COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) _ An interim diversity officer at the University of Missouri will be returning to the university’s School of Law in the fall.

Chuck Henson was named interim vice chancellor for inclusion, diversity in equity after student protests roiled the campus last November. Interim Chancellor Hank Foley announced Friday that Henson will return to the law school, where he was an associate dean before he was named to the diversity job.

The Columbia Daily Tribune reports (http://bit.ly/1TnxPUG) Foley’s announcement did not say how the university plans to fill the diversity position.

Since November, Henson created a Division of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity, developed a diversity orientation program for new students and implemented diversity training for officers who make hiring decisions. Henson also created “The Working Group” to discuss campus diversity issues.
University of Missouri campus diversity chief Henson to resume role at law school

Saturday, April 30, 2016 at 12:00 am Comments (2)

Chuck Henson, tapped to lead the University of Missouri’s response to student protests over racial issues, will return to the School of Law at the beginning of the fall semester, interim Chancellor Hank Foley wrote in a memo sent Friday to faculty, staff and students.

Henson has been interim vice chancellor for inclusion, diversity and equity since Nov. 10, when he was appointed to the position created after the Concerned Student 1950 protests. Among other things, the students said in a list of demands that they wanted a “comprehensive racial awareness and inclusion curriculum throughout all campus departments and units” and funding to “increase retention rates for marginalized students, sustain diversity curriculum and training, and promote a more safe and inclusive campus.”

Foley praised Henson for creating a Division of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity, developing a required diversity orientation program for new students and implementing diversity training for officers who make hiring decisions. Henson also created “The Working Group” to discuss campus diversity issues.

“I would like to personally thank Professor Henson for laying the groundwork for this new division at MU,” Foley wrote in the memo. “The original charge to Chuck was to improve the campus climate, ensuring that everyone who teaches, works, studies and visits at MU feels welcomed and included.”

Henson was an associate dean of the law school when he was named to the interim post. Foley’s memo did not mention how MU plans to fill the diversity position.
Chuck Henson, the interim vice chancellor for inclusion, diversity and equity, will be leaving his position and returning to teaching this fall, interim Chancellor Hank Foley announced in an email to faculty, staff and students Friday.

Henson was appointed interim vice chancellor for inclusion, diversity and equity in November following a series of announcements by the UM System Board of Curators introducing several new diversity initiatives, though the position was originally created in October by former Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin.

“In this new role, (Henson) has made significant progress as we work toward a more inclusive and welcoming environment at Mizzou,” Foley said in the email. “I would like to personally thank professor Henson for laying the groundwork for this new division at MU.”

Foley said in the email that Henson was tasked with “ensuring that everyone who teaches, works, studies and visits at MU feels welcomed and included.”

“Since Nov. 10, he has been creating the Division of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity, getting input from a team of university leaders and reaching out to every constituency on campus and many throughout the community,” Foley said.

Foley also said in the email that, with the assistance of a search firm, a search will be conducted to find Henson’s replacement.

Foley noted in the email a few of the new programs in place through Henson’s division: Diversity@Mizzou, an orientation training program which all incoming students are required to go through; The Working Group, a group of student leaders who attend weekly meetings to talk about MU; and multiple new lecture series and seminars.
In March, student activist group Concerned Student 1950 protested The Working Group on a march through campus and said “The Working Group ain’t working.” Students marched to Henson’s office in Jesse Hall, where he came out and explained that administrators had met with Concerned Student 1950 three times.

Henson also released a video in response and said “the point of the Working Group is to move forward together.”

Henson had previously released a letter to Concerned Student 1950 after the group rereleased their demands.

“If you sincerely want better relationships, the time for demands, threats and arbitrary deadlines is over — you don’t need them,” Henson wrote. “I hope you’ll join with other concerned students in The Working Group to get down to the work of building.”

MU diversity leader to return to previous role in law school

COLUMBIA — In an email to faculty, staff and students Friday, MU Interim Chancellor Hank Foley announced a diversity leader will step down in the fall.

