Documents offer glimpse into a fraternity's violations and MU's response


These are some of the incidents involving the Kappa Alpha Order fraternity reported to MU since Jan. 1, 2015, according to documents obtained by the Columbia Missourian.

The documents show a range of disciplinary actions taken by the university against the fraternity, correspondence between university administrators about fraternity actions and correspondence between university employees and fraternity representatives.

The Missourian requested the documents under Missouri's Sunshine Law after Kappa Alpha Order was suspended for a vodka-chugging hazing incident that occurred in September. The chapter is under investigation by MU.

The 95 pages of documents include reports submitted to MU's Office for Civil Rights and Title IX and Office of Student Conduct involving the fraternity; correspondence between MU and chapter representatives; and correspondence between MU and national Kappa Alpha Order fraternity representatives. Police reports were requested to supplement information found in the documents.

The following are all the incidents Kappa Alpha Order, at 1301 University Ave., was involved with over a 22-month period.

When members of the Office of Student Conduct were emailed for responses or comments, they deferred to MU spokesman Christian Basi.

Kappa Alpha Order's president, Jacob Lee, did not respond to interview requests.

August 28, 2016

In a letter sent to Kappa Alpha Order dated Oct. 14, Julie Drury, senior coordinator of the Office of Student Conduct, said she had some information about the fraternity's possible involvement with an Aug. 28 incident at FarmHouse fraternity. The incident involved providing alcohol to minors.
Drury wrote that she would not pursue charges against Kappa Alpha Order. "However," she wrote, "I think it is most important that the members of your organization realize the possible consequences of their actions."

August 27, 2016

About 300 people were invited to a party on the first weekend of the semester, according to disciplinary hearing notes. Kappa Alpha did not card party attendees and said it was a "bring your own beer" party.

Drury wrote to Lisa Crader, executive assistant in the Department of Student Life, in a Sept. 7 email that Kappa Alpha Order served mixed drinks — even though the fraternity claimed to be checking for hard alcohol at the door — to minors at the party.

The fraternity was found responsible for providing alcohol to minors and was placed on disciplinary probation until Dec. 20 and charged a $250 judicial processing fee. Kappa Alpha was also required to attend a "Raising the Bar for Greek Students" alcohol education program by the Wellness Resource Center. Eighty percent of the chapter members were required to attend.

March 23, 2016

Handwritten notes dated March 23 document alleged hazing incidents reported by a Kappa Alpha Order pledge by phone. Basi confirmed the notes were taken in 2016. It is unclear who took the notes, but he said they would have been investigated and followed up on by the proper office. There is no evidence of actions taken.

The notes are scanty but state the pledge reported being kept up for 48 hours straight, smoking marijuana and using other drugs, his grades dropping, parties Wednesday through Friday, and people bragging about Quaaludes and Xanax in a car.

The notes also include a line about molasses and flour, but do not elaborate.

The caller is quoted as having "survived KA." The words "now in mental hospital" and "almost died?" appear together in the notes.

No other documents reference this phone call.

December 6, 2015

An MU police officer responded to a call around 2:26 a.m. at Dogwood Hall about an intoxicated female student in the lobby who didn't live there. Department of Residential Life staff member Katie Partridge made the report.

When the officer arrived, the female was sitting in a chair in the lobby, swaying. She could not respond to the officer's answers coherently, according to a police report. Her speech was slurred and she mumbled.
The female began to vomit red liquid and chunks of fruit as the officer asked her questions. The officer called for a medical response, and she was taken to University Hospital for treatment and evaluation.

While the pair waited for medics to respond, the female told the officer she had drunk a "couple beers, vodka and possibly some tequila" at Sigma Chi, Alpha Chi, Sigma Alpha and Galena Hall.

A handwritten note on the police report reads "handles of Burnetts (sic) at KA."

Kappa Alpha Order was investigated for providing alcohol to a minor, having handles of alcohol at the house and violating the Interfraternity Council's alcohol policy.

The fraternity was found not responsible.

Alcohol policies of the fraternity, included in the documents obtained by the Missourian, state "the possession or use of hard alcohol is not permitted in the chapter facilities (house and annex) or on the property, except for alumni events registered with Greek Life."

Only individually purchased beer — not kegs — are allowed in chapter facilities for members and guests 21 and older, according to IFC policies.

October 2, 2015

A student emailed the Office of Student Conduct about a fight the student witnessed the night before behind the Kappa Alpha Order house. The Office of Student Conduct could not confirm the student's gender, Basi said.

The student, the student's boyfriend and another friend had parked behind the house. When the group parked the car they heard shouts that seemed to be directed at them. The boyfriend and other friend told the student to stay in the car while they checked out what was happening.

"I was just sitting in the car when I see what I assumed to be the entire Kappa Alpha fraternity running around, and I heard lots of yelling so I stepped out of the car, and I see my boyfriend being held in a headlock with over 20 people surrounding him and are just punching him in the face, ribs, head and would not stop," the student wrote.

The student started screaming for the group to stop. One man threw a cup full of alcohol at the student. Others recorded the beating with their phones.

The group of students continued to head-butt and punch the boyfriend despite the presence of a security guard. The other friend tried to run away but was chased down by four students. They took his wallet and all his money.

Both the boyfriend and friend ended up in the hospital with concussions, the student wrote.
"(The students) were acting like animals it was the most insane thing I have ever seen," the student wrote. "Please get back to me ASAP."

In an email chain in response to the student's story Crader called for the security guard at the scene to be fired. "This is totally inexcusable," she wrote.

