MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

July 14, 2016
Despite Year of Turmoil, Mizzou Announces Record Fundraising

A $25 million gift in October helped push fundraising at the University of Missouri's flagship campus to a record high despite several months of turmoil stemming from the administration's response — or perceived lack thereof — to racial incidents.

The university announced Wednesday that its "Mizzou: Our Time to Lead" campaign had brought in cash and commitments worth nearly $171 million in the fiscal year that ended June 30. That's more than $23 million higher than in 2015 and nearly $7 million more than the previous record, set in 2014.

"We have a very generous donor base and they rallied when the university needed them," said Tom Hiles, the university's vice president for advancement.

The university, located in Columbia, found itself in the national spotlight in November when hundreds of students protested over what some saw as administrators' indifference to racial issues. System President Tim Wolfe and campus Chancellor Bowen Loftin resigned after the unrest escalated with one student's hunger strike and the football team announcing that they would refuse to play a nonconference game if complaints weren't taken seriously.

Afterward, the university became a magnet for state lawmaker complaints, with some calling for greater scrutiny of the system's budget and possible funding cuts. Many were angry that an assistant professor, Melissa Click, was not immediately fired for a confrontation she had with a student photographer and videographer during the Nov. 9 protests. It wasn't until February that the university system's governing board voted to dismiss Click without severance.
"We had some on campus saying, 'This is the worst thing ever, we're never going to recover, we might as well shut down the campaign,'” Hiles said.

A $25 million gift from the Houston-based Kinder Foundation in October, a month before tensions flared, helped kick off the public phase of the fundraising campaign. A $13.8 million donation to the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources also contributed to the record-breaking year, in which donations of $1 million or more were $30 million higher than the previous fiscal year.

Sam Hamacher, retired president of St. Louis-based diversified investment firm Harbour Group and a member of a cabinet overseeing the "Mizzou: Our Time to Lead" drive, said donors paid close attention to the university's reaction to the turmoil and how it addressed the issues that were being raised.

"This is a 175-year-old institution," Hamacher said. "At the end of the day, the people I associate with felt that we needed to really focus on fixing it if it needed to be fixed."

The university also was caught in controversies involving Planned Parenthood, health insurance for graduate assistants and the temporary resignation of the medical school dean.

Like Hiles, Hamacher praised Interim Chancellor Hank Foley's efforts to repair damage from the tumultuous year.

"I think there's a lot of support for Chancellor Foley," he said.

Despite the turmoil, Mizzou sets yearly fundraising record

By Koran Addo St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 10 min ago

Generated from News Bureau press release: “Mizzou Breaks Single-Year Fundraising Record, Raises $170 Million”

The University of Missouri-Columbia has set a new single year fundraising record, bringing in nearly $171 million in donations during the 2016 fiscal year.

Mizzou's previous record of $164.5 million was set in 2014.
In making the announcement, interim Chancellor Hank Foley attributed the feat to loyal alumni.

“The University of Missouri has faced unprecedented challenges in the last year,” he said. “However, it should come as no surprise that the Mizzou family has responded with extraordinary generosity.”

Foley’s announcement comes eight months after the university faced national scrutiny following a series of racist incidents.

Additionally, a number of black and other minority students reported that they felt general hostility toward them on campus.

The fundraising announcement also follows the university’s acknowledgment in February that it had lost $2 million in donations after as many as 10 donors rescinded their pledges at least in part due to the November protests that led to President Timothy M. Wolfe's resignation.

Thomas Hiles, vice chancellor for university advancement, said the events of last fall were some of the most difficult he’s experienced during his 32-year career.

A month before the protests, Mizzou kicked off the $1.3 billion “Mizzou: Our Time to Lead” fundraising campaign.

“We had just mounted our big campaign on Oct. 8,” he said. “And then four weeks later, the president resigns and we are getting all kinds of national coverage.”

Hiles reports that in the immediate aftermath of the protests, Mizzou leaders fielded as more than 3,000 emails and numerous calls from people who promised never to donate money to the university again.

Additionally, donors either rescinded or threatened to rescind about $5 million in pledged donations.

“Some of those are still pending,” Hiles said.
To turn things around, Hiles said, university leaders consulted with officials from Penn State University. Penn State had just kicked off a fundraising campaign in 2011 when the child sex abuse scandal involving assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky broke.

“What happened was that we really had a rallying around the flag from our alumni,” Hiles said.

He added that Foley’s willingness to travel the country speaking with donors and the connections the university has made previously helped them close on several donations.

The university reports that it was able to continue a three-year trend in which it received 20 or more donations of at least $1 million.

In all, nearly 44,000 donors made donations, pledges or estate gifts to the university between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016.

The record-setting year brings the “Mizzou: Our Time to Lead” campaign total to $762 million — more than halfway to the $1.3 billion goal announced in October.

The campaign is centered on raising money for the university’s endowment, its special centers and institutes of study and campus improvements.

MU breaks annual fundraising record, bringing in $171 million

By Mará Rose Williams

Despite controversy that engulfed the University of Missouri last year and donor threats to yank gifts pledged to the school, the university raised a record amount of money over the last 12 months.
University officials on Wednesday announced that MU set a record with $171 million in donations in fiscal year 2016 — covering July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016.

That’s a 15 percent increase from the previous year’s total. The previous record, set in 2014, was $164.5 million.

“The University of Missouri has faced unprecedented challenges in the last year,” interim chancellor Hank Foley said in a statement. He said he was not surprised “the Mizzou family has responded with extraordinary generosity.”

Public financial support of the university seemed in danger after a series of incidents in the fall, including a disagreement between graduate students and university administration over health benefits and racially charged student protests that led to a student hunger strike, a boycott by Mizzou football players and the resignations of the chancellor and the University of Missouri System president.

A national spotlight turned on MU after the predominantly African-American student group Concerned Student 1950 publicly denounced the administration over its perceived indifference to systemic oppression of minorities and a lack of diversity and inclusion at MU.

Then in the midst of the turmoil, assistant professor Melissa Click threatened a student journalist to stop him from recording protests.

Missouri legislators, already at odds with MU over its relationship with Planned Parenthood and how student protests were handled, called for Click to be fired and threatened to cut the school’s funding over the entire mess.

“We certainly got hammered,” said Tom Hiles, MU vice chancellor for advancement.

The university received about 3,400 calls, mostly from people complaining about the university, Hiles said. Some called to say they would never donate again to the school. But when the university checked, Hiles said, “about 80 percent of those who said they would never donate again had never donated in the first place.”

In October, the university reported it was in jeopardy of losing about $5 million in gifts.

Hiles said there were some who wanted to suspend the fundraising campaign. Instead, MU turned to other institutions, including Penn State and Virginia Tech — schools that had campaigned through crisis — for advice in avoiding a fundraising bust.

MU launched an immediate image repair effort and turned to loyal donors for support. Calls were made to alumni and friends of the university and in some cases one-on-one meetings with donors were held.
Foley set out across the country for 18 regional campaign kickoff events telling alumni and potential donors about the university’s leading research, award-winning faculty members and economic impact.

“Our success this year attests to the strength of the university’s connection with our alumni and friends,” Hiles said. “That’s something that grows over years and it endures through tough times. … Our most loyal donors continued to give.”

In the end, Hiles said, donors stepped up.

MU continued a three-year trend, receiving 20 or more gifts of at least $1 million. Nearly 44,000 different donors made donations, pledges or estate gifts to MU over the past year.

Gifts ranged from $1 to $25 million from the Kinder Foundation in September 2015 to create the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy.

A $13 million gift came in February 2016, designated for the College of Agricultural Food and Natural Resources for scholarships. Until then, the largest gift after the November turmoil was a $4 million donation in December to the challenge fund for the Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders.

MU’s record-setting year brings the Mizzou: Our Time to Lead campaign total to $762 million — more than halfway to the $1.3 billion goal announced at the campaign’s launch in October 2015.

The campaign, in an effort to attract students and the best faculty, has three priorities: building the university’s endowment to competitive levels, creating centers and research institutes within the institution, and improving campus facilities.

“The university cannot rely solely on a combination of state funding and tuition,” said Richard Miller, one of three chairs for the campaign. “Private support is the key to enhancing excellence at Mizzou.”

