MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

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University of Missouri withdraws recognition of Kappa Alpha

COLUMBIA, Mo. — The University of Missouri has withdrawn recognition of a fraternity for five years for violations of several of the school’s standards of conduct.

The action announced Tuesday against Kappa Alpha is effective immediately. It means the fraternity cannot participate in campus activities and will not have access to some university facilities, such as auditoriums and meeting rooms. The fraternity also must pay a $1,000 judicial processing fee.

Fraternity members will be allowed to continue their academic programs.

The university announced in early October that it was investigating an incident involving excessive alcohol use at Kappa Alpha, which was already on probation for another alcohol-related incident earlier in the semester.

The Kappa Alpha national office did not immediately return a phone call Tuesday from The Associated Press.
Mizzou boots Kappa Alpha fraternity for hazing, other violations

COLUMBIA, MO. • One month after “a hazing incident” led to the suspension of the Kappa Alpha Order chapter at the University of Missouri-Columbia, campus officials announced they’re withdrawing recognition of the fraternity for the next five years.

Hazing is one of many conduct violations against the fraternity that led to the administrative decision, Mizzou spokesman Christian Basi said.

The incident last month, which is under investigation as an assault by Columbia police, involved a pledge member who was involved in a vodka-chugging contest, the pledge’s family told the Columbia Daily Tribune. A report provided by the family said the contest wasn’t mandatory.

The member, 18, was taken to a hospital for alcohol poisoning with a blood-alcohol concentration of 0.45 percent, more than five times the legal limit to drive. The incident happened Sept. 29.

Basi couldn’t discuss specifics about the incident because of federal student privacy laws.

Jesse Lyons, assistant executive director for advancement for Kappa Alpha, said that the national organization hired an independent investigator to look into the chapter and found that particular incident to not be an example of hazing.

“However, our investigation did find unrelated previous risk management violations, including hazing and alcohol misuse, that must be addressed,” he said in a statement. He said he’s disappointed in Mizzou’s decision, adding that the national organization identified a “core group” of men “with whom we could move forward with,” while parting ways with others.

“We work hard with any organization that violates our policies to educate them on making better decisions,” Cathy Scroggs, vice chancellor for student affairs at Mizzou, said in a statement. “We have worked with this organization in the past, and I hope that they will take the necessary steps to improve in the future. The safety of our campus is our No. 1 priority; anytime that safety is compromised, we must take appropriate measures.”

This decision means Kappa Alpha can’t participate in social events on campus, including homecoming.
The men will continue to live in the fraternity house while local alumni and national leaders decide what’s next, Lyons said.

The fraternity also violated the campus’ alcohol conduct policies, among others. The chapter was forced to pay Mizzou a $1,000 judicial processing fee.

**MU withdraws Kappa Alpha fraternity recognition**

Almost two months after it placed the fraternity on temporary suspension, the University of Missouri has withdrawn Kappa Alpha's recognition as a student organization for five years.

The decision is effective immediately, and means the fraternity will not have access to certain university facilities or be able to participate in campus activities. Individual students will be able to attend classes.

“We expect all of our student organizations to uphold our values of respect, responsibility, discovery and excellence,” Cathy Scroggs, vice chancellor for Student Affairs, said in an MU news release. “We have worked with this organization in the past, and I hope that they will take the necessary steps to improve in the future.”

Kappa Alpha was placed on a temporary suspension less than a week after a pledge became unconscious early Sept. 28 and was hospitalized after participating in a vodka-chugging contest. The fraternity had violated university and fraternity rules against hard alcohol and allowing a minor to consume alcohol in any form, and was already on disciplinary probation after a previous incident where a pledge required medical treatment for intoxication. The MU chapter also has been suspended by the national fraternity while it conducts an investigation.

Columbia police were sent to the fraternity, 1301 University Ave., the day after the incident for a report of an assault in which an 18-year-old house member drank to the point of needing emergency medical attention. The suspension was announced Oct. 3. Columbia Police Department Sgt. Bob Dochler said the case is under investigation.

Lynn Zyngale, the mother of the 18-year-old student who had alcohol poisoning, said she was displeased with the five-year term and with how the university has handled the situation.
“It’s not nearly enough and we feel like the school needs to be a little more forthcoming,” she said.

The MU release about the loss of recognition does not detail the violations the school determined Kappa Alpha to have committed and Zyngale said she called the university to learn the details.

“How are parents and/or students supposed to know what exactly went on there” if MU doesn’t release the list, she said.

Zyngale said fraternity members forced her son to chug liquor.

“The school needs to be more concerned about their students instead of their reputation,” she said.

Her son has since recovered without any long-term effects and withdrew from classes at MU after Homecoming weekend.

MU spokesman Christian Basi, when told about Zyngale’s statements, referred to part of Scroggs' statement that emphasized campus safety is the school's top priority.

MU said Kappa Alpha was found responsible for multiple violations of the university's standard of conduct. Basi said the violations included physical abuse; threatening or intimidating behaviors, written or verbal conduct; violations of rules governing use of alcohol and drugs; and hazing.

Jesse Lyons, assistant executive director for advancement for the fraternity’s national office and editor of The Kappa Alpha Journal, emailed a statement to the Tribune in which he said the fraternity's headquarters is “disappointed at the ultimate decision by the university.” Lyons said the chapter and national organization were “prepared to educate our members on making better decisions, work with Mizzou as in the past, and take necessary steps to improve in the future.”

Allegations of hazing that led to the branch’s suspension were found to be false by a private investigator, Lyons said.

“However, our investigation did find unrelated previous risk management violations, including hazing and alcohol misuse, that must be addressed,” Lyons wrote. “Through our review and investigation, we identified a core group of men in our chapter with whom we could have moved forward. Our proposed sanctions included individual and chapter discipline, proven and intense culture change education for members, the separation of some chapter membership, enhanced alumni involvement, and ongoing progress monitoring.”

MU ordered Kappa Alpha to pay a $1,000 judicial processing fee. It had been the second fraternity here to be suspended this semester, with the university's decision coming a few days after Delta Upsilon was temporarily suspended as MU investigates accusations that black students were harassed with racist and sexist slurs outside its house on Tiger Avenue.
Kappa Alpha’s national office still is imposing the temporary suspension that has been in place since early October, Lyons said. “This suspension will remain in effect until local alumni and national leaders can determine the best course of action for our members, the chapter, and the national organization.”

Basi said what happens as the five-year term ends depends on what the national organization wants to do. The university will work with Kappa Alpha headquarters and local alumni starting with about one year to go in order to prepare for the date of Kappa Alpha's return or its dissolution.

**UPDATED: Kappa Alpha fraternity will not be recognized by MU for next five years**

COLUMBIA — Kappa Alpha Order fraternity has been found responsible for multiple violations of MU's Standard of Conduct and will not be recognized by MU for five years effective immediately, the university announced Tuesday.

