Orthopaedic Institute begins major expansion project

By Jodie Jackson Jr.

Wednesday, June 3, 2015 at 7:33 pm

A $40 million, four-story expansion of the Missouri Orthopaedic Institute will increase space for surgical, inpatient, outpatient and other services — including research — to almost 200,000 square-feet.

The original, $55 million institute opened in 2010 at 1100 Virginia Ave. as the largest freestanding orthopedic care center in Central Missouri.

University of Missouri and MU Health Care officials and staff gathered Wednesday morning south of the institute to announce the start of construction.

“Our focus on this” expansion and research “is how do we continue to make Columbia a destination medical community,” said Mitch Wasden, MU Health CEO/COO.

State Rep. Stephen Webber, D-Columbia, said the “huge” investment in the $40 million expansion is significant for the community.

“Education and health care drive our economy in a direct way,” Webber said. “It’s important we continue to invest in that.”

The expansion should be complete by 2017. The four-story, 85,462-square-foot expansion project will include:

- Five additional operating rooms, two finished and three shelled (for a total of 12 operating rooms).
- Twenty-two additional private inpatient rooms (for a total of 42 private inpatient rooms).
- Three additional digital X-ray rooms (for a total of seven digital X-ray rooms).
- Nineteen additional outpatient examination rooms, both finished and shelled (for approximately 70 exam rooms total).
- A fourth floor dedicated to orthopedic research.
- A larger restaurant for patients and visitors.
- Addition of a coffee kiosk in the main entrance lobby.
Once completed, the main entrance will be relocated from the north side of the building to the east side. The new entrance will include a circle drive for improved patient access. A pedestrian walkway from the orthopedic hospital a Virginia Avenue parking garage also will be added. The architect for the project is BSA LifeStructures and PARIC Construction is the builder.

Patrice Delafontaine, dean of the MU School of Medicine, said the physicians and medical teams at Missouri Orthopaedic Institute “serve patients from every county in the state” and that the institute, as part of the academic medical center, “plays a vital role in medical education and research.”

“Our recruiting of orthopedic surgeons has been extremely successful to date,” he said. “I have no doubt that this state of the art expansion will attract the attention of additional top-flight” faculty members, researchers and staff.

Delafontaine, who was chief of cardiology at Tulane University in New Orleans before taking over as dean at MU on Dec. 1, said Missouri Orthopaedic Institute had 20 physicians and 200 staff members when it opened in 2010. Those numbers have grown to 34 physicians and 400 staff members.

“The growth of the program really requires that we expand the facility,” he said.

James Stannard, chairman of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at MU’s medical school and medical director of the institute, said surgeons had 4,000 cases in 2011 and saw roughly 42,000 clinic patients. Surgeries in 2014 numbered 4,700, with more than 50,000 patients.

“We need an additional facility,” Stannard said.

He said orthopedic institute leaders and MU Health officials began talking about an expansion about three years ago — barely a year after opening.

“After three years of getting to this point, I think we’re ready to put shovels to dirt,” Stannard said.

Stannard said the expansion will give the institute the ability to provide “the entire spectrum of musculoskeletal care.” The center specializes in sports medicine, joint replacement, pediatrics, hip and knee, foot and ankle, shoulder, hand, spine, oncology and trauma care.

Wasden said after the brief ceremony Wednesday morning that the expansion is being done with an emphasis on a program for joint regeneration and a process invented by a collaboration of researchers in the MU medical school, School of Veterinary Medicine and College of Engineering.

“We think this is going to do a lot for our research,” he said. “We are going to be in a position in the next few months where we will be the first and only center” to perform joint replacements that use cartilage that lasts longer than material currently used.
Missouri Orthopaedic Institute digs into $40 million expansion

COLUMBIA — **MU broke ground Wednesday on a $40 million expansion to the Missouri Orthopaedic Institute, which will add operating rooms, exam rooms and a research level.**

Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin, who suffers from arthritic knees, said the increased research and treatment capacity would have direct impact on people like himself. James Stannard, chairman of MU's Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, agreed, saying people don't realize how quickly research can trickle down and help patients.

The 5-year-old orthopaedic institute's biggest obstacle so far has been space, Stannard said. "Within the first year I knew we would have to expand," he said.

The four-story expansion, which is scheduled to be completed in 2017, will add 85,462 square feet. It will include:

- five new operating rooms.
- 22 new private inpatient rooms.
- three new X-ray rooms.
- 19 new outpatient rooms.

MU Orthopaedic Institute expansion project underway

COLUMBIA, MO -- Construction began on Wednesday morning on a $40 million, 4-story expansion of the Missouri Orthopaedic Institute in Columbia.

**MU Health Care leaders and area dignitaries held a groundbreaking ceremony near the existing building that sits close to University Hospital.**
The Missouri Orthopaedic Institute is the largest and most comprehensive freestanding Orthopaedic Care Center in Central Missouri.

The expansion will improve health care services for doctors who specialize in sports medicine, joint replacement, pediatrics and trauma care.

MU Health Care Surgeon Dr. James Stannard said, “We've been able to recruit some top notch orthopaedic surgeons. It’s going to be fun to turn them loose with an even better state of the art facility than what we have already.”

MU Health Care officials said the expansion should be complete by 2017.

The expansion will increase clinical space for surgical, inpatient, outpatient and physical therapy services.

MU Health Care Expanding


MU Health Care Announced Expansion

Watch story: http://mms.tveys.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=9650f2db-f9f7-497c-84a6-424c43ebacc
Greek community expresses outrage over proposed regulations

Proposed restrictions would apply to alcohol, out-of-town formals and women visiting fraternity houses on weekend nights.

At the request of Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin, the Office of Greek Life will host a summit regarding sexual assault and student safety in fraternity houses at 10 a.m. June 20 in Stotler Lounge, according to a flier posted to social media.

At the summit, Loftin is expected to propose new regulations that would ban all alcohol except beer and prohibit women as guests in fraternity houses on weekend nights. The summit has been scheduled to last five hours and executives from Panhellenic Association and Interfraternity Council chapters have been invited. Notice of the summit was made public to Greek chapters June 2.

According to the invitation sent to Greek Life leaders obtained by The Maneater, the summit will “create strategies for the implementation of the policies.”

“We (students, alumni and admin) will work off the ideas from fraternity alumni and current fraternity leadership is invited,” Loftin said in a tweet Tuesday.

The proposals were created by the Fraternity Alumni Consortium, a group of 25 to 30 alumni who represent the IFC chapters’ alumni boards, according to Loftin’s tweets from Wednesday. It is not yet clear if every IFC fraternity is represented in the consortium.

PHA and chapter presidents, who were not consulted about the proposals, have sent Loftin a letter to express their concerns with the regulations.

Phi Mu member Marcela Messina said she thinks the new restrictions would be “extremely unfair” to the Greek community.

“First of all, a lot of girls go to frats late and stay over because their boyfriends are there … and it would be safer to stay there than to walk home alone and/or intoxicated,” Messina said. “It just seems silly because this regulation could possibly make the matter worse.”

Loftin also said Wednesday on Twitter there would be “limited space” at the summit. Stotler Lounge can hold 200 people, according to the student union’s website.
Additionally, several students have expressed outrage at the regulations on social media. Twitter accounts named @SaveMUGreekLife and @StopLoftinsurfaced in protest. Students also questioned how the new regulations would impact Homecoming, an MU tradition largely put on by members of Greek Life. According to the Alumni Association website, more than 25,000 people attended campus decorations in Greektown in 2014.

Incoming freshman Alex Weinstock said he is interested in joining Greek Life, but is hesitant after hearing the proposed regulations.

“I was planning on rushing, but now I am kind of weary about doing so after these proposals,” he said.

“Well, of course, fraternities should be about the brotherhood, and that’s the reason I want to join a fraternity,” Weinstock said. “However, banning all sorority girls from being at the fraternity houses between 10 pm and 3 am will disband the brotherhood a bit, and, more so, wouldn’t create the same atmosphere that draws potential new members to rush.”

Despite rumors, UM System Chief Communications Officer John Fougere confirmed in an email that UM President Tim Wolfe is not involved in decision-making on this issue. The regulations will only apply to MU, not the UM System.

The Office of Greek Life could not be reached for comment. Other members of the Greek community The Maneater reached out to chose not to comment as well.

At the start of fall 2014, MU Police Department and Columbia Police Department worked together to increase patrols through Greektown and East Campus, according to previous Maneater reporting. The two departments also focused on increasing crackdowns on alcohol-related incidents.

“We are concentrating on alcohol as it is often a contributing factor in major crimes (such as rape and sexual assault),” MUPD spokesman Capt. Brian Weimer said in the Sept. 11, 2014, article. “We hope that reducing alcohol related-crimes will also curb the more major crimes that stem off from it.”

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Proposals to ban women in fraternity houses, require drug tests prompt backlash

COLUMBIA — Social media erupted this week with complaints about a set of proposals from the Mizzou Fraternity Alumni Consortium to address sexual assault and safety in fraternity houses.
According to an email from a sorority president and numerous social media sources, the changes being proposed are:

- A ban on any alcohol except beer at fraternities
- A ban on fraternities hosting out-of-town formals
- A drug-test requirement for in-house members of all Greek organizations
- A ban on women in fraternity houses between 10 p.m. and 3 a.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, in addition to the entirety of syllabus week and "Reading Day" every semester

Although the proposals were written by the Alumni Consortium, a group of men who serve on MU fraternity housing boards or as fraternity advisers, most of the negative reaction was directed at Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin, although it is not clear if the chancellor requested the recommendations.

Christian Basi, associate director of the MU News Bureau, said Loftin had met several times with the consortium, and they agreed the consortium would make the proposals.

Basi said the outcome of the proposals was not certain, and he was not sure who would decide or when a decision would be made.

Ted Hellman, the spokesman for the Alumni Consortium, said he wouldn't comment on the proposals because they are "in process."

