MU News Bureau

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MU creates division of inclusion, diversity, equity

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Generated from News Bureau press release: McDonald Announces Goals, Structure for Division of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity

The structure of the new Division of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity (IDE) at the University of Missouri was announced Monday.

Kevin McDonald, interim vice chancellor for Inclusion, Diversity and Equity, said working with the community as a new division at the University is a positive step forward.

“I’d like to thank Chuck Henson, Chancellor Foley, Provost Stokes, and others for their collaborative vision regarding this divisional structure, and I’m looking forward to working with this wonderful group of leaders from across campus that will now comprise this new Division,” McDonald said. “In an effort to chart a strategic direction for diversity and inclusion efforts at MU, the division will work collaboratively with faculty, staff, and students to create an overarching diversity framework aimed at connecting diversity and inclusion to organizational functioning areas.”

The new division will be made up of the Accessibility and ADA Education office, the Gaines-Oldham Black Culture Center, the LGBTQ Resource Center, the Multicultural Center, the Office of Civil Rights & Title IX, the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP) Center and the Women’s Center.

The Chancellor’s Diversity Initiative program and staff will also be folded into the new Division.

The IDE will have a budget of $1.5 million for the current fiscal year. Those funds will support and build infrastructure and create new initiatives.

“We’re fortunate that Mizzou has a good foundation with many diversity initiatives already in progress; we’ll be able to incorporate many of those resources, and leverage the skills, talents, and abilities of faculty, staff and students to help move our campus forward in transformative ways,” McDonald said.
Hanaway lays blame for University of Missouri protests at Nixon's feet

Gov. Jay Nixon is responsible for the protests that roiled the University of Missouri campus and the national unrest over race, Republican gubernatorial candidate Catherine Hanaway said Tuesday.

Nixon, a Democrat, restrained police in Ferguson after the shooting of black teen Michael Brown and called for the indictment of white police officer Darren Wilson rather than supporting law enforcement, she said.

“I do believe what happened in Ferguson led to the protests at the University of Missouri,” Hanaway said during an appearance before the Boone County Pachyderms. “He communicated by his failure to stand up for law enforcement that Missouri was open for protests. And it brought a professional protesting class to our state, and now this unrest has spread throughout the country.”

Hanaway is one of four Republicans seeking the GOP nomination for governor. A former Missouri House speaker and U.S. attorney, Hanaway drew about 30 people and said personal campaigning will provide the boost she needs to win the tight contest.

Attorney General Chris Koster has no major opponent in the Democratic primary. The four Republican candidates — Hanaway, Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder, retired businessman John Brunner and Navy veteran Eric Greitens — have combined to raise $23.8 million. The most recent donation to Greitens, the largest in Missouri history, has generated controversy for his campaign.

A committee called SEALs for Truth gave $1.975 million on Tuesday to Greitens. Formed as a committee reporting to the Federal Election Commission, the name of the donor or donors will be unknown until long after the Aug. 2 primary. Greitens has raised only 28.9 percent of his funding from Missouri donors, while 96.6 percent of Hanaway’s money is from inside the state.

Kinder has raised 65.1 percent of his funding in the state. Brunner has provided 82.4 percent of his campaign’s funds.
“I do not have a problem with the size of the check,” said Hanaway, who has received almost 68 percent of her $5.7 million from conservative activist Rex Sinquefield. “I believe in free enterprise, I believe in free speech, but I also believe very strongly in transparency. People can know who every single one of the donors is to my campaign.”

Kinder’s campaign issued a statement Wednesday morning about Greitens’ large donation. Kinder has denounced the use of unknown funding to attack Greitens, spokeswoman Pam Dixon noted, but the latest donation raises questions about Greitens’ commitment to transparency.

The committee, Dixon said, was “carefully formed and operated so that its funding source would remain hidden from Missouri voters.”

Most of the people attending Tuesday’s meeting said they supported Hanaway. Fred Parry, a candidate for Southern District commissioner, described Hanaway as direct and open.

“I like her style,” he said. “She doesn’t play a lot of games.”

Don Waterman, GOP candidate in the 46th House District, said Hanaway’s legislative experience attracted him.

“I’ve liked her message going back to Lincoln Days,” Waterman said.

Norm Lampton, president of the Pachyderms, said he is turned off by Greitens’ emphasis on his military record. Veterans don’t brag, he said.

“I kind of wish he would put that down,” Lampton said.

During a question-and-answer session, the University of Missouri came up again. Mark Langworthy asked Hanaway how she would make appointments to the UM System Board of Curators.

Many of Nixon’s appointees are attorneys. That is not a broad enough base, Hanaway said, adding that she would seek experts on health care administration, agriculture, engineering and business.

“It is, whether we like it or not, a great big business,” she said. “We are not applying those fundamentals of good management to the university at this point.”
Former A-B exec Mike Owens draws support for Mizzou AD job

COLUMBIA, MO. • More than 75 former University of Missouri football players and alumni have thrown support to former Mizzou player and former Anheuser-Busch executive Michael Owens for the school’s athletics director job. A list of former players and other alums endorsing Owens is growing by the week, sources confirmed.

In conjunction with the list of supporters, the Post-Dispatch obtained a letter to MU chancellor Hank Foley dated July 16 that endorses Owens, written by former A-B colleague Joseph Castellano.