Chuck Henson has served as the interim vice chancellor for inclusion, diversity and equity since November. Foley’s email said in the fall, Henson will return to his role in the MU School of Law.

Prior to serving as a diversity leader, Henson was the associate dean for academic affairs and trial practice professor of law.

Foley said in his role as the interim vice chancellor for inclusion, diversity and equity, Henson "has made significant progress as we work toward a more inclusive and welcoming environment at Mizzou."

Henson has laid the groundwork for the new division, Foley said. "The original charge to Chuck was to improve the campus climate, ensuring that everyone who teaches, works, studies and visits at MU feels welcomed and included," Foley's email said.
"Since Nov. 10, he has been creating the Division of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity, getting input from a team of university leaders and reaching out to every constituency on campus and many throughout the community."

Foley said Henson has developed the Diversity@Mizzou orientation training program for incoming students, implemented training for those who hire faculty, created a group of student leaders called "The Working Group," and made lecture series and seminars.

The university will conduct a search to fill Henson's role.

Vice chancellor for diversity, inclusion at Mizzou steps down

Less than six months after being appointed the Vice Chancellor for Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity at Mizzou, Chuck Henson is stepping down. According to Interim Chancellor Hank Foley, Henson will return to teaching at Mizzou's law school.

In February, Henson penned a letter to the protest group Concerned Student 1950, criticizing their practice of making demands and threatening action if those demands aren't met by certain deadlines. Henson described some of the group's demands as either unrealistic or not legal.

Editorial: Hunger games. GOP lawmakers want to study programs for the poor.

By the Editorial Board, 23 hrs ago
The Missouri Legislature is considering setting up a joint committee that would study the state’s public assistance programs. This is a little like polar bears setting up a program to study the needs of seals. But let’s extend the benefit of the doubt.

If Senate Bill 688 passes, the first thing the new committee should read should be the 2016 Missouri Hunger Atlas. It was published last week by the University of Missouri’s Interdisciplinary Center for Food Security. The key findings: “The state’s increase in the average percentage of households with very low food security is the highest in the country. In brief, the percentage of households experiencing hunger in our state has more than doubled in the past decade.”

Possible new slogan for the Division of Tourism: “Missouri: The Hungry State.”

Family food security, as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, means “access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life.”

In Missouri last year, nearly 17 of 100 households didn’t make it. Half of that number went hungry, period, at some point last year. The problem is particularly acute among families with children. One in every five Missouri kids lives in a food-insecure household. For those families, “too many mouths to feed” is not an abstract notion.

“Missouri households are the hungriest they have been in decades,” Sandy Rikoon, one of the authors of the Food Atlas study, told the Post-Dispatch’s Michele Munz. The first step in alleviating the problem is higher wages, he said, along with housing assistance and Social Security payments for the elderly and disabled.

“If a family has a working member, and this income barely covers rent, utilities, health care, transportation and other essentials, food is often the last expense to be covered,” Rikoon said. That puts extra burdens on food pantries, which cannot meet demand.

“It’s not people making poor decisions; it’s people making hard decisions and facing trade-offs between medicine and meat or between meat and red beans,” Rikoon said.
In recent years, the Legislature has made things considerably worse. A law passed last year dumped 2,766 families, including 6,310 children, off the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families rolls. Lawmakers cut eligibility for unemployment benefits from 20 weeks to 13 weeks. On April 1, the state stopped giving food stamps to the first 30,000 of what could eventually be 60,000 adults. It’s not that Missouri’s public assistance programs are too generous — food stamps work out to about $1.40 a meal — but every little bit helps.

You can argue whether health insurance is a basic human right, but there’s no argument about food. Now GOP lawmakers want to form a committee to study the problem. They don’t need a committee. They just need a mirror.

Food Insecurity Rises in Missouri


SPRINGFIELD, Mo.-- Oddly enough, the newly released Missouri Hunger Atlas says hunger isn’t the only household struggle in the Show Me State. Co-author of the publication, Sandy Rikoon says more people are suffering from food insecurity, meaning they’re worried about where their next meal will come from.