A document outlining the proposals, called "Safety for Women in Mizzou Fraternities," was sent to Panhellenic Association presidents in April. Allison Fitts, the association's president, with the help of other chapter presidents, wrote a letter in response and sent it to Loftin on April 29. It was signed by the president of every MU sorority.

The letter addresses each suggested change and declares support for some of them, including the ban on out-of-town fraternity formals and most alcohol in fraternity houses. The group also supports the Sexual Assault Summit set for June 20, meant to create context for the issues and strategy for the implementation of the changes.

But the association opposes the female visitor policy and the drug testing policy.

According to the letter, the association's members feel the female visitor ban "lends itself to the notion that women cannot make choices for themselves about their own safety" and "might inadvertently give men within the fraternity houses the right or feeling of entitlement to treat women who do not abide by this rule as the men wish. This could lead to ... making women counterparts inferior to the fraternity men."

The letter also asserts that the proposed rules' legitimacy suffers because they were "created without consulting current fraternity members or the women it claims to create safety for."

A Twitter account named "stopLoftin" was created Monday and has attempted to rally the Greek community against the policies, using the hashtags #ImpeachLoftin and #OccupytheSummit.
Basi said the summit will be open to the Greek community only, more specifically the leaders of the chapters. Presidents were formally invited and it remains unclear whether general members will be allowed in. Loftin tweeted "there is limited space" in reply to a question asking if the summit would be open to the public.

"I know the chancellor believes this summit on this particular subject is very appropriate," Basi said.

Basi said Loftin would be unavailable for the next few days, but he has been responding to some students' questions and comments via Twitter.

An article by an MU alumnus posted on the Austin, Texas-based website Total Frat Move urges current sorority and fraternity members to drop out of Homecoming and "take away everything you give the school, because they're taking just about everything they can from you."

The article also says that no sexual assaults in the past year that were reported via Clery releases had any link to a fraternity.

According to previous Missourian reporting, a fraternity member was arrested in February in connection with a 2012 sexual assault that was reported in September of 2014.

Two studies — one from 1999 and another in 2005 — showed that fraternity men were more likely to commit rape than their non-fraternity counterparts. That has prompted various groups to focus education and awareness efforts on fraternities but not exclusively.

THE MANEATER

Administrators discontinue One Mizzou, developing new marketing campaign this summer

One Mizzou began as a diversity initiative but became a slogan for the university.

By Sarah Wynn

June 3, 2015

Last December, a coalition of student leaders presented a Call to Action to MU administrators. It would eventually spell the end of the use of the One Mizzou slogan in marketing and promotional materials. One Mizzou began as a diversity initiative in 2011 under then-chancellor Brady Deaton.
Ellen de Graffenreid, vice chancellor for marketing and communications, said One Mizzou morphed into a slogan of sorts, adopted by the athletic department to promote MU on a broader, national market.

In April, administrators announced that One Mizzou would be phased out. Student Affairs and the Missouri Students Association have stopped using the phrase, according to administrators’ Call to Action progress report.

“Individual departments and programs using One Mizzou should transition away from the concept, effective immediately,” reads the university’s graphic identity standards.

While One Mizzou was originally conceived as a campus diversity initiative, it has since become a marketing slogan. In May 2011, the MU Athletic department used the phrase in a campaign to help raise funds for the Joplin tornado that killed more than 100 people.

In the last four years, departments around MU have used the phrase for marketing. First, there was a song, which was followed by 30-second TV spot and then an Athletics commercial. For some students, the continued use of the phrase diluted the campaign’s initial purpose, Kwon said.

Young Kwon was among the students who presented the Call to Action to administrators. She’s the former co-chairwoman of Four Front, a council of minority student groups that aims to make MU’s campus more inclusive. When Kwon started her position as Four Front co-chairwoman, she noticed that the meaning of One Mizzou as a diversity initiative had become muddled.

“Several presidents of student governments who sat on One Mizzou Council at the time were losing focus and understanding of One Mizzou,” Kwon said.

In Kwon’s opinion, the One Mizzou diversity initiative brought student governments together, as well as bringing speakers like Maya Angelou and Laverne Cox to campus.

The One Mizzou campaign began in response to several 2011 on-campus hate crimes. In 2010, students spread cotton balls outside of the Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center two weeks before 850 black students came to MU for the 2011 Big XII Conference on black student government.

Deaton called the unveiling of One Mizzou his “proudest moment” as Chancellor.

Now, MU is looking to build a marketing strategy for a new campaign since April’s announcement. De Graffenreid’s team has been working to develop a new campaign this summer. They began market research with students during the spring semester and plan to talk to alumni and others outside the university this summer.
De Graffenreid said she wants MU’s new marketing campaign to build a distinct brand through an integrated marketing program. She said she wants it to be more developed and go beyond One Mizzou’s slogan-driven model.

“Research will really tell us what direction we need to go in,” de Graffenreid said. “It will tell us what the new campaign might need to look like.”

Junior Michael Nowicki said he thought equal rights should remain an area of emphasis for MU, regardless of what specific direction the new campaign ends up taking.

“I think the forefront for the next campaign should be including everyone,” he said. “Equality is for all.”

Director of Athletics Mack Rhoades and Deputy Director of Athletics Wren Baker will be involved in the development of the new campaign, de Graffenreid said.

She said Rhoades and Baker are as devoted to developing a new, clearer marketing message as she is.

De Graffenreid said she is excited to unveil a more focused campaign to MU's campus and beyond.

“With a new chancellor there’s always going to be transitions,” de Graffenreid said. “It’s a good time to discontinue something that has not had a lot of clarity into having a single meaning for all of our audiences.”

Respected physicist has become a powerful force as Mizzou chancellor

June 3, 2015
COLUMBIA, Mo. – Bowtie-clad R. Bowen Loftin has been inspiring people at the University of Missouri-Columbia since becoming chancellor 2 years ago. The inspiration began after his warm welcome from the students and his sterling reputation and bold reforms have impressed most everyone surrounding the institution.

Loftin’s Twitter handle of @bowtieger has a following of over 22,000, many of which are students who regularly tweet spottings and selfies of the popular figure on campus. Loftin himself tweets out pictures of the ceremonies and events, as well as meetings he has with students and figures.

This week, Loftin is proudly keeping the colors flying skyward to Kansas City to meet with Mayor Sly James, tweeting “Looking forward to meeting @MayorSlyJames today. #BowtiesAreCool.”

The chancellor takes to social media daily to applaud the exceptional work of Mizzou students, ranging from work on tiger conservation or sports achievements.

“Dr. Loftin is in one word, inspiring,” said Rep. Travis Fitzwater, R-Fulton. “He’s a folk hero with students as he pushes them to succeed while being a friend, confidante, mentor, and an ear to bend. Not only does he motivate students, but he’s inspired adults who care for Mizzou all over the world as well. Through his love for the students and Mizzou, he’s made a tremendous impact on the future of education at the school. I’m proud to know him. He’s that rare breed that can make someone believe deeply in themselves and their institution.”

However, his reforms are making him just as many friends in the Mizzou community. After arriving, Loftin began a series of, at the time, controversial buy outs of administration and faculty before moving to bring in new blood to several positions.
“His buyout program was hard to do – candidly, it was a very courageous move that has added some key faculty members that most people now realize was a fundamental move that will spur the university on to new heights,” said David Steelman, member of the University Board of Curators.

Loftin also reformed the economics of the university — transferring responsibilities and updating the accounting procedures that were becoming obsolete.

“He has an ability to assess situations quickly and make an executive decisions in a timely manner,” said state Sen. Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia. “His abilities are the opposite of what has stifled the university for years. He has the ability to do what successful CEO’s do, which is make tough decisions in a timely manner, and that is what is needed to move the university forward.”

But one of the biggest things Loftin brings to the university may be his sterling reputation inside the American Association of Universities, which is a group of the top research universities in the nation. Loftin brought a great deal of credibility with him his past successes with Texas A&M, and according to Steelman, “has already boosted the way the University is viewed around the world”.

His administrative skills and people skills may have best combined in the aftermath of the unrest in Ferguson. Loftin made himself personally available to students to hear their concerns and was credited with a leading role in reducing the anxiety many students felt during the fall.

One student, who requested anonymity from fear of reprisals from other administrators told The Missouri Times that, “He didn’t hide behind his desk or send some front person out to get us out of his hair. He spent hours sitting and listening to what we were feeling. I saw him listen to a lot of African-American students who were very upset and after they had someone like him actually listen to their concerns and fears, they felt better.”

Before starting at Mizzou, the native Texan served as the president of Texas A&M University. Loftin is an alumnus of A&M, where he studied physics. He went on for graduate studies of physics at Rice University before becoming an engineering professor at Old Dominion University at the University of Houston. He is also a professor of physics at Mizzou.

Missouri Higher Education commissioner announces retirement

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) - A top Missouri higher education official says he's retiring next year.
Higher Education Commissioner David Russell on Wednesday announced plans to leave the position Jan. 1. Russell replaced former Commissioner Robert Stein upon his retirement in 2010.

The 67-year-old Russell leads the Coordinating Board for Higher Education. Among the board's responsibilities are evaluating public colleges and universities and administering scholarship programs.

**Russell previously worked for the University of Missouri System for nearly two decades, most recently as senior associate vice president and chief of staff.**

He previously served 22 years in the Army before retiring in 1991 as a lieutenant colonel.

Russell says it's been a privilege to serve alongside "dedicated public servants."

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Missouri higher education chief to retire in January

June 3, 2015
By Koran Addo

Missouri Commissioner of Higher Education David Russell announced that he will retire effective Jan. 1, 2016. He has held the position since 2010.

Since 2010, Russell has been in charge of steering policy for Missouri's network of 13 public universities, 13 community colleges, a technical college, 25 independent colleges and 150 for-profit schools.

Collectively, he was in charge of overseeing the education of more than 450,000 students at a time.

