MU College of Education will help principals improve school safety

Generated from News Bureau press release: $4.1 Million Grant to Help Principals Improve Safety in Schools

Watch the story: http://mms.tveys.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=ab6c091e-0702-400a-a00d-f0b73f8b8f25

COLUMBIA – University of Missouri’s College of Education alongside Missouri Prevention Center, received a $4.1 million grant from the National Institution of Justice Monday.

The grant was given to the college to study a training program specifically for principals. According to the MU College of Education, no training program that has been scientifically proven to help improve school safety currently exists for principals.

"The Mizzou College of Education has had a long history of important work that has led to better teaching and better schools, and this latest project is just another example of MU faculty working to make a difference in the lives of people everywhere," said Convergence News Manager Nathan Hurst.

According to the MU College of Education, 17 percent of high schoolers have seriously considered suicide in the past year and 22 percent of children ages 12-18 say they have been bullied in the last month.

In hopes of lowering these numbers, the MU College of Education will implement the Safe and Civil Schools Leadership Program at 60 different schools in the Puget Sound region in Washington.

The program has several different goals. Over the next four years it aims to help principals learn how to collect and use the data to make important decisions about the school. It will also establish behavior leadership teams that will monitor and interpret the data.
One of its main focuses will be on student behavior. The program will monitor students in all school settings like buses, common areas and hallways, not just classrooms.

MU researchers will study its implementation over the course of the next four years. Researchers will gather individual data from each school. The data will focus on things like the physical and emotional safety climate, rate of bullying victimization and other important factors to help determine an overall safety rating of each school.

**MU receives $4.1 million grant for training program for principals**

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COLUMBIA, Mo. - The Missouri Prevention Center and the University of Missouri College of Education have received a $4.1 million grant from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to study a training program for principals.

The program, Safe and Civil Schools Leadership, aims to help principals create and maintain safe learning environments.

According to the official release, the Safe and Civil Schools Leadership program teaches principals how to:

- collect and use meaningful data to guide decisions about changing a school’s climate;
- create behavior leadership teams who will collect and interpret the data and monitor progress;
- focus on clear expectations and high rates of positive staff-student interactions;
- monitor and support student behavior in all school settings (common areas, classrooms, buses, hallways);
- support teachers in developing effective classroom management strategies.

Other MU researchers that be involved on the grant are Wendy Reinke, professor of educational, school and counseling psychology and co-director of the Missouri Prevention Center; James Sebastian, an assistant professor of educational leadership and policy; Francis Huang, an
 MU College of Education receives grant to study principal training

Generated from News Bureau press release: $4.1 Million Grant to Help Principals Improve Safety in Schools

The National Institute of Justice has awarded the Missouri Prevention Center and University of Missouri College of Education a $4.1 million grant to study a training program for school principals to help combat bullying.

The grant will support the Safe and Civil Schools Leadership program over four years, and MU researchers will study the program in 60 middle and high schools in the Puget Sound region of Washington state, according to a release. The program teaches principals and teachers to collect and use data and develop programs to make schools safer for students.

Five MU researchers will be part of the study. MU College of Education professor and Missouri Prevention Center co-director Keith Herman said the study will help improve training methods for principals across the country.
More than a dozen mumps cases at University of Missouri

Watch the story: http://fox2now.com/2016/11/14/more-than-a-dozen-mumps-cases-at-university-of-missouri/

COLUMBIA, MO (KTVI) - Most of us regard mumps as a childhood disease; a rare one at that.

In the United States, children are usually vaccinated against mumps before they go to kindergarten. But a small percentage of individuals are still susceptible to the viral disease.

The University of Missouri in Columbia reported 17 cases of the illness among students on campus since September. The University of Illinois in Champaign Urbana has seen 317 cases between April 2015 and May 2016.

Nationally there are more than 2,300 reported cases of mumps, twice the number for all of 2015. Doctors and researchers are not sure why that happens, but they do know the vaccine has been very successful. It generally protects people 88 percent of the time.

Symptoms include swelling in glands along the jaw line, headache, ear ache, fatigue and fever. Anyone with those symptoms is urged to stay away from other people and cover their mouth and nose when they cough or sneeze. The illness is considered very contagious but not particularly dangerous.
No hate crimes reported at University of Missouri since last fall

It has been a year of change, uncertainty and a bit of controversy at the University of Missouri, but the school’s police department has received no reports of hate crimes since mid-November 2015, when protests on campus forced out the system president.

Police also have received no reports in 2016 from the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX about hate crimes, Capt. Scott Richardson said. It is unclear, however, if the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX has fielded any such complaints because its investigations are confidential and its annual report has not been completed. The office, which investigates complaints of discrimination and sexual assault on campus, is working on the report, which will include data from Aug. 1, 2015, through July 31 of this year, MU spokesman Christian Basi said.

The office shares information with police when there is a threat to safety on campus, Basi said.

Eleven hate crimes were reported to campus police in 2015, one in 2014 and three in 2013, according to MU’s Annual Fire Safety and Security Report released in September.