Firing the security guard would be a personnel issue in the security firm, Basi said, so the Office of Student Conduct did not know the outcome of the situation.

April 25, 2015

Two MU police officers responded to a call at 12:54 a.m. in parking lot WG-6 at 1009 Tiger Ave. When they arrived at the scene, another officer and two security officers were standing next to a black 2010 Hyundai Genesis, which smelled strongly of marijuana. Two students, a male and a female, were standing outside the car while another female was passed out in the passenger seat. She is described in the police report as not wearing underwear, but the report doesn't state whether she was naked from the waist down.

Paramedics removed the woman from the vehicle and took her to University Hospital. One of the two people with her was arrested for possession of less than 35 grams of marijuana, drug paraphernalia and a fake ID. The other person was allowed to leave the scene.

The man arrested told the officers that the female subject was "just a friend of one of my friends."

The officer then asked him how she ended up in the car: "She just needed; they were like 'Hey, this girl's really drunk, she needs a ride home.'" All three students were at party at Kappa Alpha Order, he told police. The other person had seen the woman vomiting and had wanted to help her.

The woman remained unconscious until about seven hours later, so officers couldn't speak to her, according to an email chain between MU Police Chief Doug Schwandt, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Cathy Scroggs and Mark Lucas, dean of students and director of student life.

"(Schwandt)'s very concerned this may not turn out well," Scroggs wrote in an email to Lucas.

On April 27, a detective followed up with the woman. She stated she'd been drinking at Kappa Alpha but had not been assaulted.

Kappa Alpha Order was found responsible for failing to comply with university policies, state and local laws and condoning the use or possession of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances. The fraternity was ordered to participate in a bystander presentation from the Wellness Resource Center. According to the charge letter, only 75 percent of the total number of fraternity members were required to attend. The fraternity was also fined $450 for "judicial processing."
Further correspondence between Lucas and a chapter member reveal some bargaining between the university and the fraternity.

"I ruled on the case in the way that I did because you assured me that you would take certain action against the individual student" who was arrested for possession of marijuana, drug paraphernalia and a fake ID, Lucas wrote on June 4, 2015. "I'm just following up with you to determine what you did."

The student responded:

"You're welcome, and thank you for ruling on the case the way you did. My executive board and myself are committed to making sure KA remains a safe experience for students moving forward, so your decision will not go without caution toward this upcoming fall semester."

The email later stated the arrested Kappa Alpha Order member would be expelled if he returned to MU for the next semester. There was some question as to whether he would.

That student is now listed in the online directory as a University of Missouri-Kansas City student.

Mizzou fraternity raises $10k for chef's family

When the men of Beta Theta Pi at the University of Missouri-Columbia found out that their chef's wife was sick, they wanted to give back.

Scott, their chef, predates all of the current members, having worked for the fraternity for seven years, feeding more than 100 men every night.

So, when Scott mentioned his wife had a blood infection and would require significant medical attention and surgery, the Betas started crowdfunding for him and his family.

"I opened a GoFundMe page with a $5,000 initial goal and incredibly, at the 24-hour mark, we raised $5,050," chapter president Chase Wisniewski told the Post-Dispatch. "I still get chills thinking about how cool that felt."

After a few days, the effort reached the fraternity members' families. By day six of the GoFundMe page, they raised $10,400.
Last week, the men presented the check to their chef. The emotional interaction was captured on video that has since gone viral on social media.

"This could not have happened at a better time for his family," Wisniewski said. "She had surgery the other day and it was successful, and I'm sure they'll have medical bills."

Wisniewski said the experience bolstered the sense of brotherhood among the fraternity.

"It's one of those times where you realize that there's still faith in people, which is really cool."

MU service members inducted into ROTC Hall of Fame

COLUMBIA — Six military service members were inducted into MU’s ROTC Hall of Fame on Friday in a ceremony held at Memorial Student Union.

MU Provost Garnett Stokes prefaced the induction ceremony by praising the military's ability to build honorable character traits among individuals in service. She said those inducted into the Hall of Fame are selected based on military service and their connection to the university.

“They do the right thing simply because it’s the right thing to do,” Stokes said. “These people view loyalty as a priority, not an option.”

The following six men were inducted:

• **Lt. Gen. Jerome Granrud** — A 1960 MU graduate, Granrud has 34 years of active service experience. He commissioned as a field artillery officer and held positions as an Army force developer and commanding general of U.S. Army Japan and IX Corps. Granrud served on the board of advisers for Maryland Cyber Investment Partners and the board of directors for UQM Technologies since his retirement.

• **Col. Billie Keeler** — A 1979 MU graduate, Keeler commissioned as an Adjutant General Corps officer. He commanded two companies while on active service and is currently the deputy director for human resources for the Defense Logistics Agency.

• **Charles "Andy" Russell** — A 1963 MU graduate and Missouri football player, Russell was drafted by the Pittsburgh Steelers after graduation. He served as an aide-de-camp to the 7th Corps commander in 1964. In 1966, Russell returned to the Steelers, where he earned two Super
Bowl rings. He was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame 1970s all-pro team. After his football career, Russell has worked in business.

• **Col. John Seitz** — A 1959 MU graduate, Seitz was commissioned as a field artillery officer. He served as a battalion S-3 in Vietnam before commanding a battalion in the 25th Infantry Division. After Vietnam, Seitz continued in U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command at the Field Artillery School. While there, Seitz created the first comprehensive officer training program and implemented digital fire direction training. Seitz currently works for the Junction City, Kansas, area Chamber of Commerce.