Mizzou sets single-year fundraising record, raises $170 million

Despite enrollment troubles and on-campus issues, the University of Missouri - Columbia has set a new single-year fundraising record in fiscal year 2016 by raising about $170 million.
The total, a 15 percent increase from 2015, was $5 million more than Mizzou’s fundraising goal for the year, according to officials.

The university’s previous record of $164.5 million was set in 2014.

“The University of Missouri has faced unprecedented challenges in the last year,” Hank Foley, interim chancellor, said in a statement. “However, it should come as no surprise that the Mizzou family has responded with extraordinary generosity.”

Mizzou faced protests and a hunger strike on its campus over alleged racial incidents and other issues between staff and the administration last fall, which led to the resignation of the University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe and Mizzou Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin.

The university lost about $2 million in donations in February, after seven to 10 large donors and several who had pledged funding rescinded their pledges.

Mizzou also is facing an enrollment dip this fall, with freshman deposits falling by 1,470 from last year and 1,749 from two years ago. This year’s freshman class will number fewer than 5,000.

Nearly 44,000 different donors made donations, pledges or estate gifts between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016. The gifts ranged anywhere from $1 to $25 million, which was a gift from the Kinder Foundation to create the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy.

The fundraising record brings the “Mizzou: Our Time to Lead” campaign total to $762 million. The university launched the campaign in October with the goal to raise $1.3 billion by 2020 — the largest fundraising goal in the school’s history.

Money from the campaign will be used for three main priorities: building up the endowment, funding building projects on campus, and increasing signature centers and institutes.

MU sets fundraising record despite campus turmoil, leadership turnover

By Rudi Keller

Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 9:32 am
Two large pledges totaling nearly $39 million helped the University of Missouri set a fundraising record for the year, offsetting a decline in small donations and demonstrating momentum for a capital campaign launched as campus protests and administrative turmoil put the university in an international spotlight.

MU recorded about $171 million in pledges and new cash donations from all sources, up $23.3 million from fiscal year 2015. Interim MU Chancellor Hank Foley, Vice Chancellor Tom Hiles and “Mizzou: Our Time to Lead” cabinet member Samuel Hammacher announced the record to a gathering of staff and supporters Wednesday at Jesse Hall.

The previous record year was fiscal 2014, when the university received $164.5 million in pledges and new cash donations.

“Back in November and December, Tom and I were kind of looking at ourselves, going, ‘What do we do?’ ” Foley said. “And what we did was, we went out and we told the story. We explained what happened, we explained what we were doing, and the results have just been marvelous.”

The two large pledges, $25 million to found the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy and $13.8 million from an unannounced donor for the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources scholars fund, fueled a 68.7 percent increase in gifts greater than $1 million. Small donations — gifts of $10,000 or less — declined 2.9 percent, or about $600,000, to $20.7 million, according to figures released by Hiles’ office. Communicating with those donors has been and will continue to be as important as interactions with large donors, Hammacher said.

“This is a grass-roots issue that had to be addressed, and the university is taking that on,” Hammacher said. “It is not going to be solved in a month. This is a very positive announcement that the alumni will view as we’ve righted the ship.”

The two large pledges dwarfed the $14 million from the two largest donations the previous year. They also helped offset about $5 million that could still be lost because of the multiple issues that drew intense attention to MU, Hiles said. Donors have canceled $1 million in pledges, he said, and another $4 million in pledges are on hold.

Through phone calls, social media and emails, Hiles said his office recorded 3,400 negative contacts about protests by Concerned Student 1950, the football boycott, the resignations of UM System President Tim Wolfe and MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin, the employment status of Melissa Click, ties to Planned Parenthood, graduate assistant health insurance issues and the ouster and reinstatement of MU School of Medicine Dean Patrick Delafontaine.

“This has certainly been the most trying five months of my professional career that I have been through,” Hiles said. “But also I have learned more than any other point in my career.”

Most of those concerns were routed through the university’s call center, Hiles said.

“Our poor students down there got inundated,” he said.
In the immediate aftermath of the November protests and resignations, new pledges and donations fell off in November and December. Only Kinder’s donation, announced in October, kept the totals ahead of the previous year. In the final tally, the increase for the year and the Kinder pledge are roughly equal.

University officials launched the capital campaign that sought to add $350 million to endowed funds and $1.3 billion overall by 2020 on Homecoming weekend in October, which also marked the beginning of the Concerned Student 1950 demonstrations. Despite the turmoil that followed, Hiles said he was glad the campaign began when it did.

“We would not have been able to kick off in the aftermath of that for at least the foreseeable future,” he said.

The university counts every donation, large or small, against the goal. Pledges are counted when a contract is signed, not when the money is delivered. Fundraising netted $112.8 million in cash in fiscal 2015, the fourth year in a row with totals above $100 million.

**MISSOURIAN**

**MU reaches halfway point of fundraising goal despite last year's turmoil**

JUSTIN BOHM, 14 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — MU's fundraising campaign, "Mizzou: Our Time to Lead," set a record by receiving $170.1 million in donations during the 2016 fiscal year despite a turbulent fall on campus.

This record surpasses the previous record of $164.5 million set in 2014 and is a 15 percent increase over the amount raised at the same time last year, MU Interim Chancellor Hank Foley said on Wednesday.

The public phase of the campaign kicked off in early October with a goal of $1.3 billion. Including the silent phase that preceded the public phase, the campaign has now raised $762 million, putting it over the halfway point of its goal.
This is the third year in a row that MU received 20 or more donations of at least $1 million and, for the fourth consecutive year, raised more than $100 million in cash gifts, Foley said.

Tom Hiles, MU vice chancellor for advancement, said the campaign was facing significant challenges last fall.

Protests over race relations and graduate rights attracted national attention and continued to impact campus life throughout the school year. Hiles said thousands of calls, emails and social media posts expressed concerns about what was going on at MU, and multiple donors threatened to pull funding from the campaign.

Donors withdrew about $2 million in pledges to MU after the campus protests, Hiles confirmed in February.

Hiles said after the announcement in Jesse Hall that he's not surprised the campaign has made progress despite setbacks, because Interim Chancellor Hank Foley traveled widely to communicate with donors.

"As the year unfolded, our approach was, 'Everybody has problems. We can sit around, complain or wring our hands, but we're going to go out and work,'" Hiles said. "We're going to redouble our efforts. If it's important to communicate in good times, it's particularly important to communicate during challenging times."

Foley stepped into his role in early November after the resignation of R. Bowen Loftin. Foley said he went around the country and explained what was happening at MU while explaining what the fundraising campaign represented. He said that for the past eight months, advancement staff have listened to donors to hear their concerns and issues and answered their questions.

"Ultimately, these (alumni) relationships are the foundation for the generous gifts that help Mizzou continue to change lives for our students, all students and the world," Foley said.
Last year, MU was recognized by the council for advancement and supportive education as one of the five most improved fundraising programs in the nation, Foley said during the announcement.

"It's exciting to see how we continue to build momentum and make huge, huge strides in terms of this fundraising," Foley said.

In addition to Hiles and Foley, Samuel Hamacher, a "Mizzou: Our Time to Lead" campaign cabinet member, spoke at the announcement Wednesday morning. He is a donor and an MU alumnus.

Hamacher said there are many reasons to give to MU, but he talked about his own reasons, emphasizing his family ties to the university.

"As a Mizzou graduate, I take an incredible amount of pride in our university," Hamacher said. "I'm also grateful for the opportunities that I have enjoyed thanks to my education. Obviously a lot of people share my pride and gratitude, and that's what drives them to give back."

Hamacher said the donations give him hope for the future of MU.

"Out of challenges come opportunities," Hamacher said.

**Despite year of turmoil, Mizzou announces record fundraising**
COLUMBIA — A $25 million donation from a Houston-based foundation helped push fundraising at the University of Missouri's flagship campus to a record high despite several months of racial unrest. The Kinder Foundation donated the sum to create the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy.

The university announced on Wednesday that it raised nearly $171 million in fiscal year 2016, which ended June 30. That's more than $23 million higher than last year's total and nearly $7 million more than the previous record set in 2014. This is also the fourth consecutive year that the university received over 100 million dollars in donations.

Chancellor Hank Foley alluded to the challenges the university faced this year but had said this regarding the response of the Mizzou alumni.

"It should come as no surprise to you that the Mizzou family, which you're apart of, has responded with extraordinary generosity," Foley said.

Top Mizzou fundraising official Tom Hiles says the school has a generous donor base that stepped up.

