MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

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New University of Missouri System president to visit Kansas City

BY MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS
mdwilliams@kcstar.com

The University of Missouri’s newly designated system president, Mun Choi, is expected in Kansas City next week.

Choi, a provost at the University of Connecticut, was named UM System president earlier this month. He will be on the University of Missouri-Kansas City campus Dec. 2 as part of his first tour of the four-campus system.

While at UMKC, Choi plans to meet with campus faculty, students, staff and Kansas City community leaders in preparation to officially take the helm as president on March 1.

Choi is the first UM System president of Asian-American heritage. He replaces Tim Wolfe, who resigned last November under a national spotlight following student protests, a student hunger strike and claims that he had failed to take action against multiple displays of racism at MU, the system’s flagship campus in Columbia.

Mike Middleton has been serving as interim system president since Wolfe left.

When the university began its presidential search in February, it went looking for a leader who was expected to play a major role in mending damage done to MU last year.

UM curators said they also wanted someone with leadership background in advancing research, in fundraising in the private sector and at the state level, and promoting diversity, equity and inclusion.

After a nine-month search, curators chose Choi from among three finalists.

When introduced to the UM System community, Choi said his first order of business would be listening to university leaders, faculty and students for diverse points of view and to members of the Missouri legislature for “common ground.”
The UMKC visit will be the last of Choi’s four-campus tour, beginning Tuesday at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. On Wednesday, he will stop in Rolla at the Missouri University of Science and Technology. On Thursday, Choi visits MU in Columbia, and then at 9 a.m. Friday UMKC will host a welcome reception for him in the Student Union, 5100 Cherry St.

New University of Missouri System President to Tour Campuses

Watch the story: http://mms.tveyses.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=a75c512c-f974-47f9-be30-ba4c9dd4c782

The new University of Missouri system president plans to tour the state's four campuses.

The Kansas City Star reports that new University of Missouri System President Mun Choi will begin a four-campus tour Tuesday at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Choi’s scheduled to stop Wednesday at the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, the Columbia campus on Thursday, and at the University of Missouri-Kansas City on Friday.

Choi, a provost at the University of Connecticut, was named UM System president earlier this month. He begins his new job March 1.

Choi replaces Tim Wolfe, who resigned last November following student protests. Mike Middleton has been interim system president since Wolfe left.
COLUMBIA, Mo. — A former University of Missouri tutor said she can document at least a dozen instances of serious academic fraud involving men’s and women’s athletes during a 16-month period.

Yolanda Kumar told The Kansas City Star that she felt pressured to keep athletes academically eligible, especially football and men’s basketball players. Her allegations come less than a year after the school sanctioned its men’s basketball team for violating NCAA rules.

Hours after Kumar posted in her personal Facebook account Tuesday afternoon that she had taken entrance exams and completed entire courses for Mizzou athletes, the university issued a statement announcing its investigation.

"The University of Missouri has received allegations of potential academic rules violations by a former tutor in the Athletics Academic Services area," the athletics department said in a statement. "Consistent with our commitment to rules compliance and to operating our athletics program with integrity, we are conducting a review of the allegations."

Of the hundreds of Missouri athletes she has tutored since 2010, Kumar said, 15 involved serious academic fraud. She told The St. Louis Post-Dispatch she felt like she had been "groomed" over time by her superiors to participate in what she described as "academic dishonesty."

The last straw for Kumar involved a male athlete she said needed help during the summer on a core class she was told he needed to graduate. The student passed, she said, "but he really was struggling with very basic things that my eighth-grader could do."

The same student was assigned to her in the fall and became depressed after he was unable to grasp basic statistics equations, she said.
"This kid, he has no hope," Kumar said. "He’s so lost, and I helped. I helped ruin him. I probably can’t take it all, because it’s not all me. It’s not all me at all, but he was the one who forced me. That was enough. I couldn’t do it anymore."

During an 18-minute phone call on Nov. 2 with Mary Ann Austin, the university’s executive associate athletic director for compliance, Kumar came clean about her involvement.

Initially it felt good to have provided that information, she said, but she soon realized "the evil was out of the box and you can’t put it back in."

Kumar didn’t immediately respond to messages from the Associated Press on Wednesday seeking comment.

In her Facebook post Tuesday, she said at least two academic coordinators for athletes in revenue-generating sports encouraged, promoted and supported her activities. Kumar resigned her position Nov. 7 prior to a meeting with a member for compliance, general counsel and "an individual that reports to the chancellor."