• **Col. William Starke** — A 1962 MU graduate, Starke earned his M.D. from the University of Kansas. He was a career Army doctor, working as a pathologist for the Army Medical Corps. He now works in the medical field as a civilian.

• **Lt. Col. Patrick Wilkins** — A 1995 MU graduate, Wilkins commissioned as an infantry officer. He served on the 82nd Airborne Division and has completed 10 combat deployments. After a promotion to lieutenant colonel, he commanded the 1st Battalion, 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment in Vicenza, Italy. Wilkins has received several Bronze Star medals from his combat deployments. Wilkins retired from active duty in July 2016 and is currently the chief of staff in the Federal Pharmacy Division at Express Scripts in St. Louis.

Several of the veterans followed in the footsteps of family members.

Seitz grew up in a military family with a father in the Army who was stationed in Germany when Seitz was in high school. He said he believes the military plays an important role in shaping the lives of citizens.

“It gives you lifetime standards,” Seitz said. “It sets the basis for whatever you do for the rest of your life. You learn values; you learn discipline.”

Wilkins, who retired from active service earlier this year, said he plans to enjoy the freedom he fought for in the Army.

“I served my nation honorably for 20 years, and now I’m going to enjoy the democracy with my lovely wife, Rachel … and my lovely kids. I’m going to watch them grow up and enjoy the fruits of this country,” Wilkins said.
University of Missouri honors veterans

COLUMBIA, Mo. - A wreath laying ceremony and roll call took place on the University of Missouri campus Friday.

The MU Veterans Center said the event was held to honor the campus veterans' community. It took place at noon at Memorial Union.

The annual tradition concluded with a minute of silence at 1:00 p.m. to honor soldiers who have lost their lives.

Facebook stops advertisers from using race to target ads

Facebook has agreed to strengthen its advertising screening after allowing several racially discriminatory housing ads to run on the site.

The social media platform came under fire in October when a ProPublica investigation revealed that the Facebook had allowed advertisers not only to target ads to certain minorities, but also to illegally exclude some groups from seeing housing ads. After talking with New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, members of Congress, and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Facebook has agreed to end all selective advertising based on race.

"We are going to turn off, actually prohibit, the use of ethnic affinity marketing for ads that we identify as offering housing, employment, and credit," Erin Egan, Facebook's vice president of US public policy, told USA Today.
Facebook will provide advertisers with educational materials explaining their legal obligations, and then require them to confirm that they will not place discriminatory ads on the site. The social media site is still working on reprogramming the algorithm that monitors for discriminatory practices.

“We are going to have to build a solution to do this. It is not going to happen overnight,” Steve Satterfield, privacy and public policy manager at Facebook, told ProPublica.

Advertisements that exclude groups of people based on a variety of identity-based factors, including race, ethnicity, and gender, were banned under the Fair Housing Act of 1964, enacted when many African American and Latino families struggled to find housing because landlords would not rent to them.

”There's a part of the Fair Housing Act that makes it illegal to have discriminatory advertising. That part applies to both the person taking out the ad and also the publisher of that ad,” Rigel Oliveri, professor of law at the University of Missouri, told USA Today.

In the eyes of the law, Facebook is not "just hosting" these ads, he explained. "It's encouraging and providing the advertisers with the ability to exclude people based on their race and ethnicity,” he said.

Prior to this, Facebook allowed advertisers to target their ads based on a category it labeled “ethnic affinities,” which led a group of Facebook users to file a lawsuit against the site.

"These tools are intended to be inclusive. That's why we created these tools," Ms. Egan told USA Today. "People have been using multicultural advertising for years in order to reach people."

The tools were designed to target advertisements to the appropriate audience – Facebook gave the example of hair products marketed to African-American women – but these advertising practices have created a moral grey area. As such, advertising experts recommend simply avoiding such practices, as The Christian Science Monitor's Zhai Yun Tan reported last month:

As Jerome Williams, professor and provost of Rutgers University-Newark tells The Christian Science Monitor in a phone interview, the original purpose of targeted advertising was not to "exclude other groups" but to "concentrate your message to a particular group."

"Because of technology, you can prohibit certain people from viewing it. That becomes risky," Prof. Williams says. "I think you want to avoid those type of strategies."
Even in a nation with a long history of protests, anti-Trump strife is unusual

Generated from a News Bureau expert pitch

If there’s one character trait that most Americans have in common with our controversial new president-elect, it’s that we don’t like to lose.

Even so, what we’ve seen this week — large, sometimes violent protests across major U.S. cities and college campuses, expressing anger over the undisputed outcome of an election — is something new.

And it may say less about Donald J. Trump than about a society that is increasingly inclined to air its grievances not through the normal channels of debate, but in the streets.

“What is striking is that these protests, most of them, have not outwardly stated that the election was fraudulent” — just that the protesters don’t like the result, said Peter Kastor, History Department chairman at Washington University in St. Louis. That, he said, “is very unusual in the history of the American presidency.”

Certainly there are plenty of recent examples of post-election strife. During the Florida ballot re-count after the 2000 election, suit-wearing George W. Bush supporters staged a demonstration that would be dubbed the "Brooks Brothers Riot" (referring to the suits) after it turned violent. In the days after the election of Barack Obama in November 2008 as America’s first black president, reports of racial violence and vandalism increased around the country.

The difference with what we’ve seen since Trump won his electoral-college victory over Hillary Clinton Tuesday is the size, scope and immediacy of the reaction. This isn’t a one-time confrontation over a re-count process, or a spate of individual hate crimes.

