominently displayed there.

There is no monument to Bluford, or any African American, for that matter, in the Journalism School. That is something Kurpius will need to rectify.

The school still suffers from a history of racial discrimination. The historical exclusion of blacks is all too apparent when looking at the demographics of today’s student body.

- While there is one black news anchor on staff at KOMU who also works at Newsy, there are zero black faculty editors working alongside students on the school’s other journalism publications — The Columbia Missourian, Vox, Global Journalist, KBIA and the Missouri Business Alert.

- While undergraduates attending the school are required to take a cross-cultural journalism course where they are taught that diversity is essential to news organizations, almost all the faculty editors of the school’s learning lab publications are white and Christian.

This disconnect gives undergraduate students who have taken the cross-cultural journalism course a mixed message about the real value of diversity in news organizations. It implies that lessons from the cross-cultural class are not as important in the news laboratory environment.

On the faculty, African-American representation is sparse. There is one African-American journalism professor who spearheads the cross-cultural curriculum, and one full-time African-American professor teaches in strategic communication. The one African-American faculty member in the convergence program recently left the school to work in private industry.

The Journalism School is also failing in the training of future African-American journalism educators. Of 29 doctoral students in the school, not a single one is African American.
Kurpius will need to recruit black master’s and doctoral students like the athletics department recruits black football and basketball players.

In the master’s program, where I am enrolled, I don’t have a single African-American male colleague to interact with on a regular basis because there are none in my program. One female graduate student from Portugal has Angolan parents, and two African-American women have been enrolled with me during the two semesters that I have been here. This includes a news reporting class I took with more than 80 students.

The lack of diversity has an impact on the quality of education. In reporting classes, discussions about the recent events in Ferguson, coverage of police practices around race and foreign reporting about Africa requires voices from black individuals to be present in class. Yet I have only had token representation of African Americans and Africans in class with me.

Without their voices, news coverage becomes a reporting exercise on “the other” rather than reporting on a community that is essential to daily news coverage in American and global society today.

Kurpius also must address the absence of students from Africa in the program, following the lead of the school’s first dean, Walter Williams, who developed relationships in places where many journalism students come from today.

Williams created strong ties with China, a country that sends several dozen of today’s students to MU and where several faculty members were born. Williams was a visiting professor in Mexico City, and he also traveled widely in Europe.

He never could recruit journalism students from Africa, however, because of racial laws in the state. Today, the Journalism School has a number of foreign students, but few come from Africa.

The Journalism School needs more African students because the continent has several countries where journalism training is highly valued. A free press is nascent in many places in Africa, places where a journalism education could perhaps do the most good.

Approximately six years ago, Louisiana State University hosted a conference on successful programs in diversity for journalism schools, which Kurpius attended. He
contributed to a chapter in the final report, “Diversity That Works,” about his efforts to recruit African-American undergraduate students to Louisiana State University.

He also participated in the larger discussions about diversifying the faculty, incorporating diversity into the teaching curriculum and diversifying the leadership of journalism schools.

The conference produced many powerful ideas for making a journalism school a more inclusive community, ideas that could be implemented at MU. Those ideas include hiring professional faculty with experience working in the African-American press, hiring cross-disciplinary faculty who also teach in ethnic studies departments and working hand in hand with organizations such as the National Association of Black Journalists to recruit candidates for the faculty.

The Journalism School has a written policy about faculty searches stating that any list of finalists for a faculty position without a member of a minority group must be justified. That policy is too weak.

It breeds a hiring process for faculty that allows minorities either to be ignored or rejected. In fact, in becoming dean, Kurpius was selected from a group of four finalists that did not include a member of any minority group.

In working to improve diversity at the Journalism School, Kurpius may have to develop a hiring policy that looks quite different from the one that selected him.

We need to see real change in diversity here at the Missouri School of Journalism. Otherwise, we will continue to miss important opportunities to learn from those who are different from us, an opportunity that will be lost.

Op-Ed: Indiana legislators must be avoiding real issues

By TERRY SCHLEMEIER
Indiana has recently garnered headlines, mostly unwanted, about a law enacted there to “protect religious freedom.” The main objection to the bill comes from people who interpret the law as allowing individual and small businesses to discriminate against people practicing sexual mores with which they do not agree.

The Missouri General Assembly is considering a similar bill to “protect religious freedom” that would allow associations affiliated with the University of Missouri and other public institutions to reject membership to those individuals whose religious beliefs do not conform to the group.

Although these bills are not really born of religious intent, they are but an initial skirmish in the 2016 elections; they should give cause to people seriously practicing religion. Those of you who believe you have won a battle in the war of morals remember the words of King Pyrrhus in 280 BC: “One more such victory, and we shall be undone.”

My personal opinion is that state legislatures should refrain from at least two topics: religion and Little League baseball.

When people look to the political arena for religious assistance and support, they are doomed to disappointment. History is awash in bloody and failed attempts of political institutions to exert influence over religious practices. The English civil war from 1642 to 1649 is a perfect example and one our Founding Fathers advisedly avoided.

Thomas Jefferson had inscribed on his tombstone his three most important accomplishments: authoring the Declaration of Independence, establishment of the University of Virginia, and his statute on religious freedom in the state of Virginia. In Jefferson’s day, most colonies sponsored a religion and that sect received a portion of virtually all taxes collected therein. Jefferson eliminated that tax, which established the model language of the First Amendment.

These types of “religious freedom” laws never establish any boundaries determining which religious beliefs are protected. When people read about these laws, they assume they are directed at their own set of beliefs, and that covers a very wide spectrum indeed. You have the beliefs of people who attend church daily, those who wear tin foil and hear church music from the Centurion Star and the galaxy of beliefs between those two.

Encyclopedias covering religious sects estimate there are between 20,000 and 33,000 differing Protestant sects. That covers the spectrum from Anabaptists to the late comedian Flip Wilson’s “Church of What’s Happening Now.” The question becomes: Which set, or sets, of beliefs does a prosecutor enforce?

Some of the proposed laws explicitly include “religious sincerity” as a determining factor of proof, but that becomes complicated in a court of law.
A necessary question here is: What, exactly, is the problem that so desperately needs solving? Transportation infrastructure, educational funding, exploding student loan debt, medical research, water scarcity and a myriad of other governmental tasks remain untended. Did the “butcher, the baker and the candle stick makers” all arise in revolt and I missed it? Personally, I feel the issue itself elevates pandering to a stratospheric level.

History has taught me that when legislators become too timid to ask their constituents for sufficient revenue to fix real problems, these issues arise in hopes voters will mistake timidity for productivity. I have been pleased with the number and types of opponents — chambers of commerce, Wal-Mart, the NCAA, among others — that have expressed opposition to such laws and effected necessary changes. I would compare this type of legislative activity to the old saw: “Straining gnats and swallowing camels whole.”

As Ben Franklin observed: “Whenever I hear a man, full of cant and palaver, I soon suspect he is but a knave.”

Ol’ Ben was correct then, and I think he still hits the mark.

Terry Schlemeier is retired after a career as a consultant with Terry Schlemeier & Associates of Jefferson City.

How to avoid financial goofs on life’s journey

April 12, 2015 12:00 am  •  By Jim Gallagher

We all make mistakes. But we can dodge them if we see them coming. In this column of life advice, let’s hear from people who are smart with money about how to avoid the financial goofs that can leave you broke.

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE STARTING OUT

Don’t rush into marriage. “The biggest financial mistake people make is getting divorced,” says Suzanne Gellman, consumer economics specialist at the University of Missouri. Dividing debts, selling homes, arguing over possessions and dealing with child support leaves parties drained financially and emotionally. Divorce is a major factor in bankruptcy.

Love clouds the brain. The best way to avoid divorce is to be very careful about who you marry, and talk about money before you tie the knot.

Get an emergency fund. You need enough savings to carry you through a spell of unemployment. When drawing up a budget, first decide how much you’ll save from each paycheck, then figure how you’ll live on what remains. Make savings automatic — set up an automatic deduction from your checking to your savings account.
Use credit cards sparingly. They make it too easy to lose track of spending. Favor debit cards for everyday convenience, and shun expensive overdraft coverage.

Be sane about student debt. A $50,000 student debt load is manageable if you’re a petroleum engineer (average pay $107,000) but it’s a big burden to a teacher (average pay $41,000, according to Payscale.com). Students headed for mid-paying careers should choose cheaper schools.

STARTING A FAMILY

Get the right insurance. Gellman finds that people often overinsure their lives, underinsure their cars and neglect disability coverage. Less than 10 percent of people die before retirement, but about a third become disabled, which makes a disability policy a good idea. Some employers offer it as a benefit.

The Affordable Care Act has made basic health insurance affordable for most people, and that can save you from bankruptcy. Ditto for good auto liability coverage if you hurt someone in an accident.

