MU News Bureau

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Methods used to create textiles also could help manufacture human tissues

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Tissue engineering is a process that uses novel biomaterials seeded with stem cells to grow and replace missing tissues. When certain types of materials are used, the "scaffolds" that are created to hold stem cells eventually degrade, leaving natural tissue in its place. The challenge is creating enough of the material on a scale that clinicians need to treat patients. Elizabeth Loboa, dean of the MU College of Engineering, and her team recently tested new methods to make the process of tissue engineering more cost effective and producible in larger quantities. Tissues could help patients suffering from wounds caused by diabetes and circulation disorders, patients in need of cartilage or bone repair and to women who have had mastectomies by replacing their breast tissue.

In typical tissue engineering approaches that use fibers as scaffolds, nonwoven materials are often bonded together using an electrostatic field. This process, called electrospinning, creates the scaffolds needed to attach to stem cells; however, large-scale production is not cost-effective.

"Electrospinning produces weak fibers, scaffolds that are not consistent and have pores that are too small," Loboa said. "We can run our system for hours and create about a ten-inch diameter of scaffold material. Therefore, we sought to test methods that could standardize the process. The goal of 'scaling up' is to produce hundreds of meters of material that look the same, have the same properties and can be used in clinical
settings. So, we investigated the processes that create textiles, such as clothing and window furnishings like drapery, to scale up the manufacturing process."

Loboa worked with Stephen A. Tuin, a recent doctoral graduate from her research group at the Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of North Carolina and N.C. State University (NCSU), and Behnam Pourdeyhimi of the NCSU College of Textiles. The group published a pair of papers using three common textile creation methods -- meltblowing, spunbonding and carding -- to determine if these methods would create the materials needed to mimic native tissue.

Meltblowing is a technique during which nonwoven materials are created using a molten polymer to create continuous fibers. Spunbond materials are made much the same way but the fibers are drawn into a web while in a solid state instead of a molten one. Carding involves the separation of fibers through the use of rollers, forming the web needed to hold stem cells in place.

Loboa and her colleagues tested these techniques to create polylactic acid (PLA) scaffolds, a Food and Drug Administration-approved material used as collagen fillers, seeded with human stem cells. They then spent three weeks studying whether the stem cells remained healthy and if they began to differentiate into fat and bone pathways, which is the goal of using stem cells in a clinical setting when new bone and/or new fat tissue is needed at a defect site. Results showed that the three textile manufacturing methods proved as viable if not more so than electrospinning.

"These alternative methods are more cost-effective than electrospinning," Loboa said. "A small sample of electrospun material could cost between $2 to $5. The cost for the three manufacturing methods is between $.30 to $3.00; these methods proved to be effective and efficient. Next steps include testing how the different scaffolds created in the three methods perform once implanted in animals."

The studies, "Creating tissues from textiles: scalable nonwoven manufacturing techniques for fabrication of tissue engineering scaffolds," and "Fabrication of novel high surface area mushroom gilled fibers and their effects on human adipose derived stem cells under pulsatile fluid flow for tissue engineering applications" recently were published in Biomedical Materials and in Acta Biomaterialia, respectively.
Missouri Senate passes $27 billion spending plan

BY ADAM ATON Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, MO. - More money would go to public schools, universities and scholarships under a budget plan the Missouri Senate passed Thursday that would also cut state funding for Planned Parenthood.

The $27 billion spending plan, which now must be hashed out with a version the House passed last month, also boosts funding for prison guards, public defenders and health care providers. But despite the extra money for education and health care, senators from both parties cited fundamental issues with how the budget addresses those priorities.

Medicaid spending from the state's general revenues, which surpassed $1.8 billion in the current budget, has increased by more than $360 million. That growth is unsustainable, the Senate's lead budget writer, Republican Kurt Schaefer, said.

"We're trying to slow this train down," Schaefer said before Republicans rejected an effort by Democrats to leave the door open for further Medicaid expansion under the federal health care law.

Democrats also failed to strip budget provisions banning state money from going to Planned Parenthood for services such as pelvic exams and vaccinations. State law already prohibits public money from funding abortion.

Sen. Jill Schupp, a Democrat from Creve Coeur, said making it harder for low-income women to get birth control would only lead to more abortions.

"I think we all want to see abortions decreased," she said. "This flies directly in the face of doing that."
Democrats also tried eliminating a budget provision that requires universities to charge students living in the U.S. illegally an international tuition rate, which is often the highest tier of tuition. They were joined by Republican Sens. Gary Romine and David Pearce.

"These students aren't going away. They're not going back to a country where their parents came from. They're here to stay," said Pearce, who chairs the education committee. "Do we want them to be educated? Do we want them to be productive citizens? Or do we want to slam the door to higher education to them?"

Schaefer, who is also running for attorney general, urged lawmakers to uphold the measure.