The university’s announcement comes 10 months after it self-imposed sanctions against the men’s basketball program stemming from a sham internship program and impermissible benefits received by players and their families at Tan-Tar-A resort at the Lake of the Ozarks.

Third-year basketball coach Kim Anderson’s team was banned from the 2016 postseason and forfeited two scholarships as part of the sanctions that were accepted by the NCAA when it closed the case in August.

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**NCAA investigating claims of academic fraud in Mizzou Athletics Department**

COLUMBIA - The NCAA is investigating reports of academic fraud involving the Mizzou Athletics Department.
A former tutor has leveled allegations of academic rules violations which, according to the Kansas City Star includes taking or assisting with entrance exams and completing classes for student-athletes.

Athletic director Jim Sterk said, "While we recognize that there will be many questions regarding this situation, these investigations take time to ensure that we do it the right way. As always, our mission is to uphold the highest standard of academic performance and ensure the proper conduct with all of our programs."

In the same statement, the athletics department said,

The athletics department issued the following statement: "Consistent with our commitment to rules compliance and to operating our athletics program with integrity, we are conducting a review of the allegations. We also have informed the NCAA who is working with us on this matter. To protect the integrity of the review process, we will not comment further at this time."

**Former Mizzou Athletics tutor speaks out, says she felt pressured to help athletes cheat**


COLUMBIA — **A former University of Missouri tutor spoke out Wednesday after admitting to participating in academic fraud while working with Mizzou athletes.**

"I couldn't carry this burden alone. I could no longer do it," Yolanda Kumar told KRCG13’s affiliate KCTV5. "It was too much."

Kumar confirmed the authenticity of a Facebook post she published where she made the allegations of academic fraud and apologized.

In her posting, Kumar didn't say which sports the athletes played, or which athletes she worked with, but she said the cheating was encouraged by at least two academic coordinators "for athletes in revenue-generating sports." She wrote that she self-reported the cheating on November 2 and left her position November 7.
Kumar said she felt pressured by the coordinators and was encouraged to continue cheating for the athletes, according to KCTV5.

Mizzou Athletics issued a statement Tuesday night saying it is reviewing the allegations and that it informed the NCAA. Mizzou, however, did not name the tutor in its release.

Mizzou's head football and basketball coaches, Barry Odom and Kim Anderson respectively, said Wednesday they were still gathering information on the allegations.

As of Wednesday afternoon, Kumar was listed in the University of Missouri directory as a tutor for the Intercollegiate Athletics department.

**Former Tutor Claims She Was Encouraged to Take Tests for Mizzou Student Athletes**

Mizzou dismisses assistant coach over conduct issue

Watch the story: http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=7aec1519-420e-440c-888b-6d25fd16a3e8

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Mizzou has fired defensive line coach Jackie Shipp.

Coach Barry Odom did not detail exactly why, but a statement from the school on Wednesday said it was due to an "internal matter where his conduct didn't meet our expectations for coaches."

Shipp, who was a coach at Arizona State from 2013-15, was hired in February to replace Chris Wilson, who left Odom's staff after one month to serve as defensive line coach for the Philadelphia Eagles.

Shipp's salary for 2016 was $385,000. Neal Renna, a graduate assistant, will assume Shipp's duties for the Tigers' final game of the season at home against Arkansas on Friday.
MU Researchers Find Photovoice Therapy Helps Victims of Sexual Violence

Generated from a MU Health press release


University of Missouri Women’s and Children’s Hospital Employs Three Generations of Nurses

Generated from a MU Health press release

Watch the story: http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=f9c448d7-0cbb-49e6-ba63-e0d9a3b6bfab
COLUMBIA- Some MU students, faculty, and alumni banded together to convince the University of Missouri to divest in fossil fuels after discovering in records that the UM system invested $14 million this fiscal year in fossil fuel companies.

The Mizzou Energy Action Coalition (MEAC) President, Frankie Hawkins said that it was a long process to get the information from the UM system.

"We worked to get the information from their treasurer and we had to go through the endowment and figure out which companies were fossil fuels and we added that all up to get the $14 million figure," Hawkins said.

MEAC is currently recruiting support for their campaign to instead reinvest this money in renewable energy.

MEAC member Madelyn Sobey, said the investment contradicts what she learns in class.

"It's hard taking environmental classes and hearing from your professors climate change is bad, fossil fuels are bad. But you go to the University of Missouri who are supporting fossil fuels and therefore, supporting climate change. I would like the University to work as one," Sobey said.