If other people depend on your income, you need life insurance. Term life is cheap — you can shop on the Internet — and usually the best choice.

Don’t neglect the 401(k) if you ever want to retire. If your company offers a 401(k), contribute at least enough to get the full company match. If your employer offers no retirement plan, open an Individual Retirement Account. Your contribution to a regular IRA will likely be tax deductible, but not for a Roth IRA.

“529” plans are the best way to save for college. The money grows tax-free if used for higher education. You can choose any state’s plan and get a nice deduction from Missouri state income taxes. Illinois gives a deduction for its own “Bright Start” plan.

Don’t be house poor. A house isn’t an investment. It’s a place to live, notes Gellman. Don’t mortgage yourself to the point that a job loss will throw you quickly into default. Save for a nice down payment to avoid expensive private mortgage insurance.

WHEN YOU CAN INVEST

Beware of concentrated positions — too much money invested in a single stock, or a single industry, says Chris Lissner, president of Acropolis Investment Management in Chesterfield. Diversifying investments lowers risk.

Don’t borrow money to invest in stocks. Borrowing heightens the risk inherent in the market. “You want to sleep well,” Lissner says. It’s a rare occasion when borrowing to invest makes sense.

Women, control your men. We know-it-all guys need a good woman to talk us back to Earth before we go off on a financial flyer.

Men tend to be overconfident, and that can be their undoing, says Matt Hall, president of Hill Investment Group in Clayton. “It’s the belief that we have the ability to see something that other people can’t know, and that’s going to equate to investment success,” he says. “You quickly will be humbled.”

The markets are full of smart pros, and they have trouble beating the dumb market indexes. That’s one reason why index mutual funds beat actively managed funds in most years.

Shut off CNBC. “People watch too much financial media,” Lissner says. They take action based on the latest breathless prediction, when those predictions are often wrong, he says.

Choose a financial adviser carefully. Don’t just grab the guy Grandpa uses. Make sure you understand how they’re charging for advice, Hall says. You want someone who will recommend what’s good for you, not what
pays the highest commissions for the adviser.

Interview a few and make sure their investment philosophy is in line with yours. Check for stains on their record at brokercheck.finra.org.

WHEN TURNING GRAY

You need a will, and it must be up-to-date. Die without one and the law decides how your estate is divided. You might also cause a big argument among your heirs over who gets what.

Do a cold analysis before deciding to retire. Financial planner Michele Clark of Chesterfield says the two biggest mistakes people make are failing to factor in inflation and underestimating medical costs.

She figures that a married couple should count on spending $11,000 a year for health costs beyond what Medicare will pay.

Rising prices are a hidden tax on savings. Social Security payments rise with inflation, but many pensions won’t.

Don’t claim Social Security early, unless you have to. Claim it at age 62 and your monthly check will be about 25 percent smaller than if you wait until 66. Delay it beyond 66 and your check will grow 8 percent for every year you wait until age 70.

At age 66, a man can expect to live another 17 years and a woman 19 years, according to Social Security’s estimates. That’s a long time to be underpaid.

Sexual Assault on Campus: 9 Views on What Will Signal Progress

NO MU MENTION

When The Student Culture Changes

Laura Bennett, President of the Association for Student Conduct Administration.

Colleges have to deal with the problem of sexual assault not just after it happens, but as each student walks onto the campus. The easy answer is that progress equals fewer incidents. The reality is that progress is much harder — both to achieve and to measure. The following would demonstrate institutional and systemic progress to me:

First, there is adequate staffing for prevention and response, ample funding, and ongoing training. Every institution’s strategic plan includes sexual-assault prevention, and it is part of the academic accreditation process. Title IX coordinators, student-conduct administrators, and campus law enforcement are empowered by presidents and attorneys to make relevant policy decisions.

Second, faculty discuss consent and healthy and unhealthy relationships in every course, and these conversations are congruent with those that students have after hours, in student-only spaces. Students
confront misogynistic and homophobic behaviors and statements. Students become better at asking for sexual activity and communicating consent or nonconsent.

Third, everyone on campus should be able to articulate what is prohibited, how to report an incident, and what happens after reporting. Both the victims and the accused feel respected and heard during the process, even if they disagree with the outcome. There is no more confusion about the role of the campus disciplinary process and the criminal-justice system.

Fourth, comprehensive best practices (including transcript notations and admissions review processes) are used by all institutions, resulting in increased trust in the process and reducing the need for federal and state mandates. The student party culture changes as a result of healthier concepts of masculinity and multiple positive identities for all genders and orientations. Alcohol isn't needed to pursue intimacy. Finally, colleges become rape myth busters instead of perpetrators.

**When Compliance Is Not Just on Paper**

Annie Clark and Andrea Pino, Co-founders of End Rape on Campus

Three years ago, having barely entered our 20s, we searched through the library shelves at the University of North Carolina, looking for how women who have been sexually assaulted on campus could find justice. This was a problem that seemingly had no answer, particularly because it appeared to be unaccounted for, undocumented, and unfixable. In 2015 there are hundreds of victims who have taken on the same seemingly unfixable problem of sexual assault, and much as we did, they are taking it on single-handedly. That is precisely what needs to change.

After founding End Rape on Campus, an organization that directly supports survivors seeking to change the climate on their campuses, we have encountered the same pattern of response from university administrators: "We take these allegations very seriously." "We have convened a task force." "We are in compliance." Those may not be malicious responses, but to students they sent a clear message: You are alone in this battle.

Never in our travels has a single college president given the response that students deserve: "We will not tolerate sexual assault on this campus." Rape is a violent crime, and compliance with Title IX does not do enough to fix the problem. Blue lights, rape whistles, and task forces do not help the sexual-assault survivor who must see her perpetrator until she graduates — if she even does graduate.

An indication of change starts with acceptance and admitting a very real problem. A true testament to the seriousness of a university’s response is a thorough commitment to creating a deterrence to sexual violence, and a commitment to safety, not just compliance on paper.

Higher education continues to be reactive to these systemic problems. Change will come only when colleges lead it, rather than follow the efforts of the students who expect their guidance.

**When We All Protect One Another**

Royce Engstrom, President of the University of Montana

Almost two years ago, we announced the resolution of the federal government's investigations into the University of Montana's handling of sexual-assault and harassment complaints. Today there's another story to tell about our campus and about the community of Missoula. Because of the hard work of many people, UM and Missoula have made important and lasting changes.
But there is still work to be done here and across the country. I will view lasting progress as having been achieved when we can keep sexual assault from happening in the first place. As we work toward that, we view substantial and real progress when:

Students know that their role as part of the college community is to help a friend out of a potentially unsafe situation. Progress is when we all step up for, defend, and protect one another.

All students know where to go on campus and in town for help, they know whom to report to, they know why there are campus administrative processes to stop, prevent, and effectively deal with sex-based discrimination and violence, and they feel they can safely be heard.

The continuation and strengthening of collaboration among the university, law enforcement, advocates, health-care providers, and all sectors of the community serve as models of success for other communities across the nation.

All students feel safe on the campus and in the community.

**When We Move Beyond the Moral Panic**

Samantha Harris, Director of Policy Research at the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education.

Real progress against sexual assault on campus will require colleges to respond in a way that is rational and respects the rights of all involved. The climate of fear fueled by articles like the now-discredited Rolling Stone feature and movies like The Hunting Ground, together with intense governmental pressure, have created an environment in which rational discussion is virtually impossible.

If we have learned anything over the past four years, it is that colleges are terribly out of their depth when it comes to handling allegations of serious criminal wrongdoing. Rather than take matters out of colleges’ hands, however, the federal government has doubled down on a broken system, issuing complex and rigid guidance as to how institutions must handle such claims if they want to keep their federal funding.

In this high-pressure environment, an increasing number of colleges have adopted single-investigator systems, in which one individual serves as detective, prosecutor, judge, and jury in internal sexual-misconduct proceedings. This often leads to life-altering decisions rendered after limited investigation and without the parties ever having the opportunity to challenge or even see one another's statements.

Even worse, because data suggest that most perpetrators of campus sexual assault are repeat offenders, overreliance on internal proceedings means that actual, dangerous offenders are being expelled and left free to continue preying on society at large.

Unfortunately, in the current climate, too many serious proposals for reform, such as calls for greater due-process protections or arguments in favor of mandatory reporting to law enforcement, are dismissed as insensitive or even sexist. Only when we move beyond the moral panic that informs almost every conversation about this issue can we begin to talk productively about how to create policies that adequately protect students and yield the fairest and most accurate outcomes.