**Missouri’s colleges and universities would get a $55.8 million increase, a six percent boost that Gov. Jay Nixon has said will be enough to freeze tuition next year. The plan would codify that tuition freeze and prevent universities from raising mandatory fees that don't pass a student vote, but if negotiations with the House produce lower funding, Schaefer said lawmakers would probably drop that provision.**

The House spending plan calls for a smaller increase of $9.4 million, or 2 percent for all colleges except the University of Missouri System, which would instead see a cut of more than $8 million.

University officials have faced criticism for how they handled student protests last fall over administrators' perceived indifference to racism, which ended with resignations from the system president and the chancellor of the Columbia campus. House lawmakers have said budget cuts are the only way to ensure the university improves the way it addresses student concerns.

Since then, Senate President Pro Tem Ron Richard said university administrators have helped diffuse tensions with the Legislature. "Cooler heads prevailed," he said.

The Senate budget calls for a $1.5 million boost for Lincoln University, as well as $6.5 million more for need and merit-based scholarships.

Core K-12 education funding would also get about a $70 million boost — roughly $15 million less than the governor proposed, and about $440 million less than what it would take to fully fund public schools under the state's foundation formula, the statutory guidelines on how much money schools should get from the state.

State employees would see a 2 percent pay raise, though elected officials would not. The Office of the Public Defender would see a $4.5 million increase to pay for 10 new employees. And $6 million was set aside for hazardous duty pay for Department of Corrections employees.
A budget bill restoring most of the Missouri House cuts to the University of Missouri and giving all higher education a 6 percent boost in funding passed the Missouri Senate on a 24-8 vote Thursday.

The UM System would receive $26.8 million in new funding under the bill, its share of a performance funding increase of $55.8 million for all colleges and universities. The bill also cuts $1 million from the allocation to UM System administration, down from the $7.6 million cut approved in the House.

The university will have a chance to show whether it wants to be accountable to lawmakers, Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia, said during the debate. The Senate this week passed a resolution, sponsored by Schaefer, to set up an independent review commission to study the university and suggest changes.

The Board of Curators has the power to accept or reject the recommendations, Schaefer said.

“If they don’t then they need to understand, just as it says in the resolution, that is something that will be considered by the General Assembly next year,” Schaefer said.

Lawmakers have targeted the university for budget cuts and punitive legislation since the first bills for the year were filed Dec. 1. The Concerned Student 1950 protests and the resignations of UM System President Tim Wolfe and MU campus Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin were the most prominent events during a semester of turmoil that included a crisis over graduate assistant health insurance, a faculty rebellion against Loftin and exposed deep-rooted animosities between Wolfe and Loftin.

The university needs to repair its public image, which is bad throughout the state, Schaefer said. It is a constant topic as he runs for attorney general, he said.
“That is the first thing I hear about, whether it is an urban area or a rural area,” Schaefer said.

In addition to the cut to administration, the House spending plan split the university’s budget into seven line items, with allocations for the four campuses, the system administration, Extension and multi-campus programs. It also cut $1 million from the allocation for the Columbia campus.

If the budget bill is unchanged during House and Senate negotiations, UM would receive $460 million in the fiscal year that begins July 1, up from $434 million in the current year.

The Senate agreed to a 6 percent boost in aid to colleges and universities in part because Gov. Jay Nixon negotiated a tuition freeze with higher education leaders based on an increase at that level, Schaefer said during floor debate. The bill includes a provision making the increase dependent on schools keeping the promise.

If the increase after negotiations is less than 6 percent, the provision restricting tuition increases should be removed, Schaefer said.

Debate on the bill also focused on whether to continue a policy barring colleges and universities from offering in-state tuition rates to children of undocumented immigrants. The effort to remove restrictive language failed on a vote of 10-22 despite pleas from both Republicans and Democrats for a change.

There are 1,200 students who were forced to pay more, drop out or seek an education in another state, Sen. David Pearce, R-Warrensburg said.

“What we have done with this language is say that higher education in Missouri is not available to you,” Pearce said.

Pearce, chairman of the Senate Education Committee, said he would vote against the bill despite increases in state aid to colleges and scholarships. Sen. Jason Holsman, D-Kansas City, tried to remove the language.

“We are saying to these kids, go somewhere else because we don’t want you,” Holsman said.
Missouri Senate OKs $27 billion budget

JEFFERSON CITY • The Missouri Senate signed off on the major pieces of a $27.2 billion state budget Thursday, setting in motion a final push by Republican lawmakers to get the spending blueprint to Gov. Jay Nixon’s desk.

The plan, which would go into effect July 1, restores funding cuts made in the House that had been targeted at the University of Missouri system after last year’s protests on the Columbia campus.

And, it attempts to address rising costs of providing health care to poor Missourians, includes funds to give small raises to state workers and eliminates state funding for Planned Parenthood.