Russell “has worked tirelessly to expand opportunities for students and promote the importance of higher education to our state,” said Betty Sims, chairwoman of the state Coordinating Board for Higher Education.

Sims said the board will immediately begin looking for Russell's successor.

In his work as commissioner, Russell pushed for colleges and universities to become more affordable. He also initiated programs that encouraged high school students to become more proactive in their planning and preparing for college.

**Before working as commissioner, Russell spend 19 years in the University of Missouri System as a senior associate vice president and chief of staff.**
Before working in higher education, Russell served in the U.S. Army for 22 years, many of them as a commissioned officer. He retired from the Army in 1991 as a lieutenant colonel.

Man charged with hate crime at University of Missouri

An 18-year-old man faces a preliminary hearing this month on a hate crime charge after a University of Missouri residence hall was vandalized.

Bonne County authorities charged Bradley M. Becker with second-degree property damage motivated by discrimination after the vandalism at the Mark Twain Residence Hall. A swastika was burned into the ceiling of a stairwell twice in April and someone once wrote "You have been warned."

The Columbia Daily Tribune reports Becker's attorney, Columbia-based Jeffrey Hilbrenner, was not available for comment Tuesday.

Becker is listed in an online directory as a freshman health science major.

The preliminary hearing is scheduled for June 23.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU freshman faces hate crime charges for swastikas

COLUMBIA — An MU freshman who has been charged in connection with burning swastikas into a residence hall stairwell is scheduled for a preliminary hearing later this month on a hate crime charge.
Bradley Michael Becker, 18, admitted to burning a swastika and an illuminati triangle into the second-floor ceiling of a stairwell in Mark Twain Residence Hall in early April, according to a probable cause statement filed by Dustin Heckmaster, an MU police officer.

After the markings were painted over, Becker returned to the same spot in the stairwell and burned another swastika along with the words "YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED," according to the probable cause statement.

In the statement, Heckmaster says he was tipped off that the stairwell was a popular spot for students to smoke marijuana and that Becker had been seen there.

Heckmaster interviewed Becker at the MU police station on April 21, where Becker confessed to committing the crimes under the influence of marijuana and alcohol, according to the probable cause statement. He said it was an impulsive decision made after watching "jihad spoofs" on Youtube.

The Boone County Prosecuting Attorney’s office charged Becker with second-degree property damage motivated by discrimination, a felony. A preliminary hearing for his case was scheduled for June 23 before Associate Circuit Judge Deborah Daniels.

Becker, who is listed in MU directories as a freshman studying health sciences, is represented by defense attorney Jeffery Hilbrenner, according to online court documents.

THE MANEATER

MU freshman charged with crime motivated by discrimination

Bradley Becker was charged with second degree property damage motivated by discrimination on April 21 in connection with anti-Semitic vandalism in Mark Twain Hall.

By Hailey Stolze

June 2, 2015

MU freshman Bradley Becker, who was arrested in connection with anti-Semitic vandalism in Mark Twain Hall April 8 and 9, was charged with a crime motivated by discrimination by Boone County Prosecuting Attorney’s office.

He is scheduled for a preliminary hearing at 9:30 a.m. June 23 in the Division XI Courtroom, according to the Office of State Courts Administrator.
The vandalism was written with [what appeared to be charcoal](http://www.themaneeater.com/stories/2015/4/13/mu-officials-investigate-anti-semitic-writing-res), including images of a swastika, a triangle with an eye on top and the word “heil.”

When arrested on April 21, Becker was charged with second degree property damage motivated by discrimination, according to an MU Police Department news release. Becker’s case was then sent to Prosecuting Attorney Dan Knight and the Boone County Prosecuting Attorney’s office, who determines if charges should be filed.

At the end of May, Becker was officially charged with second degree property damage motivated by discrimination.

The charge is a class D felony under section 557.035 of the Missouri Revised Statutes, which describes discrimination as dealing with “race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or disability of the victim or victims.”

MU spokesman Christian Basi said in an April 13 Maneater article before Becker was arrested that if the student was caught and investigated by the Office of Student Conduct, the student could receive sanctions ranging from a verbal warning to expulsion from the university. It is unclear at this time whether Student Conduct has investigated Becker.

Residential Life Director Frankie Minor said in an April 13 Maneater article that this type of discriminatory language creates an unwelcoming environment that won’t be tolerated by the university.

“If you look at our mission statement, it’s providing a safe and inclusive community for everybody,” Minor said. “We’re working very hard to make sure that everybody feels safe and included in their community.”

Senior Thalia Sass, president of the Jewish Student Organization, said in an April 13 Maneater article that these incidents cause her personal concern.

“It becomes harder to show my Jewish identity,” she said. “I’m so proud to be a Jewish student on this campus. I’m so proud to flaunt my Jewish identity, but when incidents like this happen, it’s scary. This person doesn’t know me, but they hate me just because of the single aspect that I’m Jewish.”
Campus safety debated after recent crimes

Between 2011 and 2014, MUPD saw a 50 percent increase in violent crimes.

By Bryanna Leach
June 3, 2015

The phone rings, and a text comes in. But it’s not the typical, “Hey, what’s up?” — it’s a text from MU Alert saying there’s been shots fired near campus. This was the case for most MU students April 21, when exactly that happened.

Although on this instance the situation was reported “stabilized” within an hour of the alert, it was only one of several times students were notified of possible threats on campus this past year, including alerts about armed robberies and assaults.

In a May 12 Maneater article, MU junior Bryan Hill said he thought more crime occurred in Greektown this year than last year.

“Crime, like people breaking into houses, has always been on like east and west campus, but I feel like it’s just funneling to the university now,” Hill said.

After going more than five months without a Clery release, MU Police Department sent out four within the last month and a half of the school year, compared to two during the same timeframe in 2014, and three during this timeframe in 2013 (all discluding updates).

On May 13, MUPD Chief Douglas Schwand sent students an email addressing recent crime incidents on campus. Schwand said MU Alerts suggested MU’s campus was becoming increasingly dangerous, while he said MUPD records indicate the opposite.

MUPD sent out nine Clery releases between August 2014 and May 2015, compared to ten Clery releases between August 2013 and May 2014 (all discluding updates).

However, according to MUPD’s records, between 2011 and 2014 MUPD saw a 50 percent increase in violent crimes, which include murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault.

MU junior Kevin Carr, the Missouri Students Association Senate speaker, said while he thinks students are safer than they perceive, there are some parts of campus where he
doesn't feel safe, even as a “fairly tall male.” Those parts of campus include East Campus and near AV-14, where street lights often don't function properly, he said.

“City officials need to figure out how they are going to properly manage East Campus,” Carr said in an email. “Poor lighting is the No. 1 issue for East Campus residents, and it makes them feel very unsafe to walk around at night.”

Although MU junior Connor Holzinger said he knows the MUPD said there has not been an increase in crime, he said the increase in alerts makes it feel that way.

“I normally feel pretty safe on campus, but the recent events have made me question if campus is as safe as it appears to be,” Holzinger said in an email. “... I was really upset about the situation in Hitt Street garage. The fact that students weren't notified until after the suspect was neutralized makes me question the reliability and timeliness of MU's communications in regard to emergencies and events like this. If MU is going to use the system, they need to make sure that they're doing it in a way that won't cause panic as a result.”

In a May MUPD statement concerning recent crime events, MUPD said that by increasing the number of MU Alerts, their ability to identify and arrest offenders increased. According to the statement, MUPD investigated nine on-campus crimes since April, six of which have been solved. The statement was released before the May 29 incident on-campus, when a woman was raped near University Hall.

The statement also outlined efforts MUPD made to “maintain campus safety.” Some of these efforts include increasing officer positions by 8 percent in the past year, increasing student security positions across campus and adding cameras throughout campus.

MUPD spokesman Brian Weimer said MUPD also encourages students to utilize their programs aimed at teaching students how to "react and respond" to intruders, taught in the Citizens Response to Active Threat Incidents course, or to defend themselves, which is taught in the Rape Aggression Defense course. They also support the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Center’s program “Green Dot,” which educates students on how to prevent “Red Dots,” or campus violence of any form, from happening.

“(These courses have) provided the community information so they can make educated choices when it comes to their safety and assists with the community policing concept,” Weimer said in an email.

Carr, however, said it shouldn’t be the responsibility of potential victims to make the campus a safer place.

“I don't feel as if promoting self-defence is a great tactic, because that puts the burden of creating safety on the individual being attacked,” Carr said. “Realistically, it's a great
last-resort mechanism, but ideally no one would be even in the position to have to use it.”

Weimer said MUPD’s overall goal is to make campus safer for students.

“We will continue to look at our community’s needs and work with them to ensure safety,” he said.

THE MANEATER

Editorial: While crime rates haven’t increased in recent years, students deserve to feel safe.

Although MUPD’s statement on the recent burst of Clery reports is accurate, not all is said and done.

June 3, 2015

After a five-month streak without Clery releases from the MU Police Department, students received four within the last month and a half of the school year. To compare, students only received two in the same timeframe in 2014 and three in 2013.

The sudden burst of crime reports inspired fear and concern from students, many of whom feel that there has been an increase in crime on campus and downtown. Instances such as the shooting in the Hitt Street garage, the robbery near the Stankowski volleyball courts and numerous reports of crime in Greektown have only exacerbated this impression among students.

In direct response to these feelings of insecurity, MUPD released a statement, which calls these impressions false and misguided. The statement explains that crime in Columbia and on MU’s campus has not increased significantly in the last 20 years, and that the violent crime index remained at relatively the same level despite an increase of 13,000 students to the university. According to the MUPD and Columbia Police Department websites, these statistical claims are all accurate.

While the students may indeed be far safer than they perceive, this doesn’t mean that MUPD should stop striving to reduce crime on campus and in Columbia – and they haven’t. According to the statement, MUPD officer positions have increased by eight percent this year in conjunction with an increase in staff among investigative units.

