2 officers won't face charges in fatal shooting at Mizzou garage

COLUMBIA, Mo. • Two police officers who shot and killed a man in a Columbia parking garage will not face charges.

Boone County Prosecutor Doug Abele announced Monday the officers were justified in shooting 51-year-old Mark Adair in April. One officer was with the Columbia police department and the other was a University of Missouri officer.

Abele says footage from an officer's body camera confirmed information from the officers and witnesses. They say the incident began after officers saw Adair confronting some women in the parking garage. He was shot several times when he would not stop struggling with an officer to get his gun.

The Columbia Daily-Tribune reports authorities believe Adair tried to rob and sexually assault another woman before going to the parking garage.
A special Cole County Prosecutor appointed to look into the matter has determined there is no basis for criminal charges against two officers who shot a man in Hitt Street Garage in April.

Special Prosecutor Douglas Abele found that University of Missouri Police Department Officer Zachary Chinea and Columbia Police Department Officer Timothy Giger fired shots at Mark Adiar after Adair “approached Chinea in a threatening manner and drew what appeared to be a large caliber handgun, pointing it at the officer.” The events were documented in Chinea’s body camera footage, which was released Monday with Abele’s report.

In the report, Abele documents the sequence of events. Adair had recently been released from prison after serving a sentence for rape. The officers were aware that earlier in the day, Adair had allegedly committed robbery and sexual assault, and that he was armed. Officers learned Adair may be in Hitt Street Garage on the MU campus, and Chinea drove up to find Adair talking with three females and trying to enter their vehicle in the garage. That is the point where the video above starts.

Chinea was able to block Adair’s weapon, but the two began wrestling, with Adair ending up on top of Chinea and the two struggling to grab Chinea’s duty weapons, according to Chinea. Two CPD officers arrived on scene amidst the struggle, and Officer Giger fired two shots into the back of Adair, believing Chinea “was in imminent danger of serious harm or death.” Despite the shots, Adair continued wrestling, and Giger fired a third shot, hitting Adair in the area of his left eye. Chinea was then able to push Adair off of him, and discharged multiple shots into Adair’s chest and abdomen. The report says Chinea was not aware at that point that the other officers were on scene, or that Giger had fired shots at Adair.

Adair died from his wounds, and Chinea was wounded in the hand by a gunshot during the altercation.

MU considers ending December ceremony for master's degree recipients

By Megan Favignano

Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 2:00 pm

University of Missouri officials are considering ending the university’s dedicated December graduation ceremony for master’s degree recipients starting in December 2016.
The university already has eliminated its May master’s degree ceremony in favor of having master’s degree recipients participate in the graduation ceremonies of their respective colleges.

Leona Rubin, MU associate vice chancellor for graduate studies, recently emailed the university’s graduate program officials to gauge their preferences for December graduation. The Office of Graduate Studies will hold a combined master’s and doctoral hooding ceremony this December as it has in past years.

December graduations are smaller than spring graduation and typically include about 300 master’s students, Rubin said.

“Over the years we have discovered that many of these students already attend their college event,” Rubin said in her letter to graduate programs.

Many MU schools and colleges already are restructuring their graduation processes to include master’s degree graduates in the spring, Rubin said.

Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin created a campus-wide university convocation for spring graduation that will confer all student degrees. MU schools and colleges will have the option to honor undergraduate and graduate students individually at their own ceremonies during graduation weekend. Doing so, Rubin said, will make ceremony logistics easier.

Rubin said the graduate studies office wanted to see whether schools and colleges prefer to have the same graduation processes they are adopting for spring in December.

“They would have two different protocols — one for December, and one for spring,” Rubin said.

Second-year graduate student Chuka Emezue said master’s students should have a ceremony separate from undergraduates because ceremony speakers might not appeal to all graduates.

“They are all in different levels of life,” Emezue said. The ceremony’s “content and context is different” for undergraduate and graduate students.

Students receiving their master’s degrees could get lost in the larger crowd of students if the ceremonies are combined, he added.

The Office of Graduate Studies will honor doctoral students with a hooding ceremony during the May graduation weekend and will continue to do so in December — a tradition MU restored two years ago.

While the decision to stop holding a master’s-specific graduation ceremony in May already has been made, university officials don’t have to decide whether to hold a master’s ceremony in December until this spring, Rubin said.