"I just want to again tip my hat to our donors and alumni in a very challenging time when enrollment is down, when we've had some challenging time rebuilding trust with the legislature. This is a huge boost in moral," Hiles said.

Hiles said that him and Chancellor Foley traveled to 18 different cities to reach out to alumni and hear their concerns. Hiles also noted that during a tough time people were more than willing to rally behind the Mizzou family.

Hiles credited the university staff with listening to over 3,400 phone calls from concerned alumni, and said the effort to communicate with those alumni allowed them to reach the amount of money collected.

Sam Hamacher says he and other donors kept an eye on the university's reaction to protests that broke out in November over the administration's handling of racial issues. He says alumni decided that if something needs to be fixed, then it should be.

The Mizzou: Our Time to Lead campaign has accumulated $762 million in donations, which is more than half of the $1.3 billion goal announced back at the campaign's launch in October 2015.
MU sees record donation numbers

COLUMBIA, MO - University of Missouri administrators said more than 40,000 donors stepped up and gave a record amount of money to MU for fiscal year 2016.

MU made the fundraising announcement at Jesse Hall on Wednesday.

Administrators said donors delivered, giving $171 million to MU during 2016 -- $6.5 million more than the previous record set in 2014.

The announcement comes after a turbulent year for MU. Enrollment numbers are low, and the university is facing a multi-million dollar shortfall for next year.

"We had a lot of explaining to do back in November, but we did a lot of listening before we did any explaining, and I have to say that I think it's evident that our donor population is happy with the things we're doing," MU Interim Chancellor Hank Foley said.

MU is in the middle of its "Mizzou: Our Time to Lead" fundraising campaign. MU has raised $762 million of its $1.3 billion goal.

Mizzou breaks fundraising record

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Mizzou officials now have a new single-year fundraising record.

Interim MU Chancellor Hank Foley announced his school raised more than $170 million in donations during fiscal year 2016.

Foley told a crowd gathered at Jesse Hall on Wednesday the record setting levels come despite turmoil on his campus this past fall.

Racial demonstrations on the Mizzou campus in November resulted in the resignations of former UM System President Tim Wolfe and Former MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin.
Foley said donors continue to support Mizzou at record-setting levels despite the recent challenges on his campus.

Foley said, "We did a lot of listening before we did any explaining. I have to say that I think it is evident that our donor population is happy with the things that we are doing, understands and has come a long way since November 10th."

The university's record-setting year brings The Mizzou: Our Time To Lead campaign total to $762 million.

That's more than halfway to the $1.3 billion goal announced at the campaign's launch in October.

**Authorities seek help finding culprits in string of armed robberies**

By Alan Burdziak

Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 4:11 pm

Columbia police are seeking help from the public to catch the culprits in four armed robberies that investigators believe targeted college-aged men Tuesday, an assistant chief said Wednesday during a news conference.

**Interim University of Missouri Chancellor Hank Foley appeared alongside police Assistant Chief Jeremiah Hunter and Columbia Police Department Chief Ken Burton. Hunter gave a brief synopsis of the four robberies, but officials declined to answer any questions after the five-minute presentation.**

Hunter provided few details on each case and cautioned that the information was preliminary. He cited investigative reasons as to why the department would not provide additional information.

In all of the robberies, the assailants were described as two black males, one armed with a handgun. No injuries were reported in any of the incidents. Authorities did not provide further suspect descriptions.

The first incident was reported at 12:55 a.m. Tuesday in the alley behind Günter Hans, 7 Hitt St., in which two black men approached two male victims of unknown ages. One of the robbers
allegedly pointed a handgun at the victims and demanded their property before running off. A third party reported the incident because the victims refused to contact police.

Less than an hour later, two men were robbed at about 1:31 a.m. outside an apartment in the 2900 block of Old 63 South. The men, ages 21 and 24, said two black men, one armed with a handgun, pointed the gun at the victims and demanded their property. The assailants took the property and ran northbound.

At about 10:55 p.m. Tuesday, police responded to Locust and Waugh streets to speak with a 21-year-old man who said two black men wearing hooded sweatshirts, one brandishing a handgun, came up to him and demanded his property. The robbers ran eastbound on Locust after taking the victim’s property.

Finally, police responded to the 1300 block of Wilkes Boulevard at 11:45 p.m. Tuesday after three 22-year-old men reported they had been robbed at gunpoint. The men told police they were walking near Lions-Stephens Park, at William and Windsor streets, when they saw a light-colored vehicle slowly drive past them.

The men were suspicious of the vehicle and decided to walk toward their home in the 1300 block of Wilkes Boulevard. The same car drove by again as they were walking, and two black men emerged from the vehicle. One of the suspects brandished a handgun and demanded the men's property. The robbers collected the stolen property and drove northbound on College Avenue.

Foley briefly spoke during the news conference, saying some of the victims are current or former MU students.

“The care for and safety of the entire campus community remains our number one responsibility,” Foley said. “This is a commitment we have made to the students and their parents and the faculty and others.”

The MU police department was notified of the robberies, Foley said, and university officials either have or plan to reach out to the victims.

Columbia police Officer Latisha Stroer, a department spokeswoman, ended the news conference by again requesting community assistance “so we can bring these people into custody as soon as possible.”

**MISSOURIAN**

**Recent armed robberies appear to target college-age students**

MEG VATTEROTT, 14 hrs ago
COLUMBIA — Four armed robberies occurred on Tuesday, each targeting men between the ages of 21 and 24.

The robberies occurred between 12:55 a.m. and 11:45 p.m. Personal items were stolen each time. No injuries were reported.

The robberies prompted a joint press conference by Columbia Assistant Police Chief Jeremiah Hunter and MU Interim Chancellor Hank Foley on Wednesday afternoon in the City Council Chambers at city hall. Police did not allow questions at the end of the press conference.

"We understand that some of the victims are current or former students," Foley said, "and we have already reached out, or are reaching out to them via the appropriate channels to offer them our support."

Hunter asked for any tips about the robberies to be directed to 875-8477. No arrests have been made.

The Columbia Police Department did not release enough identifying characteristics of the suspects to report, per Missourian guidelines.

Foley said he has been working closely with the Columbia Police Department to support their investigation.

A Columbia Police Department press release gave brief descriptions of each reported robbery.

The first occurred just before 1 a.m. in the alley behind Gunter Hans, a restaurant on Hitt Street. The second occurred around 1:30 a.m. at the 2900 block of Old Hwy 63 South. Just before 11 p.m. police investigated a robbery at the intersection of Locust and Waugh streets. At 11:45 p.m. the final reported robbery occurred at the 1300 block of Wilkes Boulevard.

On Wednesday, Foley also sent an email to the campus with links to different safety documents, after the MU Police Department emailed a Clery Release.
Police report four armed robberies in Columbia in 24 hours

COLUMBIA, Mo. - The Columbia Police Department is investigating four armed robberies that happened on July 12 between 12:55 a.m. and 11:45 p.m.

Police said they believe the incidents are connected and the suspects seem to be targeting college aged men. Officials said some of the victims are current or former students at the University of Missouri.

"At this time, we're asking the community for their help in identifying the suspects in the cases," said Assistant Chief Jeremiah Hunter.

The first armed robbery happened in the alley behind Gunter Hans restaurant at 12:55 a.m.

CPD said two men were robbed at gunpoint by two black men.

The second incident happened in the 2900 block Old Highway 63 South at 1:31 a.m.

According to police, two men were outside an apartment in the area when they were also robbed at gunpoint by two black men.

The victims weren't hurt during the robbery. The suspects were last seen running north.

Another armed robbery was reported at 10:55 p.m. on Wednesday at Locust and Waugh Street.

The 21-year-old male victim told police he was robbed by two black men wearing hooded sweatshirts. One of the men had a gun. They were last scene running away east on Locust Street.

The final armed robbery on July 12 was reported at 11:45 p.m. in the 1300 block of Wilkes Boulevard.

Three 22-year-old men told police they were walking near Lions Park when they saw a light colored car driving slowly around the park.

The victims said as they were walking back home, two black men got out of the car, one of them with a gun, and robbed them. The car took off northbound on College Avenue.
Police said they have no other descriptions for the suspects.

Interim Chancellor Hank Foley called the armed robberies "disturbing."

"The care for and safety of the entire campus community remains our number one responsibility," he said. "This is a commitment we have made to our students, to their parents, to faculty and others and one that I take extremely seriously."