MU's Communication Manager, Karlan Seville said that MU is working hard to reduce the use of fossil fuels and has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by over 43 percent.

"MU has taken a leadership role nationally to decrease its use of fossil fuels. We are committed to making actual changes on our campus instead of purchasing renewable energy credits, as other universities have chosen to do to reach climate neutrality more quickly," Seville said.
Hawkins said that she has gotten help from other universities whose fossil fuel divestment plan was a success.

"We've reached out to other universities to see how they went about divesting from fossil fuels, I think there are more than 200 universities that have divested from fossil fuels." Hawkins said. "So we've been trying to get some helpful tips and tricks from them about how to go about it."

MEAC started writing letters to Missouri representatives and senators as well as working with other organizations such as Peace Works and the Citizens Climate Lobbyists.

MEAC hopes to set up a meeting with the UM board of curators soon to discuss the issue.

"We love Mizzou and we want our board of Curators to make the best decisions for all of us," Hawkins said.

**MISSOURIAN**

**Fevers, headaches, swollen glands? Mumps is in season**

ALEXANDRA COUNCIL, 1 hr ago

COLUMBIA — At least 73 cases of mumps, both confirmed and probable, had been reported at MU as of Nov. 23. Many of the cases have links to the Greek community, according to the MU Student Health Center website.

The outbreak began in early November with four confirmed cases, but the infection spreads quickly through mucus or saliva by coughing, sneezing, sharing drinks or eating utensils.

Mumps is a viral infection with flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, muscle aches and tiredness, said Michael Cooperstock, M.D., pediatric infectious disease specialist and medical director of the MU Health Care Infection Control Department

"The one thing that distinguishes it is the swollen salivary glands, and the ones that you think of under the earlobes are called parotid glands," Cooperstock said.
Cooperstock said mumps and similar illnesses can be more common in the winter. He said he didn't know why some are seasonal, or why some outbreaks last longer than others.

"It's different each time," he said. "You often don't know where it started."

MU requires all students to have the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, and all students living in MU housing are also required to have the meningococcal vaccine, according to the MU Immunization Policy.

Fewer than 50 students on the MU campus waived the immunization requirement for religious and philosophical reasons, said Susan Even, executive director of MU Student Health Center. However, all infected students had received the recommended two doses of the vaccine.

So why are people catching this infection? Cooperstock told the Missourian what's up with the mumps.

**Why is the vaccine not preventing infections?**

The majority of vaccines are not perfect, and mumps is one of those. The vaccine prevents at best 70 percent of infections. The longer it has been since the person has had the vaccine, the more likely the protection will wane a bit.

**Is a booster shot available?**

Most students receive two vaccines when exposure to the infection is at a high risk. The first vaccination is normally given at 1 year of age because the shot doesn't always work well at a younger age. The second vaccination is received around 4 to 6 years before a child starts school. The vaccines should be given at least 28 days apart, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website.

**What makes mumps contagious?**

It's transferable through the air and through moisture of the mouth. It is possible to contract mumps by sharing drinks or eating utensils. It is possible to pick up the infection through surfaces, but this rarely occurs. Close quarters, like school classrooms and similar environments, make the virus easily transferable.
How can schools and institutions help lower the risk of an outbreak?

The best way is to make sure everyone is fully immunized.

How can students protect themselves?

Keep hands clean, cover nose, and cough into the crook of an arm. Avoid hanging out with those who may have been exposed because it's possible to be contagious before symptoms show.

Where can I get vaccinated?

Columbia/Boone County Health Department provides vaccinations for a small fee depending on insurance coverage. The health department accepts Aetna, Anthem, Cigna, Medicare B, Medicare Railroad and United HealthCare insurance providers and around 15 other providers as well. MU Student Health Center offers the vaccine to students who have had just one MMR shot. The cost is $89, but insurance will likely cover it, Even said.

How is mumps diagnosed?

Clinically, the only way to tell that someone has mumps is if swollen salivary glands are present. There are two kinds of tests, a PCR test and a blood test. The PCR test involves taking a saliva sample from the salivary gland to detect the viral RNA. The blood test can detect antibodies that appear when the virus starts to go away.

It is possible to have mumps and never show any symptoms or to have flu-like symptoms without inflammation. Test results come back within a few days.

Are symptoms worse as an adult?

Adults, especially those in middle age or older, tend to be more ill than children.

Are there any prescribed medications?
No. Symptoms can be treated with decongestants like Advil and Tylenol.