Fraternity members will still be able to attend classes, but the organization will no longer be able to participate in Homecoming or campus social events. The fraternity also must pay a $1,000 judicial processing fee.

The judicial processing fee is charged to a student organization when it is found responsible for violating university conduct. It helps support staffing and operations of the Office of Student Conduct.

The violations, MU spokesman Christian Basi said in an email, include:

- Obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration, conduct proceedings, or other University activities, including its public service functions on or off campus.

- Physical abuse or other conduct which threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person.

- Threatening or Intimidating behaviors, written or verbal conduct, that causes a reasonable expectation of injury to the health or safety of any person or damage to any property or implied threats or acts that cause a reasonable fear of harm in another.
• Violation of University policies, rules or regulations or of campus regulations including, but not limited to, those governing residence in University-provided housing, or the use of University facilities, or the time, place and manner of public expression.

• Manufacture, use, possession, sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages or any controlled substance without proper prescription or required license or as expressly permitted by law or University regulations, including operating a vehicle on University property, or on streets or roadways adjacent to and abutting a campus, under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance as prohibited by law of the state of Missouri.

• Failure to comply with directions of University officials acting in the performance of their duties.

• Hazing, defined as an act that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or an act that is likely to cause physical or psychological harm to any person within the University community, or that destroys or removes public or private property, for the purpose of initiation, admission into, affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a group or organization. Participation or cooperation by the person(s) being hazed does not excuse the violation. Failing to intervene to prevent (and/or) failing to discourage (and/or) failing to report those acts may also violate this policy.

Basi said he could not provide further details and did not know whether fraternity members had begun moving out of the house, which is at 1301 University Ave.

Two moving vans were seen outside of the fraternity last weekend, and people were seen loading furniture onto them.

Jesse Lyons, assistant executive director for advancement for the national Kappa Alpha Order organization, emailed the following statement to the Missourian:

"Kappa Alpha Order has a 125-year history with the University of Missouri. We are disappointed at the ultimate decision by the university. The chapter and the national organization were prepared to educate our members on making better decisions, work with Mizzou as in the past, and take necessary steps to improve in the future.

"During the course of this investigation, our national administrative office hired an independent investigator. We determined the specific hazing allegations related to the temporary suspension to be false. However, our investigation did find unrelated previous risk management violations, including hazing and alcohol misuse, that must be addressed.

"Through our review and investigation, we identified a core group of men in our chapter with whom we could have moved forward. Our proposed sanctions included individual and chapter discipline, proven and intense culture change education for members, the separation of some chapter membership, enhanced alumni involvement, and ongoing progress monitoring."
"At this time, our chapter remains under the previously issued temporary suspension from our national administrative office. This suspension will remain in effect until local alumni and national leaders can determine the best course of action for our members, the chapter, and the national organization."

MU’s Interfraternity Council Executive Board expressed support for both fraternities and holding them responsible for their actions. In a statement published on social media, the board wrote:

"The Interfraternity Council supports holding chapters and their members accountable for their actions ... Involvement in a fraternity at the University of Missouri should foster an environment filled with positive experiences involving academics, leadership, character development, and a great sense of community for all members."

Previous violations

Kappa Alpha was suspended in October after reported involvement in a vodka-chugging hazing incident that sent an 18-year-old to the hospital for alcohol poisoning.

The fraternity also had been placed on probation in response to a house party on Aug. 27 where the fraternity reportedly served alcohol to minors and illegally had hard liquor at the party. The probation was set through Dec. 20.

Over a 22-month period, Kappa Alpha was involved in incidents of providing alcohol to minors, fights resulting in concussions, two possible cases of alcohol poisoning, illegal hard liquor and alleged hazing, according to documents that resulted in an article published in the Missourian on Monday.

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.

"We expect all of our student organizations to uphold our values of respect, responsibility, discovery and excellence," said Cathy Scroggs, MU's vice chancellor for student affairs. "We work hard with any organization that violates our policies to educate them on making better decisions. We have worked with this organization in the past, and I hope that they will take the necessary steps to improve in the future. The safety of our campus is our No. 1 priority; anytime that safety is compromised, we must take appropriate measures."

Kappa Alpha has 125 members, according to the fraternity's national organization.

No one at the Office of Greek Life was immediately available Tuesday afternoon.
MU Withdraws Recognition of Kappa Alpha for Five Years

The University of Missouri announced Tuesday that it is withdrawing the recognition of Kappa Alpha fraternity as a recognized student organization, citing "multiple violations" of the MU Standard of Conduct.

According to a press release Tuesday, the move is effective immediately, and will be in effect for five years. Without official recognition, the fraternity will not have free access to certain university facilities and will not be allowed to participate in campus activities like Homecoming.

The fraternity was temporarily suspended in October, following allegations of a hazing incident that resulted in an underage student being taken from the fraternity to a hospital with alcohol poisoning.

In the written press release, vice chancellor for student affairs Cathy Scroggs wrote, "We expect all of our student organizations to uphold our values of Respect, Responsibility, Discovery and Excellence. We work hard with any organization that violates our policies to educate them on making better decisions. We have worked with this organization in the past, and I hope that they will take the necessary steps to improve in the future. The safety of our campus is our No. 1 priority; anytime that safety is compromised, we must take appropriate measures."
University of Missouri withdraws KA's recognition for five years

Watch the story: http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=58163392-79b0-448d-8553-ad8abe15d73b

COLUMBIA, Mo. - According to sources close to the hazing incident that occurred in Kappa Alpha Order Fraternity (KA) in September, the University of Missouri has officially withdrawn KA's recognition as a fraternity on campus for five years.

This "stop of recognition" means that KA will no longer be sanctioned by the university, will not have access to university facilities and will no longer be participating in Greek Life activities or events.

“We expect all of our student organizations to uphold our values of Respect, Responsibility, Discovery and Excellence,” said Cathy Scroggs, vice chancellor for Student Affairs. “We work hard with any organization that violates our policies to educate them on making better decisions. We have worked with this organization in the past, and I hope that they will take the necessary steps to improve in the future. The safety of our campus is our No. 1 priority; anytime that safety is compromised, we must take appropriate measures.”

MU suspended Kappa Alpha to investigate a hazing incident involving an 18-year-old male who had been drinking to the point of being taken in an ambulance to a local hospital. His blood alcohol content was .45, five times the legal limit to drive. He had three breaths per minute and a cold touch to his skin. University spokesman Christian Basi could not confirm whether the seven violations it found KA responsible for were tied to that incident.

ABC 17 News reached out to the Kappa Alpha national organization, and received the following response from Jesse Lyons, assistant executive director of advancement:

"Kappa Alpha Order has a 125-year history with the University of Missouri. We are disappointed at the ultimate decision by the university. The chapter and the national organization were prepared to educate our members on making better decisions, work with Mizzou as in the past, and take necessary steps to improve in the future.