Both MU and Columbia College sent out a clery release Wednesday to notify students and faculty about the recent armed robberies.

Major Brian Weimer with the University of Missouri Police Department said patrol officers are on the lookout for an suspicious activity.

He advises students to walk in pairs, in well-lit areas and to report and suspicious activity to police.

Anyone with information regarding the armed robberies is asked to call the Columbia Police Department or CrimeStoppers at 573-875-TIPS to remain anonymous.

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**Four armed robberies similar in nature on Tuesday**

COLUMBIA - College-aged males should be on the look out after four armed robberies targeted the demographic. The Columbia Police Department and University of Missouri Interim Chancellor Hank Foley spoke at the city council chambers about the four crimes.

The crimes took place between the hours of 12:55 a.m. and 11:45 p.m. on Tuesday July 12, 2016. Here is a brief description of the crimes:

- 12:55 a.m. - Armed robbery of two victims behind the Gunter Hans Restaurant on Hitt Street
- 1:13 a.m. - Armed robbery of two victims at the 2900 block of Old Highway 63 South
• 10:55 p.m. - Armed robbery of one victim at the corner of Locust Street and Waugh Street
• 11:45 p.m. - Armed robbery of three victims on the 1300 block of Wilkes Boulevard

Foley emphasized the importance of safety for University of Missouri students.

"The care for and safety of the entire campus community remains our number one responsibility. This is a commitment that we have made to our students, to their parents, to faculty and others and one that I take extremely seriously," Foley said.

The university will continue to work with the police department throughout the investigation.

The Columbia Police Department urges anyone with information to contact them.
director at Akron from 2005-09, and worked in the athletic departments at UTEP, Marquette and Yale.

“I look forward to the opportunity to join Baylor University at this important time in its history,” Rhoades said in a statement. “I am excited to support and develop programs of the highest caliber, in facilities that are second to none, alongside coaches who are among the best in the industry, all grounded in a Christian tradition and committed to academic excellence.”

Baylor plans to formally introduce during a news conference Monday.

Much has changed at Missouri in Rhoades’ 15 months on the job.

Student protests on campus over social issues and racial tensions spilled over into the athletic department last season when the football team essentially went on strike in support of the protesters, who were demanding the resignation of university systems President Tim Wolfe. Former coach Gary Pinkel and Rhoades stood by the players, who in the end didn’t miss any practice time, much less a game. Both the president and school chancellor, R. Bowen Loftin, resigned.

“The past year has taught me a great deal about who I am as a person and as a leader,” Rhoades said in a statement. “I am very grateful to the people I’ve worked with and come to know throughout the state of Missouri. The experience has helped galvanized a commitment to my core values and to the values I want to infuse into an athletics program.”

Pinkel retired after last season and announced he was fighting cancer. Permanent replacements for Wolfe and Loftin, who hired Rhoades, have not been hired.

Rhoades promoted defensive coordinator and former Missouri player Barry Odom to head coach, but the school, athletic department and Rhoades have faced continuing criticism from fans, boosters and state lawmakers for their handling of the players’ threatened boycott. Rhoades also had to hire a new baseball coach and dealt with a Title IX office investigation of softball coach Ehren Earleywine.

The announcement of Rhoades’ departure to Baylor came on the same day Missouri was one of the teams appearing at SEC football media days in Hoover, Alabama.

“He’s got an opportunity that he thought was best for him and I know that I’m very, very excited about the University of Missouri and what I’ve got in place with my staff from a football program standpoint,” said Odom, who had a long discussion with Rhoades on Tuesday night. “I absolutely know we’ll get a great director of athletics in here. The things we’ve done in the last eight months are going to set us up for the next 20 years.”

Baylor is facing at least three federal lawsuits brought by women who claim the school was indifferent to or ignored claims of sexual assault and didn’t enforce federal gender discrimination protections under Title IX. When Baylor released its report May 26, school regents suspended
Briles “with intent to terminate.” The school and Briles mutually agreed to part ways a month later.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR MACK RHOADES LEAVING MIZZOU FOR SAME JOB AT BAYLOR

It’s been a tumultuous 15 months for Mizzou under Rhoades’ leadership

Baylor’s had its own woes: Its AD resigned after a sexual-assault scandal

BY TOD PALMER
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HOOVER, ALA. - First-year Missouri coach Barry Odom’s debut at the Southeastern Conference football media days was overshadowed Wednesday by the surprise departure of athletic director Mack Rhoades.

Less than 15 months after Rhoades arrived in Columbia as Mike Alden’s successor, he is returning to Texas as Baylor’s new vice president and director of athletics, a stunning revelation only two hours before Odom took the podium for the first time at the SEC’s annual preseason media blitzkrieg.

“I met with (interim) Chancellor (Hank) Foley this morning to inform him of my decision,” Rhoades said in a statement from the Mizzou athletic department. “...While my family is excited to start this new chapter in our lives, we do so with great appreciation for our time at Mizzou.”

That appreciation may not be reciprocated given the rocky nature of Rhoades’ brief tenure.

A rising star in the athletic administration world, Rhoades’ hiring was cheered in the spring of 2015 when Mizzou lured him away from Houston — where he’d made major facilities improvements, established a reputation as an ace fundraiser and boosted the football, basketball and baseball programs to prominence.
His tenure at Missouri, however, will be best remembered for the football boycott last November and Gary Pinkel’s resignation less than a week later, one of the most tumultuous times in the history of Tigers athletics.

Missouri linebacker Michael Scherer addresses dealing with distractions such as the departure of Athletic Director Mack Rhoades.

Amid racial protests on campus, the football team’s involvement drew so much national scrutiny that University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe and MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin both resigned within two days.

Rhoades’ tenure also will be remembered for the athletic department’s investigation into alleged verbal abuse by coach Ehren Earleywine.

The investigation, which morphed into a still-unresolved Title IX inquiry, prompted a weeklong protest by the Tigers’ softball team and called for Rhoades’ resignation in early May.

It’s unclear if those issues hastened Rhoades’ departure from Columbia, where he said he hoped to retire. He called Mizzou “a destination job” during his introductory news conference.

Baylor is embroiled in a sexual assault scandal that cost its football coach, president and athletic director their jobs, but clearly that wasn’t a deal-breaker for Rhoades.

“I look forward to the opportunity to join Baylor University at this important time in its history,” Rhoades said. “I am excited to support and develop programs of the highest caliber, in facilities that are second to none, alongside coaches who are among the best in the industry, all grounded in a Christian tradition and committed to academic excellence.”

Among other significant decisions, Rhoades hired Odom, retained men’s basketball coach Kim Anderson after a pair of lackluster seasons and replaced longtime baseball coach Tim Jamieson last month after extending his contract the previous June.

Rhoades introduced former Southeast Missouri coach Steve Bieser as the Tigers’ new baseball coach last week.

Now, Rhoades is gone.

By midafternoon, Baylor announced the hiring of Rhoades, who spent six years before coming to Missouri as the University of Houston’s athletic director.

“The past year has taught me a great deal about who I am as a person and as a leader,” Rhoades said in a statement from Baylor announcing his hiring. “I am very grateful to the people I’ve worked with and come to know throughout the state of Missouri. The experience has helped
galvanized a commitment to my core values and to the values I want to infuse into an athletics program.”

He just won’t implement that vision at Missouri, which announced self-imposed sanctions for the men’s basketball team in January as a result of an NCAA investigation that predates Rhoades’ arrival. Asked if he was blindsided by the news, Odom said, “I was surprised, yeah,” but he wasn’t able to offer any insight into Rhoades’ decision.

“We didn’t get into that all,” Odom said. “He said the decision had been made. We discussed it a little bit, but I didn’t ask why. I didn’t want to get into that.”

Tigers senior linebacker Michael Scherer’s initial reaction to news of Rhoades’ departure was an incredulous: “Really? He just got here. … I don’t have many answers for you on Mack. It’s so new, and he wasn’t around long.”

A central piece in Rhoades’ vision for Missouri athletics was renovations either at Memorial Stadium or the Mizzou Athletics Training Complex. It’s unclear what impact Rhoades’ departure will have on those projects, but Odom seemed optimistic.

“We’ve got some great plans on breaking ground on that construction,” Odom said. “If it gets held up because of this, it won’t be for long.”

Of course, that decision won’t be made by Rhoades anymore.