Owens, 61 and retired in St. Louis, is not campaigning for the job but would listen if Mizzou shows interest.

“He loves the school,” Castellano said. “He wants the school to get a great AD. He didn’t ask to be a candidate and he’s a reluctant to get public now because he doesn’t want to circumvent whatever process there is. He just wants to respect the process. Is he interested or not interested? I think the way he’d answer that is, ‘Hey, if this makes sense for the university and for me, then we can go to the next step.’ He’s honored people unsolicited would throw his name in there.”

“I think he would be a great candidate,” Castellano added. “He’s a non-traditional candidate, obviously.”

An offensive lineman at Mizzou under coach Al Onofrio, Owens lettered from 1973-75. After his playing career, he worked in the Mizzou athletics department under AD Dave Hart. Owens then spent 27 years at Anheuser-Busch and served as the brewer’s vice president of sales and marketing and later as vice president of business
operations. In the 1980s, Owens was responsible for overseeing A-B’s expansion and makeover of the Soccer Park in Fenton. He left A-B in 2008 just as InBev was finalizing its purchase of the company.

Owens most recently served as president and chief operations officer of Gander Mountain, an outdoors retail chain based out of Minnesota. He retired from the company last fall.

It’s still early in Mizzou’s hiring process to replace Mack Rhoades, who was introduced as Baylor’s new AD on Monday. Foley is putting together a search committee to help with the process. A source confirmed that university system board of curators Phil Snowden, Jon Sundvold and former curator Don Walsworth have been tapped as committee members, though as many as three more people could join the committee, including at least two women with campus ties. The search committee was expected to begin exploring candidates this week. MU has also considered using a national search firm to help with the hiring process, a source said.

Owens has decades of experience in marketing and branding for one of the world’s most recognizable companies, but he’s a relative outsider to the world of college athletics administration. Other schools have made similar outside-the-industry hires to fill AD positions, most recently Syracuse, which just hired ESPN executive John Wildhack. Notre Dame AD Jack Swarbrick worked as a lawyer before coming to South Bend. Alabama AD Bill Battle had been a college coach but spent years in the business world before taking over Crimson Tide athletics in 2013. Former Michigan AD Dave Brandon had been the CEO of Dominoes Pizza when he came to Ann Arbor.

Foley has also received numerous calls and letters on behalf of Sundvold, a source said. A bumper sticker endorsing Sundvold is circulating among alums.

But it’s unclear if the former All-American basketball player wants to pursue the position. Newly appointed to the board of curators by Gov. Jay Nixon, Sundvold, 55, runs an investing firm in Columbia and serves as a basketball analyst for SEC Network. He
would have to give up both jobs if he’d take on the AD position. Also, curator bylaws prohibit members from becoming MU employees for a period of two years after their curator term.

**Animal hospitals see increase in heat illnesses amid excessive heat warning**


Mid-Missouri is the middle of an Excessive Heat Warning with heat indices reaching up to 110 degrees.

**The excessive heat can take an extra toll on animals, large and small. According to University of Missouri Veterinarian Doctor Meghan Harmon, a mix of heat, humidity, and high heat indices create the potential for heat stress in animals.**

"Anytime there’s high heat or high humidity or a high heat index, just really deceasing that activity dramatically is going to be really helpful."

Dr. Harmon says oftentimes they see heat stress illnesses in Spring and Autumn. Animals become acclimated to the cooler weather, so when the temperature suddenly spikes, the animals aren't used to the heat.

But throughout the summer, when temperatures are steadily warm, pets can often suffer from heat stress.

She said different breeds are affected differently. Breeds with short snouts like English Bulldogs have a hard time cooling themselves through panting. Animals with thicker coats can also overheat easier.

Since Mid-Missouri has been under a heat advisory this week, Dr. Harmon says they have seen an increase in patients with heat stress illnesses.
"They'll start to act commonly kind of weak and ataxic. That's one of the first signs that they're starting to overheat."

To treat a pet at home, she recommends cool, not cold, water over the animal, bringing them inside immediate, and slowly lowering their temperature. A normal temperature for a dog is between 99.5 and 102.5 degrees. When lowering the dog's temperature, Dr. Harmon recommends stopping at 102 to avoid bringing it down too much.

If the animal was dealing with heat stress for an extended period of time, she recommends bringing the animal to a vet. At a vet's office, they can give the animal fluids through an IV which will start the cooling process quicker.

A veterinarian can also check for internal damage done from heat stress. Overheating can cause damage to the animals liver, kidneys, and brain. She said an animal can go into organ failure quickly if not addressed early.

Large animals, like horses, are also at risk.

A professor of equine medicine at the University of Missouri said they have also seen an increase in calls to the hospital from horse owners about how to treat heat related illnesses.

"Most of the communication we've had in this regard have been by telephone, but we have had some horses come in because they have been in distress."

Doctor Philip Johnson said horses should be brought into shade and if possible, have a fan placed toward them.

He also recommends using cool water over the horse, but then brushing the water off, to allow the horse to sweat.

"Horses that are subjected to this heat and humidity that can not sweat need to be really protected from the heat, not worked, not overfed."

Dr. Johnson says horses who are overheating will starting breathing rapidly, sweating more than usual, and will try to actively seek shade. A horse with a temperature of 102 degrees or higher is at risk of overheating.