Furthermore, MUPD increased the number of emergency alerts that are broadcasted across the campus community, which can easily be misinterpreted as an increase in crime on campus. So while the rate of crime has not significantly changed over the last
20 years, students are hearing about it directly from the authorities themselves far more than they have in the past.

We recognize that the recent burst of Clery releases is not indicative of an increase in crime on campus; however, that doesn’t detract or disparage the fact that there is serious, violent crime still happening on campus. Although this might be a bit obvious (next thing you know, we’ll be saying the world is a dangerous place), it means that MUPD must always be striving to decrease on-campus crime in general.

Increasing the number of police patrols on campus and the number of staff on investigative teams could be an effective means of decreasing on-campus crime. However, when it comes to making students feel safe on campus, it would be more useful to educate and prepare students for a campus where crime, violent and nonviolent, happens every single semester. This is not to say that such initiatives do not already exist, however. MUPD supported and assisted with the administration of the Green Dot Program and the Citizens Response to Active Threats program as well as the expansion of the women’s self defense program Rape Aggression Defense.

The next step in crime education for MU students should begin at the beginning, the very beginning – Summer Welcome. While Green Dot exists as an effective means of encouraging bystander intervention, as of now, there are programs present at Summer Welcome like CRAT that deal specifically in avoiding crime on campus or what a student should do in such a situation. A basic educational program of this nature should exist for students from the beginning of their time at MU, even if it is as basic as informing students they could be robbed at Stankowski Field while the sun is still setting.

MSA Senate Speaker Kevin Carr pointed out the poor lighting conditions in East Campus. An effort to increase street lighting around East Campus emerged in the form of a petition earlier this year but seems to have vanished since then. This student initiative was a great start, but this concept needs to be taken even further by the university itself, which ought to petition the city for improved lighting that could reduce crime.

THE MANEATER

Pedestrian safety task force launched
The Pedestrian Safety Task Force will look for a trend in recent accidents and give recommendations to city council.
MANEATER FILE PHOTO

By Marilyn Haigh
June 3, 2015

After a car struck sophomore Amy Wasowicz last January on her way to class, she became a Missouri Students Association senator to start a conversation about pedestrian safety on campus. Starting next year, she will represent students on Mayor Bob McDavid’s new Pedestrian Safety Task Force.

The 15-member task force will review recent pedestrian accidents and determine their causes. McDavid said he created the task force in response to a rise in pedestrian accidents in Columbia. In the past year, four pedestrians have been killed in pedestrian-related car accidents in Columbia, according to a press release.

On Jan. 22, the same day a car struck Wasowicz, two other pedestrian-involved accidents occurred on campus and one resulted in the death of 24-year-old exchange student Kui Zou.

City Council approved the resolution creating the task force at its May 18 meeting. McDavid appointed First Ward Councilman Rev. Clyde Ruffin and Fourth Ward Councilman Ian Thomas as co-chairmen of the task force.

Other members of the task force are representatives from stakeholders in the city. Thomas said he worked with McDavid and Ruffin to identify groups affected by traffic in Columbia, such as the Columbia Public School District and the city’s Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission.

Each group nominated a representative to serve on the task force. An invitation sent to the MSA’s Campus and Community Relations Committee resulted in Wasowicz’s appointment. She said hearing directly from those affected is the first step in solving the problem.

“The people who make the decisions aren’t always the ones who are being faced with the problem,” Wasowicz said.

At the end of its one-year term, the task force will recommend improvements on Columbia’s streets and sidewalks, legislation and education to City Council in hopes of increasing pedestrian safety.

Some improvements, like education campaigns, can be implemented quickly, Thomas said. Others, like changing speed limits and widening roads, may take years. The city, however, has no requirement to fulfill the recommendations.

Thomas said he encourages the public, especially students, to attend the task force’s meetings. Every meeting will end with an opportunity for residents to ask questions and give their input. He also said he would like to see the task force break into smaller sub-committees that include the public as nonvoting members.
Wasowicz said she thinks a change in attitude will improve pedestrian safety, especially on campus. She said students should be more aware of their surroundings.

“(There are) a lot of people who are on their phones and assume that they are perfectly safe because they have the right of way,” she said.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission Chairman Brant Kassel said Columbia has become a more pedestrian- and bike-friendly community. Kassel, a bike commuter himself, said he notices more bikes on Columbia trails now than he did a few years ago.

“The more bikes you have, the safer it is,” he said. “Cars are more used to (bicyclists); they see them more. The more the numbers grow, the better it is for everyone.”

Thomas said he thinks Columbia residents are moving toward a “car-light” lifestyle that the transportation system built over the last 60 years isn’t well-designed for.

“Maybe we need to rethink some of the basic elements of that transportation system to make sure that everyone is adequately protected,” he said.

The rise in pedestrian-involved accidents isn’t limited to Columbia. Pedestrian deaths in the U.S. increased from 4,109 in 2009 to 4,743 in 2012, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

In January 2015, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx created the Mayors’ Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets in an effort to improve bicyclist and pedestrian safety at a municipal level. Over 200 communities have accepted the challenge, including Columbia, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

McDavid said the task force creates a high profile for the issue and brings experts in. The primary purpose of the task force is to measure the problem, he said.

“Obviously we’d love to have no pedestrian incidents, but that's probably unrealistic,” he said. “The question is, should we be doing more?”

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**Missouri extends Jamieson's contract**

By Joe Walljasper

Wednesday, June 3, 2015 at 2:47 pm
Facing his first decision on the job status of a Missouri coach, Athletic Director Mack Rhoades decided to extend the contract of Coach Tim Jamieson and invest more in his baseball program.

The school announced Wednesday that Jamieson, whose current contract was set to expire at the end of the month, has received a three-year extension. He did not receive a raise, but Rhoades vowed to increase funding for a sport in which Missouri has the Southeastern Conference’s lowest budget.

“We are committed to investing in our program and student-athletes in order to increase our competitiveness in the premier baseball conference in the country,” Rhoades said in a news release. “Coach Jamieson led our program to high levels of success in the past, and we anticipate the same in the future.”

Jamieson’s job status was debated throughout his 21st year in charge of the program. An additional wild card was thrown in when Rhoades was named as Mike Alden’s successor in March. The Tigers (30-28, 15-15 SEC) were one of the nation’s most pleasant surprises early in the season, climbing as high as No. 14 in the nation, but they struggled late and narrowly missed the NCAA Tournament.

Still, it was a huge improvement on MU’s first two seasons in the SEC, when it went a combined 16-44 in league play.

“We are coming off of a year that is more reflective of the success we saw throughout our tenure in the Big 12, and we will continue to get better as we take on the challenges of competing in the SEC,” Jamieson said in a release. “The commitment Mack and the administration have made to our program is reflected in the increase in our budget, and I am beyond grateful to them for helping give us the resources we need to be even more successful in the SEC.”

Missouri has had only three baseball coaches since 1937 — Hi Simmons, Gene McArtor and Jameson. Under Jamieson, the Tigers are 672-535-2 and have made the NCAA Tournament nine times. They made seven straight trips to the NCAA regionals from 2003-09 and advanced to a super regional in 2006, but they haven’t made the College World Series under Jamieson.

In the Big 12, Missouri had some common ground with its league opponents outside of the state of Texas in terms of climate, attendance and budgets. That all changed with the move to the SEC, where baseball outdraws men’s basketball at some schools and the warmer weather is more conducive to playing in the late winter and early spring. The pay of the coaches is commensurate with the passion of the fans. LSU’s Paul Mainieri makes upwards of $750,000.

Jamieson’s guaranteed salary will remain at $208,000, which is by far the lowest in the league. MU associate athletic director Tim Hickman, who oversees the baseball program, said next year’s baseball budget was previously slated to be $1.56 million, including scholarships with the new full-cost-of-attendance stipend. He said the new plan is to increase that total by “six figures.”
Hickman said the exact figure and where the money will be directed has not been finalized but one priority is a larger assistant coach salary pool. That could help Jamieson as he seeks a replacement for Kerrick Jackson, the assistant coach and recruiting coordinator who announced he was leaving the staff last week. Another priority is an increased travel budget that would allow for more charter flights.

“One of the challenges we have different than a lot of the league is being on the outskirts of the conference,” Hickman said. “On average, it’s farther for us than someone that is central. We see a lot of the teams that come to our place charter, even though they don’t charter when they travel every place.”

As for Taylor Stadium, in an April interview with KTGR radio, Rhoades said: “Baseball in the SEC is so unbelievably competitive. For us to be a player on a consistent basis we’re going to have to do something with the baseball stadium.”

Missouri recently sank $4 million into a baseball facility that includes locker rooms, coaches’ offices and indoor batting cages. Drawing fans to the stadium has been a persistent problem, though. Missouri’s average attendance was 840 this season.

“I think our team facilities there are second to none,” Hickman said. “It’s hard to find a better locker room situation and our offices and indoor cages. That’s a great setup. I think a future phase will look at how to make for a better fan experience, whether it’s wider concourses, a better entry way, improved concessions and restrooms and just the overall feel of the park and the fan-friendliness.”

**COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN**

**Missouri baseball keeps Tim Jamieson**

COLUMBIA — Tim Jamieson has coached Missouri’s baseball team for 21 seasons, and he’ll be under contract for three more.

Missouri announced Wednesday that it will keep Jamieson after an up-and-down season in which the Tigers lost 14 of their final 18 games and missed out on the NCAA Regionals for the third consecutive season.

New athletics director Mack Rhoades gave Jamieson a 3-year extension with the same base salary, $200,000 per year. A news release sent from Missouri athletics said the program will receive a budget increase — presumably to keep up with fellow Southeastern Conference teams that far outpace Missouri in terms of facilities.