In Chicago on Wednesday night, an estimated 2,000 protesters marched downtown, shutting down traffic on Lake Shore Drive and prompting arrests. In Portland, Ore., early Friday, 26 people were arrested after an anti-Trump protest turned into a riot, with an estimated 4,000 people shattering windows and knocking out electricity.

For several days now, there have been other large protests, some peaceful and some not so peaceful, in New York, Philadelphia and other cities, and many college campus gatherings, including Friday’s protest at Washington University.
Some of the anger probably stems from the fact that Trump will become president despite losing the popular vote to Clinton — and the fact that that’s the second time it’s happened in 16 years, with the previous beneficiary also being a Republican.

The sheer, poll-driven surprise of the thing has probably contributed to the anger as well. “Everyone thought [Trump] was going to lose,” adding shock to the disappointment for Clinton’s supporters, Kastor said. Barring that, “I think the response would have been different.”

But some of the strife, Kastor said, is baked into America’s culture today, springing from the same confrontational atmosphere that produced the Ferguson riots and the Black Lives Matter protests.

“There are periods throughout American history when people have been more likely to mobilize in the streets — the 1930s, the 1960s — and people are doing it now.” Violent protests have a long history in this country, starting with the American Revolution itself. Since then, the history of big movements here can be charted by the protest-culture that accompanied them: women’s suffrage, labor rights, civil rights, the feminist movement.

There was the anti-Vietnam War movement, the gay-rights Stonewall Riots of 1969, the Occupy Wall Street movement of the 2010s. More recently there was Ferguson and the Black Lives Matter movement.

But what they all had in common was that they were in reaction to specific injustices (such as unfair labor practices or Jim Crow laws) or shocking events (like the shooting of Michael Brown). None started merely because a widely accepted American norm — in this case, a national election — had produced an uncontested outcome.

In fact, said Kastor, just one example readily comes to mind: the election of 1860.

“I’m not saying this is going to lead to a Civil War,” he stressed. But “white southerners were convinced that someone [Abraham Lincoln] had been elected who disrespected everything they believed in.”

Alasdair Roberts, professor of public affairs at the University of Missouri-Columbia, believes it isn’t just about Trump, but about a wider protest culture active today because of economic and political uncertainty stretching back to the financial crash of 2008.

His 2013 book “The End of Protest” predicted that the 2008 crash could lead to a delayed re-emergence of protest culture in America. He believes that’s part of what we’re seeing now.

“There is outrage among a certain segment of the population about the things Donald Trump has said and threatened to do. That’s the immediate trigger for these protests,” said Roberts. “But we also have to understand that we’re in a period of economic and political upheaval more broadly. Those are conditions under which you should expect protests.

“It’s kind of like a forest fire: There’s a spark that starts the fire, but there were environmental conditions already in place that allowed it to happen.”
As with Trump in D.C., we don't know what to expect from the Eric Greitens era in Missouri

Donald Trump is no Eric Greitens, and vice versa, but the two men, who both ran as Republican outsiders vowing to clean up corruption, will find themselves in similar situations come January.

As Trump moves into the White House and Greitens is preparing to inhabit the Governor's Mansion in Jefferson City — both men taking up residence in places they have described as corrupt cesspools — plenty of questions remain about what comes next, for the country and for the state.

Missourians frustrated with the status quo boosted Republicans up and down the ballot. Five Republicans running for statewide office beat their Democratic opponents. U.S. Sen. Roy Blunt, meanwhile, held off an energetic challenge from Secretary of State Jason Kander to claim a second term and help maintain Republican control of the U.S. Senate, setting up a clear path for Trump's Supreme Court nominees.

A Trump win in Missouri was almost guaranteed, but his eventual victory was decisive — he won by 19 percentage points and with about 531,000 voters more than Clinton. Down-ticket races weren't so close. Blunt won by 90,000 votes. Greitens beat Koster by about 164,000. Other Republicans won by more.

Mike Parson, Missouri's next lieutenant governor, beat former U.S. Rep. Russ Carnahan by almost 300,000 votes. Josh Hawley (another conservative outsider with no political experience) defeated Democrat Teresa Hensley by 473,000 votes in the attorney general's race, and Eric Schmitt was elected treasurer by a 474,000-vote margin.

All three have spoken out against governmental overreach: Parson ran as a champion for farmers who would protect agricultural interests from burdensome regulations; Hawley is not a trial attorney but says he's ready to fight the federal government; Schmitt opposes the Iran deal and wants to restrict Missouri companies from doing business with state sponsors of terror.

Jay Ashcroft, son of former Missouri governor and U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, received even more votes than Trump as he trounced Robin Smith, a former TV anchor who would have been Missouri's first black statewide official if she won.
Auditor Nicole Galloway soon will be the only Democrat holding statewide elective office in Missouri. Appointed to the office in 2015 after the death of Republican Auditor Tom Schweich, she'll face re-election in 2018.

**What to expect in January**

The new slate of Republican statewide officials will work alongside GOP supermajorities in the state House and Senate, paving the way for Republicans to enact labor reforms such as the "right-to-work" legislation Democratic Gov. Jay Nixon repeatedly has blocked.

On the campaign trail, Greitens promised "more jobs and higher pay, safer streets and better schools," and his goal of banning gifts from lobbyists to lawmakers dovetails with priorities set by House Speaker Todd Richardson.

Greitens also has proposed expanding the Returning Heroes Education Act to reduce the cost of tuition for Missouri's military veterans and has called for a broad study of transportation infrastructure needs, while not offering a specific plan on how to repair Missouri's highways, roads and bridges.