The FBI released national hate crime statistics Monday for 2015. The 5,850 incidents reported to law enforcement last year is nearly 7 percent more than in 2014.

Imani Simmons-Elloie, one of the founding members of Concerned Student 1950, the group whose protests resulted in UM President tim Wolfe’s resignation, said hate crimes are happening but are not being reported to campus police. Many minority students don’t feel comfortable going to police and having an incident being publicized, so they look to other reporting methods, she said.

Though it was not reported as a hate crime, Simmons-Elloie pointed to an incident in September at the fraternity Delta Upsilon in which two black female students said they were called a racial slur when walking by the fraternity’s house on Tiger Avenue. Delta Upsilon was suspended while the report is investigated. Even if it did not meet the legal definition of a hate crime, Simmons-Elloie said, the incident should have been classified as one.

“It can be considered a hate crime, depending on who you’re talking to,” Simmons-Elloie, a senior business management major, said.
Also not classified as a hate crime was a post to the social media app Erodr last week saying “some of you should be ready to die tomorrow.” MU student Gregory L. Phipps was charged with posting the message early Wednesday — just after it became clear that Donald Trump had won the White House. Police said Phipps told them he was upset about Trump’s election.

The last hate crime reported to MU police was Nov. 10, 2015, amid protests against racism on campus led by Concerned Student 1950. One day after Wolfe and MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin resigned, Hunter M. Park took to Yik Yak, an anonymous social media app, and posted threats against black people. Then a Missouri University of Science and Technology student in Rolla, Park changed the geolocation on his phone so his threats would show up in Columbia, including one that said he would “shoot every black person I see.”

Park was charged and later pleaded guilty to making a terroristic threat, a felony, and was given a suspended sentence.

Back when she was a freshman, Simmons-Elloie said, she was walking through Greek Town when someone used a racial slur toward her. A couple of years later, she said, she was confused, but not surprised when she heard of Park’s threats.

“I was confused about why someone could hate so much to want to say something like that, but then I realized where I am,” Simmons-Elloie said. “I realized what happened to me before I even attended a class at Mizzou.”

International students studying in the U.S. concerned about political climate

COLUMBIA - MU, along with other colleges and universities across the country, has seen an increase in international student enrollment.

The total number of international students in the U.S. officially topped one million this year, according to data released today by the Institute of International Education.
Between 2011 and 2015, MU saw a 29 percent increase in international students, according to the university.

Some of those students share similar concerns as domestic students regarding the political climate of the country, particularly the rhetoric of President-Elect Donald Trump.

KOMU 8 previously reported on an anti-Trump demonstration on MU's campus.

"In Australia, the political parties aren't probably as extreme. They're quite moderate. Obviously here in America people are very passionate about their politics," said Peter Di Stefano, an exchange student from La Trobe University in Melbourne.

He said he was surprised that one political party, the Republican party, will control the House, Senate, and White House. He said he was not very concerned about the election when he came to the United States this summer, and he thought Hillary Clinton was going to win.

"There are certain things now that people could be worried about whether they get passed through the legislation," Di Stefano said.

He also said many issues that domestic students worry about, like discrimination based on race and sexual orientation, are concerns for international students, too.

Trump's website outlines his potential immigration policies, some of which could affect foreign students studying here on visas, depending on their home country. However, Trump has not made any official comment about international students.

Bumpy road ahead for some of Missouri's new constitutional amendments

Of the four constitutional amendments passed by Missouri voters on Tuesday, rumblings have started about legal challenges to three of them.
The most basic parts of Amendment 2 place a $2,600 cap on individual campaign contributions per election to people running for the legislature and statewide offices. It also bars political parties from receiving individual donations exceeding $25,000 per election for state and local races combined.

The measure had been challenged on its way to the ballot. As attorney Chuck Hatfield argued then, “What this constitutional amendment does is it allows investor-owned utilities, such as Ameren (and Kansas City Power and Light), to contribute to PACs, but it prohibits Missouri electric cooperatives, such as my client, from contributing to PACs.” Appellate courts noted that if that particular provision were to be later found to be unconstitutional, the amendment was written so it could be severed from the rest.

But according to Richard Reuben, a law professor at Mizzou, the basic issue of campaign donations could be heading to the U.S. Supreme Court.

“It has sent signals that it would be willing to reconsider the constitutionality of campaign contribution limits, so it is plausible that Missouri’s new contribution limits could be a test case,” he said.

The other newly passed constitutional amendment that seems certain to be heading for a court challenge requires that people show a government-issued photo ID to vote. The implementation law for this was passed by the legislature this fall.

The issue here, Reuben says, is how it affects people’s rights: “The question before the Missouri Supreme Court will be, first of all, whether it can review the constitutionality of a constitutional amendment … and I believe the answer to that question is going to be ‘yes’ in light of the existing constitutional right to vote.”
Does the new amendment, in other words, violate an existing right?

But lawsuits aren’t the only obstacle to the new photo ID requirement. No money has been budgeted to pay for such mandates contained in it as providing a state-issued photo ID card, free of charge, to those without a driver’s license.