“The rate of Missouri food insecurity has gone up from 13 or 14% to now, it’s about 16 or 17,” says Rikoon.

Christine Temple with Ozarks Food Harvest says the problem doesn’t stop there.

“This week our national partner feeding America released a study called Map the meal gap..... They found that 16 percent of adults are struggling with food insecurity but unfortunately even higher, twenty three percent of kids are struggling with food insecurity,” she said.
And while these food insecurities aren’t guaranteed to cases of hunger, Rikoon says the number of people currently dealing with food insecurity that eventually go hungry, is on the rise.

“In Missouri the most alarming thing is that, the percentage food insecure people that do experience hunger sometime during the year keep going up. So ten years ago twelve years ago it was around four percent. Today it’s closer to 8 percent,” says Rikoon.

And though the issue at hand is a big one, both Temple and Rikoon say the steps toward fixing the problem are easy to take.

“Certainly awareness is another thing that is important. Because this something that we are talking about every day, there are still people in our community that don't know,” says Temple.

Rikoon says strengthening social programs is a main contributor to lowering the percentage of food insecure.

“In the community, I think it is especially important, to identify those who are suffering from food insecurity and making sure they at least can find the short term assistance that they usually need for the end of the month period before they have some income coming in," he says.

MISSOURIAN

UPDATE: Schaefer meet and greet moves to MU Student Center at the last minute

ELLEN CAGLE, Apr 29, 2016

COLUMBIA — A meet and greet at the Heidelberg with state Sen. Kurt Schaefer was canceled Friday in the wake of a social-media effort encouraging protesters to attend. But the senator traveled over to the MU Student Center later Friday evening to meet with the Mizzou College Republicans in a small meeting room upstairs.

It didn't stop supporters of Planned Parenthood — an organization Schaefer has worked to undermine — from showing up.
"Our primary goal was to make sure we weren't hurting any businesses in town by doing an event that was going to cause them any grief," Scott Dieckhaus, Schaefer's campaign manager, said. "So we wanted to move it somewhere where it wasn't going to cost anybody any money."

The campaign staff blocked the protesters from entering the room, but as the senator made an appearance, abortion rights supporters chanted, "Shame on Schaefer." Some tried to force the door open; others pressed their signs against the glass windows of the room. One sign read, "Women's rights are not stepping stones to higher office."

A few protesters, including former city council member Ginny Chadwick, were able to gain access to the room because they were students.

Schaefer seemed unfazed by the commotion. He said, "I don't have anything to say about that," referring to the protesters.

The senator is in the middle of a campaign for state attorney general, and the event at the Heidelberg had been posted on Facebook since mid-April. The relocation to the Student Center was not advertised.

Leading up to the cancellation, a barrage of messages lambasting Schaefer's anti-abortion policies were posted on the Facebook invitation.

On Tuesday, a Facebook event titled "Free Kurt Schaefer Medical Consultation" was created. It urged women to ask Schaefer "burning questions about your very special baby making equipment" during the meet and greet.

"Who needs doctors when we have Kurt Schaefer?!", the description reads.

"(Schaefer) expects us to trust his wisdom over our health care providers, so we're going to ask him our most intimate questions about our lady parts."

Renee Maxwell, who helped organize the protest event, said she hopes it sends a message to Schaefer.
“Women aren’t going to accept what he’s trying to do,” she said. “It’s none of his business, really, what women and their doctors think is right for them. This witch-hunt needs to end.”

A similar social media campaign called "Periods for Pence" targeted Indiana Gov. Mike Pence this spring after he signed a bill implementing stricter abortion laws. Since then, women have posted sardonic Twitter and Facebook posts directed at Pence detailing their menstrual cycles and anatomy.

Schaefer’s political tactics have proven some of the most polarizing in Missouri politics this year.