**When Victims Have the Tools to Recover**
Nancy Hogshead-Makar, CEO, Champion Women

Colleges and universities will be congratulated for making real progress when they do the following:

First, give all victims the tools to recover. I have provided legal services in cases in which a university has not allowed a victim to withdraw from some classes, has placed additional tutoring, health-care, and counseling appointments on the student’s schedule, and has expected full compliance with police and administrative investigations, all while threatening the student’s scholarship if any of those burdens should be dropped.

If all universities provided the accommodation to victims that Title IX requires, sexual violence would not disrupt the trajectory of a woman’s life so tragically. Rape would still be traumatic, but the expectation would be that the woman would pull through it, as we do most other painful experiences.

Second, give victims the ability to remove perpetrators from campus when the two are known to each other, much the same way that an employer would be expected to remove a harassing colleague. This should be done with processes that are fair to both parties.

Third, research has shown that rapists are most often predatory offenders, not bumbling men who fail to read the cues. As a result, to stop sexual assault, colleges should focus on identifying male perpetrators on campus rather than on constraining women’s behavior.

When Colleges Strictly Comply With Title IX

Wendy Murphy, Adjunct Professor at the New England School of Law

The handling of violence against women is worse than ever because of the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act, known as the SaVE Act.

When SaVE was proposed, in April 2011, supporters said it would "codify" the excellent "Dear Colleague" letter, issued days earlier, in which the Department of Education emphasized that violence against women must be dealt with under Title IX’s "equitable" standards — on par with those employed in the redress of violence on the basis of race, national origin, etc.

In fact, the SaVE Act was intended to destroy the "Dear Colleague" letter and enable colleges to respond to violence against women under worse standards compared with those of other protected classes. That became more apparent as SaVE made its way through Congress, where a few good provisions were replaced with bad ones. A mandatory "preponderance of evidence" rule was removed, allowing colleges to declare victimized women inherently less credible than their attackers. SaVE also replaced Title IX's mandate of "equitable" treatment for women with a weaker promise of "fair" treatment.

On the eve of SaVE's effective date, in 2014, I filed suit to stop it on the grounds that it violated women’s constitutional rights. A federal court ruled in March 2015 that SaVE can have "no effect" on Title IX, and yet the act has already caused tremendous harm to Title IX. Contrast the recent decisive and effective civil-rights response to students chanting racist words with the refusal of most colleges to process any sexual assault as a civil-rights violation anymore.

SaVE not only subjugates women but also requires tremendous resources. Strict compliance with Title IX is simpler and minimizes the risk of litigation. Better yet, it ensures that sexist violence is understood as a civil-rights injury that harms the entire community. When all students feel injured, all students become invested in solutions, and the number of incidents goes down.
When 'Sexual Assault' Is Clearly Defined

Geoffrey Stone, Professor of Law at the University of Chicago

I would like to see progress on four fronts.

First, and most obviously, sexual assault is a serious offense. Colleges should take seriously their obligation to protect students against such behavior and to reduce the incidence of such conduct.

Second, to achieve that goal, colleges need a clear, coherent, reasonable, and workable definition of what they mean by "sexual assault." In the absence of such a definition, no one knows what is expected. The concept of sexual assault has been so confused that it is difficult for students and adjudicators to understand the "rules." A good starting point would be to make clear that it is sexual assault for X to have sex with Y unless X reasonably believes, in all the circumstances, that Y has voluntarily consented to the sexual conduct.

Third, colleges must commit to a set of fair procedures. Because a finding that one has committed sexual assault carries potentially grave consequences, colleges should employ procedures that fully respect the demands of due process. These include a right to a fair and impartial decision maker, a right to the assistance of counsel, a right to confront the witnesses, a right to present evidence, a right to appeal, and a right not to be found guilty in the absence of clear and convincing evidence.

Fourth, much of the problem stems from a lack of good judgment on the part of students. Although colleges should be reluctant to play the role of parents, in this realm colleges should do a better job of educating and informing students about appropriate behavior. It is unfortunate that students entering college have not already figured this out, but to the extent they haven't, colleges should take the initiative to engage students in thinking responsibly about these issues.

When Students Develop Relationship Skills

Holly Rider-Milkovich, Director of Sexual Assault Prevention at the University of Michigan

With the reauthorizing of the Violence Against Women Act in 2013, nearly every college student in the United States receives training in developing relationship skills that promote respect, nonviolent resolution of conflict, and healthy sexuality.

In 10 years, an entire generation of college students will have received some form of education on this issue. This accomplishment alone constitutes a major advance toward the goal of changing our cultural norms to further embrace gender equality and reject gender-based violence in all its forms.

However, campus training is often delivered too late. National studies indicate that by the time students arrive at college, many have already experienced some form of dating or relationship violence, or have committed sexual or dating violence against a peer.

Researchers and youth advocates agree that students should develop these skills in early adolescence, when they are forming their beliefs about how to engage in sexual and intimate relationships, and expressing those beliefs through dating or casual sexual encounters. Real progress will be made when the prevention education we provide in college builds on a foundation of knowledge and skills about healthy relationships that students learn in middle school and high school.
To achieve this progress, communities must invest in age-appropriate, evidence-based training on respectful relationships and healthy sexuality education before students graduate from high school.

Universities must do more as well. It is insufficient to talk about healthy relationships with students only at the beginning of their freshman year. We must continue to develop students’ relationship skills as they continue toward a degree. Real progress will be students graduating from college ready to be successful in their relationships with others as well as in their careers.

**When Accusations Do Not Equal Guilt**

Sherry Warner Seefeld, President of Families Advocating for Campus Equality

An indication of progress in the handling of sexual assault on college campuses will be when young people of both genders feel valued and receive the full support and resources of their colleges, whether claimants of wrongdoing or respondents. Campuses will be practitioners of constitutional principles, teaching and modeling appropriate civic behavior; they will be governed by administrators using calm and focused strategies to solve this serious issue.

Criminal activity will not be tolerated on campus. Those who believe they have been victims of a crime will be supported and given the aid necessary to make a report to authorities. Campus services will support this person throughout the process. The same will be true for any student who stands accused, but accusations should not equal guilt, because labels do last a lifetime.

It is imperative that we strive to achieve justice for everyone on our campuses. Colleges will model our American belief in "innocent until proven guilty." After the criminal-justice process has concluded, a campus discipline hearing may be held.

If an accusation made by a student is not criminal, the matter will become part of the college disciplinary-hearing process, a procedure meant to be an educational experience. The restorative-justice model has great potential.

Restorative justice brings together respondents, claimants, and their respective supporters to voluntarily participate in a range of processes, including dialogue, for which they are prepared and during which they are supported by professionals. The focus of this dialogue is to understand the harm caused and to seek resolution by giving all parties a voice so they can be heard and understood. Restorative justice aims to build stronger, safer, more inclusive and caring communities.

**MU student wins competition with video game league concept**
By Jack Witthaus

Saturday, April 11, 2015 at 12:00 am

When Connor Hall told his parents in high school he wanted to become a professional gamer, he said they were a bit skeptical.

But after participating in competitive gaming, Hall said his parents have seen him grow through the experience. Hall, 21, said he has made friends all over the United States and has developed into a strong video game player.

“A lot of people think gamers are in their basements and isolated — that’s not true,” Hall said onstage Friday at the fifth-annual Ignition Pitch Competition at Columbia College.

Now, Hall said he is ready to develop local camps and leagues for kids in middle school and high school with his new company EpicEd. **He said Columbia Public Schools have shown interest and he’s working with University of Missouri Dean of Education Daniel Clay.**

Unlike when he played, Hall, an MU junior studying finance, said people today make millions of dollars through competitive tournaments. He said there’s a market for training and organizing kids who want to develop into professional gamers.

The judges agreed.

Hall captured first place and took home $6,000. Hall beat out about 15 entrepreneurs who were given a few minutes to pitch an idea, business model, marketing strategy and financial plan to a panel of judges. Friday’s competitors were chosen from 52 applicants.

JC Holmes, a participant and the founder of data management company EverFin, said it’s difficult to pitch an idea in such a condensed presentation. Holmes’ Columbia-based company develops “souped up” Rolodex databases and other databases.

Holmes said he began the business assuming people needed better digital tools at work. He quickly realized, though, that he encountered millionaires who are still using pen and paper to manage their companies. Holmes said he spends time convincing some clients — through calendar notification exhibitions, for example — to make the digital transition.

“It’s shocking,” Holmes said.

Holmes said EverFin is serving clients in 13 states now and the company is looking to expand internationally. He said he hoped to build good relationships through the event, and said he received good feedback.

In the high school division, Hunter Middleton, 15, won first prize for his idea for a company called Freight Care. Middleton came up with the idea after talking with his grandfather, Jack Martin, who accompanied him to the event.
A former truck driver, Martin told Middleton stories of colleagues in the trucking business who suffered physically from the job. Middleton pitched to the judges a medical referral service for drivers that could help them find doctors and dentists, for example.