After consecutive losing seasons to begin his time in the SEC, Jamieson entered 2015 without a contract for 2016. That’s rare in big-time college athletics because rivals can use that uncertainty against a school in recruiting.
Rhoades, during his first public media appearance as Missouri’s athletics director at the end of April, sympathized with Jamieson when asked about the coach’s future. Rhoades said Jamieson was in a tough spot because of his contract, and he also said the school must invest more money in baseball to keep up in the rugged SEC.

The Tigers showed they could compete in the league this year. After a series win over Alabama in mid-April, they improved to 12-6 in the conference — first place in the SEC East. But the team fizzled down the stretch, finishing 15-15 in the conference and getting eliminated three games into the SEC Tournament.

“This year’s team made encouraging progress, and we look forward to moving the program forward with the current roster of talented, young student-athletes in addition to the highly regarded young men joining our program next year,” Rhoades said.

Jamieson is the longest tenured head coach at Missouri. He’s accumulated a 672-535-2 record. In 2007, Jamieson won Big 12 Coach of the Year.

Known for his ability to develop pitchers, Jamieson has coached Washington Nationals star Max Scherzer and Minnesota Twins starter Kyle Gibson — both of whom are playing at all-star levels this season. Detroit Tigers second baseman Ian Kinsler also played under Jamieson at Missouri.

As Jamieson moves forward, the Tigers hope he can match the success he had in the Big 12. Missouri returns most of its young roster next season.

“We are coming off of a year that is more reflective of the success we saw throughout our tenure in the Big 12, and we will continue to get better as we take on the challenges of competing in the SEC,” Jamieson said in a news release. “The commitment Mack and the administration have made to our program is reflected in the increase in our budget, and I am beyond grateful to them for helping give us the resources we need to be even more successful in the SEC.”
Jamieson’s unique contract situation offered Rhoades his first decision on the fate of a Mizzou head coach.

The answer came Wednesday: Jamieson and Mizzou agreed to a three-year contract extension through the 2018 season. Jamieson, Mizzou’s head coach since 1995, will not receive an increase to his $208,000 guaranteed salary, but MU will boost the team budget to help the Tigers compete in the SEC.

“We are pleased Tim will continue to lead our program,” Rhoades said in a prepared statement. “This year’s team made encouraging progress and we look forward to moving the program forward with the current roster of talented, young student-athletes in addition to the highly regarded young men joining our program next year. We are committed to investing in our program and student-athletes in order to increase our competitiveness in the premier baseball conference in the country. Coach Jamieson led our program to high levels of success in the past and we anticipate the same in the future. Tim manages his program with great integrity and represents Mizzou in a first-class manner.”

For the 2014 fiscal year, Jamieson earned $327,597 in total salary, bonuses and benefits, according to school financial figures obtained through an open records request. His two full-time assistant coaches were paid from a salary pool of $256,722.

The baseball team’s operating expenses for the 2014 fiscal year totaled $1,808,623, which ranked fourth among MU’s teams. The baseball team’s recruiting expenses totaled $60,513, while the team spent $304,298 on travel costs.

Tim Hickman, Mizzou’s executive associate AD who oversees the baseball program, said Jamieson and MU’s administration haven’t finalized budget plans but have discussed a “relatively significant” increase, in the “six-figure” range, Hickman said.

“Around the league, the resources for baseball are pretty significant,” he said. “We want to stay competitive and we need to look for ways to improve that.”

Jamieson and Rhoades met Saturday to discuss the program’s future, sources confirmed. Among MU’s top priorities this offseason will be hiring an assistant coach, Hickman said. Kerrick Jackson, the team’s top assistant and recruiting coordinator the last five seasons, announced last week he was leaving the staff. Hickman said Missouri also will address beefing up its travel budget.

“One of the challenges we have geographically is we’re on the outskirts of the league,” he said. “We’re farther than average to a lot of the sites. That’s part of our challenge. We’ll be looking at more charter (flight) options.”

Under Jamieson, the Tigers struggled in their first two seasons in the SEC but this year improved by nine wins in conference play, from 6-24 in 2014 to 15-15 and a seventh-place finish in the 14-team league, which is widely regarded as the best conference in the country.
“First, I want to express my gratitude to Mack and the rest of our administration for having confidence in my staff and I as we continue to improve our program alongside the best in the nation in the SEC,” Jamieson said. “We are coming off of a year that is more reflective of the success we saw throughout our tenure in the Big 12 and we will continue to get better as we take on the challenges of competing in the SEC. The commitment Mack and the administration have made to our program is reflected in the increase in our budget and I am beyond grateful to them for helping give us the resources we need to be even more successful in the SEC.”

Hickman believes 2015 was more indicative of Mizzou’s program under Jamieson than the previous two seasons.

“This is back to what Coach expects, what we expect,” he said. “We saw a lot of young kids in the lineup that we’re really excited to build around.”

In 21 seasons as Mizzou’s head coach, Jamieson is 672-535-2 with 15 30-win seasons, nine NCAA regional appearances and one regional title in 2006. The Tigers won the Big Eight under Jamieson in 1996 and the Big 12 tournament in 2012.

THE MANEATER

Column: The needle in the haystack of Mizzou sororities
Is there a place for young black girls in Mizzou sororities?
By Kennedy Jones
June 3, 2015

As an incoming freshman at MU, I have been excited to rush a sorority since the middle of my senior year. I have spent entire weekends looking into every sorority chapter at each college I was debating on attending. For a long time, I was set to attend an HBCU, Historically Black College, but instead I chose to attend MU, a PWI, predominantly white institution. The sororities I researched at HBCUs were Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta among other amazing National Pan-hellenic Council organizations.

A Caucasian friend of mine attends another PWI and is part of a sorority and has fallen in love with the sorority life she has been blessed with. Much like any other student interested in pursuing a path similar to another, I asked her about sororities, relying on her advice as someone "in the know." My friend told me that, unfortunately, black sororities are not seen doing anything at her PWI school, completely absent from school-wide Greek Life events and unseen doing philanthropic labor.
Disappointed, I took her advice, and since she is the only one close to me who is involved in Greek Life, I naively took it as the only truth regarding NPHC organizations. Regardless, I continued researching sororities but instead turned to Panhellenic Association organizations. I took many notes regarding each sorority, jotting down their philanthropy, values and other details that interested me about them, ranking them according to my notes. I even looked at their Instagrams, Tumblrs and Facebooks to see if I could find at least one black female currently a part of their on-campus organization. For none of the PHA organization chapters at MU was this an easy thing to do; I scrolled through months of pictures and videos to search for one girl out of many.

While surfing through their social media, I found at least one black girl in Alpha Delta Pi, Delta Delta Delta, Kappa Alpha Theta, Phi Mu, Pi Beta Phi, Sigma Kappa and Sigma Sigma Sigma. Only seven out of 16 PHA sororities have black girls in any photo or video on any of their social media platforms. For instance, I had to scroll through Pi Beta Phi’s Instagram until I found a black girl in a photo posted several months ago on Halloween, but these sororities were better than those sororities without any black girls.

Although all of these sororities are extremely well-developed organizations with seemingly tight knit communities, amazing philanthropic character and dedication to academics, I was still unnerved by the lack of people who look like me in their chapters. As far as the NPHC organizations are concerned, there is an extreme lack of researchable information on them. The Alpha Kappa Alpha chapter is even marked inactive on GreekRank.com.

I hope to learn more about the NPHC organizations while on campus, but for now, I am completely devoid of information. Other than being in control of their social media platforms, PHA sororities at Mizzou are not entirely at fault with their lack of black members. With only 2,553 black students on campus, subtract the men and the women uninterested in joining an organization like theirs and there aren't many black women available.

I look forward to stepping on campus and hopefully having my observations debunked. With formal recruitment in the fall and open bids accepted throughout the year, I have decided to push my rushing plans back from this summer to second semester in order to collect more information on both the NPHC and PHA organizations. But for now, I must touch on the image that is presented to the young black female students entering as freshmen with the hopes of one day rushing.

Is there a place for us?
New co-chairs moving Four Front forward
Ipsa Chaudhary and Alanna Diggs were elected in April.
By Bryanna Leach
June 2, 2015
Junior Ipsa Chaudhary and senior Alanna Diggs are the two new faces of Four Front Council this year.

The co-chairwomen were elected in April to represent the minority population of MU in the Multicultural Center’s student council. Diggs said they hope to strengthen Four Front’s “cultural competency” and continue building its brand.

Former Four Front co-chairwoman Young Kwon said she believes both Chaudhary and Diggs possess “great ideas and skills” that will help them continue advocating for students of marginalized identities through Four Front.

“Alanna and Ipsa are excellent leaders,” Kwon said. “They have been highly involved in organizations under Four Front, and they are very respected by their peers. They have great knowledge about social justice and have been developing their leadership styles. I know they are going to be amazing leaders.”

In addition to Four Front, Diggs has also worked for the Department of Residential Life and the Alumni Association Student Board, and has recently been recruited by the secret society Mystical Seven. Chaudhary will be an Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention educator in the fall. Both women are Diversity Peer Educators and involved with the South Asian Students Association, where Chaudhary was the vice president and events coordinator.

Diggs attributes her position to inspiration and encouragement she received from other leaders in minority groups.

“I had always looked up to Tama Chakrabarty, the previous co-chair, who is a student leader who also has impeccable character,” Diggs said.

She said Chakrabarty and Mary Bifulco, the previous Diversity Peer Educator coordinator, encouraged her to become the Four Front liaison for DPE. It was then that she began to understand the council’s effect on positive change at MU.
“I got involved because I am passionate about seeing this campus become a place where all students feel safe and valued so they can spend all of their time focusing on becoming better students,” Diggs said.

As for next year, Diggs hopes she and Chaudhary can continue the legacy that Kwon and Chakrabarty have left them.