During the course of this investigation, our national administrative office hired an independent investigator. We determined the specific hazing allegations related to the temporary suspension to be false. However, our investigation did find unrelated previous risk management violations, including hazing and alcohol misuse, that must be addressed.

Through our review and investigation, we identified a core group of men in our chapter with whom we could have moved forward. Our proposed sanctions included individual and chapter discipline, proven and intense culture change education for members, the separation of some chapter membership, enhanced alumni involvement, and ongoing progress monitoring.
At this time, our chapter remains under the previously issued temporary suspension from our national administrative office. This suspension will remain in effect until local alumni and national leaders can determine the best course of action for our members, the chapter, and the national organization.”

Kappa Alpha can remain near campus. While it is not a recognized student group, the national organization owns the house at University and College. Members can still live there, and the group is no longer bound by the university oversight other Greek groups are.

Lynn Zingale, the mother of the former pledge who sparked KA's suspension, said she was disappointed with the five-year loss of recognition. ABC 17 News highlighted the University's lack of notice to the community when a Greek organization is investigated until the semester ends. Zingale feels the school needs to send a stronger disciplinary message to prove it has the students' interests in mind.

"I'm never going to feel it's enough until the school starts doing more, and finds a way to let us parents know and other students know what exactly is going on with these troubled fraternities and or sororities," Zingale told ABC 17 News.

In the last nine school years, MU has withdrawn recognition five times, all of them fraternities. Three of those - Alpha Kappa Lambda, Alpha Tau Omega and Sigma Alpha Epsilon, have returned to campus. Sigma Pi is serving its first semester of a five-year withdrawal of recognition.

Zingale said the school should do a better job of publishing which Greek groups are either on probation or suspension.

"There might be students there thinking of this, going into Kappa Alpha Order, and might see this and say, 'No thank you.' But not if they're not going to put it out there, what violations there were. How can we know?"

MU’s Interfraternity Council also commented on the university's decision:

KA will also pay a $1,000 judicial processing fee.
The University of Missouri announced Monday it withdraw the recognition of the Kappa Alpha Order fraternity as a recognized student organization for five years, effective immediately.

"This means that as an organization, that fraternity will no longer be able to participate in any types of social activity related to the university such as Homecoming and other social events," MU spokesman Christian Basi said. "They also will not be able to utilize many of our facilities that recognized student organizations are able to do so for free."

Basi said the Kappa Alpha fraternity was found in violation of several of the University of Missouri's Standards of Conduct.

Basi said after the university suspend the fraternity temporarily last month for a reported hazing incident involving alcohol, officials conducted investigations into the hazing incident at the fraternity.

Basi said the fraternity is not the first the university has taken this action against. He added if any safety concern happens, the university will take significant action.

"The safety of our campus is our number one priority," Basi said. "We expect all student organizations to uphold our values of Respect, Responsibility, Discovery and Excellence."

According to a news release, this action will not affect individual students' abilities to attend classes and continue their academic progress this semester.

Kappa Alpha also was ordered to pay a $1,000 judicial processing fee.
Kappa Alpha kicked off MU campus

Watch the story: http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=ad6232f0-871d-4ba0-a040-e408db7a0865

COLUMBIA — The University of Missouri has withdrawn recognition of the Kappa Alpha fraternity for multiple violations of the university's Standard of Conduct.

According to a statement released by the university, the withdrawal of recognition will last five years and means that the fraternity will not be allowed to participate in campus activities such as homecoming and other social events.

It comes after a long history of infractions of the university's alcohol policy. The latest incident involved an 18-year-old student who was hospitalized after taking part in a vodka chugging game at the fraternity. At the time of the incident in early October, the student's parents said his blood alcohol content was more than five times the legal limit for driving, which would put it at more than .40 percent.

Cathy Scroggs, vice chancellor of student affairs, said, "We have worked with this organization in the past, and I hope they will take the necessary steps to improve in the future."
Delta Upsilon and LBC release statements about improved relations

Watch the story: http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=a6d22ab5-69a3-4535-a16f-8d682286a097

COLUMBIA, Mo. - The University of Missouri's Delta Upsilon Fraternity has released a statement on Twitter in reference to the incident that occurred earlier this fall:

November 15, 2016

The Legion of Black Collegians and the Missouri Chapter of Delta Upsilon would like to share with Mizzou that our respective organizations have began to develop a relationship. We are committed to creating a foundation that is conducive to a better understanding of one another and the changes we can make collectively. While we know that the work needed to continue developing this relationship will not be easy, we are discussing specific steps and actions our groups can take to educate ourselves and the larger community.

Sincerely,

The Legion of Black Collegians and the Missouri Chapter of Delta Upsilon
Mumps Cases on the Rise at the University of Missouri

The number of confirmed mumps cases at the University of Missouri is growing amid a national rise in cases.

The university plans to provide an update each Wednesday. As of Nov. 9, the university had recorded 17 cases since the beginning of the fall semester. The school says all the students received the required two doses of a vaccine that protects against mumps, as well as measles and rubella.

Mumps is a viral infection that causes swelling in the salivary glands and cheeks. Anyone with symptoms is asked to stay at home.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says 2,345 mumps cases had been reported nationwide as of last month. That's more than twice as many as in all of 2015.

Other universities also have reported cases, including Harvard.

Similar stories ran on the following broadcasts:

WTAP - Parkersburg, WV
WKTV - Utica, NY
WUTQ - Utica, NY
Mumps health alert at MU

University of Missouri officials confirmed in a Nov. 4 campus-wide email that eight students had contracted mumps. As of Monday, that number has increased to 17.

“As things change, we’ll update the Student Health Center website,” MU Student Health Center Director Susan Even said in an email.

Even also confirmed that all diagnosed students have had the required two doses of MMR vaccine.

Director of Residential Life Frankie Minor shared in an email that the first eight cases occurred in students living off campus.

“None of the students identified lived in university housing,” Minor said.

However, among the latest nine cases, Even said “a few” live in the residence halls. The actual number of students with mumps who live on campus and the names of the halls have not been disclosed.

Even said residence halls are working to make students aware of the situation by posting fliers about the disease and prevention strategies.

The virus is spread through saliva or mucus from the mouth, nose and throat, according to the Centers for Disease Control. An infected person can spread the virus by coughing, sneezing, talking, sharing cups and utensils, or touching objects with unwashed hands that are then touched by others.

Michael Cooperstock, medical director of the University of Missouri Health Care’s Infection Control Department, stated in an MU news release. that swelling of the salivary glands under the jaw is the most common symptom of mumps.

“Other typical symptoms include fever, headache, muscle aches, tiredness and loss of appetite. Symptoms usually appear two to three weeks after infection and can last up to two weeks until complete recovery,” Cooperstock said.