Middleton said he became interested in business when he was in middle school and his uncle started an eBay company that sells disc golf equipment.

Currently a freshman at Kingdom Christian Academy in Fulton, Middleton said he took the day off school to attend the competition.

“I told my teachers it was business, and I had to give a pitch,” Middleton said.

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Report: Funding for higher education lags in Missouri, Illinois

By CAMILLE PHILLIPS • 9 HOURS AGO

State higher education funding per full time student has dropped more than 26 percent in Missouri and increased almost 50 percent in Illinois over the past five years, according to data compiled by the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association.

The stark contrast between the states is due in part to an almost 29 percent variance in enrollment trends; Missouri enrollment has gone up while Illinois enrollment has gone down.

But Illinois Higher Education Director James Applegate said his state has also drastically increased its higher education funding in order to pay pension shortfalls.

“When you extract the pension funding from the Illinois report, what you see is we are in the bottom half of the country in terms of state support for our universities and community colleges,” Applegate said.

According to Applegate, if Illinois’ higher education receives the 31 percent budget cut proposed by Governor Rauner, then Illinois would be ranked 6th from the bottom in state support.

Illinois is an anomaly in the State Higher Education Executive Officer’s Association report due to the pension funding. Missouri, on the other hand, follows national trends.

Since the recession, state and local funding per full time student has declined nationwide by almost 19 percent, even as enrollment has increased 8.6 percent. Funding has declined 27.8 percent in Missouri since the recession, with a 20 percent jump in enrollment.

“It looks like Missouri has been impacted by the economic downturn at a higher level than the national average,” said Andrew Carlson, the report’s principal analyst. “And then if you just look at the actual dollar amounts … Missouri is about 20 percent below or 15 percent under the national average on per student funding.”
If the pension funding is taken out of the equation, both Missouri and Illinois have had relatively flat funding over the past six years. But because enrollment has increased in Missouri, there’s less money dedicated to each student.

Applegate, Illinois’ director of higher education, attributes his state’s 16.5 percent enrollment decline in part to tuition increases.

“We currently, for example, export more than 16,000 more students out of Illinois to go to college than we import from other states to come in to college,” Applegate said, noting that many of those students go to Missouri.

Applegate is lobbying for an increase in state funding instead of the decrease Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner wants in order stop what he calls a “talent drain.”

Meanwhile, Missouri has kept tuition to state schools flat due to legislative constraints. But the University of Missouri System approved a slight tuition hike in February. And state appropriations continue to be historically low for Missouri.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Columbia residents work together to beautify city
Saturday, April 11, 2015 | 8:17 p.m. CDT; updated 11:36 a.m. CDT, Sunday, April 12, 2015
BY NATALIE HELMS
COLUMBIA — Hundreds of volunteers in neon orange vests dotted Columbia’s roadways, parks and trails Saturday morning as they worked to rid the city of litter.

Neighborhood Services manager Leigh Britt said approximately 1,500 people signed up for the 19th annual Cleanup Columbia and cleaned 140 sites throughout the city.

Volunteers could be found at places like the MKT Nature and Fitness Trail, Rock Quarry Park, Cosmo-Bethel Park, Nifong Park, Rock Bridge Memorial State Park and along major roads, such as Providence Road, Scott Boulevard and Nifong Boulevard.

Fifteen boys in Cub Scout Pack 703 and their parents cleaned Fairview Park and the area around Fairview Elementary School, which many of the boys attend.

Melissa Willett, mother of fourth-grader and Cub Scout Carter Willett, said the event was a great opportunity to show the boys the importance of keeping the area around their school clean.
Pat Kirchhoefer, the boys' pack leader, said knowing that so many other Columbia residents had given up their Saturday morning provided ample motivation for his Scouts. He said the boys won't receive any special badges or merits for their efforts. "It's just a fun community service project for the pack."

Resident Dianna Ledgerwood's family and grandchildren picked Dublin Park for their site.

Ledgerwood has lived in the neighborhood near the park for about two and a half years, but Saturday marked her first Cleanup Columbia. She volunteered to ensure the area is clean for her daughter and grandchildren.

"It’s important to do as much to preserve our environment as possible," Ledgerwood said.

Ledgerwood said walkers and joggers passing the family thanked them for their efforts, though she said the area was already fairly clean before her family began trash pickup.

"This is a really great thing that Columbia does," Ledgerwood said.

**MU students also got involved through Caring for Columbia, the university's largest student-run day of service.**

Caring for Columbia divides more than 1,200 students into groups that volunteer for various organizations for the day, according to Twitter.

Chloe Walton, an MU junior and Caring for Columbia logistics committee member, said four groups were sent to help the Cleanup Columbia efforts.

Two of those groups cleaned along Stadium Boulevard between Business Loop 70 West and Blackfoot Road, and the other two picked up trash along Timber Lane and a stretch of Ballenger Lane.

Volunteers were told to leave their trash in bags on the curb or in receptacles for city trash trucks to pick up. They were also encouraged to sort out recyclables and bring those in a blue bag to a city recycling receptacle.
Should Colleges Be Judging Rape?

By Robin Wilson

April 12, 2015

**NO MU MENTION**

Four years after the U.S. Education Department admonished colleges to take their role in responding to sexual assault more seriously, a consensus is emerging among some campus officials and legal experts that the government's guidance is not only unrealistic but exceeds its legal authority. The amount of money and effort colleges are devoting to try to meet the mandates for adjudicating sexual misconduct, they say, is unsustainable.

Even as colleges attempt to follow the government's recommended procedures for judging allegations of sexual assault, under threat of losing federal funds, they're facing more scrutiny from lawmakers, plus a torrent of lawsuits and complaints from students. More than 100 institutions are under federal investigation for purportedly botching cases. To deal with students' complaints, some of which are taking years to resolve, the Education Department's Office for Civil Rights has asked Congress for money to hire 200 more investigators.

While few deny that sexual assault is a problem on campuses, no one seems satisfied with colleges' response so far. Victims and their advocates fault officials for missteps and callous disregard, while accused students who were suspended or expelled are increasingly suing their institutions, charging that they were denied due process. "Right now, the process ... on college campuses serves no one," said Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, Democrat of New York, a cosponsor of a new bipartisan bill meant to tackle the "scourge of campus sexual assaults head on." As she puts it: "It's a broken system."

Law professors, meanwhile, oppose new policies they say tip the scales against those who are accused, and question the legality of the federal guidelines. Faculty members at two law schools — Harvard University and the University of Pennsylvania — wrote open letters in the last six months objecting to new systems for dealing with sexual assault on their campuses. "Although we appreciate the efforts by Penn and other universities to implement fair procedures, particularly in light of the financial sanctions threatened by OCR," wrote the Penn professors, "we believe that OCR's approach exerts improper pressure upon universities to adopt procedures that do not afford fundamental fairness."

Public outcry is growing louder, as some observers express bitter dissatisfaction with how young women say campuses have treated them, while others contend that a climate of moral outrage is harming young men. The recent documentary *The Hunting Ground* denounces colleges for playing down or ignoring reports of rape. And *Rolling Stone*’s retraction of an article about a gang rape at the University of Virginia may have heightened anxieties in both camps.
"I don't know that American higher education was ready for this," says Peter F. Lake, director of the Center for Excellence in Higher Education Law and Policy at Stetson University. "The level of accountability and scrutiny is extraordinary. We feel mistrusted by everyone."

Administrators may be able to offer support to victims and helpful prevention programs, but are colleges really suited or equipped to judge whether a student committed rape? Although few campus officials want to say so publicly, in private some concede that the answer is no.

But if the current system isn't working, then who should be responsible for dealing with campus sexual assault? Some people are suggesting alternatives.

Phi Kappa Psi at the U. of Virginia was purportedly the scene of a party where a gang rape, featured in "Rolling Stone" magazine, took place. It turns out there was no event at the frat house that night, and other pieces of the story unraveled. (Andrew Harrer, Bloomberg via Getty Images)

Despite the high stakes and rising debate, many campus officials are deeply committed to ending sexual misconduct and argue that they should be in charge of investigating and adjudicating reports of assault. "We have this obligation to keep our students safe," says Jody Shopper, executive director of the Office of Equity and Diversity at the University of Southern California. "This is not something we can shirk."

Some administrators say colleges are doing a good job, considering the obstacles. "They are adding staff, improving procedures, and training investigators," says Howard Kallem, Title IX coordinator at Duke University. "Does that mean they aren't going to get sued? They very well might. But despite the publicity, many colleges are in fact getting it right."