“I absolutely know that we’ll get a great director of athletics in there, and the things we’ve done in the last eight months are going to set us up for the next 20 years,” Odom said.

None of it is likely to affect Rhoades’ legacy, which mostly will be noted for its brevity and smattering of embarrassing headlines.

“While I am disappointed for Mizzou, I am happy for Mack and his family,” Foley said in a statement from Mizzou athletics. “During our time working together, I’ve grown to admire and respect Mack’s leadership. He has moved the needle significantly, and we are well-positioned moving forward.”

Foley appointed deputy director of athletics Wren Baker as the interim athletics director. He previously served as athletics director at Northwest Missouri State and Rogers State in Oklahoma before working two years as a deputy athletic director at Memphis.
“My first question was, ‘Well, we’ll get a new athletic director, but who’s responsible for hiring that?’ ” Scherer said.

Missouri football coach Barry Odom comments on surprise departure of athletic director Mack Rhoades to Baylor.

The university still has an interim system president, Michael Middleton, and interim chancellor, Foley, as a result of the fallout from the racial protests last fall.

Missouri’s board of curators also has three provisional members, including Jon Sundvold, who were appointed last month by Gov. Jay Nixon.

Sundvold and the other appointees from last month, Mary Nelson of St. Louis and Thomas Voss of Eureka, would have to be approved for a full term in January after Nixon is out of office.

Senior linebacker Michael Scherer and senior tight end Sean Culkin react to news Wednesday that Missouri athletic director Mack Rhoades would resign and take the same post at Baylor during SEC Football Media Days in Hoover, Ala.

Despite the turmoil and uncertainty, Odom — a 1999 Mizzou graduate who has spent most of his coaching career on the Tigers’ staff in various capacities — isn’t too worried about the school’s future.

“I feel really strongly about where Mizzou is headed, moving forward,” Odom said. “I feel strongly about our football program and what we’re going to get done and get accomplished and the direction that we’re going to have on campus in leadership. Mizzou’s been around since 1839. There’s been some good and some bad, and it’s going to be around a whole lot longer than any of us are.”

As for the Tigers’ football team, Rhoades’ departure is a blip on the radar.

“It kind of caught me off guard, right? But at the end of the day ... we’ve just got to focus on football,” senior tight end Sean Culkin said. “How we operate and what we do on a day-to-day basis isn’t going to change.”

**Mack Rhoades timeline at Missouri**

Key events at Missouri during Mack Rhoades’ 15 months on the job in Columbia:

**March 9, 2015:** Mizzou hires Rhoades away from same job at the University of Houston.

**Nov. 7, 2015:** Tigers football team announces a boycott ahead of BYU at Arrowhead Stadium.
Nov. 9, 2015: Missouri System President Tim Wolfe and MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin resign amid racial unrest.

Nov. 13, 2015: Football coach Gary Pinkel announces plans to retire at season’s end.

Dec. 3, 2015: Rhoades promotes defensive coordinator Barry Odom as Pinkel’s successor.

Jan. 13: Mizzou announces self-imposed sanctions on men’s basketball team amid NCAA investigation.

Jan. 28: Quarterback Maty Mauk dismissed from MU football team.

March 9: MU announces intent to retain men’s basketball coach Kim Anderson.

May 7: Softball team announces protest of investigation into coach Ehren Earleywine’s for alleged verbal abuse of players.

June 11: Baseball coach Tim Jamieson resigns after missing fourth straight NCAA postseason.

July 1: Rhoades introduces ex-Southeast Missouri coach Steve Bieser as new baseball coach.

Wednesday: Rhoades’ tenure at MU ends as he leaves Mizzou for the same job at Baylor.

Rhoades leaving Missouri for Baylor

By Joe Walljasper

Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 2:23 pm

After 14 rocky months as Missouri’s athletic director, Mack Rhoades is leaving Missouri for Baylor, both schools announced Wednesday.

The news was first reported by PowerMizzou.com.

"While my family is excited to start this new chapter in our lives, we do so with great appreciation for our time at Mizzou," Rhoades said in a news release. "We've met many wonderful people and made lasting friendships. I believe the athletic department has a very bright future."

[Image of Columbia Daily Tribune logo]
Missouri announced that Rhoades’ former deputy AD, Wren Baker, will be the interim athletic director and that a nationwide search would be conducted for his replacement.

Rhoades said in the statement that he informed MU interim Chancellor Hank Foley of his decision Wednesday morning. Missouri football Coach Barry Odom, speaking at Southeastern Conference media days in Hoover, Ala., said Rhoades told him he was leaving during a lengthy conversation Tuesday night.

"He got an opportunity that he thought was best for him," Odom said. "I know that I'm very, very excited about the University of Missouri."

The announcement is the latest in a series of shakeups that has left the Missouri athletic department and the university administration barely recognizable compared to the one that began the last school year.

Rhoades wanting to escape the chaos that has enveloped the university and athletic department in the last year was not a surprise, but the destination was. Baylor is one of the few universities with even more recent controversy than Missouri. Baylor’s president, athletic director and football coach all lost their jobs after an independent investigation determined they failed to respond appropriately to numerous physical and sexual assaults by football players.

Rhoades came to Missouri from the University of Houston on March 9, 2015, as the replacement for Mike Alden, who served the previous 17 years.

“Amy and I and the three girls are moving to Columbia, Missouri, with the intent that this is our last job,” Rhoades said at the time. “This is a destination place.”

It turned out to be a port in a storm. Although he arrived with a reputation as a strong fundraiser who got an on-campus football facility built at Houston, Rhoades’ tenure at MU was spent almost exclusively in crisis management.

He and former football Coach Gary Pinkel were caught off guard on Nov. 7 when 32 football players announced on social media that they had joined forces with the Concerned Student 1950 protest group and would boycott all football activities until University System President Tim Wolfe left office. The players were upset about Wolfe’s perceived unresponsiveness to recent racial incidents on campus.

The next day, Pinkel announced he supported his players, and on Nov. 9 Wolfe resigned. Pinkel and Rhoades said they supported the players’ concerns about the health of hunger striker Jonathan Butler and were not siding against Wolfe, but regardless, the decision fractured Missouri’s fan base and led to a firestorm in Jefferson City, where Republican legislators threatened to cut funding to the university.

Later that week, Pinkel announced he was retiring for health reasons, ending a successful 15-year run. Shortly after turning to Odom as Pinkel’s replacement, Rhoades revealed that Missouri’s struggling basketball program was under NCAA investigation for alleged violations committed
during Coach Frank Haith’s tenure. Missouri imposed a postseason ban and scholarship reductions but has yet to hear final word from the NCAA on its punishment.

Rhoades then had to decide whether to retain basketball Coach Kim Anderson, who inherited a mess from Haith but has had two straight last-place finishes in the SEC and a wave of player defections. Rhoades didn’t give Anderson any votes of confidence during the season and waited four days after the season before announcing he would return.

In April, Rhoades initiated an investigation of the softball program and Coach Ehren Earleywine after receiving complaints from players. The investigation was handed off to MU’s Title IX office and has yet to be resolved, leaving Earleywine’s job status in doubt. A group of Missouri softball players who supported Earleywine announced before the penultimate regular-season home game that they were playing in protest of Rhoades for an investigation they considered a witch hunt. The rift dominated the headlines, and Missouri fans wore shirts supporting Earleywine to MU’s NCAA regional home games.

Some current and former MU softball players expressed delight at Rhoades' departure on Twitter.

"So excited," junior third baseman Amanda Sanchez wrote.

"Whatever happened to facing your problems, not running from them? Especially ones that you create," senior designated player Chloe Rathburn wrote.

"Hit the rhoade Mack," former outfielder Emily Crane tweeted.

Timothy Waid, an associate teaching professor at Missouri who is a member of Missouri’s Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, hailed Rhoades’ departure, too.

“From my personal perspective, and, the perspective of many of the constituents that I am in dialogue with, Mr. Rhoades’s resignation is a positive step toward re-establishing the levels of excellence at Mizzou that the IAC and the Athletic Department are accustomed to when transformational leadership is exhibited,” Waid wrote in an email to IAC chairwoman Leigh Neier that he also sent to Rhoades, other IAC members and the Tribune.

Rhoades last significant act was ushering out baseball Coach Tim Jamieson after 22 years on the job and hiring Southeast Missouri State’s Steve Bieser as his replacement.