“We have plenty of time to discuss it,” she said.
The total graduation ceremony cost is difficult to calculate, Rubin said. Facility rentals for the December master’s and doctorate ceremonies last year cost a little more than $5,000, she said.

Honoring master’s students in the individual school and college ceremonies could save MU some money. That small savings, however, was not the motivation for the graduation ceremony discussion, Rubin said.

The May campus-wide ceremony addition and a change in functions of the graduate studies office, Rubin said, led the office to re-evaluate its role in graduation.

The Graduate School transitioned to the Office of Graduate Studies over the past year. Part of that transition, Rubin’s email said, meant “removing academic components from the purview of the Office of Graduate Studies” and returning them to academic units and graduate faculty.

Emezue, who is working toward dual master’s degrees, said he prefers master’s students have a separate ceremony but that he understands if logistically it is better for MU to combine them.

More details from patrol's investigation into downtown fatal police shooting

By Alan Burdziak

Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 8:43 pm

When there are 126 pages of a document and you only get 18 inches of newsprint (about 650 words) to write about said document, inevitably there will be details left out.

That was the case this morning with a story on the Missouri State Highway Patrol’s investigation into the April 15 fatal shooting of Mark W. Adair in a downtown Columbia parking garage and a memo Cooper County Prosecuting Attorney Doug Abele wrote to Columbia police, University of Missouri police and the patrol. **Abele’s memo detailed why he declined to file charges against two officers — an MU patrol officer and a Columbia detective — who each fired their service weapons in the incident.**

The most pertinent details about the investigation made it into the story, including that Adair was the subject of a manhunt for an attempted robbery and sexual assault earlier that day and how the fatal encounter occurred. Unfortunately, a lot of interesting details didn’t make it into the story in Tuesday’s paper or the one online I just linked to. Below are some of those details.
— Just before Adair, 51, and MU Officer Zachary Chinea got into the altercation in the Hitt Street parking garage that ended with Adair’s death, Adair had approached three young women (this is in the story, but not much more). All MU students, two 20 years old and one 19, they told patrol Sgt. Matthew Koch they were at a friend’s nearby apartment and were heading to their shared residence when they crossed Adair’s path. He first said something none of them quite heard and then began commenting on their looks, including telling one of them that she looked like Taylor Swift.

Then Chinea pulled up and Adair pulled his weapon, which turned out to be an air pistol, and the pair fought, stopping when Adair was shot by a Columbia detective and then Chinea. Right after Chinea pulled up, the women got into the vehicle they were leaving in. When they heard shots, they told investigators, they ducked down as far as they could and one of them called 911 a moment later. The dispatcher told them to alert uniformed officers at the scene of their presence, which they did. An officer escorted them from the scene and they were eventually driven home.

In their interviews with a patrol investigator, all three said Adair made them feel uncomfortable as he approached them. One said he didn’t seem “like he was in the right state of mind” and another said she got a “bad vibe” from him.

One of the women said she thought if Chinea had not pulled up when he did, Adair would have kept them from entering the vehicle.

— On parole for a rape conviction in the late 1980s, Adair was assigned to Reality House in north Columbia. He was paroled April 10 and left April 14 without telling anyone, which itself was a violation of his parole and triggered a warrant for his arrest. The patrol had received reports that Adair had told staff at the halfway house that he wanted to hurt himself or others once he was outside the facility.

Adair’s case manager, though, in an interview with patrol Trooper D.R. Haslag, said Adair had not said anything of the sort to him.

— Authorities notified Adair’s next of kin, his sister who lives in southern Boone County, of his death. She told investigators that Adair had been acting strangely the last time she spoke with him and he had been looking for a gun. She also told them that he was not a good person and had abused her in the past.

— Adair’s blood-alcohol content was 0.137 percent, according to the autopsy report, well over the 0.08 percent considered legally drunk in Missouri, and most other states, for that matter. His blood tested negative for any of the other substances it was tested for, including methamphetamine, cocaine, marijuana and myriad other narcotics and prescription drugs.

— Adair also had a large kitchen knife on him when he was killed. He had also wrestled Chinea’s pepper spray away and tried to use it against the officer, who was able to prevent that from happening.
— It was not clear exactly how many times Chinea fired his weapon or who fired first, him or Columbia police Detective Timothy Giger, according to the report. The body camera footage isn’t definitive in that respect. Giger shot Adair three times, twice in the back and once in the head, with his .40-caliber Smith and Wesson handgun. Chinea had a 9 mm Smith and Wesson handgun. Chinea gained control of Adair’s air pistol and fired at him several times, but he said he thought those rounds hit the ceiling. He also didn’t know it was an air pistol at the time.