However, he has made a point of saying he aims to curb inefficiency and waste throughout government, doing so in part by hiring a chief operating officer.

Talking to reporters Friday, campaign manager-turned-senior adviser Austin Chambers said Greitens would keep his word. "Everything we mentioned during the campaign we will stand by."

Chambers said that Greitens' team has already started receiving briefings on the state's finances.

"We will certainly put our fingerprints on the budget," Chambers said, crediting Nixon for being gracious and his staff for being helpful with the transition.

There will be some sort of website released as part of the gubernatorial changeover by the time Greitens is inaugurated, Chambers said. He also noted that as of Friday, Greitens did not have plans to attend Trump's inauguration.

Greitens' team has started to search for potential additions to the administration and "finalize the organizational structure that (Greitens) wants for the Governor's Office," Chambers said.

It's unclear what this structure will look like or whom Greitens will appoint to his cabinet, but Chambers said he expects former gubernatorial rival Catherine Hanaway will have a role during the transition and said a transition team would be in place by next Friday.

Greitens has met with Nixon and members of the state Senate, and Chambers said the governor-elect will be meeting with House leaders in due time.
Two members of the House leadership, Springfield Reps. Elijah Haahr and Kevin Austin, said they are not bothered by Greitens' portrayal of Jefferson City as a bastion of corruption.

The pair, who both will begin their third terms in January, said they expect better communication with Greitens in office.

"We'll be able to have input from the Governor's office we have not had in the past," said Austin, who was re-elected assistant majority floor leader. "(Nixon) would not reach out to us."

Haahr, who is in line to be House speaker pro tem, echoed this sentiment, saying Nixon "never made a real serious effort" to work with lawmakers, who would end up passing legislation without knowing whether it would be vetoed. Nixon ended his tenure as Missouri's most- overridden governor.

"Obviously, that's going to be a significant change," Haahr said.

There might also be smaller adjustments: Austin said that based on a working group he's been a part of, the House might vote on some rule changes including reducing the number of committees and limiting how many committees a representative could serve on.

Austin and Haahr said they expect to know more after future caucus meetings. While the transitional wheels are moving, there's still some uncertainty about the path they'll travel.

**Some promises uncertain**

As part of his plan to "blow up" Jefferson City and eliminate corruption, Greitens has repeatedly called for stricter regulations on lobbyists to limit their influence.

**But the opposite might happen, said Marvin Overby, a professor of political science at the University of Missouri-Columbia.**

There isn't a lot of institutional memory in Jefferson City, and without a figure such as Nixon, "who's been around and was able to call B.S. when he heard it," lobbyists are likely to see their power increase, Overby said.

Dan Ponder, the L.E. Meador Chair of Political Science at Drury University, said it was "not at all clear what Greitens wants to do" and that there are tough choices ahead when it comes to funding roads and schools.

"(Greitens) was probably loathe to say 'increase taxes,' but something has to happen," Ponder said.

Greitens could save some money by making good on his pledge to cut inefficiencies and reduce bureaucratic waste, Ponder said. But he agreed that Greitens' proposal to hire a Fortune 500 executive as a state administrator seemed to clash with the Republican's anti-bureaucracy statements.
Ponder said Democrats' dreams of expanding Medicaid will almost certainly not be realized anytime soon, given Greitens' staunch opposition to the Affordable Care Act during the months leading up to the election.

However, as if to remind the country that not all campaign statements are binding, the Wall Street Journal on Thursday reported that Trump said he would be willing to leave intact portions of the Affordable Care Act after running on the promise of a total repeal of Obamacare.

Like Trump, who at one time identified as a Democrat, Greitens is a relatively recent convert to the Republican Party.

"For most of his life, Eric Greitens was a Democrat," said Overby, the Mizzou professor. "I'm not sure we really know, sort of like Trump, what his policy agenda is going to be."

**Dark times for Democrats**

It's also unclear how the Missouri Democratic Party will try to bounce back after being rejected so broadly — and unexpectedly — by voters.

Most polls showed Koster and Greitens neck-and-neck in the campaign's final days, but Koster held a lead for months prior.

On Election Day, Greitens' margin of victory was about the size of Springfield's population.

"It was a tidal wave, and no seawall was going to prevent that wave from coming over and flooding Democrats out," said David Turner, Koster's campaign spokesman.

Koster is about as conservative as Democrats come, winning the support of the National Rifle Association and the Missouri Farm Bureau. But his plan to follow Nixon's lead was undone in part by Greitens' chants of "career politician" — anathema in 2016.

Turner found a silver lining: By his count, about 200,000 Missourians voted for both Trump and Koster. Turner said that indicates those voters "understood and liked the message of bipartisan cooperation" even as they "gave a big middle finger to the establishment in this election."

Turner figured most of those Trump-Koster voters were in unions, and Ponder, the Drury professor, agreed.

"It's clear that Trump's message resonated with the people," Ponder said. "The union vote actually switched to Republicans for the first time in a long time."

Liberal leaders "need to make sure that these are Trump Democrats and therefore, they can be brought home again," Ponder said.
Turner, from Koster's camp, acknowledged the economic anxiety felt by working-class voters — the same concerns that Trump exploited so well — and said he hopes Greitens will find a way to help bridge the gap between rural and urban Missourians.

But Turner wasn't sure how the next governor would do this. "He needs to figure out what his agenda is."

With no political experience, Greitens' campaign relied instead on his achievements as a former Navy SEAL, a Rhodes scholar and the founder of a charity that helps veterans reintegrate into society.