He made headlines this week after a Washington, D.C.-based foundation submitted allegations with a variety of law enforcement and legislative bodies, including the Missouri Ethics Commission, that he abused his elected office for personal political gain. The foundation said Schaefer compelled MU officials to modify university leave-of-absence policies to hamper the campaign efforts of his Republican rival for attorney general, MU associate law professor Josh Hawley, by threatening reductions in the UM System’s state funding. Schaefer is the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Schaefer has been unwavering in his investigation into Planned Parenthood operations in the state, even after Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster found that the clinics have done nothing illegal.

In April, Schaefer threatened to hold a Planned Parenthood official in contempt of the Senate after she failed to respond to a subpoena requesting documents about how the clinic disposes of fetal tissue. The Senate halted the contempt efforts last week after the official agreed to supply the documents.

Last summer, Schaefer was chosen to head a newly-formed legislative panel called the Interim Committee on the Sanctity of Life. The committee assembled to investigate Missouri Planned Parenthood branches following the release of several videos purporting to show Planned Parenthood officials discussing the sale of aborted fetal tissue. Subsequent investigations
concluded that the officials were not engaged in criminal conduct, and the video-makers have been indicted on criminal charges.

In the months following, Schaefer questioned MU’s relationship with Columbia’s Planned Parenthood branch. After former MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin initiated a review of the affiliation, MU canceled contracts that allowed students to work in Planned Parenthood clinics for course credit.

In November, MU Health Care ended the category of clinical privileges that allowed a Planned Parenthood doctor to provide medical abortions at the Columbia clinic. Missouri law requires that doctors providing abortion services have clinical privileges at a hospital within 30 miles of the clinic. That month, the Planned Parenthood clinic in St. Louis became the only abortion provider in Missouri after the Columbia clinic stopped offering medical abortions because it didn’t have a doctor that met state requirements.

Tension re-ignited in January when former UM System President Tim Wolfe accused Schaefer of shaping the testimony of Loftin in front of the Sanctity of Life committee. Loftin testified in August about MU’s relationship with Planned Parenthood. Schaefer has denied the accusations.

MU engineering students reveal competition car for new season

COLUMBIA — The University of Missouri College of Engineering students introduced this year’s race car built for the upcoming competition season.

The Mizzou Racing Formula Society of Automotive Engineers Team designed and tested the car for a full year before revealing it to the public Sunday.
MU senior Alyssa Black has been on the team for five years. She said it feels good to finally show off the team's hard work.

“It feels very satisfying to finally be done with this car,” Black said.

The team gives engineering students a chance to get real-world experience in their field before graduating.

“When an employer sees this on a resume, they take it very seriously,” junior Ethan English said. He’s been on the team for three years.

English set his sights on the racing team as soon he stepped foot on Mizzou's campus, and now plays a leading role.

“I take a lot of pride in the work I do down here,” English said. "It’s really satisfying."

Community sponsors play a huge rule in making the team's goals a reality. One sponsor said it's his Tiger pride that keeps him coming back to support the organization.

“When they came and asked for assistance, we were glad to do so," said Ed Kays, owner of Kays Engineering in Marshall. "I enjoy doing it, and enjoy being involved, and I want to see Mizzou do well. We've got to beat Kansas."

This year's sponsors include Kays Engineering, Boeing, Norfolk Southern, Mizzou Engineering Alumni Association and Signs Now.

Last year the team took sixth place out of thirty teams from around the world in Melbourne, Australia. To follow the team during this year's competition season, you can visit their Facebook page. The team's first competition will be May 11-14 in Michigan.

Reynolds Journalism Institute awards 10th fellowship class

By THE TRIBUNE'S STAFF

Friday, April 29, 2016 at 2:00 pm
The Donald W. Reynolds Journalism Institute at the University of Missouri has awarded eight fellowships for the 2016-17 academic year.

Projects range from emerging technologies and watchdog journalism to community engagement and navigating new business models, the organization said in a news release. The group will be RJI’s 10th class of fellows. Alejandro Gonzalez, development and innovation director for 14ymedio, will work on low-bandwidth technology to amplify the distribution of the news organization’s content in Cuba.