— Chinea, Giger and Columbia Detective Neal Sedgwick, who arrived with Giger but didn’t fire his weapon, separately gave their statements to the patrol on April 17.

— Early in the morning April 16, while investigators were still processing the scene (Adair was killed about 11 p.m. April 15), a drunk 23-year-old man stumbled through a west-side entrance door into the garage and passed the crime scene tape. He “passed through several lines of police tape before walking into the garage and as a result, the crime scene,” Haslag wrote. The trooper saw the man and was able to intercept him before he got near Adair’s body or any evidence. “The male appeared very intoxicated and confused,” Haslag wrote, and it appeared he had no idea he stumbled onto a crime scene.

A few days later, Haslag spoke with the man on the phone, who said he didn’t recall walking into the crime scene or into the parking garage. The man told Haslag “he was highly intoxicated and could not remember most of the evening.”

$75 million MU music project recruiting donators

Three months after receiving a $10 million dollar donation from Rex and Jeanne Sinquefield, kicking off a fundraising campaign for a new music building, MU is still accruing donations from high-profile alumni. Sam Hamra, a graduate of MU’s business and law schools and chairman of Hamra Enterprises, donated $100,000 to the project.

Hamra made the donation in honor of his wife, June, who earned a Master of Arts in music history and voice from MU. Hamra Enterprises, of which June is the vice-chairman, operates 104 restaurants throughout the country.

“I wanted this gift to recognize the efforts that my wife put forth in helping students develop their vocal talents during the time she taught voice at the University of Missouri,” Hamra said in
a press release. “June and I hope this gift will help music students achieve the goals they desire in life.”

The music school project is expected to cost $75 million. The school hopes to begin construction in 2016, but is still in the process of raising money from donors before beginning construction at the corner of Hitt Street and University avenue.

“The original gift from the Sinquefields was the leading gift that we can take to other investors,” said MU spokesman Nathan Hurst. “Since then, we can say ‘Hey, we’ve got some of this money raised— let’s keep the ball rolling.’”

Eventually, the university will ask the state to match funds raised for the new building. But to get to that point, they’ll first need to raise $35 million from private donations.

Hurst said the school’s annual fundraising campaign will help bring in the necessary money.

“The new music building is going to be a priority,” Hurst said. “But it’s a longer-term project. That won’t be completed in the next few months.”
MU advancement officials and the College of Arts and Science are in the initial fundraising phase for the project, which is estimated to cost about $74 million. MU officials hope to receive state funds matching the amount of private gifts the university has received for the project.

University officials expect construction to begin in 2016. The School of Music currently uses classrooms, studios and office space in five different buildings. The new building will house all School of Music activities and will open space elsewhere on campus for other schools and colleges.

MU police investigate ATM theft at off-campus clinic

By THE TRIBUNE'S STAFF

Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 2:00 pm

University of Missouri police are trying to find out who crashed a vehicle through the front doors of a building that houses an MU clinic and stole an ATM over the weekend.

Capt. Brian Weimer said someone drove a car into Woodrail Center, 1000 W. Nifong Blvd., between 11:30 p.m. Friday and 11:19 a.m. Saturday and stole the ATM, which was attached to the floor.

Investigators were working to determine whether footage of the crime was captured by any security cameras in the area, he said.

Police also were looking for the owner of the ATM, Weimer said. The Woodrail Center houses several clinics and includes an MU Health internal medicine and pediatrics clinic in space the university leases.

He had no estimate of the extent of damage to the building, but Weimer said it was “extensive” and broke the front doors open.

A description of the vehicle used in the theft was not available. It was not immediately clear how the ATM was removed from the building, Weimer said.
Rhoades' path leads to Mizzou

COLUMBIA, Mo. • Mack Rhoades was lost. His dream, to play college baseball, was shattered. His ankle, wrenched in a career-ending injury, would never again hold up on the diamond.

He was 17 and crushed.

Growing up in Tucson, Ariz., Rhoades lived for sports, maybe to a fault, he reasons now. Football, basketball, baseball, soccer, he played them all. Basketball was his favorite, but he played baseball best — until his ankle gave out.