“Cooler heads prevailed,” Senate President Pro Tem Ron Richard said of restoring cuts to Mizzou. “I think some of the things that MU has done has helped defuse the situation.”

The Republican-crafted proposal, spread across 13 separate budget bills, is based on a projected 4.1 percent increase in state revenue for the coming year. It calls for no tax increases.

For the embattled University of Missouri system, senators erased most of the $8.7 million in cuts the House had inserted in its budget. Senators said those reductions would be punitive and more time should be given to the university system to improve itself after last year’s racially charged protests at its Columbia campus and the resignation of its system president.

The proposal includes an additional $56 million in funding for universities, which amounts to an increase for the schools of about 6 percent. That could be enough to allow schools to freeze tuition.
Nixon, during a visit to Crowder College in Neosho on Thursday, thanked the Senate and expressed hope that the added money is not cut during final negotiations between the House and Senate.

“Missouri leads the nation in holding down tuition increases at public universities, helping to put a college education within reach for more students and their families,” the Democratic governor said.

Both the House and the Senate must agree on the final budget before it is sent to the governor. The deadline for final passage is May 6.

Problems at Mizzou have been a focal point of the 2016 legislative session, with lawmakers calling for audits, budget cuts and the ouster of former communications assistant professor Melissa Click.

“It has overshadowed some of our other education issues in the state,” said Sen. David Pearce, R-Warrensburg.

The higher education budget wasn’t universally supported. The Senate version would again bar universities from granting in-state tuition rates to an estimated 1,200 students in the country illegally.

“I think we’re penalizing some of our brightest students,” said Sen. Gina Walsh, D-Bellefontaine Neighbors.

“I think it’s the wrong decision,” added Pearce. “It has tremendous impact.”

Sen. Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia, said he doesn’t believe granting in-state tuition to students who are not in the U.S. legally is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars.

“I know there are passionate feelings on both sides of this issue,” said Schaefer, who is chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.
The budget plan also attempts to address rising health care costs for the state’s poorest residents. Medicaid costs, for example, are projected to increase 34 percent in the coming year.

“We are trying to slow this train down,” Schaefer said.

With prescription drug costs rising above $1.8 billion, the Senate version reduces projected spending by $56 million. Senators also asked the administration to find ways to pare an estimated $22 million by negotiating better drug prices and potentially limiting the amount of drugs prescribed to recipients.

Republicans also used the budget to target Planned Parenthood., which has resisted a Senate subpoena in the aftermath of last year’s investigation into the use of fetal body tissue. The plan bars Medicaid money from going to abortion service providers. State money already is prohibited from being spent on funding abortions. The net result: Missouri will lose $8 million in federal funds.

“It’s pouring salt into an already really, really bad decision,” said Sen. Jason Holsman, D-Kansas City.

Sen. Jill Schupp, D-Creve Coeur, said it was wrong for Republicans to “sneak” the provision into the budget without having a full debate.

The budget also calls for a $71 million increase for the education foundation formula, which funds K-12 public schools. Nixon recommended an $85 million increase.

The formula, however, is still underfunded by about $490 million. Schaefer said the growth in Medicaid is keeping the state from paying more.

“I would like to see it fully funded, but I understand that’s not going to happen,” said Schupp, a former school board member. “We’re still breaking our promise to our kids.”
Missouri Senate restores nearly all funding to UM System

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS, 13 hrs ago

JEFFERSON CITY — The Missouri Senate has passed a budget plan that would boost spending for public education.

Senators voted Thursday to approve a $27 billion budget for the fiscal year starting July 1, according to The Associated Press.

*Missouri's colleges and universities would get $56 million in a performance-funding increase. That includes $26.8 million for the UM System, with a $1 million cut to administration rather than $7.6 million previously proposed.*

The performance-based funding increase is 6 percent, up from the 2 percent increase approved by the House in March.

Originally, the University of Missouri System stood to lose another $1 million that would have been diverted to Lincoln University, for a total loss of $8.6 million. That idea was scrapped in Senate committee debate.

The UM System's inclusion in the performance funding increase reverses the House's previous decision to exclude it. Sen. Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia, advocated the UM System's inclusion to avoid a tuition increase.

Gov. Jay Nixon has said the approved funding would be enough to freeze tuition next year. The Senate's plan would also prevent universities from raising mandatory fees that don't pass a student vote.
The budget plan also allocates $750,000 for the expenses of an eight-member UM System Review Commission to examine the system and recommend changes. This stems from a resolution proposed and approved by the Senate earlier this week to make the university more accountable.

Schaefer said the House and Senate will meet in a conference committee to find agreements between the different versions of the appropriations bill.