Overby, the Mizzou professor, said this same resume could hurt Greitens' appeal in the future.

"He's charismatic, he looks great on TV," Overby said, but "he's this guy who everything's always come up roses for," and people might resent him for that.

It's no secret that Greitens is ambitious, and Overby said there was "an overarching concern that the Governor's Mansion in Missouri is not really what he's after."

He and Ponder agreed that it's not far-fetched to consider a two-term Gov. Greitens launching his own White House bid in 2024.

**Tensions, Protests, Incidents**

In wake of election, black freshmen at Penn receive racist emails; students protesting Trump at Central Missouri have firecracker thrown at them; controversy over flag burning at Hampshire and more.

**No MU Mention**

Students continue to protest the election of Donald Trump as president -- and racial incidents are being reported at numerous campuses. At many colleges, the divisiveness of the election campaign has been replaced by a period in which many minority students feel threatened.

Racial incidents take place all the time at colleges and universities and are hardly unique to the period just after Election Day.

But groups that track racial incidents report that an unusual number of such incidents has been taking place since Trump won the election.
The Southern Poverty Law Center released a report late Friday saying that it had counted 201 "incidents of election-related harassment and intimidation" as of Friday at 5 p.m. The center acknowledged that it had not independently verified all of the reports.

The study found that the top locations for such harassment were elementary and secondary schools, followed by colleges and universities.

Kimberly A. Griffin, an associate professor of higher education at the University of Maryland at College Park who studies the campus racial climate, said that racism has been a significant concern well before the election campaign, but that the president-elect's success has shifted the way racism is expressed on campus.

"Really overt, violent racism in public spaces has become socially unacceptable in the last couple decades," Griffin said via email. "That doesn't mean it didn't happen, but people could agree that it was wrong and wasn't consistent with our values. We have a president-elect who campaigned on ideas that made what was previously socially unacceptable racism OK by everything from talking about mass deportations and building walls to accepting endorsements from white nationalist groups. The threats students are facing are often directly connected to his rallying cries and campaign promises. I don't think that Trump created these feelings and the rage we see, but his election normalized it and encouraged it."

When Inside Higher Ed reported on some of these incidents last week, some commenters suggested that many of the reports may be false or unsubstantiated. Many incidents being reported on social media have not in fact been verified. Many of them can't be, since they don't include names or institutions involved.

There has been one case -- involving the University of Louisiana at Lafayette -- in which a student admitted to fabricating a claim. All of the incidents reported by Inside Higher Ed last week and those that follow in this article have been confirmed by campus officials or law enforcement as a credible report that was being taken seriously, although final determinations about the legitimacy of all of the reports have not been made.

**Shock Over Messages Sent to Black Penn Freshmen**

Students at the University of Pennsylvania were stunned Friday when black freshmen started to receive messages from an account with GroupMe (which makes it easier to send many people a text at the same time) from someone called "Daddy Trump" or "Heil Trump." The messages were full of racist slurs and talked about sharing information about a "daily lynching," complete with photos of such killings in history and images of violent acts today.

The freshmen had not signed up to receive these messages, and many were outraged and shared the messages with other black students at Penn, trying to figure out what was going on. University officials quickly denounced the
messages -- even as they scrambled to figure out how their black students were being targeted.

As students shared what was going on via social media (see post at right), black students elsewhere became concerned as well.

Late Friday, the university announced that it had traced the messages to accounts in Oklahoma. The University of Oklahoma then announced that it had suspended a student linked to sending the messages.

David Boren, Oklahoma's president, tweeted that there was sufficient evidence to justify a temporary suspension of the student while a full investigation continues. He denounced the harassment of the black students at Penn and called Penn officials to express his sympathy and concern.

On Sunday evening, Penn issued a new statement saying that the criminal investigation of the incident found no Penn students had been involved, but that three individuals from Oklahoma -- one of them the suspended University of Oklahoma student -- were responsible. The statement, from President Amy Gutmann and other senior officials, said, "We call on everyone to recognize that the events of the past few days are a tragic reminder of the overt and reprehensible racism that continues to exist within some segments of our society, and that we all need to unite together as a community and a society to oppose. We are deeply saddened that Penn students were the victims of this hate, to which absolutely nobody should be subjected."

**Firecrackers Set Off During Protest at Central Missouri**

At the University of Central Missouri, about 200 students -- minority and white alike -- held a protest against Trump Thursday night. During the protest, university officials confirmed, one or more people set off firecrackers at the perimeter of the protest, scaring and endangering some of those participating, although there were no injuries.

After the protest, President Charles Ambrose met with students who had been protesting and talked to them about their safety concerns in light of the firecrackers. He pledged that they would be supported in their right to protest peacefully.

**Protests Continue With Controversy Over Flag Burning**

As the week ended, protests continued in many college towns and large cities. High school students in many areas have been walking out of classes, and some college students have done so as well. The protests have featured plenty of anti-Trump rhetoric, some of it involving four-letter words. There have been scattered reports of pro-Trump students shouting "USA" or other things at some protests, but those opposed to the president-elect have largely been able to hold marches
and rallies without interference from those who disagree with them or their colleges.

One tactic receiving criticism in two protests is flag burning. Some students objected last week when others burned American flags at American University.

But a debate over flag burning has become heated at Hampshire College, which is associated with having a left-leaning student body. At Hampshire, the debate isn't so much about the concept of burning the flag, which the U.S. Supreme Court recognized in a 1989 decision as a form of political speech protected by the First Amendment. The debate at Hampshire is about burning a flag that doesn't belong to you -- and statements one can make with the flag that don't involve burning it.