“My identity, right or wrong, was based on sports,” he said. “At 17 years old, you went from everybody being interested in you to nobody being interested. It probably wasn’t very balanced to have your whole self-worth and self-being (based on) how good you are as an athlete.”

Around the same time, Rhoades’ grandfather died. The Rhoades family, big and Catholic, all in Arizona, lost its patriarch.

“He was my hero,” Rhoades said. “Now all of a sudden you’re sitting there thinking, ‘Where do I go from here?’”

Long before he became the University of Missouri’s athletics director, Rhoades tackled that question in its many forms many times. How does a boy who never thought of doing anything beyond sports navigate the rest of his life?

The answers came in pieces. Rhoades studied medicine. He sold potato chips. He taught. He delivered pizzas. He cleaned toilets.

With each step, Rhoades found ways to make a living but not a career. Eventually, a life in college athletics unfolded that led Rhoades to Missouri as the successor to longtime AD Mike Alden.

Rhoades, 49, just finished his first 90 days on the job. Picture frames still in bubble wrap rest along the wall in his Mizzou Arena office. As he settles into his new job, his third as a Division I AD, Rhoades recently sat down with the Post-Dispatch to help uncover the path that led him to Columbia.

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Born and reared in Santiago, Chile, Carmen Gerbracht and her two brothers were sent to America by their father so they could continue their education. In Tucson, Carmen studied at the University of Arizona and met Mack Rhoades III, an engineer, who later worked at the national observatory on the UA campus. They married and had three boys, the oldest carrying the family name: Mack Bernard Rhoades IV, born Oct. 18, 1965.

Sports became his life.

“I could have played college basketball at smaller Division I schools,” Rhoades said. “Baseball was the one where I had the biggest opportunity to play at some big schools.”

Rhoades’ ankle injury changed those plans. Instead, he stayed home and enrolled at Arizona. He decided to become an orthopedic surgeon and specialize in sports medicine.

“Because that sounds awesome,” he said. “More than anything, people will think it’s awesome.”

Rhoades was not one of those people.

“I hated it,” he said. “I thought, this isn’t for me.”

After a year and a half, Rhoades’ cousin in San Diego called with an offer. He wanted Rhoades to join him in buying a snack food company, Charles Chips. They could be partners if Rhoades could put together $4,000 and get to San Diego in three days.

“I dropped everything,” Rhoades said. “My parents weren’t thrilled.”

Rhoades left school, borrowed the money from his grandmother and headed west.

“That’s where I really grew up,” said Rhoades, who ran the company for more than a year before they sold their shares. “That’s where I regained some confidence after floundering for a year and a half. … We had a lot of fun with it and made good money, but I realized I probably didn’t want to sell snack foods all my life.”

From there, Rhoades figured it was time to finish college. He re-enrolled at Arizona to pursue a degree in health sciences. Perhaps more important than anything he learned in the classroom, he scheduled a visit with Arizona AD Cedric Dempsey, who’d later become executive director of the NCAA.

“I remember walking out of that meeting,” Rhoades said, “and saying, ‘That’s what I want to do.’”

A course was set, but first, a family.

...
Amy Haydukovich, a friend at UA, wanted to set up Rhoades with her sister, Lori, who lived in Flagstaff. Rhoades agreed to the blind date.

“In my mind I’m hoping Lori’s as good looking as Amy,” Rhoades said.

A few days before the date, Amy had some news: She was replacing her sister on the date. They had dinner and took a walk on the UA campus. A wedding, three daughters and seven moves later, they’re still together.

“Amy’s been with me every step of the way,” Rhoades said.

First stop, Indiana University. The Rhoadeses, now a party of three with nine-month-old Nicolette, packed up their Nissan Sentra and headed to the Big Ten school for one reason: basketball. While earning his master’s in athletics administration, Rhoades spent as much time as he could around Bob Knight’s program. He taught a class in basketball development and became close friends with assistant coach Norm Ellenberger.

“If I’m not going to be an AD then I wanted to coach basketball,” Rhoades said.

Instead, Rhoades landed an internship in Yale’s athletics department, where he learned under AD Thomas Beckett. When the campus custodians went on strike for two months, every employee was assigned a cleaning job. For Rhoades, that meant scrubbing toilets in the resident college every morning at 5:30.

“Mondays were the worst,” he said.

Beckett pitched in, too, sweeping the gym floor every morning — an image Rhoades never forgot.

“That’s a guy you want to work for,” Rhoades said.