The spending plan includes a $70 million boost to core K-12 education funding. That is roughly $15 million less than the governor proposed and about $440 million less than what it would take to fully fund public schools under the state's legal formula.

The budget also increases spending for Medicaid, public defenders and state employee salaries.

**Senate votes to restore money to University of Missouri**

JEFFERSON CITY - The Missouri Senate passed a budget bill Thursday that would not only restore most of the Missouri House cuts to the University of Missouri, but would also increase funding to the entire UM system.

The Missouri Senate voted 24-8 to give higher education a six percent boost in funding.

Missouri Senate Communications said the UM System would receive $26.8 million in new funding under the bill, its share of a performance funding increase of $55.8 million for all colleges and universities.
The bill also changed the amount of cuts to the UM System administration. Instead of $7.6 million in cuts that the House proposed, the bill calls for only $1 million.

University of Missouri System Chief Communications Officer John Fougere said the university appreciates the Senate’s vote to restore the majority of the funding.

"We will continue to work closely with our state legislators over the remaining weeks of the legislative session while being completely accountable, transparent and fiscally prudent in our actions and our leadership," Fougere said.

Since the budget is different between the Senate and the House, all budget bills will go to a conference.

**Law professor recognized for dedication to students, clients**

*By ALAN BURDZIAK*

Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 2:00 pm

When University of Missouri interim Chancellor Hank Foley walked into Professor Mary Beck’s classroom Wednesday to surprise her with the news that she was one of five people to be named a Kemper fellow this year, her first thought was that he couldn’t be there.

Not a typical class, Beck was conducting client conferences with a handful of students who represent indigent clients at the Family Violence Clinic she runs at MU’s School of Law. Privileged information was being discussed, but Beck’s initial shock gave way to pleasant surprise when she heard why Foley had barged in.

“I never thought I was important enough for this,” said Beck, a professor of clinical law. “I was really surprised that this happened.”

Foley briefly spoke before Jim Schatz, chairman of Commerce Bank, presented Beck with a $10,000 check from the William T. Kemper Fellowships for Teaching Excellence.
Kemper is an MU graduate who worked as a bank executive and civic leader in Kansas City until his death in 1989. The fellowships were created in 1991 with a $500,000 gift to honor MU educators. Commerce Bank manages the trust fund.

Beck was one of three professors honored with the fellowship Wednesday and one of four given the award so far this week. School of Journalism Associate Professor Earnest Perry, English department Director of Undergraduate Studies Alexandra Socarides and biological sciences Associate Professor Sarah Bush also were awarded Kemper fellowships. A fifth recipient is expected to be honored Friday.

In front of media, a couple dozen faculty, and friends and family of Beck, Foley commended her dedication to both students and clients. Beck taught in MU’s medicine and nursing schools before joining the law school in 1993.

“One of the things that I know the people who graduate from this school pride themselves on is the fact that they really feel they learned how to be lawyers,” Foley said. “That’s actually not always the case in law school, and I give you credit for an amount of that.”

Beck said she was speechless but honored by the award she hadn’t given any thought to receiving. With only a few moments to ponder what to do with her cash prize, she said her initial thought was that she wants to ensure endowment for the Family Violence Clinic upon her retirement.

“Perhaps that money might go toward that,” she said.

Next University of Missouri president should be 'audacious,' professor says at forum

By RUDI KELLER

Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 9:16 am
The next president of the University of Missouri needs to be someone who can stand up for an institution under attack and defend public higher education as a worthy taxpayer investment, Associate Professor Rabia Gregory said Wednesday at a forum on leadership qualifications.

For more than an hour, participants in the forum discussed the meaning of leadership, the educational qualifications of a president and the desirable character traits that would make a good president. When the discussion turned to essential traits, some mentioned communication skills and others spoke of vision.

The right candidate will have that and more, Gregory said.

“We need someone who is not just visionary or an optimist, but somebody who is audacious and who will fight to protect an institution that has centuries of history and needs to have a future that is not simply career-oriented training for a job,” Gregory said.

The 90-minute forum at the Reynolds Alumni Center drew about 70 participants — mainly faculty, staff and students at MU. It was the third of four forums led by presidential search committee co-chairs Cheryl Walker and Jim Whitaker as consultants Isaacson, Miller Inc. work on the recruitment packages.

The final forum is set for Friday at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

“These open forums are crucial for us to really get a pulse, your feedback and impressions,” Whitaker said.

The committee is seeking candidates to replace Tim Wolfe, who resigned Nov. 9 amid protests over racial issues on the Columbia campus and administrative infighting with campus leaders. Interim President Mike Middleton on several occasions has said he is not interested in the permanent role.

The committee is composed of the Board of Curators, Walker and Whitaker, one student, one staff representative and two faculty members. The committee of 12 could increase to 16 if vacant curator and student representative seats on the board are filled. Gov. Jay Nixon and the Republican-led Senate are at an impasse over filling vacancies.