The Student Health Center requests that after symptoms begin, students who have the disease stay at home for five days, the time period they are considered contagious.

If you have symptoms, call the Student Health Center at (573) 882-7481 or contact your health care provider.
COLUMBIA — **Marc Linit will serve as Interim Vice Chancellor and Dean of the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources beginning Jan. 1, 2017.** Linit will succeed Tom Payne, MU’s dean of CAFNR of 17 years, when he retires in December.

On Monday, MU Provost Garnett Stokes announced on the CAFNR website that the college selected Linit to fill the position while it searches for a permanent dean. Linit is the senior associate dean for research and extension at CAFNR and has experience overseeing farms throughout the state and managing the budget of the Plant Sciences Extension Program.

Linit will take over as interim dean after a year of heavy scrutiny for CAFNR. During the 2015 and 2016 fiscal years, a UM System audit of CAFNR and found several employees and entities were grossly mishandling funds, most notably employee Carla Rathmann, who stole more than $700,000 from the Southwest Research Center in Mt. Vernon, Missouri.

Stokes also said CAFNR has employed the professional search firm Baker and Associates in the hiring process. According to its website, Baker and Associates has worked with many universities to help find deans, chancellors, and presidents. In the past, the University of Missouri has hired the firm in the search for a vice chancellor for extension and engagement.

The announcement also named the 23 members of the CAFNR dean search committee, which includes Richard Fordyce, director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture, and John Raines, senior vice president for the Climate Corporation's global commercial businesses.

Stokes said the college hopes to fill the position by summer 2017.
Marc Linit has been named the interim vice chancellor and dean of the University of Missouri’s College of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources.

In a post on the college’s website, Garnett Stokes, provost and executive vice chancellor for academic affairs, wrote that Linit, current senior associate dean for research and extension at the college, will take the post Jan. 1. Thomas Payne, the current dean, announced in May his plans to retire at the end of December.

Stokes wrote she chose Linit after receiving nominations for the interim role.

Stokes also said the college has hired Baker & Associates, a Georgia-based search firm, to assist with finding a permanent dean. The search firm will work with a 24-member committee put together by the college.

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

COLUMBIA — Researchers at the MU College of Education and the Missouri Prevention Center will start an experimental training program for principals to improve school safety.

"Principals’ jobs are complex, and principals play a vital role in student achievement," said Keith Herman, a professor in the Department of Educational, School and Counseling Psychology and co-director of the Missouri Prevention Center.
The four-year program, Safety and Civil Schools Leadership, will train principals from 60 middle and high schools in the state of Washington. Starting in January, MU researchers will examine the training then present ways to improve school safety.

The training aims to provide principals with strategies to make good decisions about how to keep children safe in schools. It will teach principals how to collect feedback from students and teachers about their feelings on school safety and how to organize schools into teams of decision-makers in response to safety problems, Herman said.

It will also help schools have clear expectations and plans to improve school safety and interact with student behaviors in different school settings.

"The model has been around for many years, but it has not been rigorously evaluated," Herman said. "This is the first study to determine how helpful it is to principals and ultimately how it translates into building student safety in schools."

Researchers will select schools according to criteria such as the level of disruptive behavior and assign those schools to either receive the training or not. At the end of the program, researchers will compare the two groups of schools to find out whether the training is effective.

The training includes a three-day session in the summer of 2017, on-site visits and evaluation of schools by hired coaches, and web connection between principals and experts.

"Problems like bully victimization are prevalent in schools," said Francis Huang, an assistant professor in the Department of Educational, School and Counseling Psychology and a researcher in the program.

"A supportive and structured school climate may have an effect in reducing victimization. We are pretty fortunate to test this idea in an experimental design to see how we can reduce the level of problems."

Herman, Huang and other researchers involved received a $4.1 million grant from the National Institute of Justice in September. Two-thirds of the money is going to support direct services to schools.

“Schools in that region are a pretty diversified sample," Herman said. "The findings will be able to be generalized to other settings and be transferred to here. A safer environment is more conducive to learning and promoting positive behaviors.”
Columbia Chamber wants expansion of University of Missouri Research Reactor

A mid-Missouri lawmaker plans to push for funding for a proposed Mizzou research center expansion.

State Rep. Chuck Basye (R-Rocheport) tells Missourinet he’ll advocate for a proposed $8 million expansion at the University of Missouri Research Reactor (MURR). The Columbia Chamber of Commerce is leading the effort to obtain state funding for the expansion.

“And I think it’s very important to not only the community, but all of the great research they do there and life-saving medications and all that. I think it’s something we really need to try and find the money to get that to them,” Basye says.

The Columbia Chamber says the expansion would add additional training classrooms and labs, and would increase the number of workers available to support MURR’s ability to rapidly supply radiopharmaceutical companies and vendors. MURR, which opened in 1966, has about 200 full and part-time scientists and staff.

The Chamber also says an expansion would help to train more skilled workers and make Columbia an international hub for imaging and cancer drug production.

Basye was one of seven Missouri lawmakers who toured the facility with MURR officials, Columbia leaders and reporters on Tuesday.
House Speaker Todd Richardson (R-Poplar Bluff) participated in that tour. Richardson also addressed Columbia Chamber members during a Tuesday luncheon at First State Community Bank. Missourinet asked Richardson about the funding request.

“It’s incredibly important that that reactor continue to operate. It’s something that I think is really a feather in the cap for the University, so we’re going to be ready to work with the University on how we continue to fund that. And we’ll have to see what the budget numbers look like, but it’s something I know we’re interested in partnering with them on,” Richardson says.

Incoming House Select Committee on Budget Chairman Scott Fitzpatrick (R-Shell Knob) tells Missourinet 2017 will likely be a difficult budget year, making the Chamber’s request and others like it unlikely next year.

In addition to Richardson and Basye, the five other lawmakers who toured MURR Tuesday were State Senator-Elect Caleb Rowden (R-Columbia), State Rep. Travis Fitzwater (R-Holts Summit) and three newly-elected State Representatives: Martha Stevens (D-Columbia), Cheri Toalson Reisch (R-Hallsville) and Rusty Black (R-Chillicothe).

The MURR website has a detailed summary of the project’s history. It notes that in 1959, Missouri Governor James Blair signed an appropriations bill to fund the project, and that the amount was later supplemented by the Legislature during the tenure of Governor John Dalton. The MURR website says state allocations were $3.4 million.

The facility is one of 25 University research reactors in the nation.
House Speaker Todd Richardson tours University of Missouri Research Reactor

UPDATE: House Speaker Todd Richardson says he's looking forward to working with the University of Missouri in the upcoming legislative session: "We'll have to see what the budget numbers look like but I know it's something we're really interested in partnering with them on."