House Speaker Todd Richardson says, “We’re certainly going to fund it. It’s been a priority of this General Assembly for a long time, and it’ll be the mission of the budget chair to make sure that we do that in a timely fashion.”

The cost, however, will be something to watch. The ballot language said the amount needed is unknown, but could “exceed $2.1 million annually.” Missouri AFL-CIO president Richard Louis disagrees: “It’s about 20 million bucks out of the general fund of the state treasury, and going forward in the future years, the cost is unknown – they can’t put a cost on it.”

Even Amendment 4, which bans sales taxes on services such as lawn care, haircuts, and doctor and dental visits, could see a court challenge. Here it’s a matter of definitions. Richard Sheets of the Missouri Municipal League says the concern is with the word “transaction,” which is also part of what cannot be taxed in the future.

“We don’t know what that means,” he said. “And we’re very concerned that the courts will define transactions to scale back items that are currently taxed, and the revenue from those taxes are used for essential public services, and that will bring about in the future a scaling back of public services or raising the property tax to fund those essential services.”

Sheets says they have no plans at this time to file suit, but would support other legal efforts to combat any consequences, such as redefining “transactions.”
Amendment 4’s spokesman, Scott Charton, says legal challenges would be, quote, “ill advised, because the people have spoken.”

Lawyers are not likely to earn any fees working on Amendment 1, which renewed the one-tenth of a cent sales tax for state parks and soil conservation. The popularity of the 30-plus year old tax is clear; it 80 percent of the vote statewide.

It is interesting, however that support didn’t exceed 56 percent in Shannon and Reynolds counties in southeastern Missouri. A new park opened in Shannon County this year that was created out of a former festival site, Camp Zoe. And Reynolds County is in an area that will benefit from legal settlements with lead and zinc mining and smelting. But some of the settlement money went to buy park land in Oregon County. And controversy ensued.

J.C. Kuessner, former deputy director of the state park system, sees another factor: "In those two counties, they have access to land that's unlimited…and so they don't place a value on the parks themselves like the folks in the cities do," he said. "They do appreciate the state parks, (but) a lot of the folks just have so much access to public land, even their own land, they're satisfied with what they have."

Kuessner formerly represented Shannon and Reynolds counties in the Missouri House.
Attendance at Mizzou Home Football Games Lowest Since 2002

Watch the story: http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=0e7d47b7-0b7e-43df-919d-ff3acb4367c8

Trump promise of Muslim ban could cost the U.S. billions from international students

NO MU MENTION

By Mará Rose Williams

NAFSA: Association of International Educators on Monday expressed concern that the United States could potentially lose billions of dollars from international college student enrollment, an unintended result of a Trump presidency.

NAFSA released a report displaying the economic benefits the U.S. gains from international student enrollment in the nation’s colleges and universities. The analysis looks at a decade of growth in the number of international students on U.S. college and university campuses from 2005 to 2015.
International students contributed nearly $33 billion and supported more than 400,000 jobs to the U.S. economy during the 2015-2016 academic year.

The report comes just a week after the election of Donald J. Trump, who promised during his campaign to limit some foreign movement into the country. Campaign rhetoric has spread fear in the Middle East, where some countries warned citizens about travel to the U.S.

“It is too soon to know the exact impact of this election on international student recruitment. However, policies proposed by the current president-elect, such as banning all Muslims from our country, could have devastating effects on international student recruitment,” said Marlene M. Johnson, NAFSA’s executive director and CEO.

“With approximately 15 percent of foreign students coming from Muslim-majority countries, we stand to lose the innumerable academic, cultural and foreign policy benefits that these students bring to our nation. In addition, we risk the loss of up to $4.9 billion to the U.S. economy and more than 60,000 jobs.”

Johnson said that if U.S. campuses and communities are to continue to benefit from both the academic and economic benefits international students bring, “we must ensure that our government policies encourage them to choose the United States as their first choice for higher education.”

Currently, the U.S. is the top choice for international students, with the United Kingdom a distant second, said Rachael Banks, a NAFSA spokeswoman. Most of the foreign students in the U.S. come from China and India.

Eleven years ago, during the 2004-2005 academic year, the boost to the U.S. economy from foreign students was approximately $13.3 billion.

According to NAFSA, for every seven international students studying in this country, three U.S. jobs are created by student spending occurring in higher education, housing, dining, retail, transportation, telecommunications and health insurance.

The report breaks down the economic impact by state, revealing that for 2015-2016 in Kansas, 10,351 international students generated $247.2 million and created 2,516 jobs. Those numbers are down from the previous year, when there were more than 12,000 students on campuses, spending $278 million and creating 2,755 jobs.

Missouri saw an increase in foreign students, dollars and jobs from 2014-2015 when 21,703 international students were enrolled in schools in the state, $615.00 million was generated and 7,200 jobs created.

The latest figures show 24,171 international students enrolled in schools in Missouri last fall, which contributed $696.4 million dollars and 8,123 jobs to the economy for that school year.
For NAFSA, Indiana University’s Office of International Services collected and analyzed enrollment data from the Institute of International Education’s Open Doors 2016 report and tuition and expense data from the Department of Education’s National Center of Educational Statistics.