The forums have drawn people who think an advanced degree is essential for a new president as well as those who are not convinced it’s a necessity. There was little consensus Wednesday on whether an academic background was essential, and audience comments on other topics included
calls for someone with a global perspective, an appreciation of rural towns, political charisma and vision.

“I think we are a very provincial university,” said Bill Griffin, an adjunct faculty member of the Trulaske College of Business. “We are not cosmopolitan at all.”

Darryl Cook, with the Moniteau County branch of MU Extension, said the perspective should not be so broad that it overlooks the young people who aspire to attend the university.

“We need someone in the president’s position who can acknowledge the existence of small places like Moniteau County and the students who come from there because they will end up being candidates, likely, for admission to MU,” Cook said.

Interim MU Chancellor Hank Foley welcomed the committee members and audience to the forum and took his turn at the microphone to list his top three qualities for a president.

“Impeccable integrity” and a “high intellect” were the top two.

“Third, I’d like someone who is very intense, someone who really enjoys this and will throw themselves into it fully, as though there is nothing else important in life,” Foley said.

Lee's film is worth seeing, even if it's only a piece of the picture

By JOE WALLJASPER
Thursday, April 7, 2016 at 2:00 pm Comments (6)

While watching Spike Lee’s “2 Fists Up” documentary Wednesday at the Missouri Theatre, it struck me that a few of the on-screen heroes drawing applause — Melissa Click and Gary Pinkel — would be pelted with tomatoes if the film were shown at the Missouri State Capitol, where Republican legislators see nothing noble about the November revolution at the University of Missouri.
I am not optimistic that an acclaimed director’s take on the Concerned Student 1950 protests is going to change entrenched opinions, but I am glad I saw it.

Although Lee made the documentary in partnership with ESPN Films and it addresses the Missouri football team’s role in toppling UM System President Tim Wolfe, it is focused on the CS1950 members — most of them women — who created the movement rather than the athletes who showed up at the end and pushed it over the top.

In fact, no interviews with football players made the cut of the hour-long version that will be trimmed to 22 minutes for its digital and televised showings on ESPN.

What Lee’s film does well is provide some much-needed context to the motivation of CS1950 protesters. In the fall, the explanations for what caused the campus revolt always came back to three recent incidents of racism, including the infamous “poop swastika,” which was a bit of a red herring that led dubious observers to poo-poo the seriousness of the cause and portray the protesters as overly sensitive millennials.

Anyone with a brain could connect the dots of African-American anger back to Freddie Gray, Michael Brown and Trayvon Martin or, for that matter, Dred Scott. But to know it generally and to hear it from the mouths of those involved are two different things.

Early in the film, one black MU student after another describes racist behavior they’ve experienced. For me, the words weren’t as impactful as the sound of their voices. It was the sound of utter frustration that they had to deal with this crap.

Before this film, we hadn’t heard much from CS1950 members except chants through a bullhorn. That is partially because the media wasn’t too interested in their story until the football team got involved and even then wanted to focus mostly on the football angle — I plead guilty as charged to that. And that is partially because CS1950 didn’t trust the media enough to tell its story and therefore shunned reporters.

So that’s why I’m glad I saw “2 Fists Up.” I feel like I get where the protesters are coming from on a deeper level.

Now, in no way did Lee present a complete, nuanced look at the events of last fall, nor did he try. It is a piece of the story, a story which is far from over, from the point of view of the protesters.

The film does not question whether the demands of CS1950 were fair or even feasible.
Lee incredulously asks Click how her actions on Carnahan Quad could get her fired, but he does not mention she was charged with assaulting a student journalist and he does not show the police body camera footage of her screaming profanities at officers during the homecoming parade. I agree 100 percent that Click became the target of proxy racism — it was convenient to direct ire at the liberal red-headed professor when the real anger was about black students overthrowing the white administration — but that doesn’t mean she didn’t deserve to go based on her behavior.

The student journalists Tim Tai and Mark Schierbecker are portrayed as troublemakers, even though they were only aggressively doing their jobs and had the right to go where they pleased in a public place.

Pinkel is lauded for his stance supporting the cause, and his tweet with the hashtag Concerned Student 1950 is shown. There is no mention that he later said he wasn’t the one who sent the tweet and would not have included that hashtag if he did, nor was it explored that he equivocated after the fact, saying he was only supporting his players and was not taking a stand on the justice of their cause.

Wolfe is portrayed as an out-of-touch embodiment of white privilege, deserving of his fate. There is no attempt to humanize him by questioning what anyone in his position might have thought when confronted by angry protesters who were invading his version of a safe space: Racism is terrible, but what exactly can I do about that? The answer that probably would have saved his job is: Do anything, even if it’s just symbolic.