College officials can't afford to ignore their responsibilities to handle sexual assault. Beyond the moral imperative, if a college doesn't resolve students' reports promptly and fairly, the Education Department may find that it violated their rights under the gender-equity law known as Title IX and created a hostile environment for learning. Since Title IX was passed in 1972 to bar sex discrimination, courts have interpreted that to include sexual harassment and assault. The penalty for colleges that fall short, in theory, is the loss of all federal money.

As that's never happened, the bill sponsored by Senator Gillibrand also proposes a fine of up to 1 percent of a college's operating budget when it is found to have violated Title IX.

Campus officials are uniquely poised to do many things to keep students safe on campus. They can preserve the educational opportunities of victims by providing special accommodations, helping them avoid running into their accused perpetrators in the classroom or the dorm. Regardless of whether an assault charge goes to the police or whether prosecutors pursue it, the criminal-justice system can't take those protective measures.

Common perceptions that the legal system is intimidating — and reluctant to take on acquaintance-rape cases involving one person's word against another's — prompt many students to look to their colleges for justice. If an accused perpetrator is found responsible, he may be suspended or expelled.

But if the criminal system often won't handle date-rape cases, why should higher education be able to? "It's unfair to ask that colleges become criminal courts," says Scott A. Coffina, a lawyer who works with colleges on sexual-assault investigations.

That hasn't stopped them from trying. Colleges are scrambling to revamp policies for handling reports of assault. Some are separating sexual misconduct from other disciplinary-code violations and relying less
on professors and students to adjudicate assault cases, instead hiring high-priced lawyers, investigators, and former judges.

All the while, colleges are trying to interpret new guidelines, seeking advice from a burgeoning industry of campus consultants. The directives keep coming. The Education Department continues to issue guidance, and state lawmakers are also stepping in. California now compels all colleges to define consent among students as an affirmative, continuing agreement to engage in sexual activity. New York's governor, Andrew M. Cuomo, has required a similar standard — "yes means yes" rather than the traditional "no means no" — of campuses in the state's public system, while four other states are considering such a standard.

Colleges have spent more than $100 million in an attempt to meet their Title IX obligations regarding sexual assault since 2011, estimates Mr. Lake, of Stetson. That's when the Education Department issued its infamous "Dear Colleague" letter, exhorting colleges to take their legal obligations to handle students' reports of assault more seriously, by conducting prompt, fair investigations.

A lot of the money goes to beefing up campus Title IX offices. Some of the top Title IX coordinators command at least $150,000 in salary and benefits a year, more than the average pay of full professors at many universities. And institutions are expanding their Title IX offices, which means they must make financial trade-offs with other divisions. "Everyone believes it's worth spending a lot of money to protect students from sexual assault," says Mr. Lake, "but the question is, Is it working?"


Even if institutions follow federal guidelines to a T, they still face inherent conflicts in adjudicating complaints. They must play several roles at once: investigator, judge, and support staff for both alleged victims and perpetrators. That can lead to resentment and confusion when, say, the same person who has been listening sympathetically to an account of rape then asks prying questions as part of an investigation.

"College administrators really are there to help students, that's why they got into that work," says Mr. Coffina. "Then they get into a situation where they have to decide something that will affect one or both of these students for the rest of their lives. The stakes and the pressure on them are really high."

The limits of campus disciplinary systems can also make it hard for them to deliver justice. Under new regulations, students can have lawyers by their sides during hearings and investigations. But colleges cannot issue search warrants, compel students to submit evidence, or subpoena witnesses. No one is under oath to give information truthfully.

And unlike court proceedings, the campus judicial process wasn't designed to be an open forum, where an impartial judge or jury hears and decides a case before the public. Instead, campus hearings are closed. Federal privacy rules that protect students mean colleges typically can't disclose, confirm, or correct the details of a case or its outcome.

Those rules governed what happened last month when a reporter asked Grinnell College to comment on a critical account of three sexual-assault cases that arose three years ago at the college. Because of the privacy laws, campus officials knew they could not discuss the cases with the news media. So Grinnell
took the unusual step of publicly asking the federal Office for Civil Rights to review the cases to determine whether the college had done anything wrong.

While three female students had accused male classmates of sexual assault, according to an ensuing article in The Huffington Post, Grinnell found only one of the men responsible for sexual misconduct. In one of the other two cases, the college found the accused perpetrator responsible for "psychological trauma," and in the third case the college found the student responsible for "disorderly conduct." The article contained damning details: that the assailants were placed on disciplinary probation but not expelled, that the accusers had to keep taking classes with them, and that the students found responsible were directed only to write short apology letters.

The Office for Civil Rights hasn't said whether it will agree to Grinnell's request, which some victims' advocates dismissed as a public-relations move to deflect responsibility. Raynard S. Kington, president of the college, says it had to ask because, in the face of criticism, it couldn't defend itself. "We're concerned this distorted coverage could actually discourage students from coming forth and getting the help they need," he says, calling portions of the article inaccurate. "These cases are being played out in the court of public opinion with incomplete information."

Paul Nungesser, a Columbia student accused of sexual assault by Emma Sulkowicz and others, says he is innocent. (Damon Winter, The New York Times)

However a college decides a case, more is in play than fairness and safety. An institution often must pay its own price, both financially and reputationally. No campus wants to be branded a "rape haven" for letting perpetrators off the hook. But with the stepped-up duties colleges now have regarding sexual assault, if more students are found responsible, a particular campus can seem like a place where assault is a significant problem.

The University of Colorado at Boulder recently settled a lawsuit, for $15,000, from a former student who said the university violated Title IX when it suspended him for nonconsensual sexual intercourse. (The student said the sex was consensual.) He agreed not to return to the campus, and the university said it would not provide information to other institutions about why he left. The latter is standard procedure for Boulder, a spokesman there says. After someone serves a suspension, the university does not note the infraction on his transcript. But some view the case as Boulder's attempt to have it both ways: satisfying the accuser by finding the young man responsible, and mitigating the fallout by settling his lawsuit.

"Schools are reacting precipitately just to get out of the way of what they view as an oncoming train, which is the outcry and outrage that will come with not treating a victim fairly," says Andrew Miltenberg, a lawyer who represents students who've been accused of rape.

With doubts swirling about campuses' ability to handle these cases, will administrators concede that it should not be their job to prosecute rape?

Probably not any time soon. "Who is going to want to look like they are not aggressively pursuing these complaints?" asks Mr. Coffina.

More likely, some say, is that one or more federal court decisions will help clarify colleges' role. Perhaps the courts will take up due process, the standard of consent, or the burden of proof that the Office for Civil Rights has directed colleges to use: a "preponderance of the evidence" (or "more likely than not"),
which is lower than the criminal standard of "beyond a reasonable doubt." A ruling could determine whether the office's guidelines — and the way campuses follow them — are legally sound.

This past winter, the University of Pennsylvania followed the lead of other elite institutions by totally revamping how it handles sexual misconduct. It professionalized the process, officials said, naming a special investigator with experience prosecuting sex crimes, and establishing a specially trained decision-making panel. But a third of the university's law faculty isn't impressed.

The new rules vest too much power in an individual investigator and undermine due process for the accused, 16 professors wrote in an open letter in February. "Our point is there is too high a risk of wrongful adjudication," says David Rudovsky, a senior fellow at Penn's law school and one of the authors of the letter.

Part of the problem, it says, is how the federal government has directed colleges to respond to sexual assault. The 2011 Dear Colleague letter from the civil-rights office told campuses to take "immediate and effective steps to end sexual harassment and sexual violence," spelling out some of them. A detailed Q&A last year provided more specific instructions. Neither the Dear Colleague letter nor the Q&A followed the usual process of federal rule-making, which includes soliciting public comment. Only a new set of regulations interpreting the Violence Against Women Act, which includes provisions for campus sexual assault, followed the typical federal rule-making process.

"OCR has issued several guidance letters," the Penn law professors wrote, "whose legal status is questionable."

Some lawmakers find it incredible that rape cases are landing in campus systems instead of in courts. A roundtable discussion last summer led by Sen. Claire McCaskill, a Missouri Democrat, considered that issue, and the proposed new Senate bill requires campuses to coordinate with local law-enforcement agencies. Virginia legislators unanimously passed a bill in February requiring colleges to report to the police all sexual-misconduct cases they consider felonies. And recent incidents involving unconscious victims at Vanderbilt and Stanford Universities were quickly referred to the police.

Sen. Claire McCaskill, Democrat of Missouri (left), and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, Democrat of New York, are cosponsors of the Campus Accountability and Safety Act, which proposes a fine of up to 1 percent of a college's operating budget when it is found to have violated Title IX. (Bill Clark, CQ Roll Call)

Some college leaders are quietly talking about other alternatives. Could they pool their resources and create regional tribunals — staffed by legal experts — to handle rape allegations? Campuses could still fulfill their role of ensuring that students who come forward don't have to be in classes or dorms with those they've accused. And the outside panels could process the cases more consistently, sidestep many of colleges' built-in shortcomings, and coordinate with law-enforcement agencies.