- Crosscut News will conduct research on the most effective way to convert not-for-profit news readers into engaged email subscribers. Crosscut Public Media Executive Director Tamara Power-Drutis will lead the project.

- PolitiFact, a fact-checking website published by the Tampa Bay Times, will create a new online tool to document the campaign promises of the next president and track whether he or she upholds the promises. PolitiFact Executive Director Aaron Sharockman will lead the project.

- GroundSource will build chat bots for news delivery and crowd sourcing. Andrew Haeg, GroundSource founder, is the project leader.

- Thomas Kent, former standards editor at The Associated Press, will explore the prospects for common understandings on ethics and standards across the virtual reality journalism industry.

- Mike Wheeler, managing partner of Westerly Partners, and David Danto, director of emerging technologies for Interactive Multimedia and Collaborative Communications Alliance, will design low-cost video recording and archiving systems for public community meetings and events.

- Connor Sheets, investigative reporter for AL.com, will create techniques for training Alabama residents to pitch stories and concepts they think should be part of the mainstream news agenda.

- Michelle Ferrier, associate dean for innovation at the Scripps College of Communication at Ohio University, will create a hybrid accelerator model to support student-professional media startups for underserved and underrepresented communities.

Residential fellows receive a $10,000 per month stipend and a one-time $10,000 allowance to use for relocation or housing. Non-residential fellows receive a $20,000 stipend for the entire program.
and some research and travel expenses paid. Institutional fellows receive $20,000 payable to the company or institution.

"Norm" draws nostalgic fans to Mizzou Arena

By JOE WALLJASPER

Saturday, April 30, 2016 at 12:00 am

The setting for the public screening of “Norm” was Mizzou Arena. It might have been more appropriate to show it at the Hearnes Center, where the star of the show did his best work, or at Booches, where the coach was known to shoot a few games of pool even on game days.

But the lunchtime crowd of fans eager to remember the glory days of Missouri basketball under Coach Norm Stewart didn’t seem to mind.

Kim Anderson, Gary Link and Jon Sundvold warmed up the crowd with stories of their playing days under Stewart, who was a master of motivation.

“We could either do it our way, or we could try to win, as he would say,” Sundvold said.

“Playing for Coach wasn’t exactly the most fun thing in the world,” said Anderson, who went on to coach under Stewart before eventually becoming Missouri’s head coach. “Great coach. Tremendous teacher. I’ve always said I wish I could have worked for him and then played for him, because I would have understood the method to the madness.”

The documentary, part of the SEC Storied series, will air on the SEC Network at 8 p.m. Sunday. In a phone interview Thursday, Stewart said he watched the film the night before at his second home in California and liked it.

“When Fritz Mitchell was involved as the director, I was worried that the only thing that might happen is I would damage his career,” Stewart said. “I knew he would do a good job. They were in Columbia three times. It went from 30 minutes to an hour. It kind of reminded me of the old joke that some people can’t yawn in 30 minutes.”
Stewart’s story is familiar to many Missourians and Midwesterners but probably not to the rest of the SEC Network’s coverage area. To sum it up in a long sentence: Small-town boy from Shelbyville makes good as a two-sport athlete at the University of Missouri, marries the homecoming queen, turns his alma mater’s downtrodden basketball program into a powerhouse, battles the NCAA and cancer (losing the first and winning the second) and leaves an incredible legacy as the creator of Coaches vs. Cancer.

Former players interviewed included John Brown, Link, Anderson, Sundvold, Derrick Chievous, Greg Church and Anthony Peeler. Former Kansas and current North Carolina Coach Roy Williams, a bitter rival and secret admirer, says of Stewart, “He’s an old codger. He was an old codger when he was young.” Former assistant Bob Sundvold compared Stewart’s tough-guy persona to John Wayne.

That toughness was appreciated by Missouri fans, some of whom adopted his views on the state of Kansas, where Stewart refused to spend a nickel. When the documentary referenced William Quantrill’s burning of Lawrence, a small round of applause erupted in Mizzou Arena.