“The past year has taught me a great deal about who I am as a person and as a leader," Rhoades said in a Baylor news release. “I am very grateful to the people I’ve worked with and come to know throughout the state of Missouri. The experience has helped galvanized a commitment to my core values and to the values I want to infuse into an athletics program.”

As for Rhoades' replacement at Missouri, Baker could be a candidate for the full-time job. Another name that has frequently been mentioned as an AD candidate is former basketball player
Jon Sundvold, although he was recently appointed as a member of the university’s Board of Curators, a position he will hold until January.

There are also members of Alden’s athletic director tree who could be considered. Whit Babcock is currently the athletic director at Virginia Tech, Ross Bjork is the AD at Mississippi and Mario Moccia is in charge at New Mexico State. Mark Alnutt, an associate athletic director at Memphis who has AD experience from his time at Southeast Missouri State, also could be a candidate.

"I think this hire is even more important than the one that followed Alden, just because it is kind of turbulent," said Brian Smith, who is preparing for his 19th season as Missouri's wrestling coach. "So they’re going to have to find the exact fit – not the exact, but the right one that really loves Mizzou and wants to be here."

Rhoades' departure means that instability at the top of university will continue. The man who hired Rhoades, Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin, stepped down under pressure on the same day Wolfe resigned in November. So the University of Missouri currently has an interim president, an interim chancellor and an interim athletic director.

"I honestly believe there’s been a lack of leadership throughout the whole school," Smith said. "We don’t have a chancellor. Everybody’s got ‘interim’ on them."

That fact wasn't lost on Missouri senior linebacker Michael Scherer, one of Missouri's three player representatives in Hoover.

“That was my first question. ... I’m like, ‘Well, we’re getting a new athletic director. Who’s responsible for hiring that?’” Scherer said. "I thought about all of that. I said, ‘Do we have any sort of leadership?’ They said, ‘Well, we have interim guys.’ I said, ‘Well, that’s good.’ But the people who have those’ interim "jobs and those positions are there for a reason, and I’m sure they will get it all figured out.”

The list of interim titles among administrators can't be a comforting feeling for any coach, but Odom said he wasn't overly concerned about administrative stability.

"Maybe I haven't been in it long enough," Odom said, "but, no, I'm not worried about it. The football program and my situation, I'm very confident in the job I'm going to do."

Most of Missouri's coaches didn't learn of Rhoades' plans until after the news broke. Smith and Missouri volleyball Coach Wayne Kreklow said Sarah Reesman, an executive associate athletic director, called them Wednesday afternoon to tell him the news. Rhoades then met with some coaches who were on campus.

"It wasn't something I was expecting by any means or anticipating," Kreklow said. "Obviously, I think like a lot of other people, I was surprised. Obviously a lot of stuff has been going on this past year, and he's been pretty wrapped up and pretty tied up with a lot of that stuff."
Kreklow said that although public perception seems to be that the sky is falling at MU, he believes the athletic department is on solid footing, but he acknowledged it's been tough to change the prevailing narrative. Kreklow said he thought Rhoades could have guided Missouri through some of the choppy waters had he stayed longer.

Odom and the three Missouri players in Hoover fielded several questions regarding Rhoades' departure. Scherer said he learned of Rhoades' exit plans in the afternoon, after the news broke.

“I said, ‘Really? He just got here,'” Scherer said.

**MISSOURIAN**

**Mack Rhoades is leaving MU**

MISSOURIAN STAFF, 14 hrs ago

**Mack Rhoades is leaving his position as Missouri athletics director and will take a similar position at Baylor University.**

Rhoades will be introduced to the media at a press conference in Waco, Texas, on Monday. He took over as Missouri athletics director in April 2015.

"I met with Chancellor Foley (Interim Missouri Chancellor Hank Foley) this morning to inform him of my decision to accept the Vice President and Director of Athletics position at Baylor University," Rhoades said in a statement.

"While my family is excited to start this new chapter in our lives, we do so with great appreciation for our time at Mizzou. We've met many wonderful people and made lasting relationships. I believe the athletics department has a very bright future.

"I would also like to thank Chancellor Foley for his leadership the past few months. I have great respect and appreciation for his passion and integrity. I'm also most appreciative of our coaches and staff. Their commitment to providing the best experience for our student-athletes is second to none. Lastly, thank you to the alumni, donors, and fans. Your support of Mizzou is
tremendous. The coaches, staff, and most importantly the student-athletes are deserving of your continued support."

Foley, at an unrelated press conference Wednesday afternoon, said he couldn't confirm or deny a report that Rhoades was leaving.

Later, the interim chancellor released his own statement.

"Mack Rhoades informed me in a conversation this morning that he has accepted the position of Vice President and Director of Athletics at Baylor University," Foley said.

"While I am disappointed for Mizzou, I am happy for Mack and his family. During our time working together, I've grown to admire and respect Mack's leadership. He has moved the needle significantly and we are well-positioned moving forward. We will be launching a national search for our next Director of Athletics and details will follow in the coming days. I've asked Wren Baker to serve as our interim Director of Athletics upon Mack's departure. Wren has been an Athletic Director at two institutions and has an impressive background and will bring stability to the athletic department. We have a remarkable tradition of success but our future is even brighter because of the support of many alumni and friends of the university."

Baker is MU's deputy director of athletics. He started on the job in June of last year.

At SEC Football Media Days in Hoover, Alabama, head Missouri football coach Barry Odom acknowledged that Rhoades will be leaving the school.

Odom said he talked to Rhoades on Tuesday night and said he was unaware of Rhoades' decision prior to that.

"I'm not naive enough to know that there's not ever going to be change," Odom said in a interview on the SEC Network. "My singular focus is on making sure that our football team is ready to go in 52 days."
Baylor cut ties with former athletic director Ian McCaw and head football coach Art Briles in May after an investigation into the school's handling of complaints of sexual assault.

Missouri Athletic Director to leave, take over at Baylor

COLUMBIA - Missouri Athletic Director Mack Rhoades will leave the university to take over as the vice president and director of athletics at Baylor University.

KOMU 8 Sports Director Chris Gervino confirmed the move Thursday.

After 14 months at Missouri, Rhoades will walk into a Baylor program in the wake of a sexual assault scandal that saw the removal of both its athletic director and head football coach.

"While my family is excited to start this new chapter in our lives, we do so with great appreciation for our time at Mizzou... Thank you to the fans... The coaches, staff, and student-athletes are deserving of your continued support," Rhoades said via press release.

Many former Missouri athletes reacted to Rhoades leaving, such as Former Missouri wide receiver Jeremy Maclin.

"I normally don't speak on stuff like this but glad Mack left... we are a different breed in Como. It's family first he lacked that mentality," Maclin said on Twitter.

Rhoades will have an introductory press conference at Baylor on July 18.
Emotional support animals cause legal limbo

We’re accustomed to seeing people with disabilities accompanied by service animals, such as seeing-eye dogs. The Americans with Disabilities Act recognizes service animals as those trained to serve a specific disability-related function.

Lately, however, a growing number of people are asking mental health professionals to certify “emotional support animals,” which are not recognized by the ADA and have little to no specific training.

Cassie Boness, a graduate student in clinical psychology in the University of Missouri’s department of psychological sciences, says these requests for certification for emotional support animals present several potential conflicts for mental health professionals.

“There are no standards for evaluating the need for an emotional support animal, whereas there are concrete rules to determine if someone is eligible for a service animal,” Boness says. “These emotional support animal letters are formal certifications of psychological disability, and the psychotherapist is stating, by writing such a letter, that the person needing the emotional support animal has such a disability and that the presence of the animal addresses that disability.”

Although emotional support animals can be pets, they are not considered pets under the law, and special accommodations must be afforded to individuals who need emotional support animals to assist them psychologically. For example, housing that prohibits pets must allow emotional support animals and waive any fees or pet deposits. The Air Carrier Access Act requires airlines to allow service animals and emotional support animals to accompany their handlers in the main cabin of an aircraft.

“Part of the reason this is becoming problematic is that service animals are highly trained, so when they are brought into public spaces they do not cause problems,” Boness says. “But emotional support animals can be certified through an online process, and they can be someone’s pet.”
“People have taken their pet pigs onto airplanes, and there have even been emotional support snakes and turkeys. The growing use of emotional support animals tends to discredit the use of service animals, which is where much of the tension comes from since people do not understand the difference.”