In a journal article last year, a longtime researcher of sexual violence, Mary P. Koss, argues for a "restorative justice" approach to resolving some students' cases. While federal guidelines discourage colleges from using mediation, restorative justice is distinct — a voluntary process in which the offending party accepts that harm has been done. The resolution often involves rehabilitation, says Ms. Koss, a psychologist in the University of Arizona's public-health school who wrote the article with two campus officials. Restorative justice serves victims and Title IX better than an adversarial model, she says, with expelled students landing at other colleges.
Meanwhile, as of last week, 105 federal investigations of campus sexual assault were pending. According to an analysis by Mr. Kallem, of Duke, it took the Office for Civil Rights an average of more than two years per case to resolve 15 over the last five years. And Congress may not approve the Obama administration’s request for money to hire 200 more staff members for the office.

"Can they go on adding more to their docket?" wonders Robb Jones, senior vice president and general counsel for claims management at United Educators, an insurance and risk-management group. "Given the years they are taking to decide investigations, is the current enforcement process going to grind to a halt under its own weight?"

Two members of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights have urged Congress to take into account "OCR's pattern of overreaching" in deciding whether to increase the office's budget. A letter they wrote in February says: "OCR has pushed past the limits of its legal authority in addressing sexual assault and harassment on college and university campuses."

In a couple of years, the Obama administration will leave town, and probably with it the political appointees who have kept campus sexual assault at the top of the national agenda. "Successive administrations may not have the same priorities as this one," says Mr. Jones. "The enforcement pendulum may swing back."

Perhaps over time, with more experience, colleges will refine their approach and settle into a process that all students — and the advocacy groups behind them — consider fair. Maybe new federal legislation will bring some clarity. Or a decisive court ruling will place responsibility for dealing with sexual assault squarely in colleges' domain — or remove it altogether. But one thing is clear: Pressure is running too high to sustain the status quo.

April 13, 2015

State Spending on Higher Education Shows 'Sizable' Increase

By Goldie Blumenstyk

The buds of a recovery in state and local support for higher education that appeared in 2013 blossomed even more in the 2014 fiscal year, a new report shows. But the effects of the Great Recession still linger, according to the State Higher Education Executive Officers association.

Even with what the group called a "sizable" 5.7 percent increase in spending over the previous year’s figure, the $86.3-billion in overall state and local funding remains below 2008-11 levels in inflation-adjusted dollars.
More than three out of every four of those dollars go to support public colleges and universities. (The rest goes to financial aid, research, agricultural extension, and other purposes.) And at public colleges, too, there were small positive signs. For the first time in years, public colleges’ reliance on tuition revenue dipped slightly — from 47.7 percent to 47.1 percent — on a per-student basis relative to what they received from state and local appropriations.

George Pernsteiner, president of the state officers’ group, called this a recommitment by states to support higher education. The findings are presented in the new "State Higher Education Finance" report.

The shift was due to a combination of increases in spending for higher education in 37 states and an overall dip in enrollment.

Andy Carlson, a senior policy analyst at the officers’ association, said the primary cause for the change in that per-student calculation came from the 4-percent increase in spending going directly to public colleges, although the 1.3-percent decline in full-time-equivalent enrollment was also a factor. Enrollment hit a peak in 2011 but has tapered every year since then.

In dollar terms, educational appropriations rose to an average of $6,552 per full-time equivalent student, an increase of 5.4 percent, while tuition accounted for $5,777, an increase of 2.7 percent.

**Through the Years, Students Pay More of the Tab**

In the 2014 fiscal year, public colleges’ reliance on tuition revenue dipped slightly compared to their state and local appropriations on a per-student basis. But from 1990 to 2014, state and local appropriations have shrunk from 79 percent of educational revenue per full-time student to 53 percent.

Note: Figures are in constant 2014 dollars, adjusted for inflation.

Source: State Higher Education Executive Officers, Get the data
The report calls the increase in public funding a sign of a "more pronounced economic recovery" than the more modest one recorded in 2013. But it also notes that in context of historic trends, today’s students bear a far greater share of the costs than students of a generation ago. In 1989, net tuition represented 24.5 percent of total educational revenue at public colleges. In fact, 25 states now receive more per-student revenue from net tuition than from appropriations, the report notes. Twenty-eight states are above the national average of 47.1 percent in that proportion; 15 of those are above 60 percent. States also vary widely in the share of educational costs borne by tuition; it’s lowest in Wyoming at 15.1 percent and highest in Vermont at 84.5 percent.

Mr. Carlson, the primary author of the report, noted that even after a second consecutive year of per-student funding increases nationally, appropriations per student are still nearly 19 percent below prerecession levels. But the national data obscure differences in state spending. Only three states have raised funding on a per-student basis since 2008 — Alaska, Illinois, and North Dakota — and the bulk of the increases in Illinois have gone toward meeting unfunded pension obligations.

Faculty Salaries Are Up Slightly but Still Recovering From the Recession's Effects

By Peter Schmidt

Faculty salaries rose faster than inflation last year but failed to regain all of the ground lost after the most recent recession, according to an annual report on faculty pay released this week by the American Association of University Professors.

Controlling for inflation, salaries for full-time faculty members in the 2014-15 academic year were up 1.4 percent over the year before, marking the second year in a row in which they rose faster than the rate of inflation, the AAUP’s report says.

"We are not losing ground as we were in previous years immediately following the recession. That is the silver lining there," says John Barnshaw, a co-author of the report and senior higher-education-research officer at the AAUP.

Search and sort comprehensive information, going back more than a decade, about the salaries of faculty and staff at more than 4,700 colleges and universities. With The Chronicle's new interactive tool, users can browse data by state, sector, and Carnegie classification and break out salaries by institution, rank, and gender. This is just the first phase of Chronicle Data. There's more to come.

But faculty members continue to earn slightly less, in inflation-adjusted terms, than they did before the economic downturn six years ago, the report concludes. The recent trend, it says, represents the continuation of a long period of stagnation in pay for full-time faculty members.
The AAUP’s report, titled "Busting the Myths," seeks to refute arguments the group says it hears routinely, such as that professors are overpaid and that their salaries are to blame for tuition increases.

The report also takes issue with those who argue that spending on faculty benefits is a primary driver of rising costs in higher education. Spending on those benefits, the report says, rose by roughly 6 percent over the five-year period from 2009-10 to 2013-14. Benefit packages — which represent about 30 percent of the compensation for full-time instructional faculty — remained fairly intact despite the nation’s economic troubles. But, the report adds, faculty benefits account for much too small a share of colleges’ total spending to explain their rising costs.

Medical and dental benefits accounted for about 11 percent, and retirement benefits just over 10 percent, of what colleges spent per faculty member in 2014-15, according to the AAUP report. The most-generous benefit packages, of just over $30,000 per faculty member, went to those at private, independent colleges. Religiously affiliated colleges offered the least generous packages, at just under $23,000 per faculty member.

Big Disparities

As in past years, faculty earnings continued to vary widely by rank and by type of institution.

Full professors at private independent doctoral institutions remained at the top of the pile, earning average salaries of nearly $178,000 and average total compensation packages of nearly $224,000 in the 2014-15 academic year.

At the bottom were full-time lecturers and instructors at community colleges, who earned average salaries of about $48,000 and total compensation packages of just under $67,000. The AAUP’s annual survey does not chart the earnings of instructors who work part time; they generally earn significantly less — even per hour worked — than do their full-time colleagues.

As had been the case in other recent years, faculty members with the title of associate professor experienced slower growth in their salaries in 2014-15 than others who were tenured or on the tenure track.

Disparities in pay also remain between men and women at nearly every rank and every type of institution. Over all, full-time professors who are men earned an average of nearly $96,000, while those who are women earned an average of just over $77,000.

The AAUP annually surveys more than 1,100 institutions in developing its report.
Tuition dollars made up roughly 47 percent of revenues for public higher education for the third straight year in 2014, cementing a trend in which tuition revenue now rivals state appropriations as the main funder of public colleges and universities.

Tuition dollars in 2014 made up 47.1 percent of public higher education revenues, down slightly from last year’s level of 47.7 percent, an all-time high, according to the State Higher Education Finance report for fiscal 2014 released today by the State Higher Education Executive Officers association.

Public colleges rely on tuition dollars nearly a third more than they did before the recession. In the five years preceding the economic decline, tuition accounted for a significantly smaller share of public higher education revenues, hovering around 36 percent. The downturn sparked a spike in enrollment, a decrease in appropriations as states slashed spending and an increase in tuition rates, all of which led public institutions to rely on tuition dollars more now than ever before.