“The previous co-chairs sacrificed so much and worked tirelessly last year to get Four Front to be a recognizable brand,” Diggs said. “More importantly, they made it a place for student leaders to strengthen each other and bond in solidarity. We want to honor (that) by initiating more dialogue. We want students involved with Four Front to be able to discuss issues on campus and gain more cultural competency. As DPEs, Ipsa and I are excited about education. If we can contribute to the character of a few passionate students, the effect that those few may have will be a tremendous step toward positive change.”

They also share a passion for dance: Diggs is the choreographer for SASA’s dance group, Flawless Girls, where Chaudhary also dances, and Chaudhary is the choreographer for Mizzou Masti, where Diggs is also a dancer.

Former SASA President Ami Bhatt, who is also Diggs’ roommate, has worked with both co-chairs through SASA. She described Chaudhary as “one of the most powerful young women” she has ever encountered. She believes Chaudhary and Diggs have potential to move Four Front forward as its leaders.

“(Diggs) is extremely passionate about everything she does and always gives her 100 percent,” Bhatt said. “(Chaudhary) is extremely hardworking and likes to see results.”

Diggs also brings her passion for multicultural and minority students to the attention in the other groups she is involved in, such as AASB.

“As a fellow member of AASB, (Diggs) is always presenting new ideas while also bringing attention to areas or topics that have not been addressed previously,” AASB Vice President of Communications Aimee Murray said. “For example, she has been a major advocate for increasing the diversity of the students who represent the Alumni Association on AASB. As a multicultural student, she recently co-facilitated a diversity discussion to our entire organization to discuss cultural boundaries, issues of diversity and how we can overcome stereotypes and negative stigmas.”

AASB’s faculty adviser also notices Diggs’ efforts to educate students on issues that minorities face.

“So we’ve been lately trying to educate our groups more about diversity issues on campus and making our group more well-rounded,” AASB adviser Aly Friend said. “She is very smart and educated on a variety of topics. I learn a lot from her and I know her peers do as well.”
Chaudhary is a pre-med student as well as an artist. Bhatt believes that these interests lend her a unique blend of skills: an ability to analyze as well as creativity.

“With her creative and critical mind, I'm sure she's going to make Four Front progress very quickly,” Bhatt said. “She is a hardworking ally and strives to educate herself about all things multiculturalism through DPE and RSVP.”

Diggs said Chaudhary compliments her own personality well, noting that while she has many big dreams, Chaudhary is able to keep them in check with her more realistic views. They're also friends, and Diggs hopes that their relationship and personalities can be an example for other group members.

“We've never taken ourselves too seriously, and we've always found a way to laugh, even under the most stressful circumstances,” Diggs said. “I think that's very reflective of how we'd like to see Four Front next semester. We'd like to be a safe space for students to share ideas without judgement and a place where they can encourage each other personally and to do things they may have been hesitant to do before. We want students to be able to laugh and learn from each other so that we can become a stronger organization with a bigger impact on campus.”

THE MANEATER

Out with MizzouWireless, in with TigerWiFi

By spring 2016, the project is supposed to be completed throughout campus, giving better wireless access to students and staff.

By Bryanna Leach

June 3, 2015

Junior Brandon Fredman said he has hated MizzouWireless since day one.

“I could not believe how slow it was,” Fredman said. “Then the first day of my freshman year, MizzouWireless crashed. I called IT, and they told me that the servers cannot handle all the new activations, and it will always crash on the first day of school, and there is nothing they can do about it.”

The UM IT System Status’ website shows five cases between August and September 2014 when wireless internet either did not work or was slow. Administration has been aware of the reliability problems with MizzouWireless “for some time,” MU spokesperson Christian Basi said.
Now, the problem is being addressed through TigerWiFi, the new wireless network that was introduced on campus at the start of summer.

“We’re excited about the opportunity to improve our wireless network on campus,” Basi said. “We have started the process and expect all of our academic buildings to be completed by the beginning of the fall semester. The entire project should be completed by Spring 2016.”

As of May 28, Agricultural Engineering, Animal Science Research Center and Eckles Hall have been upgraded to TigerWiFi. This area will be completed before moving on to others, Basi said.

Buildings will be upgraded to TigerWiFi throughout the summer. Students can look for signs that say “Entering TigerWiFi Zone” to know that they should use the new network. The Division of IT will also be posting updates on their Facebook and Twitter accounts regularly as they continue to upgrade old wireless access point equipment.

The goal is to improve functionality, reliability and support in the system, Basi said.

“We have been planning to upgrade our wireless system for several months and were waiting for a time when it would cause the least disruption to campus,” Basi said. “We felt (MizzouWireless) could no longer handle the demands of our campus community.”

Residence Halls Association President Billy Donley said he has high expectations for TigerWiFi.

“I hope that it will not only bring a stronger connection for wireless but bring more reliability across campus,” Donley said. “I want to be able to have the same Internet speed in any building I walk into. I would also like more outside coverage so I can be productive on the Quad or maybe sitting outside of the Student Center.”

Donley used the phrase “touch-and-go” to describe MizzouWireless, referring to its frequent crashes, which he said causes problem for him when working on large assignments. Donley thinks one reason for the crashes may be that students use the Wi-Fi for leisure — streaming Netflix, for example.

He said he wishes that more students would use Ethernet when they can, though he added that the Internet should be able to keep up with students demands, regardless of their nature.

“I have had multiple moments where I was trying to get homework done or complete study guide for some of my classes and then the Internet cut out halfway through,” Donley said. “It’s very hard when the majority of your classes require online homework to be submitted.”
The switch to TigerWifi may also alleviate some students’ financial concerns. Fredman said he has learned to rely on his mobile data plan instead of MizzouWireless.

While Fredman said he thinks the hefty bill is worth it to evade MizzouWireless, he hopes that the new system will be easier to log into and work faster so that he can stop paying for mobile data on top of the university’s mandatory WiFi bill, which is included in residential fees for students living on campus, as well as in an IT fee of $13.10 for each credit hour that students take, said Basi.

Donley said that for the cost of college, reliable internet should be a given.

“We pay thousands of dollars to attend this wonderful university, and all the average student asks for is a strong and consistent internet connection,” Donley said. “I think that MizzouWireless has had its ups and downs but is ready to be replaced by TigerWifi.”

However, Fredman said he is not quite ready to drop his data plan and rely on MU’s internet.

“I really don't know how I feel about the TigerWiFi upgrade,” Fredman said. “I will believe it when I see it in the fall.”

With children out of school, educators provide ways to reduce 'summer slide'

By Roger McKinney

Wednesday, June 3, 2015 at 2:00 pm

Some call it the summer slide: shorthand for how learning falls off during the summer when children are out of school.

Summer learning loss is well-documented and inevitable, said Melia Franklin, director of English language arts and world languages for the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. She compares the phenomenon to how adults must readjust when returning to work after a weeklong vacation — kids have to get back in the habit of daylong learning.
A May 2011 research article published by Miami-Dade County Public Schools said studies consistently find that most students have lower scores on standardized tests at the end of summer vacation than at the beginning of summer.

**David Bergin, associate professor in the Educational, School and Counseling Psychology Department in the College of Education at the University of Missouri, said research shows the biggest factor affecting summer learning loss is the socioeconomic status of a child’s family.**

But educators have ways to mitigate the slide.

Area schools offer a number of summer school courses, some requiring tuition and others at no cost. The Daniel Boone Regional Library system also offers a variety of educational activities. Summer enrichment programs began this week at Columbia Independent School. Columbia Public Schools’ summer school activities begin next week.

Thad Yonke, whose son, Ethan, will be entering sixth grade in August, said he can see the benefits of CPS summer programs with Ethan. Thad Yonke said this summer Ethan will be participating in tuition summer school at Jefferson Middle School from June 8 through July 2 and that Ethan is enrolled in some weeklong courses in July at the Columbia Area Career Center Summer Camp for Youth.

Last summer, Ethan took the rocketry course at the career center for the second time, which his dad said allowed Ethan to perfect his rocket design and do additional testing. Thad Yonke said the summer programs allow Ethan to stay engaged during the summer.

Eric Kwon also took the rocketry course at the career center last summer. His father, Jae Kwon, said the class allowed his son to learn something interesting and find his talent.

The 2014 CPS summer school cost $4,420,501, but revenue from the state totaled $4,886,007 — a gain of $465,506 for the district.

Bergin said summer school can be useful if it has an academic or cultural component.

Summer activities “make sure that children are involved in constructive activities that build skills, expose them to new experiences and make them think, reason and problem-solve,” Bergin said. Activities can include summer school, music lessons and even sports camps, if they are high quality, Bergin said. He said there also should be time for freewheeling play for cognitive and social development.

A 2009 article on summer learning loss published by the American Sociological Association notes that children with low socioeconomic status lack cultural capital that is more available to children from families of higher socioeconomic status.
“That doesn’t mean” poorer families “can’t do similar things without spending a lot of money,” Bergin said. He said parents can take their children to local museums, libraries, exhibits and performances.

Franklin said parents should look for every opportunity to read with their children.

“I recommend reading widely and reading various texts in lots of different places,” Franklin said. She said stopping to read a historic marker together when on a family trip can be a bonding moment.

“Summer reading is a fine and unique opportunity for a parent and child to bond over text,” she said.

Bergin said math sometimes is overlooked in the summer in favor of reading. He suggested books and websites with math-related games and activities.

Franklin said cooking with children can involve reading, math and science. She said parents and children can discuss the measurements and the fractions required in recipes. She said if a recipe includes fruits and vegetables, parents can discuss how those fruits and vegetables grow or how wheat becomes flour.

Bergin said parents can also encourage children to take on projects in the summer, including crafts, sewing a dress, repairing a bicycle or building a birdhouse.

Geography and history activities can help slow summer learning loss. Franklin said exploring maps builds reading and social studies skills and that every community has a history. Children can ask their local librarian or explore the Internet to find out about their neighborhoods and communities.

“At the end of the day, if we produce curious children, we’ve done our jobs,” Franklin said.