Stewart’s sense of humor was always the flip side of his cantankerousness. As the film recalls, even when he thought he was on death's door after collapsing on a flight to Oklahoma in 1989, he told a frightened bench-warmer not to worry, that interim coach Rich Daly wouldn’t be playing him any more than Stewart would have. Also included is an extended remembrance of the unfortunate 1987 rap video “Cats From Ol’ Mizzou,” which produces cringes no matter how many times it’s been watched.

Aside from basketball, “Norm” is also a love story about Norm and Virginia Stewart. She describes Norm as a “teddy bear.” The film ends with two of the Stewarts’ grandsons playing the piano and singing the song “I’ve Always Known That Now,” which Norm wrote for Virginia.
The Missouri men's basketball team has won 19 games during the past two seasons. It's a lack of success that has left fans longing for the days of past success.

On Sunday, fans will have a chance to look back at that past. "Norm," a new ESPN documentary chronicling former Missouri men's basketball coach Norm Stewart's career, debuts at 8 p.m. Sunday on the SEC Network.

"Norm" was first shown publicly Friday to fans at Mizzou Arena. About 60 people sat in the stands, eating popcorn and watching the film on the video board. The only thing missing was the subject of the documentary. Stewart opted to miss Friday's event to stay at his winter home in Palm Springs, California.

Three of Stewart's former players — Missouri men's basketball coach Kim Anderson, team radio commentator Gary Link and SEC Network analyst Jon Sundvold — appeared at Friday's screening.

Prior to the film being shown, the men told the small crowd stories of Stewart's five-hour practices and the former coach's ability to taunt the Kansas fans at Allen Fieldhouse. Link began the roundtable by honoring his former coach's focus on timeliness. Link started the event at 11:59 a.m., one minute before the event's scheduled start time.

Besides a smattering of fans, Missouri athletics staff, assistant men's basketball coaches and players were in attendance, including coach Brad Loos and freshman forward Kevin Puryear.

As the film began, fans got a thorough look into Stewart's longtime connection to Missouri and MU. It begins at Stewart's childhood home in Shelbyville, Missouri, and continues with Missouri basketball's rise to national prominence. The film also shows the down moments, including Stewart's struggle with colon cancer and an NCAA scandal.

The audience laughed when Stewart discussed his relationship with his wife — "We've had one fight in our marriage," the coach says in the film, "and it's still going today" — and continued to do so when the film showed the 1987 men's basketball team's rap video. The only cheers came when the documentary discussed the background of the Missouri-Kansas rivalry.
When the film ended, Anderson, Link and Sundvold reminisced with the fans. Their discussions centered around how close Stewart got to winning a national championship and the disappointment Missouri faced for never making it to the Final Four.

"Coach (Stewart) never got enough credit," Anderson said to reporters after the film. "When you get to that Final Four, that's a deal where you feel like you arrived. I wish I would've seen that, but it never happened."

Sitting five rows up in the stands, Anderson showed his emotions throughout the screening. As the film came to a close, he wiped his eyes and stared at the credits as they came onto the screen.

"It jarred some of the memories of great games," Anderson said. "I thought it did a great job of talking about Coach and what he's done, and not just in basketball."

ESPN has made a documentary on former Missouri basketball coach Norm Stewart and his time with the Tigers. The documentary, "Norm," premiered Friday at Mizzou Arena.

Anderson said he remembers being recruited by Stewart and how Stewart ate lunch at Smith-Cotton High School in Sedalia, Missouri, every day for two weeks in an attempt to woo Anderson.

"It got to where he wouldn't even sit with me; he would sit with the students," Anderson said. "My buddies would say, 'Hey, Coach is coming today. I'm going to try to sit with Coach today.'"

Though Stewart wasn't at Friday's event, he got to see the film for the first time at his home Wednesday and said he liked it.

"I didn't look forward to seeing it, but I wanted to see what they did with it," Stewart said Thursday. "I was pleased with the whole production. I thought the players were well represented."