Twenty-five years ago, tuition accounted for 24.5 percent of public higher education revenues. Today that figure is nearly double, as seen in the chart below.
"You have an economic recession and then you have a steep jump" in tuition as a revenue share, said Andrew Carlson, the SHEEO manager who was the primary author of the report.

"Basically that's the new level. It's the new benchmark," Carlson continued. "If the past is indicative of what we can expect in the future, I would expect it to hover around this level until the next economic downturn," when tuition revenues will likely rise again, he said.

Net tuition revenue per student was $5,777 in fiscal 2014, up 2.7 percent from the previous year, up 26.7 percent from five years ago and up 107 percent from 25 years ago when adjusted for inflation.

"It puts a real squeeze on a lot of families and working adults," SHEEO President George Pernsteiner said of public colleges' increased reliance on tuition dollars. "The cost is being borne more and more by students and their families.... It's something that states are going to have to think very hard about."
Meanwhile, states are continuing to slowly reinvest in higher education after nearly across-the-board cuts during the recession. Thirty-seven states increased their financial support of higher education in fiscal 2014. State and local governments allocated $86.3 million to support higher education that year, including $83.5 million toward public colleges and universities (the remainder of support went to financial aid and other support for private institutions).

State and local governments on average spent $6,552 per student in fiscal 2014, up 5.4 percent from the year before but down 13.3 percent from five years ago and down 24 percent from 25 years ago when adjusted for inflation. The increase in per-student support is indicative of two factors: hikes in appropriations and declines in enrollment.

The report outlined a third straight year of enrollment decline. In fiscal 2014, there were 11.1 million full-time-equivalent students enrolled in a public postsecondary institution, down 1.3 percent from the previous year. Typically when an economy rebounds, fewer people attend college because more jobs are available. Student population peaked at 11.6 million in 2011, the year right after the recession ended.

In 1989 state and local appropriations accounted for $8,615 and tuition accounted for $2,792 in public higher education revenues per student, when adjusted for inflation. That breakdown is now $6,552 in appropriations and $5,777 in tuition revenues per student -- a vastly different landscape than 25 years ago, as seen below.

"I don’t think either states or institutions have rethought spending in the context of where the money is coming from," said Jane Wellman, a senior adviser with the College Futures Foundation.
Twenty-five states generate more than half their public higher education revenue from tuition, with 15 states generating more than 60 percent from tuition.

The SHEF report provides a comprehensive review of state and local funding, tuition revenue, enrollment trends and degrees for public higher education. This is its 12th year of publication.

Modest Gains in Faculty Pay

April 13, 2015

By Colleen Flaherty
First, the good news: Full-time faculty member salaries grew somewhat meaningfully year over year -- 1.4 percent, adjusted for inflation, according to the American Association of University Professors' Annual Report on the Economic Status of the Profession, out today. Not adjusted for inflation, that’s about 2.2 percent across ranks and institution types, and 3.6 percent for continuing faculty members in particular. Those numbers are almost identical to last year, when pay bumps outpaced the rate of inflation for the first time since the Great Recession, suggesting that professor salaries have started to recover.

The A.A.U.P. salary data, searchable by institution, rank, state and more are available here.

Now the bad news, according to the report: faculty salaries remain much lower than many of those in the business world, and make up just a fraction of institutional expenditures, yet many Americans continue to blame professor pay for ballooning tuition. (Think Vice President Joe Biden’s 2012 remarks about “escalating” academic salaries, or more recent suggestions from Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker about increasing professor productivity in the face of a proposed $300 million state funding cut to higher education -- as well as University of Wisconsin at Madison Chancellor Rebecca M. Blank’s snappy response.)

A.A.U.P. tries to correct that perception about professor pay, among others, in this year’s faculty salary survey narrative, called “Busting the Myths.” While full-time faculty salaries have actually decreased 0.12 percent since the recession, adjusted for inflation, net tuition has risen 6.5 percent on average across institution types, the report says. Over the same period, A.A.U.P. says -- narrowing in on what it identifies as the real reason for skyrocketing tuition -- state appropriations have decreased 16 percent on average. And endowments have “eroded,” too.

“The need to reclaim the public narrative about higher education has become increasingly apparent in recent years as misperceptions about faculty salaries and benefits, state support for public colleges and universities, and competition within higher education have multiplied,” reads the A.A.U.P. report. “Rebutting these misperceptions can aid in organizing to achieve economic security for all faculty members -- full time and part time, on and off the tenure track.”

But first, a little more on this year’s data:

By the Numbers
A.A.U.P.’s report includes data on full-time faculty salaries from 1,136 responding institutions. The study does not include part-time professor pay, so keep in mind that those adjuncts who are part time -- many of whom face flat wages on a lower base and who have the least chance of getting a raise -- are not counted.

That limitation notwithstanding, A.A.U.P.’s full-time faculty salary data are more current and comprehensive than anything available elsewhere, including from the federal government. Inside Higher Ed is the exclusive provider of A.A.U.P.’s current faculty salary survey and full data sets are available here. Institution-specific top-10 lists --
such as where full professors earn the most -- are at the bottom of this article.

Breaking down salary data by institution type, faculty members at doctorate-granting institutions got the biggest raises between 2013-14 and 2014-15: 2.3 percent, not adjusted for inflation, compared to 2.2 percent over all. In a change from last year, when they fared worst among their colleagues, full professors at public research institutions saw some of the biggest raises: 3 percent (continuing full professors specifically got 3.4 percent raises). They were closely followed by their full professor peers at private research institutions, who got a 2.9 percent raise (continuing professors alone saw 3.3 percent pay bumps). Fully professors at religiously affiliated, doctorate-granting universities got a 2.3 percent raise.

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Associate and assistant professors and instructors at doctorate-granting institutions did almost as well, with a few exceptions: associate professors at religiously affiliated universities saw just a 1.7 percent pay bump, for example.

At master's degree-granting institutions, assistant professors got the biggest pay increase: 2.4 percent, on average, with little difference between public and private institutions. The faculty pay increase over all for these colleges and universities was 1.6 percent.
At baccalaureate institutions, instructors -- full-time, non-tenure-track faculty -- saw the biggest raises, at 2.2 percent, on average across institution types. The average combined pay increase for all faculty members was 1.8 percent.

So how much does that amount to? On average, full professors at public institutions earned $115,592, while their colleagues at private, nonreligious institutions earned $148,036. Full professors at religiously affiliated colleges earned $102,025.

Associate professors at publics earned $82,284, while associate professors at privates earned $92,474, and those at religious institutions earned $76,881.

Assistant professors at public institutions made $70,801. Assistant professors at private institutions made $78,643 and they earned $64,129 at religiously affiliated institutions. Lecturers earned $54,372, $68,608 and $55,982, respectively.
As is the case year after year, male professors made more than women even when comparing faculty of comparable rank; experts attribute this to demographic differences among higher- and lower-paying disciplines, implicit bias in hiring and promotion, and other factors. Across institution types and ranks, men made $95,886; women made $77,417.

Also following tradition, faculty members in New England earned more than their counterparts elsewhere: $105,385 across ranks and institution types. West Coast professors made $97,395, on average, followed closely by their colleagues in the mid-Atlantic, at $96,374. Professors in the North Central, Western Mountain and Southern U.S. earned significantly less, from about $77,500 to $84,000.

'Busting the Myth'
Despite modest gains, A.A.U.P. says in the narrative portion of the report, professor pay can’t be blamed for rising tuition. In reality, the report says, the decline of state appropriations for higher education and the “erosion” of endowments have hiked up the price of college.

“If faculty salaries were largely responsible for increases in average net price tuition [the cost of attendance minus grant and scholarship aid], then we would expect to see spikes in faculty salaries that far exceed the percentage increases in average net price tuition,” the report says. On the contrary, net price tuition rose 5.3 percent between 2008-9 and 2012-13, while faculty salaries virtually stagnated, it says. Even at private, doctorate-granting institutions, where faculty salaries have risen the most since the recession -- about 9.1 percent, not adjusted for inflation -- that's still less than the overall net price tuition increase of 9.2 percent.

Put another way, instructional salaries at two- and four-year institutions make up just 31 cents on the dollar of the institutional budget, the report says. (It’s important to note that that figure, based on data from the Department of Education’s Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, includes contingent faculty salaries, which are typically low and therefore may artificially shrink the proportion.)
So if not faculty salaries, what is driving tuition increases? A.A.U.P. avoids a lengthy discussion of sports and the growth of administrative ranks, which were the focuses of last year's salary survey report, and instead points to decreased state funding for public colleges and struggling endowments for private colleges.