Faculty Roles: The Next Diversity Frontier

June 4, 2015 by Judith Shapiro

NO MENTION

There are important issues around diversity -- notably in terms of ethnicity/race, socioeconomic class, sexual orientation and gender -- that have been of concern to institutions of higher education for a while
now. The progress made in these areas may be less than impressive, but they have a conspicuous place on our radar screens.

There is another dimension of diversity that has yet to attract the attention it deserves: the diversity of contributions that can be made by different members of an institution’s tenured and tenure-track faculty. Faculty members in these positions are pivotal to fostering the kind of change needed in our colleges and universities if we are to better serve our students. Such change would involve how faculty members judge one another, how departments view their responsibilities, how those responsibilities can best be fulfilled and how the work of faculty members is viewed by academic administrators.

Different institutions have different missions, which should be reflected in what is reasonably expected of their respective faculties. These differences have unfortunately been eroded by status-seeking mission creep. So, for openers, there is the famous advice of Polonius (who has received insufficient respect for his wisdom, probably because he conveyed it in a way that was boring to a younger person): “To thine own self be true.”

While it may seem obvious that a one-size-fits-all approach is inappropriate and undesirable for institutions with different missions and constituencies, it may also be undesirable within an institution as well, even if that institution is a research university. While the holy trinity of research, teaching and service on the face of it provides room for flexibility, differences in how each is valued and assessed yield a generally hierarchical structure with publication and attracting grant funds being the coin of the realm and relatively easy to quantify.

But even in research universities, not all members of a department need to balance their research and teaching contributions in exactly the same proportions. Moreover, one faculty member in his/her time plays many roles -- there may be times in between research projects in which a faculty member might wish to focus more on teaching. (As an aside: the pressure to publish as much and as quickly as possible seems clearly linked to the level of retractions we have been seeing on the part of major scientific and scholarly journals when major research flaws are revealed postpublication.)

A better solution would be an understanding -- reflected in the reward structure -- that not every member of a department needs to make precisely the same contribution to the department in meeting its goals and responsibilities. Crafting such a reward structure is something that the New American Colleges and Universities consortium, for example, has been working on with funding from the Teagle Foundation.

To be sure, one expects that departments in research universities would have a sufficiently strong complement of truly distinguished scholars and scientists who are making significant contributions to the knowledge base in their fields, including some who may not be God’s gift to teaching. Fortunately, many highly distinguished scientists and scholars are also superb teachers. But there should also be room for faculty members whose teaching outdistances their research. If research universities presume to educate undergraduates, they need to consider how well they are fulfilling that responsibility. They should also feel an obligation to prepare their graduate students for occupying positions at a wide range
of institutions of higher education; that is, they should be preparing graduate students seeking an academic career for their work not only as researchers, but as teachers.

There have been proposals for a separate track for faculty members who would focus on teaching, as opposed to research. This, however, is a solution that is part of the problem, since it will almost certainly perpetuate a culture of relative disdain for teaching, along with a tendency for teaching-focused appointments to be non-tenure-track. While there is a place for continuing appointments off the tenure track, viewing teaching in general as something unworthy of tenure would be unfortunate both in terms of institutional culture and how universities are viewed by the public.

It would also be desirable to recognize and reward those faculty members who have a special flair for sharing significant results of science and scholarship with a wide audience of readers -- beyond even The New York Review of Books. We already have an admirable complement of public intellectuals who earn their high position in the academic food chain by the traditional measure of research excellence -- though we could always use more of them. In addition, there are those whose contributions to public enlightenment might in and of themselves merit reward beyond what the current system offers.

Barriers to achieving a more informed citizenry may seem daunting, even at times insurmountable, especially when one figures in efforts at deliberate deception by powerful figures and opinion leaders. Indeed, we may feel the need to modify Abraham Lincoln's famous observation that you can fool all the people some of the time and some of the people all the time by observing that those have turned out to be pretty good odds. But we should reward those who give the advancement of public knowledge their best effort -- and sometimes manage to make a difference.

June 2, 2015

Alternative Idea for Resolving Sexual-Assault Cases Emphasizes Closure

By Sara Lipka

NO MENTION

Under federal and public pressure, colleges are building courtlike systems to resolve students’ reports of sexual assault. Yet activists driving the movement keep calling attention to how campuses fail them. Maybe the problem isn’t how colleges run the process, say a few researchers and practitioners, but the process itself.
Administrators insist that campus adjudication is not criminal justice, though that’s how people tend to see it. That expectation vexes Mary P. Koss, a psychologist who has long studied sexual violence. "Your university offers the possibility of creating something that is better for victims," says Ms. Koss, a professor in the public-health school at the University of Arizona. She’s on a mission to promote restorative justice, an alternative resolution — advisable only in certain cases — in which the offender accepts responsibility, listens to the victim, and works with the victim and a trained facilitator to try to make amends.

If that sounds too far-out, consider the frustration with the existing system, in which campus-appointed panels usually hear cases. Students who report sexual assaults often say the process retraumatizes them, in part with sensitive questions that challenge their credibility.

The adversarial model most colleges use doesn’t deliver the validation many victims of campus sexual assault are seeking, says Ms. Koss. The prosecutorial approach holds little chance of catharsis or closure. She and others want to help students pursue that.

"If healing were the goal, what would the process look like?" asks Kaaren M. Williamsen, Title IX coordinator at Swarthmore College. Restorative justice provides an answer, she says. It gives victims an opportunity to tell their own stories, observe offenders’ remorse, and have input into a resolution, according to a paper published last year by Ms. Williamsen, Ms. Koss, and Jay K. Wilgus, director of the Office of Student Conflict Resolution at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. The paper cites research suggesting such things are part of what victims need.

For perpetrators willing to participate, the experience can be profound, Ms. Koss says. Someone might realize the influence of a bad peer group or the extent of alcohol problems, and reparations may include therapy or treatment. Restorative justice, the article says, promises "a way of better serving victims, preventing the recurrence of sexual misconduct, and enhancing compliance with Title IX," the federal gender-equity law.

But despite the hopes of advocates who are meeting this week, the model is not exactly gaining traction. Expectations for colleges to serve as courts are entrenched. The U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights has advised against mediation as a way of resolving sexual-assault allegations. Many alleged victims won’t sit in the same room as the students they’ve accused. And for those who face being branded as rapists, fairly or not, admitting responsibility may be a nonstarter.

Yet dissatisfaction with how colleges handle sexual assaults is running high. At such a time, a seemingly implausible proposal may still provoke useful questions.

‘Worthy of Consideration’

Some colleges are incorporating restorative justice into their conduct systems, finding that it helps victims heal and offenders grasp the consequences of their actions. But that’s mainly for offenses like disorderly conduct, vandalism, maybe harassment. No expert could name an institution using the practice for sexual assault.
The Office for Civil Rights, which is now investigating more than 100 colleges for possible violations of Title IX, certainly hasn’t encouraged it. “In cases involving allegations of sexual assault, mediation is not appropriate even on a voluntary basis,” the office declared in 2011.

But in their paper, Ms. Koss and her co-authors distinguish mediation, which assumes neutrality, from restorative justice, which requires one party to take responsibility. If both students agree to the process, their case may be resolved through a restorative conference, the paper argues. In a flow chart, it shows where else such an approach might be used: for setting sanctions when an accused student is found responsible, or for reintegration after a suspension.

The Office for Civil Rights declined to comment on the paper. But in a written statement, it recognized that each institution’s “grievance procedures will vary in detail, specificity, and components.”

Compliance aside, some victim advocates challenge the use of restorative justice for sexual assault at all. It lets perpetrators off easy, they say, and trivializes the offense. "I work with victims all day, and this is not something they’re asking for," Lucy Berliner, director of the University of Washington’s Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress, told the National Journal. "This is a movement among academics who don’t like punishment or the criminal-justice system over all."

The practice is hardly proven, but a small program showed some potential. A decade ago prosecutors in Pima County, Ariz., referred 66 felony and misdemeanor sexual-assault cases to Ms. Koss. More than six in 10 alleged victims offered the option chose restorative justice over traditional resolution, as did nine in 10 alleged offenders. Redress plans required psychological assessment, counseling, monitoring, and community service. Nearly all victims and offenders who participated said they considered the process a success.

But the program, called Restore, completed only 22 cases. When a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ran out, in 2007, Ms. Koss couldn’t secure another for that work. In a separate project, Colgate University and Franklin & Marshall and Vassar Colleges had planned to be pilot sites for a new model applying restorative justice to sexual misconduct, but after a meeting in 2012, campus officials and consultants decided not to go ahead.

With colleges legally obligated to resolve all reports of sexual misconduct, and students presenting a broad range of circumstances, some practitioners see a need for an alternative option. "We have a lot of students coming forward who want something, who want some kind of assistance, but they don’t want a hearing," says Ms. Williamsen, of Swarthmore. "We don’t have much else to offer."

She is preparing a study across a few institutions on what kind of resolution various members of the campus community are seeking.

Meanwhile, the Association for Student Conduct Administration included restorative justice in its recent "gold-standard practices" for resolving cases of sexual misconduct. "This option is especially worthy of consideration," the group advised, "in cases in which the complainant says, ‘I just want him to know that what he did to me was wrong.’"
How much responsibility a student must accept to participate in a restorative conference is an open question. Campus officials, consultants, and experts may debate it this week, when about 20 of them gather for a meeting of a group called Prism, or Promoting Restorative Interventions for Sexual Misconduct. They wonder if they can successfully introduce the model on campuses, says Ms. Williamsen. "Is it possible, and what would it take?"

As institutions keep revising their sexual-misconduct policies, maybe the practice, always just as an option, will begin to appear, says Ms. Koss. In the 1980s she conducted the first big national study of campus sexual assault. Now she believes restorative justice is part of the solution.

An adversarial process doesn’t satisfy anyone, she says. "It’s only going to be a matter of time before people figure out it didn’t work out the way they hoped."