Missouri House Speaker Todd Richardson is expected to tour the University of Missouri Research Reactor Tuesday.

Back in April, legislators appropriated $2 million to fund the expansion of the reactor. The total project costs $10 million and would add additional training classrooms and laboratories with a goal of making Columbia an international hub for imaging and cancer drug production.

Obtaining the remaining $8 million to fund the project is one of the Chambers top priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

Speaker Richardson is expected to address the upcoming legislative session when he tours MURR today.

ABC 17 News will be attending the tour and will have more in our 6 p.m. newscast tonight.

Missouri athletics receives anonymous gift toward softball program

COLUMBIA — The Missouri athletics department received a $3.1 million planned estate gift from an anonymous donor Tuesday. The gift will be split between the softball program and the Tiger Scholarship Fund.
The donation will be given through the John and Dolly Kadlec Society, which provides donors a way to plan gifts to the Missouri athletic department in advance.

**Mizzou Athletics Gets $3.1 Million Gift**

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — The University of Missouri’s athletics department says a planned $3.1 million gift from an eventual estate will go to the school’s softball program and its scholarship fund.

The university announced Tuesday that the gift from the donor whose name was not publicly released will be split evenly between the softball program and the Tiger Scholarship Fund.

Previously announced gifts to the university include roughly $20 million in the past two months that will go toward building a new football facility near Memorial Stadium/Faurot Field.

**MU researchers extend donated cornea use with new storage system**

COLUMBIA — MU researchers hope to solve a global shortage of eye corneas through a new inexpensive and portable corneal storage system.

Frederick Fraunfelder, chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology, and Xu Han, an assistant research professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, developed the system. The hope is it will particularly help those countries that must rely on imported human corneas for transplantation. That's most of the world because only nine countries export human corneas.
The demand for corneal transplants right now is estimated between 15 million and 20 million corneas, Han said. Due to the limitations of the current cornea storage method, only 180,000 corneal transplants are performed each year, he said.

A cornea, which is the outermost layer of the eye, can become swollen or scarred after getting injured or affected by disease, losing its smoothness and clarity. When eyeglasses or contact lenses cannot correct vision satisfactorily, or medications and special contact lenses cannot relieve painful swelling, a corneal transplant becomes necessary.

In 2012-2013, nine countries exported 23,247 corneas. Of those, 85 percent came from the U.S.; 9 percent from Sri Lanka; and 3 percent from Italy, according to the results of a global survey conducted from August 2012 to August 2013 and published in 2015 in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Corneas used in transplants are taken from donors within 24 hours of death. The donated corneas need to be stored between about 36 and 46 degrees Fahrenheit (2 to 8 degree Celsius). Typically, eye banks put them into refrigerators and keep them usable for, at most, 14 days.

However, that's typically not enough time to get the corneas where they are needed because matching the right cornea with the right recipient will take almost a week, Han said. Also, many doctors refuse to use corneas after they are stored for one week, according to Fraunfelder.

"They are not (eye) banking at all," Han said.

He and Fraunfelder became interested in solving this problem not only to ease the global shortage but also to improve future use of artificial corneal tissues.

Their system uses cryopreservation to keep corneas usable at a temperature below minus 112 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 90 degree Celsius) for at least three months. The system commonly in use now also relies on freezing, but extracellular ice produced during the freezing process damages corneas. The new system avoids development of the ice.

Han said that the system is still in its early stage and that the researchers hope to get a patent within several months. The system has performed well in protecting the cells on the bottom layer of corneal tissues and could be on the market within a year, he said.

Last month, the new technology was awarded $100,000 through the Coulter Translational Partnership Program to speed up its path from lab to market. The Coulter program is based on a partnership between MU and the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation and aims to transform research discoveries into health-care innovations.

The $100,000 will mainly be spent on salaries and further tests on storage devices and solution, Fraunfelder said. Only after they prove the technology performs well can they license and market it.
An eye bank called Saving Sight provided 70 human corneal tissues for free to support the project. "It is an amazing way to preserve the gifts from eye donors. Our contribution is to help to find a way to improve transplants," said Annie Kuhl, chief communication officer for the eye bank.

Toxicity will be tested on the corneas of rabbits used in other experiments.

Follow-up studies are necessary, Han said, and he is hoping for more funding such as what the Coulter Award offered.

### Student Fee Review Committee brings student insight to fee decisions

With decreased enrollment leading to a decrease in income from student fees, the Student Fee Review Committee is in a unique position as the university’s only student-run budget recommendation panel.

Organizations that rely on student fees for their budget, such as the Missouri Students Association, the Graduate Professional Council and MizzouRec, are directly impacted by changes in enrollment. MSA, for example, is completely funded by student fees. The organization’s overall budget is equal to their fee, $22.05, multiplied by the number of undergraduate students.

“We always have to make tough calls,” SFRC vice chairman Jack Blevins said. “If we see areas of the budget that are overspending or can make some cutbacks, then we kind of have to make that judgment.”

According to its website, SFRC is the designated liaison between students and administrators and is responsible for proposing student fees to upper-level administrators.

SFRC reviews presentations from organizations that receive student fee revenue and members score their proposals based on various criteria, Blevins said. The body then aggregates the scores of members to send to Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Cathy Scroggs.

“We’ll take notes during each meeting and then a little bit later, after we’ve reviewed all the presentations, we’ll essentially fill out a scorecard,” he said. “So each student [in the committee] will get a different scorecard and they can rate how much they’d like to see changes in different areas.”
While these organizations offer their preferred increases and cutbacks in funding, members of SFRC have the final say on what is sent to administrative officials.

“In terms of filling out the actual scorecard, it’s completely based on student preferences … in terms of their budget and what will most benefit the general student body,” Blevins said.

The overall student fee is limited by the Consumer Price Index, which will cap fee increases by about 1 percent, or $4.15, for the 2017 fiscal year, according to SFRC’s website. However, individual organizations may request fee changes that are above or below CPI.

The committee meets weekly and is led by a chairperson, who is selected from a pool of applicants by the previous chairperson and Alysha O’Neil, the staff adviser. The newly chosen chair is then able to appoint the remaining 10 committee members from the general student body.

The MSA Budget chair and GPC treasurer, currently Blevins and Alex Howe, respectively, both have standing positions on SFRC as vice chairpeople. The chairperson and vice chairs select committee members based on applications.

“The current chairman and the two vice chairmen kind of deliberate on who they think would be the best fit in the committee,” Blevins said. “That’s based on resumes that are submitted and answers to some of the questions gauging their interest. Basically, we’ll mark down what we like about them in terms of what their interest was.”

Committee membership was not always open to all students. According to a 2012 Maneater article, MSA bylaws once stated “five senators shall be appointed to the Student Fee Review Committee with the advice of the chair.” However, membership rules changed after SFRC violated MSA bylaws by sending fee recommendations to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs without submitting any legislation to MSA Senate.