“He did every job at Yale and then some,” Beckett wrote in an email. “He earned the trust and respect of his colleagues while here and everyone knew Mack was someone special.”

From Yale, Rhoades moved the family, now including daughter Natalie and soon Noelle, back to Tucson, ready for a change from the East Coast. While filling out countless job applications, he delivered pizzas to pay the bills.

A week before starting a job at A.G. Edwards, Rhoades took a position at Marquette to work in development. Then came a formative seven-year stay at Texas-El Paso, where he worked under AD Bob Stull, the former Mizzou football coach.

“He’s very good at cultivating donors and also does a good job with coaches,” Stull said. “He listens and tries to help them.”
In 2006, Rhoades got his first chance to run an athletics department, at Akron. Three years later he took over at the University of Houston. At both stops, fund-raising and facilities became Rhoades’ specialties.

“He’s a coach’s AD,” former Houston basketball coach James Dickey said. “He’s a star in this business.”

Now at Mizzou, where he’ll soon be armed with a $100 million budget, Rhoades wants to expand the athletics scholarship fund by more than 5,000 donors over the next few years. Rhoades is set on building new offices and locker rooms for the football team. He wants to spruce up Mizzou Arena. He’s open to a new baseball stadium.

Robbed of a chance to become a college athlete, the potato chip entrepreneur has big plans — again.

University of Missouri professor previews GOP presidential debate

August 5, 2015 by Mike Lear

Seventeen candidates seeking the Republican nomination for president will be featured in two debates tomorrow night hosted by Fox News. Ten will face each other in a debate in prime time, while the remaining seven will debate earlier in the evening.

A University of Missouri professor internationally recognized as a scholar of presidential debates says there is typically more value in these primary debates than in those held closer to the general election. Professor of Communication Mitchell McKinney says still in question going into that debate is what the identity of the party will be in the 2016 campaign cycle, and whether that will be represented by a more moderate or a more conservative candidate.

McKinney told Missourinet it will be, “A discussion, a debate of, ‘What kind of party are we, what are we all about, what are we going to stand for?’”

“Will there be one of more so-called moderate Republicans emerge as the frontrunner? What about this, and I think there’s a slew of them, a slew of the candidates that tend to lean more right in terms of their issue positions,” said McKinney.

McKinney says from a voters’ perspective, there is often more to learn at a debate at this stage of a campaign than in one held later, when many voters’ minds are already made up.
"As a frontrunner I've seen the polls, even if we look at sort of an average of these polls, it has Donald Trump at 18, 19, 20-percent. That leaves a lot of undecided or softly committed ... or simply someone making a decision based on name recognition," said McKinney. "Once we start to see these candidates perform in these debates [we often see] great change and shifts in commitments, and so I think that's one of the things we point to in primary debates is that they tend to have much more of an effect in helping people make decisions."

Donald Trump has dominated national coverage of the Republican field of presidential candidates in recent weeks. McKinney says it will also be interesting to see Trump have to share the floor.

"Once he's on the debate stage and he has to share, that's a feature of these debates, with multiple candidates ... share the microphone, share the time, we see him interact not just in his own private interviews or his own staged events, but he's standing there right next to these folks," said McKinney, "how does he interact with them? How does he handle them? How does he address them? How does he deal with counterpunches when one of them goes after him? All of those dynamics are yet to be seen."

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**Trump, an unknown quantity in first Republican debate**

*By Ivan Couronne 13 hours ago*

Washington (AFP) - As nine candidates prepare to take their place Thursday alongside Donald Trump for the first Republican presidential debate, a question looms: how does one deal with a rival whose bombast is part of his DNA?

The real-estate tycoon turned White House contender is also the United States' most prolific political insult generator, imposing a sense of must-see-TV on the opening duel of the 2016 cycle.

He blasted fellow Republican White House hopeful Jeb Bush as "weak," Senator Lindsey Graham as an "idiot," and Texas ex-governor Rick Perry as a buffoon who wears glasses "so people will think he's smart."
And that was in just one campaign speech.

Despite or perhaps because of his outrageous promises and harsh invective since launching his campaign in June, the brash billionaire has snatched a wide poll lead.

Trump has trumped many who have spent years meticulously preparing for this moment -- writing memoirs or policy books, espousing causes, polishing their image and courting wealthy donors.

Should they now hit back at Trump to get noticed, but at the risk of legitimizing a man the Republican National Committee has begged to tone it down?