The movie ends on an uplifting note with a scene from November. Hunger-striker Jonathan Butler and the protesters joyfully chant the lyrics of the Kendrick Lamar song “Alright.” In the corner of the frame, there is interim MU Chancellor Hank Foley, joining the chant of “We gon’ be alright.” As Lee well knows, because he accompanied the protesters in March on a testy visit to Jesse Hall, Foley is no longer singing in that chorus. Butler has said he isn’t involved with the group anymore. Even those predisposed to agree with CS1950’s cause, such as Interim President Mike Middleton, have chastised the group for continuing to make demands rather than attempting to work with the administration to come up with compromises.

The all-or-nothing zeal required to pull off a revolution doesn’t translate well into the reality of governing an enormous state university, where change is incremental.

It was notable that Middleton stood on stage with Lee before the film and said he hoped the movie would spawn “serious, frank, well-informed discussions about the issues we’ve been facing in this
community and around the country for much longer than I can remember” and afterward refused to discuss the movie with reporters seeking his thoughts on what he just watched.

I can understand the position of Middleton and other university officials, who know that anything but the blandest platitudes on the events of November are going to infuriate somebody. Among people whose livelihood depends on keeping the money flowing to the university, there is no profit in stirring the pot.

Lee is not bound by such concerns. It is a pot worth stirring, and a film worth seeing, whether you agree, disagree or see shades of gray where others see black and white regarding the historic event that shook the University of Missouri.

**MISSOURIANS**

**Mammogram van to travel Missouri to provide breast cancer screenings**

IDA SOPHIE WINTER, 15 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — A new mammogram van equipped with 3-D technology is scheduled to visit various Missouri counties this year to provide breast cancer screenings.

The van, run by MU’s Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, was created with the aim of bringing quality screenings to women throughout Missouri. A nurse, a mammography technologist and another staff member will be aboard the van. **Twenty-two stops are planned from April 11 to June 22.**

Screenings are not free, but the cost can be covered by insurance. Some financial assistance might also be available through the cancer center.

The van includes a 3-D mammography suite, two private changing rooms and an exam bed. The screenings, which take about 20 to 30 minutes, are supposed to offer quick access to breast
health services without having to take time off work. The setup also allows for conventional mammograms to be performed.

Mammography technologist Annette Berkley, who works at the cancer center, said that while 3-D imaging provides a larger dose of radiation than 2-D imaging, it does not present a risk to patients.

The center started a traveling mammogram service in 2005 to visit businesses, health care centers and other organizations on request.

Last year, the mammogram van service performed 2,940 screenings on women from 49 counties.

The van cost $765,958 and was paid for by the David B. Lichtenstein Foundation.

**MISSOURIAN**

**Nonviolent protest expert and panel speak about nonviolent struggle and MU**

IDA SOPHIE WINTER, 8 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — An expert in nonviolent protest tactics came to MU Thursday evening to offer context, tips and discussion about countering oppression.

Jamila Raqib is the executive director of MIT’s Albert Einstein Institution, which does research about why people use nonviolent struggle — such as protests, hunger strikes and refusal to participate in government systems like taxation — and why it fails or succeeds.

Raqib’s visit came months after a historic fall semester at MU. Students protested racial inequality and treatment of graduate students, which eventually led to the resignations of two top university officials.
Raqib decided to come to campus to learn more about the protests. She said in her talk that the events were not covered well in the media and she hoped to use what she learned in her visit to inform research about nonviolent struggle.

In the talk, Raqib gave a background of how she came to study nonviolent struggle as a skeptic. A child during the Soviet-Afghan War, Raqib came to the U.S. as a refugee. She grew up believing that violence, no matter how harmful, was necessary to protect nations.

But after 9/11, Raqib observed a world full of violence, oppression and poverty. Seeking ways to change it, she came across the work of Gene Sharp, founder of the Albert Einstein Institution. Raqib realized that the “powerful means of resistance” she was searching for could be found not in violence, but in its rejection.

She said nonviolent struggle is about the power of citizens’ refusal to participate in systems that oppress them.

“Nonviolent struggle is not about how oppressed people can change the heart of their oppressors, or how they can politely ask for their rights,” Raqib said. “It’s about how they can seize political power, and to deny it to their opponents.”

For a nonviolent movement to succeed, Raqib stressed planning and organization. She said important choices are often left up to intuition and in-the-moment decision making.

Raqib also spoke on how to sustain movements. When movements want to grow, they must start on a solid grassroots level, she said. People who feel helpless must be led in changes within their grasp. After their confidence builds, they can begin focusing on larger problems.

Her lecture flowed into a discussion of the genesis of the MU protests led by Stephanie Shonekan, the chair of the MU Department of Black Studies, and sociological doctoral fellow Curtis Edwards, who is active in grassroots organizing on campus.
Director of the Peace Studies program Clarence Lo joined Shonekan, Edwards and Raqib in a panel Q&A with the audience.