Despite this change, SFRC meetings are normally not open to students, SRFC chairman Bill Vega said in an email.

MU wins appeal in former veterinary tech's lawsuit

A state appellate court on Tuesday upheld a Boone County verdict in favor of the University of Missouri and two veterinarians accused of firing a woman for speaking out against misconduct.
A three-judge panel of the Missouri Court of Appeals Western District in a unanimous opinion issued Wednesday ruled that Christa Reed, a former technician at MU’s Veterinary Health Center, could not challenge her firing because it does not qualify as a breach of contract. The judges agreed with the lower court in deciding Reed had no contract and was an at-will employee. The panel also denied three other claims in her appeal.

Reed worked at MU from 2004 to March 2011, when she was fired from the center’s ophthalmology service, where her supervisors were ophthalmology section leader Elizabeth Guiliano and Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology Jacqueline Pearce. Pearce and Guiliano were responsible for evaluating Reed’s work and had given her mixed and subsequently poor marks leading up to her firing for unsatisfactory performances and unprofessional behavior. Reed alleged she was fired because she had filed complaints about “potential fiscal irregularities” in the ophthalmology service,” according to the opinion.

She sued, alleging five counts, including wrongful discharge. Circuit Judge Jodie Asel directed a jury to find MU and the two women not guilty because of the evidence at trial on two counts, and the jury cleared MU and the women on the other three counts.

In part, Reed’s attorneys argued during appeal that MU lacked sovereign immunity, which shields public entities from most lawsuits, because her firing was a breach of contract. Under state law, breach of contract is an exception to sovereign immunity. Like the local court, the appellate panel rejected the argument.

George Swearingen Smith, one of Reed’s attorneys, was unavailable for comment Tuesday morning. Skip Walther, lead counsel for MU in the case, said he was not surprised when told about the ruling.

“It’s good news for the university,” Walther said when reached by phone. “I was convinced the university had done everything appropriately, and I never thought the lawsuit had any merit. I wholeheartedly agree that the jury trial that ended in favor of the university should have been affirmed on appeal.”

**Flags and Dissent**

As postelection protests continue, tactic people associate with the Vietnam era returns -- and so does debate about symbolism, patriotism and history.

**MU Mention on Page Four**

The day after Donald Trump was elected president of the United States, a U.S. flag was burned at a protest at American University.
The overwhelming majority of the hundreds of protests and marches at colleges and universities in the United States since the election have not involved burning anything. But American University is not alone, either. In the days since, flags have been burned at Hampshire College and the University of Missouri at Columbia. At Brown University, some students removed a large number of small flags that were planted on a campus quad to mark Veterans Day. And in an incident two months before the election, but raising some of the same issues as more recent actions, some students at Occidental College removed flags that had been planted for the victims of Sept. 11.

The incidents involving flags have been uniformly controversial, with some students at all of the campuses involved speaking out against trashing or burning the flag. Some have said that burning or trashing the flag is insulting to veterans (some of the incidents took place on Veterans Day) or active-duty military service members. Others have said that they sympathize with those protesting, but that the tactic is unlikely to win over supporters and plays into the stereotypes many already have about higher education (and especially about some of the colleges involved, already known for left-leaning student bodies). Many of those criticizing the tactic are saying that this is just the kind of political activity that reinforces the views Donald Trump supporters hold about elites in America.

Flag burning in the United States has tended to take place when "there is a sense that the United States has lost its way," said Robert Justin Goldstein, author of *Flag Burning and Free Speech* (University Press of Kansas). Goldstein, a professor emeritus of political science at Oakland University, said that since the U.S. Supreme Court found in 1989 that flag burning is a form of protected political speech, he thinks there has been less use of the tactic. Before the Supreme Court ruling, he said, burning of the flag tended to result in more attention (and a chance of arrest).

But he said a motivating factor remains the same: burning the flag shocks some people into looking at what is going on. "This is used by people who feel that they are not being heard," he said.

While burning the flag attracts attention, Goldstein said it rarely sways anyone. "It certainly does antagonize a lot of people," he said, as does desecrating flags in other ways (such as removing them and throwing them out).

‘A Sad Day’

That has been the case at Brown University.

At Brown, some students removed and trashed small U.S. flags that were set up last week for a Veterans Day ceremony. The university is investigating. Some Brown students intervened and tried to set up the flags that had been removed. The incident took place against widespread student frustration over the election results.
One Brown student posted on Facebook about how he felt upon finding out the flags had been removed: "Today was a sad day. Hundreds of flags were set up on the main green of Brown University by two veterans in honor of Veterans Day tomorrow, and when I got out of class, people had snapped them, ripped them and [thrown] them aside (in the video). I spent 1.5 hours outside taping them back together and putting all of them back in the ground, with a few confrontations. Only two people out of hundreds of people that passed by stopped to help. One person actually stomped on and snapped all of the ones I put back, and when I asked her to stop and explained that they were for Veterans Day, she said, 'I don't care about that.' Always stand up for what you believe even if you have 6,000 people against you."

Another student responded, defending those who removed the flags: "The U.S. military has destroyed the countries, homes, families and livelihood of so many of the people I know and love. Some of us are only here due to that destruction. I understand the respect for the flag but it is important to acknowledge that there are people on campus with a history that has been deeply negatively affected by the U.S. … The military represents so much more than freedom. It also represents trauma and destruction."

Others weighing in noted the political optics of removing flags. One comment on the website of The Brown Daily Herald said, "Vandalizing the flags shows an unfortunate inability for multilayered thinking about what they represent and what their purpose was on Friday, which was not only to honor veterans as a whole but specific members of our community. I am ashamed that our campus continues to have a problem civilly and rationally expressing opposing opinions. We are becoming an echo chamber and the liberal caricature that Fox News thinks we are."

'The American Flag Is Particularly Triggering'

At Occidental College in September, the Coalition for Diversity and Equity criticized a display set up by the campus Republican group that featured 2,996 small flags, one for each victim of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The flags were removed and found in the trash (right). The coalition did not take responsibility for removing the flags but released a statement that criticized the Republicans' memorial.

"On a campus that proclaims itself time and again to be diverse, equitable and safe for all of its students, the display of American flags covering the entire academic quad disproved that proclamation," the statement said. "When we became aware of the purpose of this display, to memorialize Sept. 11, we were concerned by the complete disregard for the various peoples affected by this history. As students of color, this symbol of the American flag is particularly triggering for many different reasons. For us, this flag is a symbol of institutionalized violence (genocide, rape, slavery, colonialism, etc.) against
people of color, domestically as well as globally. Additionally, if the goal of the memorial is to commemorate the lives lost during Sept. 11, the singular nature of the American flag fails to account for the diversity of lives lost on that day."