Back in Columbia, Anderson said he plans to use "Norm" as a tool to teach his current team about the legacy Stewart has left with Missouri.
"Coach always taught me how to survive," Anderson said. "When you get knocked down, you gotta get back up. I hope I can teach my guys that."

**MISSOURIAN**

**Students celebrate the Thai New Year with water fights, Thai cuisine**

GUOHAO CHEN, Apr 29, 2016

COLUMBIA — The Mel Carnahan Quadrangle was filled with laughter on Friday as students fought with water balloons and water guns to ring in the Thai New Year.

The Songkran festival, sponsored by the Missouri International Student Council and organized by the MU Thai Student Association and the MU Asian Affairs Center, featured traditional Thai food and a culture booth in addition to the water fight.

The Songkran festival is one of the biggest festivals in Thai culture. It runs from April 13 to 15 during the summer in Thailand. Thai people always pour water on the hands of respected elders and ask for a blessing, and young people join water fights.

Splashing water symbolizes washing out the misfortune and bringing luck for the new year, said Tayatorn Pongspikul, a Thai student from the Missouri International Student Council.

Students from Asian countries like Thailand, Indonesia, India and China participated in the festival, as well as people from the U.S.

"It was really fun, even though the weather is kind of chilly. But we are here with friends and we are celebrating the Thai New Year," said Sharien Fitriasari, a junior student from Indonesia, as she tried to dry her soaking wet clothes and hair.
While some students were enjoying the water fight, more than 50 people stopped by Tiger Plaza and snacked on free Thai cuisine including Thai chicken curry, stir-fired vegetables, fried rice and Thai iced tea.

With traditional Songkran music playing, a culture booth displayed traditional Thai items including Thai umbrellas, flower necklaces, Kohn masks — which were topped with ornate gold headdresses — and dancing dolls in traditional costumes. The culture booth also showed different ways of celebrating the new year festival such as parades, building a sand castle and sprinkling fragrant water over a Buddha statue.

"This festival made me miss home," Pongspikul said. Since Songkran is always during the semester, she hasn't celebrated it in Thailand in more than seven years.

The festival had been an annual event before 2013, but stopped briefly in 2014 and 2015.

Pongspikul said they decided to bring it back because it was an important way for the MU community to learn more about Thai customs.

"We want to bring it back to the community again and we want people to learn more about our culture — not only our Thai food," Pongspikul said.

**MISSOURIAN**

**The final week of Doug Crews' 36-year career is unveiled in documentary film**

CATHERINE WENDLANDT, DOCUMENTARY BY DEREK POORE, Apr 29, 2016

COLUMBIA — After 36 years at the Missouri Press Association, the last quarter-century spent as its executive director, Doug Crews retired — kind of.
He's still in Jefferson City three or four days a week lobbying on behalf of newspapers as the MPA's legislative director and plans to keep the position next year.

Nevertheless, Method M Films, the Jonathan B. Murray Center for Documentary Journalism’s film company, wanted to document Crews' last week in the top job.

Filmmaker Derek Poore had met Crews before and thought he would be an interesting subject.

Crews began working at the MPA as assistant director in 1979 and became executive director in 1991. He said two points of pride during his tenure were the MPA's two regional Emmys and the establishment of the Newspaper Hall of Fame.

The Emmys were for "Trustees for the Public: 200 Years of Missouri Newspapers” in 2009 and “Deadline in Disaster,” a 2013 documentary about the Joplin Globe's coverage of a tornado that killed more than 160 people.

The MPA Newspaper Hall of Fame, established in 1991, has inducted 137 journalists, Crews said.

He's also enjoyed meeting many people in the newspaper business through his work at the MPA.

“That’s been so cool about the job," he said. "Just the lifelong friendships that come our way."

A retirement party was planned for Friday at Columbia Country Club. Mark Maassen, Crews' successor as executive director, said more than 150 people from all corners of the state and country were planning to attend.