Arts and Sciences Deficits

June 4, 2015 by Kellie Woodhouse

NO MENTION

Larry Singell saw the writing on the wall well before his college was hit with a possible $8 million deficit.

Though the College of Arts and Sciences is by far the largest college at Indiana University’s Bloomington campus, more and more students were enrolling with credits earned through high school programs and community colleges. Students, worrying about employability after college, were leaving majors like English and anthropology behind and picking professional colleges instead.

“There’s no one reason why this is happening. As usual, it’s complicated,” Singell, dean of the college for the past four years, said of Indiana's deficit, which he says is a symptom of larger problems faced by liberal arts divisions within universities. “The budgetary problems are not one-year problems. This is not something that’s going to be different next year.”

Trends present in Indiana are present in colleges of arts and sciences across the nation.

Tim Johnston, president of the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro’s dean of Arts and Sciences, says enrollments in departments like English and history, which historically have been staples of humanities programs, are down nationally.
“That’s partly a result of the economic situation, and students being very focused on the question of employment immediately after graduation,” he said. “We are sensitive to, and affected by, shifts in student interest and the consequences of that interest on our programs.”

Ohio State University’s College of Arts and Sciences faces a $10 million deficit, a shortfall of about 4 percent of its $266 million operating budget. Administrators blame trends in enrollment. Department chairs, however, charge that administrators have failed to adopt an effective strategic plan for the college, causing it to flounder financially. Some say the university places a high priority on admitting students unlikely to be arts and sciences majors and are turning away students who could provide a better financial base for the college.

One in five students come to Ohio State having completed a full year’s worth of course work, either through Advanced Placement courses or community colleges, eroding revenue from what has long been the bread and butter of colleges of arts and sciences: general education courses that are required of all students, no matter their major or college.

Meanwhile, Ohio State’s College of Arts and Sciences saw an 11 percent drop in credit hour enrollment over the past five years, according to university data. Yet the College of Engineering grew by 56 percent and the business school grew by 12 percent.

During that same period, the number of students majoring in English and history dropped by a third.

In 2012 Ohio State went from offering courses in quarters to offering them in semesters, and in doing so changed its general education requirements. The change precipitated a 12 percent decline in credit hour enrollment at the College of Arts and Sciences, compared to an 8 percent decline for Ohio State as a whole, according to enrollment figures reported by the college.

**Perfect Storm**

As enrollment in the humanities has dropped by half in six years, the number of students applying to Ohio State’s humanities programs has increased by 21 percent. That's compared to a doubling of applications for the university as a whole, according to university figures. Applications to the College of Arts and Sciences have also doubled, but the number of students enrolled has remained relatively flat and the number of credit hours has declined.

Faculty members question why enrollment has decreased while applications are up, and some allege that humanities are low on the list of the college’s priorities.

“University policies are acting against the arts and humanities,” said Harvey Graff, a professor of English and history and director of the college's literacy studies program.

Graff alleges that the university is more concerned with admitting -- and offering scholarships to -- students interested in colleges that have seen a surge of interest, as well as students from out of state, who pay more than double the tuition in-state students pay, and students with profiles that bring up the university’s ranking, than with enrolling a student body that is fairly distributed among disciplines. As a
result, some professional colleges have too many students, while the College of Arts and Sciences has too few, Graff says.

When colleges face financial difficulties, tensions between faculty and administrators can emerge, either due to breakdowns in communication over proposed cuts or disagreements over how a college is run. Such is the case at Ohio State.

Graff is one of nearly two dozen arts, humanities and social sciences department chairs and center directors at the college who expressed concern over the leadership of the college’s dean, David Manderscheid, in a May letter to Ohio State’s provost. They assert the college has been mismanaged and that the dean has been opaque in his decision-making process. Ten math and science department chairs and center directors penned a second similar, but softer worded, letter of concern.

Manderscheid declined an interview for this article, although he did offer a prepared statement listing enrollment declines and credits earned in high school as contributors to the deficit. He also defended his leadership, saying that he has been communicative with faculty.

At Indiana, applications have dipped alongside enrollment. The college has a $393 million budget and was anticipating a shortfall of $4 to $8 million in the coming year.

The number of students applying to Indiana’s College of Arts and Sciences has declined by 13 percent since 2011, and the number of students admitted has dipped to 8 percent. This year about 12,300 students applied to the college, 900 fewer students than last year and 1,800 fewer than the year before.

Officials say an uptick of international students at the university has helped sway the pendulum away from the College of Arts and Sciences, as international students tend to enroll in professional colleges, such as business.

Meanwhile, students are bringing thousands of credit hours with them when they matriculate. Students can earn credit if they take AP courses and pass AP tests, or if they participate in the university’s Advance College Project, which allows students to take college courses in some high schools and receive credit for a nominal fee.

Since 2013, 21,700 students have brought 166,700 outside credit hours to Bloomington, with 80 percent of those credit hours earned through high school programs.

“It’s kind of a perfect storm in some ways,” Jean Robinson, the associate executive dean for the college, said of the college’s myriad of challenges.

Problems Within

Indiana and Ohio State use a responsibility-centered management budgeting model, meaning that officials are responsible for generating all the revenue necessary to pay for the college’s expenses. With this type of model, money flows directly from credit hours. So when credit hours dip, so does revenue, and a deficit likely ensues. At most universities, while there is a link between an individual college’s
enrollment and its revenue, the link is not as direct, as divisions within universities often help subsidize one another.

The responsibility-based model exacerbates -- and perhaps makes more evident -- the financial issues that many arts and sciences colleges are facing because there are no cross-subsidies to cushion the budget. Some say the budgeting approach doesn’t recognize the value of the liberal arts in supporting an entire university.

“We need to think about how we operate. There is a discipline that comes with this that says, ‘OK, students aren’t coming to our front door, how can we do things differently?’” Singell said. “It’s not pleasant, but without being able to have this type of budget circumstance, it would be harder to convince faculty to change.”

While each college at Ohio State and Indiana is responsible for generating its own revenue, disciplines within colleges subsidize one another.

One of Indiana’s most financially successful and popular College of Arts and Sciences majors is economics. The college uses revenue from the economics department to subsidize other departments that aren’t bringing in revenue. Yet economics faculty members are beginning to complain about the practice, saying they have too many students and not enough resources to educate them, since the revenue the program generates is being shared with other departments. For example, some upper-level economics courses have as many as 150 students enrolled, while upper-level courses in most humanities are much, much smaller.

“For a College of Arts and Sciences to be viable... you’re going to need to have some width to the disciplines and there’s going to have to be some cost subsidies that take place,” Singell said. “But you have to decide how much you’re going to do, and this environment makes the line a little finer.”

It’s inevitable, Singell says, that programs with poor enrollment will suffer: fewer faculty will be hired, which will lead programs to shrink.

“If that trend continues, it’s worrisome. There are certain disciplines that are already pretty small, and getting smaller is complicated,” Singell said. “Effectively what you’re doing is cannibalizing positions in order to keep paying people. It’s not a good long-term solution.”

Rebecca Spang, a history professor, center director and member of the Bloomington Faculty Council, says that some departments within the college “may have gotten bigger than they need to be.” The history program, for example, employs 52 full-time faculty members, and could afford to shrink.

Spang understands that while enrollments in humanities general education courses have “fallen dramatically” -- although she asserts some STEM fields, like natural sciences and mathematics, have also seen enrollment declines -- liberal arts programs are part of the overall Bloomington package that make the institution attractive, even for students who plan to major in engineering and business.
“Right now we happen to be seeing a boom of enrollment in the business school, but the reason why the business school is so successful is because it’s part of a campus that includes the College of Arts and Sciences,” she said. “It won’t really be a campus without those elements, and I think everybody realizes that.”

Search for Solutions

As Indiana and Ohio State face deficits, officials are looking at both long- and short-term fixes. In Indiana, faculty members at College of Arts and Sciences are receiving 1 percent raises on average, half the amount officials were originally budgeted to offer (other university units have also been authorized to offer faculty a 2 percent raise). At Ohio State, the dean plans to scale back the number of lecturers and graduate students employed by the college, and the college’s administration is reducing its budget next year by 4 percent.

While such Band-Aids will close the deficits projected for next year, both colleges need plans in place that will bring more revenue into the college and eliminate or minimize deficits in the years to come.

At Indiana, the College of Arts and Sciences is trying to attract more students by strengthening career readiness programs and by offering majors and programs that merge the humanities and social sciences with courses that are more typical in a professional school. One such example is the college’s new School of Global and International Studies.

At Ohio State, the College of Arts and Sciences is emphasizing its STEM offerings in an effort to attract students. The school launched a new data analytics major in 2014, and its new neuroscience major has attracted 800 students since it was rolled out in 2012.

Officials at Indiana are also contemplating ways the college can respond to the national conversation about job readiness after college. They say they need to do a better job of preparing students for the workforce, and a better job of educating prospective students that they can get equitable employment with a liberal arts degree.

“There is a lot of talk among parents, and nationally in the media, of concern about jobs. The public perception -- and the very good public relations by professional schools that seems to resonate among parents and children -- is that it’s a lot easier to get a job if you’re in a professional school,” said Robinson, the assistant dean at Indiana. “Colleges of arts and sciences, including our own, haven’t done a good job about helping students and parents understand that if you take a slightly longer look, students in arts and humanities do just as well.”

Johnston, leader of the CCAS, says there’s a “mistaken emphasis” on a student’s first job out of college. “A college education really is a preparation for life, it’s not training for the first job you get,” he said, adding that most people these days have “changeable and unpredictable” career paths.

Singell agrees, but recently had his own reality check when his daughter graduated from college last month. The milestone marked a huge achievement, but also the end of four years of hefty tuition bills.
“Admittedly, it’s tough. I’m paying a lot of money for a college education -- you want them to get a job after graduation,” he said, adding later, “Colleges of arts and sciences are going to have to evolve a little bit.”