This month, Occidental announced that "students believed to have been involved in the incident were identified, and the college has taken appropriate action in accordance with the college’s Code of Student Conduct. Federal and state privacy laws prevent the college from disclosing details about the investigation, the findings or the sanctions."

Conservative websites have spread word about the flag burnings during the postelection campus protests, also noting the frequent uses of profanity and the president-elect's name (something present in far more protests nationally than destroying flags).

Others -- even those who note their respect for the flag -- have defended the right of those protesting to burn flags.

In an essay in The Eagle, the student newspaper of American University, Michael Andersen, a student, wrote that as someone who came from a military family and had served in the military himself, he understood how the burning of a flag at a postelection protest would be upsetting to many. "I have saluted the flag at reveille at the crack of a cold dawn, I have seen my family members wrapped in its soft touch upon their passing, I have seen it worn on the uniforms of our service members around the globe, I have seen coffins of friends draped in it. I know what it symbolizes," he wrote.

But he went on to question those who say no one has a right to burn a flag. "That right of protest comes from the Bill of Rights and includes freedom of speech. Since I swore an oath to protect the Constitution, I have sworn to protect anyone’s right to exercise their liberties. There are no special clauses, there are no 'only if' statements, there are no exceptions," he wrote. "So, to the counter-protesters who sought to take away another American’s rights that come directly from the Constitution itself: you are wrong. You are violating this country’s Constitution and you have no right to be the unilateral judge, jury and executioner."

**Issues Beyond the Flag**

In several of the flag incidents, questions have been raised that go beyond the question of protest.

At the University of Missouri at Columbia, for example, a small American flag was burned on Friday, but the person who burned it and the purpose is not known. A spokeswoman for the university said that the burning violated university rules but not because it involved a flag -- anyone who burns anything on campus must apply for a permit, and no permit was sought.
At Hampshire College, students lowered the main American flag to half-staff on campus shortly after Trump's victory. Then on Thursday night, someone took down the flag and burned it. College officials criticized that action, saying that the college had wanted the flag flying at full height for Veterans Day. When students and employees (some of them veterans) arrived on Friday, no flag was up. During the day, the college replaced the flag and put a new one up.

On Saturday, the college's board agreed to lower the flag to half-staff for a period of time (at right) while the campus discusses the flag and its meaning, and various forms of dissent. "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."

Robert L. Shibley, executive director of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, said via email that it was important to distinguish between burning the flag (a legitimate form of political protest) and burning someone else's flag.

"Just as people are free to burn the flag in protest ... people are also free to criticize flag burning or any other protest tactic," Shibley said. "However, you are not allowed to steal, burn or destroy a flag that does not belong to you. If you do, even though you still cannot be punished for choosing to burn the flag, you can be punished for vandalism, theft, trespass to chattels or other charges or claims related to damaging, stealing or destroying property."

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

With Postelection Tensions Running High, College Presidents Carefully Choose Their Words

No MU Mention

For months, some students at Central Washington University had been telling James L. Gaudino that they were concerned about how the outcome of the presidential election might affect their personal safety and determine their future.
So once the election was over last week, Mr. Gaudino, the institution’s president, knew he had to write a message to the campus, a community that includes students in the groups of people whom Donald J. Trump, the president-elect, alienated during his campaign.

"Student concerns were the driving force behind my letter," says Mr. Gaudino. "I wanted to write everyone and say, It’s going to be OK. We’re going to get through this."

His letter noted the divisive rhetoric of the presidential campaign, added a personal note about how he lost sleep over the election, and underscored the institution’s commitment to "safety and security" for all students, while moving forward to "begin the process of healing as a nation."

Yet Mr. Gaudino was keenly aware of the fine line he needed to walk while writing.

"I tried to be as nonpartisan as possible," Mr. Gaudino says. "I checked with staff and asked them, Is there anyway that someone could point to a sentence or a word and say that’s anti-Trump or that’s pro-Clinton? I really just tried to focus it on the process and the rhetoric."

Mr. Gaudino’s note is just one example of the difficult balancing act campus leaders have faced when they have talked publicly about the election results or its aftermath, which have included protests against the president-elect as well as incidents of hate speech and violence against minorities with references to Mr. Trump. Whether in messages online, emails to the campus, or speaking to a group of students, presidents are choosing their words carefully in the wake of what is widely regarded as the most divisive presidential campaign in recent years.

For the most part, the messages from college presidents about the election have covered similar ground — acknowledging that emotions are "running high," promoting free speech while urging civility on campus, condemning acts of intolerance, assuring students of their safety, acknowledging students’ fears, and doubling down on commitments to inclusion and diversity on campus. Some of the same themes have appeared in statements presidents have made on campuses where there has been an incident of hate speech or an assault potentially prompted by Mr. Trump’s win.

But in these politically divisive days, a college president’s words are certain to be parsed by many, and there’s always a possibility of a backlash. At the University of Michigan, conservative students have rallied behind an open letter, titled #NotMyCampus, that criticizes President Mark S. Schlissel, saying his remarks at
a postelection vigil have fueled an anti-Trump sentiment on campus and fostered hate toward students who support the president-elect. More than 350 people had signed the letter as of Tuesday night.

"Most presidential communications are a balancing act, especially in this political environment," says Teresa V. Parrot, principal of TVP Communications, a company that counsels colleges. She says she understands that presidents want to address people on their campuses who feel that the outcome of the election has made them unsafe, but the message shouldn’t convey opinions that could contribute to some students feeling targeted because of their political views.

E. Gordon Gee, president of West Virginia University, said more than three decades of experience as a college leader informed the tone of the postelection message he wrote to his campus. He had planned to write a postelection letter, no matter who won.

"I think it’s very important for the university president to not take a political tone or an adversarial tone, but rather take a tone that sets a standard for respect and civility and understanding," Mr. Gee said in an interview.

He used his message to paint a clear picture of what he expected the university to be in the future — "a safe supportive home for all" where people could have "respectful discourse regarding even the most contentious issues" — even as the path the nation would take remains unclear.

‘An Obligation’ to Speak Out

Not every college president has felt the need to weigh in, and that perplexes some who believe that’s exactly what higher-education leaders should be doing. Michael S. Roth, president of Wesleyan University, criticized Mr. Trump’s rhetoric during the presidential campaign — and what he thought was at stake if the real-estate developer won — on his blog and elsewhere. He urged other presidents to do the same and at times, he says, he wondered if he should have been writing even more about the election before its outcome.

"A university president doesn’t have to pretend to be an expert on everything, but I do have a platform through which I make a case for the values that I believe are central to the mission of our institution," Mr. Roth says. "I think it’s an obligation of university leaders to speak out on issues in which they have a stake. I realize this view is not widely shared."