Ammunition abounds: Trump in the past has supported abortion rights and universal health care -- heresy for the Republican base -- and has backed Democrats like Hillary Clinton.

But rivals would note that taking potshots at Trump could trigger a response in kind.

Bush quipped he was reassured that retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson will participate in the debate because "before that thing's over we might just need a doctor."

Graham, who branded Trump a "jackass," insisted Trump might make more sense to debate viewers if they were drunk. New Jersey Governor Chris Christie vowed not to let anyone interrupt him on stage.

A veteran of primary debates, Senator and former Republican presidential nominee John McCain, recommended sobriety.

But "I clearly would challenge some of his assertions," McCain told AFP. "Prepare to discuss the issues."

Carmine Gallo, a communications expert and author of "Talk Like TED," a reference to the renowned speakers' series, offered advice for those challenging The Donald: "Stay in your lane."
"Above all, you can't out-Trump Trump," he said. "Americans like their heroes to be authentic and you'll look like a phony if you try to match someone else's personality."

Winning candidates, he said, "are often those who paint an irresistible portrait of a bright future. Americans like optimists."

- Trump against type? -

**University of Missouri political communication professor Mitchell McKinney, who has studied voter reactions for decades, said debut debates are essential for forming opinions about candidates.**

That rings more true this year with 17 Republicans, including lesser-known personalities, vying for the nomination.

The top 10 in recent national polls will take the stage Thursday, with the remaining seven relegated to a forum four hours before the main event.

"This is their first sort of job interview with the party faithful," McKinney said.

Viewers will be looking for the suitable temperament of a future president more than a propensity to fling zingers at Trump.

"Can they attack an opponent, a fellow Republican, and do it in a way that they don't seem hateful or mean-spirited? Or do they seem like they're nothing but a bully," posed McKinney.

"Most folks don't find that quality particularly endearing in a president."

Candidates who cross into bullying behavior risk backlash from voters.

In their 2000 debate, Republican Rick Lazio interrupted fellow Senate candidate Hillary Clinton by walking to her podium, campaign finance pledge in hand, and urging her to sign it.

A heated 2011 primary debate turned physical when a frustrated Mitt Romney, the eventual Republican nominee, placed his hand on Perry's shoulder.
Trump shines when he faces the cameras alone. It may be different when he shares the stage, allotted the same time as nine rivals.

Trump dialed down the loose-cannon threat Sunday, telling ABC News: "I'm not looking to attack them."

He also downplayed expectations of his own performance, stressing: "I'm not a debater."

The biggest bombshell could come if Trump goes against type, emerging as thoughtful, composed and not lobbing verbal grenades.

"I actually predict that Mr Trump will be focused on policy and respectful," grinned Republican Senator Rob Portman, who played the role of President Barack Obama in Romney's 2012 debate prep.

Fox News released the debate line-up Tuesday.

Joining Trump will be: Bush; Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker; ex-Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee; Carson; Senators Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Rand Paul; Christie; and Ohio Governor John Kasich.

How Can You Beat Alcoholism? By Getting Married, Says Study

Marriage can result in a huge reduction in alcohol consumption – even among severe addicts – according to a new study.

Research conducted at the University of Missouri found that a dramatic change in one’s role – such as becoming a husband or a wife – can help people beat addiction and get on the straight and narrow.

Matthew Lee, postdoctoral fellow at the University of Missouri, said: “A key conceptual framework psychologists use to explain maturing out and the ‘marriage effect’ is role-incompatibility theory.
“The theory suggests that if a person’s existing behavioural pattern is conflicting with the demands of a new role, such as marriage, one way to resolve the incompatibility is to change behaviour.

“We hypothesised that this incompatibility may be greater for more severe drinkers, so they’ll need to make greater changes to their drinking to meet the role demands of marriage.”

The study used data from a huge, ongoing study of familial alcohol disorders by the Department of Psychology at Arizona State University in the US. Around 50 per cent of the participants in the study were children of alcoholics.

Looking at how the alcohol consumption of participants changed between the ages of 18 and 40 – and whether or not they got married – scientists were able to conclude that tying the knot helps combat the disease.

Dr Lee said: “Confirming our prediction, we found that marriage not only led to reductions in heavy drinking in general, this effect was much stronger for those who were severe problem drinkers before getting married. This seems consistent with role incompatibility theory.