Student David Muangwa asked how protests could succeed without participation from influential societal groups, giving the example of the Missouri football team boycotting in solidarity with the original protest group.

Raqib said groups should focus on quality, and not quantity, of protesters. She said that large protests can quickly disintegrate if there is no underlying strategy and commitment.

Edwards added that movements must focus on interpersonal relationships and understanding for cohesive action.

Shonekan said there is a whole MU campus of people that the movements still haven’t reached, and that the challenge is pulling them in. She said change must be inclusive.

“We can’t say, ‘OK, drop your privilege and come on this hard road with me.’ Nobody wants to do that,” she said. "What we’re saying is, ‘Keep your privilege, but give me some, too.’ Let’s all be beneficiaries of this American dream.”

**MISSOURIAN**

**Donations to Tom Leuther's campaign reported late after taking convoluted route**

WILLIAM SCHMITT, 11 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — Of the money Third Ward City Council candidate Tom Leuther's campaign received in the run-up to Tuesday's election, more than $15,000 was reported late and only after it had moved through two political action committees and a conservative consulting company.
Leuther, who lost the election to incumbent Karl Skala, filed four reports Monday with the Missouri Ethics Commission, three of which include late donations. His campaign's quarterly report covers the last seven days of March and counts a total of $225 received from three donors and no money spent.

But the other three reports Leuther's campaign filed Monday tell a different story:

- One shows a $1,740.45 donation from the conservative consulting group Right Government on April 1, one day after the quarterly reporting period.

- Another shows that developers Garry Lewis and Troy Miller each gave $1,000 donations on April 1. Republican gubernatorial candidate John Brunner chipped in $750 on April 4.

- The third shows about $15,450 from Slate Strategies over three weeks; four of those donations came in the last week of March. (A chart detailing the donations appears at the end of this story.)

Slate Strategies and Right Government share an address, and Corbin Umstattd is both the deputy treasurer for Right Government and the registered agent for Slate Strategies. Umstattd also operates the conservative campaign service Pebble with Rick Rowden, former chairman of the Boone County Republican Party. The phone number for Right Government is the same as that listed on Pebble's website.

Umstattd said Right Government exists "to help people better understand what is going (on) in their community by having a broader understanding of the political landscape."

Slate Strategies is a company, so it doesn't have to report to the Ethics Commission. Right Government does because it's a political action committee, and a report filed Monday shows that Right Government paid Slate Strategies $15,450 for advertising, some labeled for radio and some simply marked "media."
Leuther's campaign hired Slate to design campaign mailers and to make media buys for the campaign, Umstattd said.

"... Leuther wrote several checks to Slate throughout the campaign using funds which were generated by many people who supported his campaign," Umstattd said. "Right Government used funds generated from contributions to cover some of the expenses incurred by the Leuther campaign."

The dates and amounts of the ad payments to Slate Strategies align exactly with the donations reported by Leuther's campaign. Umstattd said he could appreciate how the flow of money might seem strange but said "in fact this is not uncommon at all."

James Klahr, executive director of the Missouri Ethics Commission, said there was nothing illegal about contributions making their way through multiple committees.

"There is a provision that says you cannot conceal the identity of contributions," he said. "That does not necessarily mean that a contribution cannot go through two or three different places." The provision to which Klahr referred is Missouri statute 130.031.3.

**Peverill Squire, a professor of political science at MU, said money being funneled through multiple committees before reaching a candidate happens often at the state level but is unusual in a municipal election.**

"Usually when somebody goes to that effort, they're trying to disguise the original source of the money," he said.

Some businesses, developers and real estate interests, specifically, might not want to appear connected with a particular candidate, Squire said.

Missouri man gets 30 months for lying about law license

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A southeast Missouri man has been sentenced to two years and six months in prison for fraudulently claiming to be an attorney.

The U.S. attorney's office says 51-year-old James Michael Arnold, of Sikeston, was sentenced Thursday for charges that included aggravated identity theft and mail fraud.

Court documents say he graduated from the University of Missouri School of Law in 1992 but never passed the state bar examination. He has never been licensed to practice law in Missouri or elsewhere.

But from January 2010 to January 2014, he claimed to be a licensed attorney to gain employment. Court documents say he used the name and Missouri Bar number of a licensed attorney to apply for jobs as an attorney and file court documents.

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Tenure Rights and the Rise of Title IX: a Looming Culture Clash

By Robin Wilson APRIL 07, 2016

NO MU MENTION
Faculty-disciplinary proceedings, which often involve lengthy hearings on charges that can take months to resolve, are on a collision course with colleges’ efforts to quickly and forcefully deal with tenured professors accused of sexual harassment.