Some Hampshire students, in group discussions after Trump won, said that the college's American flag should come down. Others argued that it should be lowered to half-staff, and they did so. College officials did not object but planned to raise the flag on Friday, Veterans Day, noting that the college wanted to honor a day important both to students and employees who are veterans.

But sometime Thursday night, the flag was removed and burned. So when students and others arrived Friday morning, there was no flag flying. Beth Ward, secretary of the college, sent an email to the campus criticizing those who had burned the flag and saying, "Hampshire is home to a multiplicity of perspectives and life experiences, and among us are both students and employees who have served (and currently serve) in the military. However, this morning we discovered that the flag was burned overnight and, as a result, veterans and others in our community will come to campus to find the flagpole empty. We are deeply saddened that we are not able to fly the flag today in their honor, and we acknowledge the anger and hurt many will feel both because the flag is absent and the reason for its absence."

The college quickly obtained a new flag to raise, and on Saturday, the college's board agreed to again fly the flag at half-staff.

"Flying the flag at half-staff is a time-honored way to convey mourning, and many have suggested that, in addition to those occasions specified under the U.S. Flag Code, our flag remain at half-staff as an expression of collective grief for the violent deaths that are occurring daily in this country and around the world," said a statement from the board. "And, indeed, our campus has been directly affected on multiple occasions: among us are students and employees who have lost their homes in bombings, had family members murdered for their political convictions or because of the color of their skin, and who cannot safely return home due to war or threats to personal safety."

"As fiduciaries of a vibrant learning community, the board is committed to supporting spaces for multiple perspectives, nuanced dialogue, and mindful
listening to flourish," the board statement added. "One way to facilitate such space is for the flag to be experienced as inclusively as possible by all members of our community. After discussion among the trustees in tandem with some community participation, the board has come to consensus to fly the flag at half-staff, both to acknowledge the grief and pain experienced by so many and to enable the full complexity of voices and experiences to be heard. This is an effort that will require time, trust, broad participation and mutual respect; and while this is underway the flag will remain at half-staff. We have faith in our community's ability to engage in this process of discernment with integrity, insight and compassion."

**A Controversial Facebook Post**

At the University of Rochester, a lecturer in computer science resigned on Friday as undergraduate program director in his department after controversy over a comment he made on Facebook mocking a protest called "Not My America" that students held on campus Friday to protest Trump's election.

Ted Pawlicki, the professor, wrote on the event's Facebook page, "A bus ticket from Rochester to Canada is $16. If this is not your America, then I will pay for your ticket if you promise never to come back."

The post has since been removed but has circulated online, along with comments -- some of which are critical of the professor and say he showed bias against those protesting. Other comments, however, say that to call his comment a bias incident is the sort of overreaction that led many Americans to support Trump in the first place.

A university spokeswoman said that the professor's resignation as undergraduate program director was voluntary. She released this statement: "The university is aware of a faculty Facebook comment that caused concern and for which the faculty member has since apologized. Freedom of expression is a foundational principle at the University of Rochester and for all citizens of the U.S. Students and faculty alike are free to express their views." Pawlicki did not respond to an email request for comment.

**Encouraging a President to Speak Out**

Many college presidents have been issuing statements since the election, pledging support for equal opportunity and offering extra support, discussions and so forth.

At the University of Northern Colorado, such a statement wasn't issued, and 27 faculty members released an open letter encouraging Kay Norton, the president, to do so.

"Over the last few days, we have witnessed, with growing horror, a spike in the number of both bias-related incidents and outright hate crimes on college
On Friday, as the letter was spreading, Norton released a video.

In it she said, "Elections are necessarily about a winner and a loser. But our university community is not about winners and losers. It is, in fact, a family. And like all families, we may disagree -- even vehemently -- with each other, but in the end we come together because we are members of the family and all members of the family are welcome and necessary. And I want you to know the University of Northern Colorado cares about and cares for every member of our campus community -- faculty, staff and students -- and we reject the idea that behavior that isolates and stigmatizes any member of this community is acceptable to the rest of us. We are family."

**Officers Placed on Leave at Virginia**

Three University of Virginia police officers have been placed on leave after they used the intercoms in their cars to shout "Make America Great Again" (Trump's campaign slogan) at students they encountered after the election results became clear.

Michael A. Gibson, chief of police, sent a message to students: "I was disappointed to learn of reports that UPD personnel allegedly used the public address system in their vehicle inappropriately following the results of the election in the early morning hours on Wednesday. UPD is investigating this incident and takes this matter seriously. Please be assured that UPD remains committed to the highest professional standards in law enforcement and will work tirelessly to enhance the safety of our living and learning environment."

**'Bye-Bye Latinos'**

At Elon University, many students and faculty members were stunned by images posted to social media showing a message on the corner of a classroom whiteboard two days after the election: "Bye bye Latinos hasta la vista."

A faculty member found, erased and reported the message. President Leo M. Lambert sent a message to the campus. "I want to say emphatically that this incident is reprehensible and directly in conflict with Elon’s values of inclusion and treating each other with dignity and respect," he said. "Elon will not tolerate
harassing, denigrating or intimidating actions that create a hostile environment. It should be obvious to all that our nation is deeply divided at this time and we face great differences in our society. Now, more than ever, we need to show kindness and respect toward one another, especially to those members of our community who are feeling vulnerable."

Smith Jackson, vice president for student life and dean of students, later sent another message to the campus saying that after the president's email, "a student stepped forward, took responsibility for writing the message and is deeply remorseful. The matter is being adjudicated through Elon’s Office of Student Conduct."