The researchers believe the study could play a key role in understanding problem drinking and alcoholism in future.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU opens science center for collaborative study of microorganisms

BEN LANDIS, 11 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — Through narrow hallways and numerous research labs, tour groups were guided Tuesday by faculty members of the new MU Metagenomics Center.

Metagenomics is the study of a collection of genetic material from a mixed community of organisms, according to the National Human Genome Research Institute.

"We work with animal models of human disease," said Aaron Ericsson, director of the Metagenomics Center.
The new center shares a 60,000-square-foot building in Discovery Ridge Research Park with existing research groups including Idexx Laboratories, the Rat Research and Resource Center and the Mutant Mouse Resource and Research Center.

A section of the building can house about 8,000 mice and rats being used for research purposes. There also is a "freezer farm" that holds cryogenically frozen material of samples from previous studies.

The result of a grant funded through One Health, One Medicine of Mizzou Advantage, the center is intended to serve scientists and researchers at MU — and beyond — as a resource for microbiological studies, Ericsson said.

MU's College of Veterinary Medicine, the School of Medicine and the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources have shown interest in working with the center, Ericsson said.

Creation of the center has been in discussion for a few years. Ericsson said he foresaw efficiency as a major benefit; he and other colleagues believe it will significantly decrease the costs of study and allow scientists to work faster with a centralized location for research of microorganisms.

"Prior to us, researchers could do everything that we do," Ericsson said. "But it would have been laborious."

Scientists will be able to submit their own samples from different subjects such as soil, plants and animals and then receive a detailed profile of the bacterial community from the DNA extracted from the sample. DNA extraction and the analysis of findings from the samples are considered the center's "bread and butter," Ericsson said during the presentation.

"I really want researchers to know this exists and to help them obtain grants," Ericsson said in an earlier interview.
During the presentation, speakers from the vet school and other science programs praised the new center and called it invaluable. They emphasized the benefit of collaboration. Ericsson said it was a "team effort" to further the study of the complex populations of microorganisms.

**Immigrant students should pay more for college education**

August 5, 2015

**NO MU MENTION**

Karissa Anderson ("Missouri’s cruel treatment of undocumented students," July 29) laments that “Missouri has created a cruel and confusing situation for some recent Missouri high school graduates who are undocumented and have been approved under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals." She says, “Missouri’s legislators passed numerous punitive bills” because they do not provide A+ scholarships and that tuition is to be charged at the highest possible rate for undocumented students.

To be approved for DACA there are seven guidelines the individual is supposed to meet. The deferred action is good for two years and can be renewed. Guideline No. 6 says: “You may request consideration of deferred action for childhood arrivals if you are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a general education development certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States.”

I am confident that the U.S. citizen taxpayer has covered much of, if not all, the costs for the child’s education through high school, likely including much of their medical costs. Upon high school graduation, an individual is generally 18 years old and he is then emancipated. If he chooses to continue his education, that cost should be borne by him. The DACA or legal immigrant student should get a job and earn the funds necessary to continue his desired education.

If he wants to continue his education at a U.S. or Missouri citizen’s rate, he may and should strongly be encouraged to become a U.S. citizen. Being an emancipated person, this child has the power to do this on his own, irrespective of the standing of the parents.

Until any immigrant, illegal/undocumented or otherwise, DACA or not, decides he wants to become a U.S. citizen, the rate for his education should be higher than the rate paid by any U.S. citizen. Too many U.S.
citizen students are suffering higher education rates and putting themselves in debt for years. These students should not be subsidizing the education of any noncitizen, nor should any scholarship be granted an immigrant, illegal or legal, when a deserving U.S. citizen is wanting.

John Peters • Ballwin

Finding the Right Match

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by Paul Fain

NO MU MENTION

WASHINGTON -- Only a small number of top-performing high school students from low-income backgrounds get admitted to elite colleges. This so-called undermatching problem has gained the attention of academic researchers, the White House and the news media in recent years.

Yet the studies that initially triggered this worry were focused on the much broader issue of the numerous barriers low-income students face in trying to get to college -- usually a public one -- and earn a degree.

A research conference the American Enterprise Institute hosted Tuesday tried to shift the "college match" conversation away from the Ivy League and back to its initial focus on more typical students and institutions. The event featured discussions of seven new working papers, which covered a wide swath of the topic.

"That are lots of reasons that undermatching is intuitively appealing," said Andrew Kelly, director of AEI’s Center on Higher Education Reform, adding that "the discussions also felt narrow at times."