She says mental health professionals who certify emotional support animals also face potential legal ramifications. “The psychotherapist is stating that the person needing the emotional support animal has a disability and that the presence of the animal addresses it,” Boness says. “However, if a pet owner asks a psychologist to certify a dog as an ESA allowing the pet in the owner’s apartment—and then that pet bites a child—the psychologist might have to go to court to defend her decision if the landlord challenges it. Legally, they’d be implicated.”

For now, Boness recommends that therapeutic psychologists—those who treat patients—do not issue certifications to their patients for emotional support animals. Instead, they should refer those services to someone such as a forensic psychologist, who serves more of an administrative function (an expert witness in court, for example).

Boness is a coauthor of the study in the journal *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*. She worked with Jeffrey Younggren, a forensic psychologist and clinical professor at the University of Missouri, and Jennifer Boisvert, who has a private practice in Beverly Hills, California. Boness says she and Younggren are now working to develop guidelines for mental health professionals who want to certify emotional support animals.

**MISSOURIAN**

**Marching Mizzou appoints first female band director**

REBECCA FERMAN, 13 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — The band will play on.

The MU School of Music hired Erin Cooper as the first female director of Marching Mizzou. The former director, Brad Snow, is now the director of the athletic band at Missouri State University.

Cooper's first day on the campus will be on July 18, and she's already thinking about the future.

In an email, Cooper wrote that she hopes to provide "students with performance opportunities that they could not have elsewhere, and being a part of the SEC is certainly a place to do that."
Cooper will also be the only female athletic band director in the SEC, according to a MU press release.

"It is very exciting, but also very humbling," Cooper wrote. "I have been striving to be a college band director for most of my life, but no one sets out to be the first to do something. However, it is certainly not a distinction I take lightly."

Julia Gaines, director of the MU School of Music, said Cooper is prepared for the job, which includes creating up to six halftime shows for football games, choreographing movements on the field, teaching a course on marching band techniques, and conducting concert ensembles.

"From what we've seen, she's very energetic, well-organized, knowledgeable, and hardworking," Gaines said.

Andrew Hopkins, a drum major for Marching Mizzou, said he is looking forward to working with Cooper.

"I think it's very exciting to have the only female band director in the SEC," Hopkins said. "I think this will be a year that allows us as a band, as well as university, to show what we are made of."

Prior to being hired, Cooper worked in Durant, Oklahoma as the Director of Bands for Southeastern Oklahoma State University. While there, she directed the marching band, pit orchestra, pep band, and wind ensemble, and taught various music courses.

Cooper earned an undergraduate degree in music education from James Madison University, a Master's in instrumental conducting performance from the University of Delaware, and a doctor of musical arts in wind conducting from the University of Alabama.

Marching Mizzou was founded in 1885 and performs at both home and away football games. They have performed across Missouri and the United States. In March, they performed in Dublin, Ireland.

The band is the largest student organization on campus, with over 300 auditioned members for the upcoming school year.
"Marching band in general is the epitome of teamwork, collaboration, and hard work," Gaines wrote.

Cooper shared a similar sentiment.

"Most people that have been a part of a college band are still close to their fellow band members many years after they graduate," Cooper wrote. "I hope that I can create that same experience and environment for the students in Marching Mizzou."

**THE KANSAS CITY STAR.**

**JULY 13, 2016 8:43 PM**

**Republican candidates for Missouri governor pledge support for permitless concealed carry, stand your ground law**

All four say they would have signed the bill eliminating training for carrying a concealed firearm.

The group also all criticized Gov. Jay Nixon’s response to unrest in Ferguson in 2014 and Mizzou last year.

**BY JASON HANCOCK**

[jhancock@kcstar.com](mailto:jhancock@kcstar.com)

All four Republican candidates for Missouri governor said Wednesday night that they’d have signed a bill eliminating training requirements for carrying a concealed firearm and establishing a so-called “stand your ground” law.

Businessman John Brunner, former Navy SEAL Eric Greitens, former Missouri House speaker Catherine Hanaway and Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder shared the stage Wednesday in a debate moderated by KMOV-TV in St. Louis, KCTV in Kansas City and The Kansas City Star.
The first half of the debate focused on gun laws, last week’s police shootings and unrest in recent years both in Ferguson and on the Columbia campus of the University of Missouri.

Each candidate panned Democratic Gov. Jay Nixon’s response to the unrest in Ferguson, saying he failed to build relationships in the community that could have staved off the violence that followed the shooting death of Michael Brown at the hands of a white police officer.

Kinder said healing these wounds will take “a governor who has the relationships in these communities that I’ve spent years building.”

Both Hanaway and Greitens said they would have established a curfew in Ferguson much sooner than Nixon eventually did.

But Hanaway went a step further, pledging her support for police body cameras, an idea that has run into resistance in the Republican-dominated Missouri Legislature for several years.

On the subject of the University of Missouri, and the protest that gripped the campus last year, Brunner called for the “lame duck” board of curators appointed by Nixon to stop their search for a new university president and wait for the next governor to appoint a new board.

“The number one problem is leadership,” Brunner said. “That was the problem in Ferguson, that’s the problem at the University of Missouri.”

Hanaway joined the lawmakers who have called for the revocation of scholarships of Mizzou football players who went on strike last year in protest of how several racist incidents were handled on campus.

If you are given a scholarship to play football, she said, “you should play football.”

On the subject of guns, Kinder said he’s long been a champion of 2nd Amendment rights, and argued that if any of his Republican opponents win the nomination that Democrat Chris Koster will win the endorsement of the NRA this fall.

Koster, Missouri’s attorney general and the presumptive Democratic nominee for governor, won the NRA endorsement in 2012 and has also said he would have signed the bill removing training requirements for concealed carry of a firearm.

Wednesday’s debate was a largely civil affair, with most of the fireworks left until the very end.

Greitens accused Brunner of being behind an anonymous video attacking his military service. After first joking the allegation off, Brunner closed the debate by denying the charge and
attacking Greitens for accepting $1 million in donations from a California businessman who’s accused of keeping a woman as a sex slave for 13 years.

Greitens repeatedly noted that he was the only candidate in the race who has never run for office before, arguing that he is the only candidate who will take on a “failed status quo” in Missouri’s government.

Republican voters will chose one of the four to be their nominee for governor on Aug. 2.

MU Black Studies Department hosts open mic night to talk about race
PAULA TREDWAY AND MARY-PATRICK WHITE, 8 hrs ago

COLUMBIA—Stephanie Shonekan, chair of MU’s Black Studies Department, played Public Enemy’s "Fear of a Black Planet" to an audience of several dozen people.

They were asked to listen to the lyrics. Then they were asked to think about what those lyrics mean to them personally.

Throughout the course of the two-hour event held on Wednesday evening, 15 people stood on a stage at The Shack in the MU Student Center and shared their interpretations.

The MU Black Studies Department hosted the event, called "Fear of a Black Planet," to offer a space for people to share their feelings and reactions on the recent police shootings and speak about race issues in general.

“I’m really treasuring your presence, I’m so glad you came out to an event called 'Fear of a Black Planet,'” Shonekan said. "It’s a pretty ambiguous and important topic and an important title and we named this event intentionally because we felt that we needed to confront this notion of fear."
The last verse of the song ends a question to the listener: "I question those accused. Why is this fear of black from white influence who you choose?"

To Alyssa Adolph, 14, the lyrics made her think about America's history of slavery and how it has impacted who she is today.

"My skin, which has once represented great power, intelligence and beauty, has become scarred from woundings and brutal beatings of my ancestors," Alyssa said.

For Triphonie Hafashimana, who moved to the United States from Congo eight years ago, the song had an encouraging message to engage in communication about racial divisions.

"I didn't know there was race until I came to the U.S.," Hafashimana said. "The only way to stop it is by speaking about it - and I say we start speaking now."

MU's black studies department hosts open mic night

COLUMBIA - The University of Missouri's Department of Black Studies put on an open mic night Wednesday on MU's campus. The event was called "Fear of a Black Planet", which comes from the popular 90s group Public Enemy.

Stephanie Shonekan, chair of the department of black studies, said they decided the event was necessary after multiple police shootings involving black people. She said this event is a good way to pause and come together to discuss what has been going on in the last couple of weeks.
"Why we fear a black planet, what it is that we fear about black people, and the aspects of black humanity, why people are frightened by it," Shonekan said.