**Free Speech in Contentious Times**

Leaders of state universities hear differing views on how to uphold academic values at a time when many students feel under siege and misunderstood.

**No MU Mention**

AUSTIN, Tex. -- The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities set the theme for its opening keynote discussion here Sunday well before Election Day. The topic: "Balancing Freedom of Expression and Diversity on Campuses." The election results weren't just the elephant in the room for the session, but were more like a herd of elephants stomping through the room.

To be sure, many public universities have struggled with these issues for some time, and in particular since 2015's protests by minority students led to widespread discussions of racial incidents on campus and on social media. In many cases, what some students saw as hate speech, university leaders and free speech advocates saw as protected speech. APLU's members are public universities, and the First Amendment is very much a factor in how these institutions can respond.

But for many here, the election results are creating a particular challenge.

Bernadette Montoya, vice president of student affairs and enrollment at New Mexico State University, said that she spent time Sunday with colleagues in student affairs from other land-grant universities. To a person, she said, they were scrambling to provide support to students -- in particularly minority or immigrant students -- who feel vulnerable. While not all campuses are seeing the
rallies and marches of some, all the student affairs leaders here said they were looking for ways to reassure students.

In private discussions, university presidents said they were feeling considerable stress over these issues as well, wanting to make students feel supported, but also not wanting to appear partisan.

Montoya was part of a panel responding to Clarence Page, the syndicated columnist, who kicked off the discussion by recounting the recent debates over trigger warnings, safe spaces and more. He seemed frustrated with the way some students of late have not wanted to hear out those with whom they disagree, and he noted that when he was brought in to speak about race relations at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, minority students took the stage and wouldn't let him talk until they spent considerable time reading demands. He seemed generally sympathetic to the now well-known University of Chicago letter to freshmen warning them not to expect trigger warnings or safe spaces.

Things got interesting when the panelists -- including university leaders and a student leader -- had their chance to weigh in.

Mildred Garcia, president of California State University at Fullerton, who moderated the panel, was not afraid of the elephants in the room. She asked participants to reflect on how they can address these issues, in the wake of the election, "when we have students in fear, when we have faculty members in fear."

Howard Gillman, chancellor of the University of California, Irvine, said it was time to "stop making certain mistakes." One of those mistakes, he suggested, was talking about these issues as if academe has a choice between supporting free speech and supporting minority students.

He said that university leaders must of course defend academic freedom, and he said that means teaching each cohort of students what academic freedom is and why it matters, not just assuming they will be aware and understand.

But he said the University of Chicago letter was "wrong," and not because it defended academic freedom. He said the letter was wrong "for being dismissive of the notion of safety of students on campus." While everyone may not agree on what a safe learning environment is, he said, every student should feel that their administration supports creating one, and students shouldn't be mocked for demanding one.

"If we aren't listening to the concerns of the students about a safe environment, that's wrong," he said.

Further, he said academic leaders need to be honest that some attitudes about the way people on a campus interact have evolved in positive ways because of
student demands for sensitivity. He cited the "fundamental transformation" in higher education about sexual assault and sexual harassment. He said there is a very different sense of "what's OK and what's not OK" than was the case a generation ago, and that's been an important shift in the right direction.

Mariah Watson, immediate past student body president at the University of California, Davis, and the first black person to hold that post, said she felt that much of the discussion about students being "coddled" or "spoiled" was based on conversations without any minority students included. During her student body presidency, the university saw three hate crimes, she said, directed at different groups. Just yesterday, she heard from a former roommate still at Davis, telling her about a swastika that had just appeared on an apartment building wall.

"We're considered whiners," she said. "But mental health is a really big issue on campus."

It is still common for people to come up to black students -- as Watson said happened to her many times -- and say, "Are you an athlete?" Why shouldn't black students speak out about such incidents, she asked. To sustained applause, she told the room full of administrators to "stop being condescending to your students for speaking up about what hurts them."

And she framed the trigger warning debate in part by noting the role that black students frequently play in class without anyone asking their permission. When she was the only black student in a history course in which an image of a lynching was shown, everyone immediately asked her how she felt, as a black woman, looking at the image, whether she had family members who had been affected by lynching and so forth.

"I would have appreciated a trigger warning," she said -- not asking that the image not be shown, but asking for a warning.

Page, the columnist, said, "I don't want to call your generation coddled," but went on to share an example of what he said "troubles me about political correctness." He cited the reactions of students at Emory University in March when some students chalked "Trump 2016" on campus. Some students said at the time that they felt threatened by the chalkings.

"If there is anything that the First Amendment is for, it is political speech," he said.

Gillman, of Irvine, offered three strategies he said he hoped research universities would pursue in the wake of the election:

- "Make it as clear as possible that we are doubling down on the values we have of diverse communities of mutual respect," he said. "The level of rhetoric in this campaign truly created threats and ignited a kind of hate" that needs to be opposed. "Let's not be shy."
• Academics need to recognize that there are people in the United States "who feel that they are not being heard," Gillman said. Whatever scholars may feel about Trump voters, they need to find ways to "reach across the divide of opinion."
• "We need to remember our scholarly mission," Gillman said. That means looking at the political trends in the United States and Western Europe, and remembering that "democracies are fragile things," and that they are challenged by "authoritarian strands" in many countries. Gillman, a scholar of the Constitution, said that universities and their professors "need to spend a bit more time thinking about the conditions that sustain democracy and those that undermine democracy."