Exhibit A in the clash is the University of California at Berkeley. The university has already announced a number of changes in its programs and processes in the wake of a controversy over how it has handled several high-profile cases of harassment allegations. In the case of a famous astronomer, for example, Berkeley was criticized for a weak response when it warned him that if he harassed others he would be suspended rather than dismissed. In their explanation, administrators expressed frustration with the limits they face in disciplining faculty members.

Harassment Accusations at Berkeley

Since 2011, a total of 19 Berkeley employees, including six faculty members, have been found in violation of the university’s sexual-misconduct policies, according to an article this week by The Mercury News, of San Jose, Calif. None of those who were fired as a result were tenured faculty members.

The University of California system is now exploring changes in its faculty-disciplinary procedures. A committee of professors, administrators, and students issued a report on Monday about how the Academic Senate’s disciplinary procedures might be revised to more efficiently handle sexual-misconduct complaints against professors. The committee’s findings are not yet public. But the system's president — who appointed the panel in October after the resignation of Geoffrey W. Marcy, the astronomer who was found responsible for sexually harassing undergraduate women — is expected to make a statement about the committee’s recommendations this week.

In appointing the panel, the president, Janet Napolitano, wrote to the UC regents and chancellors to say that faculty-disciplinary procedures "may have inadvertently made the investigation and resolution" of the sexual-harassment charges against Mr. Marcy "more difficult."

Faculty-disciplinary processes were not necessarily created to deal with infractions on which university administrators want to take quick, decisive action, says Peter F. Lake, an expert on the gender-equity law known as Title IX and director of the Center for Excellence in Higher Education Law and Policy at the Stetson University College of Law. "I don’t think many of these systems were designed to deal with sex harassment."
Instead, he says, disciplinary proceedings were designed to take time. "They were meant to slow things down, to be methodical, and create significant enough procedural blocks that institutions would think twice about initiating disciplinary proceedings." That was so that universities wouldn’t violate professors’ academic freedom, he says, by punishing them for saying unpopular things in the classroom.

Now, he says, with institutions using systems created to hear complaints of sexual misconduct under Title IX, traditional faculty procedures may be passed over. "We are headed into a major culture clash, particularly with academic staff," he says. "If I’m at an institution that has promised me certain procedural protections, and Title IX comes along, and we don’t have to do disciplinary procedures anymore, that's a conflict."

A ‘Lengthy and Uncertain Process’

In the case of Mr. Marcy at Berkeley, the campus's Office for the Prevention of Harassment and Discrimination — which handles accusations of sexual misconduct under Title IX — investigated charges against him last year and found him responsible.

After the university announced his punishment — a warning that he would face suspension if he was found responsible for harassment again — people inside higher education and out criticized Berkeley for going too easy on Mr. Marcy. Administrators, in response, expressed frustration with the limits they said they faced under the university’s current faculty-disciplinary procedures.

"It is important to understand that as Berkeley’s leadership considered disciplinary options, we did not have the authority, as per University of California policy, to unilaterally impose any disciplinary sanctions, including termination," Nicholas B. Dirks, Berkeley’s chancellor, and Claude Steele, its provost, said last fall in a statement. "Discipline of a faculty member is a lengthy and uncertain process." The process, they wrote, would include a full hearing by the faculty with standards of evidence for finding a professor responsible that are higher than the standard applied by the university’s Office for the Prevention of Harassment and Discrimination.

Other universities have struggled, as well, with how to best respond swiftly to the problematic behavior of tenured professors. The University of Miami bypassed its normal faculty-disciplinary procedures after a female graduate student complained, in 2012, about sexual harassment by one of its tenured philosophy professors, Colin McGinn. In that case, university officials took matters into their own hands and pressed him to resign.
If the charges had worked their way through the entire procedure, the university’s Faculty Senate would have had to hear the case and issue a recommendation. Because Mr. McGinn was not accused of having sex with the graduate student who accused him of harassment, administrators at Miami were concerned that the senate would find in his favor. Forcing Mr. McGinn out without the faculty's approval could have caused an uproar and possibly a legal battle.

Mr. McGinn resigned in December 2013.

The trend at universities toward finding ways to adjudicate sexual-harassment complaints outside the normal faculty-disciplinary procedures troubles the American Association of University Professors. It issued a report last week warning that the U.S. Education Department and college administrators are fighting sexual harassment and assault on campuses in ways that trample faculty members’ rights to academic freedom, due process, and shared governance.

The charge that traditional faculty-disciplinary procedures are too cumbersome to use in weighing sexual-harassment complaints is just an excuse, says Anita Levy, a senior program officer in the AAUP’s office of academic freedom, tenure, and governance. "For faculty members accused of harassment whose jobs are put on the line, we would not want due process to be truncated," she says. "Everybody should get a hearing, a fair process. A rush to judgment is not going to satisfy anyone."