The conference Tuesday began with a look back at influential research on college choice and the academic match between students and institutions.

For example, an influential 2008 study by the Consortium on Chicago School Research at the University of Chicago found that only one-third of that city’s public high school graduates who aspired to complete a four-year degree enrolled in a college that lined
up with their academic qualifications.

That report was followed by *Crossing the Finish Line: Completing College at America's Public Universities*, a book by three prominent higher-education experts. In the book the three authors described how academically overqualified students who enroll at colleges with lower admissions standards are less likely to eventually earn a degree than if they attend a selective university.

Mike McPherson, the president of the Spencer Foundation and former president of Macalester College, was one of the book’s coauthors. At the AEI event he said it was based on students who attended competitive public institutions like the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (the book looked at graduation rates at 21 flagship public universities and four statewide public systems of higher education.)

Yet McPherson said public attention to the issue became focused on how few students from rural high schools get into Harvard University. “That’s a way less important conversation,” he said, at least compared to the enrollment and graduation rate patterns of typical students at relatively selective public institutions.

Nicole Farmer Hurd is the founder and CEO of College Advising Corps, a large nonprofit group focused on college access. She agreed with McPherson during the panel discussion, saying the college-match conundrum is not just about high-achieving, low-income students.

“Every student deserves a postsecondary education,” Hurd said. “Let’s remove the judgement.”

**Typical Students and Academic Quality**

Undermatching and elite colleges became a hot issue in part because of a 2012 study by Caroline Hoxby, a professor of economics at Stanford University, and Christopher Avery, a professor of public policy at Harvard University.

That paper, which the National Bureau of Economic Research published, found that more than half of low-income, highly talented students do not apply to a single selective college. And those that do tend to be clustered at a tiny number of high schools that require minimum test scores for admission.

Hurd said the problems uncovered in Hoxby and Avery’s paper are indeed worrisome. “I don’t want to take all the oxygen out of that space,” said Hurd, pointing to the relatively small number of needy students that elite colleges enroll. (One of the research papers said low-income students comprise less than 5 percent of the enrollment at the nation’s most selective institutions, a percentage that has remained largely unchanged for decades.)

Yet Hurd called for more of a focus on low-income students like the ones her group has helped gain admission to the City University of New York (CUNY), often with full scholarships. And, as several experts said at the conference, that approach means looking at the academic quality of public institutions.
One of the new working papers that took a broader view of college matching was authored by Awilda Rodriguez, an assistant professor of education at the University of Michigan. It cited a recent study which said the national population of high-achieving, low-income students is small -- between 25,000 to 35,000 students, or about 4 percent of high school seniors (high-achieving was defined as having at least an A- GPA and scoring in the 90th percentile on the ACT or SAT).

“By focusing the conversation on a small percentage of students gaining access to an even smaller percentage of highly selective institutions,” Rodriguez wrote, “we limit our understanding of the college match phenomenon -- and our understanding of other forms of stratification across the higher education system.”

In contrast, her paper said the “average-performing” student is both “ubiquitous and obscure.” These students, defined as those with high school grade-point averages between 2.0 and 3.5, account for up to two-thirds of college students. Yet this group’s college aspirations and outcomes remain largely unstudied.

Average students in the study by Rodriguez are more likely to be low-income than are high-performing ones -- 45 percent come from families earning less than $50,000, compared to 27 percent of high-performing students. And they are less likely to have parents who hold college degrees.

Most students in the typical, or average, category do attend college -- only 8 percent were not enrolled in college or in the military two years after high school, according to the study. About 60 percent enrolled at four-year colleges, with 30 percent enrolling at community colleges.

When applying to college, average-performing students were slightly more concerned about price than high-performing students, the study found, and were more interested in staying close to home. Rodriguez wrote that 57 percent of this group enrolled in colleges that were located within 50 miles of their home.

Determining what constitutes a “good” match for average-performing students is more complicated than it is for high-performing ones, the paper said, because a good match for high-performing students tends to be enrolling at one of the nation’s top colleges. So Rodriguez proposed alternative ways to consider the match for typical students: 1) their career aspirations and academic interests; 2) their nearby college options; 3) the affordability of the institution; and 4) the likelihood of completion.

“Improving match can only be achieved if colleges that serve large shares of average-ability students well are encouraged to increase capacity,” the paper concludes, while “at the same time improving the colleges that have low or middling completion rates.”