The report offers a state-by-state list of percentage change in appropriations to higher education from 2008-9 to 2012-13. While such information is publicly available (the appropriations data are from the Center for the Study of Education Policy at Illinois State University) and has been widely reported, some of the numbers remain startling: New Hampshire, down 62 percent, correlated with a 10 percent net price tuition hike over the same period; Oregon, down 37 percent, and a 13 percent tuition jump; and Louisiana, down 50 percent, and 18 percent higher tuition, for example.

Not every state cut correlates with a big jump in tuition, and some states actually managed to drop their net price tuition through restructuring or other means. Across the 50 states, though, the trend is clear: state funding declined 16 percent and net price tuition went up 6 percent.

Among private institutions, A.A.U.P. says that endowments took about a 20 percent hit during and immediately after the recession, and are only now beginning to recover. A.A.U.P.’s report also tries to bust the myth that faculty members are overpaid. It says that the association is contacted throughout the year by members of the media who invariably ask if professors make too much for too little work, a narrative that’s supported by opinion pieces and other accounts similar to what former New School Chancellor David Levy wrote in The Washington Post in 2012: “Though faculty salaries now mirror those of most upper-middle-class Americans working 40 hours for 50 weeks, they continue to pay for teaching time of 9 to 15 hours per week for 30 weeks, making possible a monthlong winter break, a week off in the spring and a summer vacation from mid-May until September.”
Levy was talking about faculty at teaching-oriented institutions, not those with research-heavy positions, but lots of faculty members across institution types disagreed with him. “Busting the Myths” says that faculty members even at teaching institutions can work 50- or 60-hour weeks, and that “even the high-ranking professors are generally underpaid,” relative to their peers in industry. An astronomy professor, for example, makes $101,900 annually, according to included data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, while an astronomer makes $109,300. A math professor makes $78,500, while a mathematician outside academe makes $124,450, while a law professor makes about $126,000 and a lawyer makes $138,000. (A.A.U.P.’s selected examples include no examples in the humanities or social sciences.)

A.A.U.P. also challenges a third “myth” that the faculty must move away from the tenure and full-time faculty system to effectively deal with “disruptive technologies,” since data suggest that part-time faculty members with little institutional support are less effective educators for that reason. The report also says that colleges and universities have spent relatively little on these technologies and related faculty training in recent years, except for a spike in 2009-10. So rather than shedding tenure-line faculty positions with no real investment in competitive technology, A.A.U.P. says, colleges and universities would better protect their turf by exploring “strategies to improve budgeting, incorporating greater technological innovation in education with faculty involvement, efficiently managing specialization and stabilizing part-time faculty through conversion.”

One last “myth” addressed in the report is that faculty benefit costs are “out of control.” In reality, A.A.U.P. says, costs for faculty benefits aren’t significantly increasing and the cost of benefits as a percentage of compensation has increased just 1 percent a year for the past five years.

**Defending Professor Pay**

John Barnshaw, senior higher education researcher at A.A.U.P. and lead author of the report, said he thought it was important to set the record straight because “a lot of people have preconceived notions” about professors’ lifestyles, particularly as tuition
continues to strain or evade the budgets of average families.

“When people look around, they see very clearly that tuition is on the rise -- they can feel it,” he said. Because faculty members are often the most visible people on campus, he said, “students might assume that they’re all well compensated and in fact better compensated than their peers anywhere else, and that’s why they stay in academe. But of course that’s probably not the case.”

Barnshaw said it was important to correct the record with data, he said, and encouraged readers of the report to share it with colleagues, friends and even state and federal legislators through social media and other means.

Ken Redd, director of research and policy analysis for the National Association of College and University Business Officers, said he agreed with A.A.U.P.’s assertion that professor pay is not driving up tuition. Significant drivers are state disinvestment in higher education -- despite a much criticized recent New York Times op-ed arguing otherwise, he said -- and the growth of administrative ranks as colleges and universities struggle to oversee new federal mandates and programs. Redd disagreed with A.A.U.P.’s claim that still-struggling endowments are driving up tuition, however, saying that they’ve largely recovered from blows they took during the recession, especially within the last two years.

Gary Rhoades, professor and director of the Center for the Study of Higher Education at the University of Arizona, said he thought the report helped address some of the misperceptions about faculty pay. One of the most valuable findings in particular, is that professor salaries make up less than one-third of institutional budgets, he said. “I would say that most people do not know that.”

At the same time, Rhoades said the report could have done more to bust the myth that professors are overpaid by further revealing the stratification between disciplines -- think law versus the humanities, for example -- and professors at elite institutions and those at, say, “East Nowhere U.” Many faculty members at the vast majority of less and nonselective colleges and universities make far less than the reported averages, he said.

Touching on a common, year-after-year criticism of the report, Rhoades added that data on part-time faculty pay -- even if it had to be taken from outside sources -- is essential to understanding the faculty pay landscape.

Barnshaw, who is new to A.A.U.P. this year, said finding ways to incorporate part-time faculty pay information is a top priority.

“That’s 73 percent of the labor force,” he said of non-tenure-track faculty, many of whom are part time (about 58 percent of instructors overall). “We’d like to see the survey expand in that way in the future.”

**Individual Institutions**

Beyond general trends and A.A.U.P.’s take on the data, lots of academics look to the annual faculty salary survey for institution-specific information, such as where professors earn the most. That said, the data don’t take into account important factors
such as variations in cost of living -- likely the reason why many of the highest-paying institutions are in or near large cities. Nor do the average salary data reveal stratification based on disciplines, even within the same institution. So, similar to Rhoades's point, keep in mind that faculty in the humanities, for example, might earn much less than business, medical, engineering and other professors at a given college or university.

This year's top 10 list for private research universities (the best paying category by far) is made up of the same institutions as last year's list, with some shuffling, including at the top: Stanford University displaced Columbia University as number one.

**Top Private Universities for Faculty Salaries for Full Professors, 2014-15**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Stanford University</td>
<td>$224,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Columbia University</td>
<td>$223,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. University of Chicago</td>
<td>$217,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Princeton University</td>
<td>$215,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Harvard University</td>
<td>$213,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Yale University</td>
<td>$198,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. University of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>$197,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. New York University</td>
<td>$196,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Massachusetts Institute of Technology</td>
<td>$193,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Duke University</td>
<td>$193,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As has been the case in previous years, the top institution for public pay would not make the top 10 for private pay. The University of California at Los Angeles tops this list, as it did last year. Four other University of California campuses (Berkeley, San Diego and top 10 newcomers Santa Barbara and Irvine) also make the list.

**Top Public Universities for Faculty Salaries for Full Professors, 2014-15**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. University of California at Los Angeles</td>
<td>$181,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. New Jersey Institute of Technology</td>
<td>$174,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. University of California at Berkeley</td>
<td>$172,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. University of Michigan at Ann Arbor</td>
<td>$160,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. University of Maryland at Baltimore</td>
<td>$157,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. University of Virginia</td>
<td>$156,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. University of Maryland at College Park</td>
<td>$154,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. University of California at San Diego $153,900
9. University of California at Santa Barbara $152,800
10. University of California at Irvine $152,600

The top liberal arts colleges for pay for full professors are very similar to lists from the past several years.

Top Liberal Arts Colleges for Faculty Salaries for Full Professors, 2014-15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Claremont McKenna College</td>
<td>$161,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Wellesley College</td>
<td>$154,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Barnard College</td>
<td>$154,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Pomona College</td>
<td>$148,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Amherst College</td>
<td>$145,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Harvey Mudd College</td>
<td>$142,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Wesleyan University</td>
<td>$141,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Williams College</td>
<td>$141,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Swarthmore College</td>
<td>$141,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Colgate University</td>
<td>$140,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This year, the data show 23 colleges and universities where the average salary for an assistant professor tops $100,000. That's up from 19 institutions last year, and 11 the year before.

Colleges With Six-Figure Salaries for Assistant Professors, 2014-15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Stanford University</td>
<td>$122,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. University of Pennsylvania</td>
<td>$119,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. California Institute of Technology</td>
<td>$118,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Babson College</td>
<td>$117,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Massachusetts Institute of Technology</td>
<td>$114,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Columbia University</td>
<td>$114,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Harvard University</td>
<td>$113,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Bryant University</td>
<td>$112,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. University of Chicago</td>
<td>$112,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. New York University</td>
<td>$111,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Bentley University</td>
<td>$108,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Northwestern University</td>
<td>$106,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Carnegie Mellon University</td>
<td>$106,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rank</td>
<td>University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Duke University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>University of Texas at Dallas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Princeton University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Georgetown University (tie)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cornell University (tie)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>University of California at Berkeley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Northeastern University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>Washington University in St. Louis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>Dartmouth College (tie)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drexel University (tie)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>