People on both sides of the political spectrum at Wesleyan have disagreed with him, Mr. Roth says. But he’s also heard from students of color who tell him that, in
his postelection message and other remarks, they’ve heard that Wesleyan supports them. "We’re not backing down from our commitment to those students to provide them a safe place," he says.

Mr. Roth has urged members of the campus to "stay vigilant, because scapegoating and hatemongering is anathema to the mission of the university." And that, he says, "includes scapegoating of conservative students."

His hope, he says, is that people, especially students, remain engaged in the political process.

"I’m afraid that after these initial protests die down, that people will disengage," Mr. Roth says. "This is exactly the time to not give up."

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Here’s a Rundown of the Latest Campus-Climate Incidents Since Trump’s Election

No MU Mention

Organizations that track hate crimes have seen a rise in reports since the presidential election. The Southern Poverty Law Center has recorded more than 400 incidents since then, and even though colleges are perceived as liberal oases, they have not been immune from such incidents. There have been several dozen instances of reported hate speech or violence against minorities on campuses or involving college students since last week, many of which involved references to President-elect Donald J. Trump. Here’s the latest:

November 15, 2016

A student was knocked down half a flight of stairs on Monday evening while he spoke to a crowd at an anti-Trump demonstration in the student union at Ohio State University. Video provided by The Lantern, a student publication at the university,
shows another student running down the steps and shouting “You idiot!” before tackling Timothy Adams from behind and pitching him down the stairs.

Mr. Adams was not harmed in the assault, but he told The Lantern his bullhorn and glasses had been broken. The assailant was arrested and suspended by Ohio State.

The University of Kentucky has received at least nine reports of bias incidents since the election, a university spokesman told the Lexington Herald-Leader on Monday. Two violent incidents were referred to the university police — a Hispanic student who was pepper-sprayed and a Muslim student whose hijab was ripped off.

At Lebanon Valley College, in Pennsylvania, racist graffiti mentioning President-elect Trump was found outside the Women’s Services and Gender Resource Center, the Lebanon Daily News reported. The building also serves as student housing, and according to the resource center’s Facebook page, only women of color live there.

Also on Monday a student tweeted a photo of a notice allegedly posted on the door of the language department at West Virginia University. The notice encouraged students to attend a unity rally with pro-Trump signs. Suggested signs included “Build the wall” and “Go back to Univision.”

Several students are “no longer enrolled” at Abilene Christian College, in Texas, after a video surfaced of a student in blackface, The Dallas Morning News reported, and on Tuesday a graduate assistant at the University of Washington tweeted out what appeared to be a sarcastic valentine that he had found in one of his students’ homework. The note pictured Osama bin Laden with the caption “Is your dad a terrorist cause you’re explosive.”

Colleges Respond

In some places, the rash of hate-based incidents has been countered in ways beyond an administrator’s letter calling for unity.

The names of 3,200 alumni of the University of Pennsylvania were spread across five-pages of the student newspaper on Tuesday in an open letter supporting
students after six black freshmen were added to a racist group-messaging thread last week. The University of Oklahoma student involved in the group is no longer enrolled at the university, Oklahoma’s president said. And late Tuesday, Tulsa Community College’s president said an unnamed student had been put on interim academic suspension while the college investigated his possible involvement in the racist messages.

Students on several campuses, including Baylor University and the University of Kansas, have offered to walk peers who are fearful to and from classes. The Washington Post reported that 300 people had walked a Baylor student to class after she was insulted with an ugly racial slur last week.

In an email on Tuesday afternoon, the University of Central Missouri said it would stop using its official social-media accounts for 24 hours starting on Wednesday, and it urged students to do the same. The call for social-media silence is meant to encourage face-to-face communication about “events taking place on campus and across the nation,” the email said, and follows an incident last week in which fireworks were tossed into a crowd of primarily black students protesting Mr. Trump, The Daily Star-Journal reported.

And a response to the response? An Iowa lawmaker said he planned to introduce what he called a “suck it up, buttercup bill” in January, The Des Moines Register reported. The legislation would penalize state universities that used taxpayer money on postelection resources like grief counselors.

“I’ve seen four or five schools in other states that are establishing ‘cry zones’ where they’re staffed by state grief counselors and kids can come cry out their sensitivity to the election results,” Rep. Bobby Kaufmann, a Republican, told the Register. “I find this whole hysteria to be incredibly annoying. People have the right to be hysterical … on their own time.” The Iowa universities said they had not spent any extra money on such services.

November 14, 2016
A Muslim student at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor said she had been forced to remove her headscarf on the campus after a man approached her on Friday and threatened to set her on fire if she didn’t. The hate crime came on the heels of a speech on Wednesday by the university’s president, Mark S. Schlissel, who comforted students at a postelection vigil by reminding them that the campus had voted overwhelmingly for Hillary Clinton, the Detroit Free Press reported.

“Ninety percent of you rejected the kind of hate and the fractiousness and the longing for some sort of idealized version of a nonexistent yesterday,” Mr. Schlissel said.

In response, conservative students and alumni have accused Mr. Schlissel of anti-Trump bias in a statement that has received more than 300 signatures. A spokesman for the university told the newspaper that neither Mr. Schlissel’s speech nor the vigil was anti-Trump.

A professor at the University of Oklahoma said on Monday she had found racist fliers on the campus — fliers that also appeared on the University of Michigan’s campus in September. One of the fliers is titled “Why White Women Shouldn’t Date Black Men,” and suggests African-American males are more like to have sexually transmitted diseases and to abuse women.

In addition, the OU Daily, a student newspaper, posted on Twitter that racist fliers had been inserted into print editions of Monday’s paper. In an emailed statement, a spokeswoman for the university said the message of the fliers is “contrary to one of the university core values of acceptance and respect of all people.”

Over the weekend, a student at the University of Oklahoma was temporarily suspended for sending racist messages to black freshmen at the University of Pennsylvania, according to The Washington Post. The group-message thread included a “daily lynching” calendar event.

At Reed College, in Oregon, two library bathrooms were defaced with racist, homophobic, and anti-Semitic graffiti such as swastikas, Willamette Week reported. Swastikas were also found drawn on a classroom white board
at American University, in Washington, D.C., alongside the words “Go Trump,” according to the *The Eagle*, a student newspaper.

At Villanova University, in Pennsylvania, administrators encouraged faculty members to talk to their students in class about the spate of postelection violence and hatred, after a black female student was assaulted last week by white men yelling “Trump, Trump, Trump!” *The Philadelphia Inquirer* reported. In an email to the faculty, administrators said remaining silent could be “misinterpreted as indifference or, even worse, tacit agreement with malicious actions.”

On CBS’s *60 Minutes* program on Sunday, Mr. Trump responded to a question on incidents of violence inspired by his election by saying they were “a very small amount,” and advised those committing them to “Stop it. I will say this, and I will say right to the cameras: Stop it.”