"I think it will give Columbia a chance to, one, be part of the conversation, and then two be part of the awareness building," Shonekan said.

Audience members who wanted to speak put their names in a hat to be chosen at random.

Shonekan said she is always trying to do events like this one so people can build awareness and knowledge.

The event was posted on the black studies website for those who could not come because of weather or because they were nervous about the event.

Susan Empson, a faculty member at the MU College of Education, said she came to the event because she wanted to listen and learn.

"Any opportunity that is provided for members of the community, whether it's through the university or Columbia, to listen, to learn, to get to know each other, is positive, and I think it has to become a way of life," Empson said.

**MISSOURIAN**

**Aliki Barnstone: A journey of discovery through poetry**

STEPHANIE SANDOVAL, 1 hr ago

COLUMBIA — Pride and delight animated Elli Tzalopoulou-Barnstone as she talked about her daughter the poet.

"She is very sociable. We always have guests for dinner. We always dance in our house. We enjoy life," Tzalopoulou-Barnstone said in a FaceTime interview on July 1 from Greece, where they live every summer.

A few minutes later, Aliki Barnstone walked in from the kitchen and handed her mother a bowl of white peaches.
“The best peaches in the world,” Tzalopoulou-Barnstone said. “Here, have some.” With a laugh, she held the bowl closer to the phone screen.

“It’s like eating the smell of roses,” her daughter said from behind her.

Language is a life force for Aliki Barnstone. Through poetry, she shows compassion and empathy. Her sense of wonder, close observation of the natural world and a drive to create new work have opened up opportunities and friendships.

"She has the ability to bring in the vastness of the world and do it well," her friend and fellow poet, Cornelius Eady, said.

On June 30, Barnstone, an MU professor of English, was named Missouri’s fourth poet laureate by Gov. Jay Nixon. When Barnstone found out, she announced it on her Facebook page and said she could not stop smiling.

“I was really happy. I was giddy,” she said from Greece. "I was just totally elated."

Barnstone's life with words came naturally during a childhood with artistic parents and a creative environment.

“I started writing when I was a very small child,” Barnstone said. "I can’t remember not writing."

She spent her childhood writing and making art. She was born in New Haven, Connecticut, and grew up in Bloomington, Indiana. In the summers, she and her two brothers, Robert and Tony, lived in Brandon, Vermont, with their parents. Tony Barnstone is also a poet.

“My mom wanted us to have creative lives, and so when we spent summers in Vermont, she didn’t let us have TV,” Barnstone said. "We wrote, painted, read, played card games, chess and checkers, and walked in the fields."

“We all learned if you have an imagination, then you have no reason to be bored,” Barnstone said.
Listening to her daughter talk, Tzalopoulou-Barnstone yelled from across the room: “No soda!”

Barnstone, 59, looked over at her mother. “Mommy, can you get me some water?” Barnstone asked, then faced her phone again. “Even when you’re close to 60, your mommy is still your mommy.”

Barnstone grew up in an actively creative house. Tzalopoulou-Barnstone is an artist, and her father, Willis Barnstone, is a poet who’s been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize four times.

“My mother also had a creative life as an artist,” Barnstone said. “My mother insisted that we haul a portable dishwasher with us in a trailer because she said otherwise she wouldn’t get any painting done.”

Barnstone’s first book of poems, ”The Real Tin Flower,” was published in 1968 by Crowell-Collier Press — she was 12. Her father had submitted the collection. Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Anne Sexton wrote the forward.

Barnstone said it was a big deal, because she was published at such a young age.

“It embarrassed me when other children knew about it because they thought I was different,” Barnstone said. “At school, I pretty much tried to hide the fact. Then it kind of became a part of who I am, and from then on I was known as a poet and identified as a poet.”

Her eighth book of poetry, ”Dwelling,” is due out this fall from Sheep Meadow Press.

Her mother, who is of Greek descent, said that when Barnstone was younger, her teacher asked her to read out loud to the class, but she refused because she was too shy.

“She was a serious young lady and she always wrote, and she wrote her first book when she was 9 and then published when she was 12,” Tzalopoulou-Barnstone said.

Barnstone said her love for nature was the most important thing her parents gave her and her siblings.

“What I like about my daughter is her sense and pleasure in nature,” Tzalopoulou-Barnstone said. “She knows all the names of the flowers and the birds and the trees. She describes them so they come to life.”
Talking Over the Racial Divide

How much can a half-semester course shift a lifetime of experience?

No MU Mention

The students started trying to understand one another by explaining the origins of their names, then conveying their cultural identity in three objects.

Mike, a sophomore criminal-justice major, said his Brazilian parents hoped his name would make him sound more American, "whatever that means," he added, smiling. He sat with his hands in his coat pockets and the zipper pulled up to his mouth on the first day of a course about race here at the University of Maryland, where the goal was to re-examine a lifetime of assumptions in two-hour shifts.

On the second day, Mike brought his objects in a Timberland box, from the boots he started wearing in North Newark, N.J., where lots of black and Hispanic kids did. The objects included a collection of press clippings about homicides in his neighborhood and a photograph of his 5-year-old nephew, Matthew, to help him remember his obligations back home.

Across from him sat Lindi, who grew up in Chevy Chase, Md., a wealthy suburb of Washington. She held up the bow hair clip she’d earned as captain of her high-school cheerleading team; a small box in the shape of Africa, because she had lived in South
Africa for the first month of her life; and a Hamsa, a symbol to ward off evil spirits she got on a free trip to Israel for young Jews.

"I didn’t realize how much of a minority I was until I was in the majority," she said of the trip. Back in the United States, she said, she tried to eat out on Easter but found restaurants closed.

On seven Tuesdays this spring, *The Chronicle* watched as 14 students met in a course dedicated to discussing race, a perennial, at times explosive issue on campuses and across the country. Maryland offers the course as part of an effort to make students more proficient with difference — to help them have thorny conversations on uncomfortable topics, see the value of other people’s experiences, and gain some perspective on their own. At least, that’s the hope. But how potent a tool can talk be?

Some students walked into the classroom here a long way off from racial consciousness. Most had enrolled simply to fill out their course load or check off a diversity requirement. A few had grown up in segregated neighborhoods and schools. But here was a rare opportunity to participate in a dialogue with peers from diverse backgrounds, facilitated by two instructors, Benjamin L. Parks, a white man, and Erica C. Smith, a black woman. The trajectory toward understanding would prove messy, halting, but — maybe, ultimately — revealing.

The class established ground rules: Keep it real. Be specific. Avoid making personal attacks. Assume good will. Dialogue-based courses developed at the University of Michigan in 1989 provided a model. To encourage frank discussion, *The Chronicle* agreed to use students’ first names.

"We want you to be able to have tough conversations," Mr. Parks told the class on the first day. "Learning can’t happen unless you get real."
The notion of a "safe space" is imprecise and counterproductive, many instructors of dialogue courses at Maryland believe. They prefer to think of their classrooms as courageous places where students aren’t afraid to express and hear things that make them uncomfortable. At first, that was a tall order for many of the students. Politeness reigned. Hearing about one another’s foreign and Americanized names or racial experiences, several retreated to the same noncommittal word, "interesting."

The exercise with the objects helped the students recognize their identities as complicated, multifaceted, and socially constructed. It also sparked some early connections. A Coptic Christian whose family came from Egypt sat near the daughter of El Salvadoran immigrants. Around the circle were a Cameroon-born, Maryland-raised budding journalist and a white sister of a Marine.

The son of frugal Chinese immigrants, who grew up owning one pair of shoes at time, carried his objects in the box that once held his prized pair of Kobe Bryant Nikes. He had bought the shoes to mark his progress up the economic ladder. Baye, a black senior majoring in American studies, leaned forward. His favorite NBA player, he said, was the Chinese star Yao Ming. It was one of the first bids at bridging difference.

Among the objects Baye (pronounced "Bye") shared was a tattoo on his right forearm: "I solemnly swear that I’m up to no good."

Sitting nearby, Sophie, a pale-skinned, half Iraqi Englishwoman, gaped. She recognized the vow of mischief from *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. Sometimes, she said, your assumptions about other people fail you.

"I never would’ve put you down as a Harry Potter fan," she told Baye.

He smiled. "I’m not what people usually think."
The story continues... http://chronicle.com/article/Talking-Over-the-Racial-Divide/237121