**Is it possible to have mumps more than once?**

Contracting mumps rarely happens twice. Most of the time it’s a different infection with similar symptoms, like the inflammation of the glands. It's also unusual to get a secondary infection during or after the mumps infection.

**What complications can occur with mumps?**

Men can have inflammation of the testicles, but that is rare. Women can have inflammation of the ovaries and breasts, which is also uncommon.

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**Number of Mizzou mumps cases doubles in one week**


**COLUMBIA, Mo. - The University of Missouri Student Health Center said it's continuing to see students with the mumps virus.**

As of Wednesday, the center said 73 cases of mumps have been identified. Those cases include both confirmed and probable.

Last week, 31 students were diagnosed with the virus and another 27 were showing symptoms.

"A situation where students are living closely together and they're exposed to each other's coughs and sneezes would certainly be a situation for spread of an infection like that," said Dr. Michael Cooperstock, the Medical Director of the Infectious Control Department at MU Health. "So it's not uncommon to see small outbreaks."
The Student Health Center said many of the cases have links to the Greek Life community. University officials are working with local and state public health officials to identify other possible cases and to prevent or minimize additional cases.

The first confirmed cases of mumps at Mizzou was on Nov. 2 when four students were diagnosed with the virus.

According to Dr. Susan Even, executive director of the Student Health Center, every student had their required two doses of MMR vaccines before attending the university.

"The mumps vaccine is a very good vaccine, but it's not perfect," said Dr. Cooperstock. "For any one person, the protection is only about 70%. So if you've been immunized with even two doses, which is the current plan, you still may be susceptible to mumps."

During the 2015-2016 school year, Iowa State and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign had hundreds of students diagnosed with the mumps. Health professionals suggested students get a third vaccination to prevent the virus from spreading.

According to the CDC, as of Nov. 5, 2,879 cases of the mumps have been reported in the U.S. So far six states have had outbreaks of at least 100 cases. Those states include Arkansas, Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Massachusetts and Oklahoma.

**MUPD: Suspicious device found outside Hill Hall**

By Rudi Keller

**An item that drew the Mid-Missouri Bomb Squad to the University of Missouri campus Wednesday turned out to be a confetti popper, the MU Police Department reported in a news release.**

Officers blocked walkways near Hill Hall about 9 a.m. after receiving a call from university groundskeepers reporting they had discovered a suspicious device while raking leaves near the classroom building next to Jesse Hall. The device was a cardboard tube with one end wrapped in duct tape and aluminum foil with paper stuffed inside visible through the other end.
“It is important to know there is not a threat to campus nor was there a threat to campus,” MU police Maj. Brian Weimer said at the scene. “They just came across a device that was suspicious and odd.”

The department sent an alert through its MU Alert service at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday about the device and asked people to avoid the area.

The groundskeepers first picked up the device, then set it down on a concrete railing and called officers.

“It does look odd,” Weimer said.

The Mid-Missouri Bomb Squad retrieved the device with a robot. By 11 a.m., the item was inside the explosion containment trailer and emergency personnel were closing the scene. The device was taken to a safe location where it was examined.

The campus was mostly shut down for the Thanksgiving holiday. Officers had been told people were shooting a confetti popper in the area recently but wanted to make sure there was no danger.

“As you know, it is better to be safe than sorry,” Weimer said.

MU campus secure after suspicious device reported near Hill Hall

COLUMBIA - Authorities have cleared the incident related to a suspicious device near Hill Hall on the MU campus.

The school sent out an alert about the situation at around 9:45 a.m. Wednesday.
University Police Major Brian Weimer said campus facilities was blowing leaves when they uncovered the device shortly before 9 a.m. Police notified the bomb squad who used a robot to investigate the item.

Weimer said police spoke with those in neighboring buildings who had found confetti canons in the last few days that looked similar to the device in question, but the bomb squad has not confirmed if the item is explosive or dangerous in any way.

Officials declared the situation all clear shortly after 11 a.m.

**Any changes to Affordable Care Act likely will move slowly**

Throughout the presidential campaign, President-elect Donald Trump repeatedly criticized President Barack Obama’s signature health care law, the Affordable Care Act, calling it a “disaster” and promising to repeal and replace the law.

But any changes to what has become known as Obamacare likely will come slowly, and those who use the existing plans should simply try to stay informed.

Missourians make up more than 290,000 of the 20 million Americans who have health insurance through the Affordable Care Act. Karen Edison, director of the Center for Health Policy at the University of Missouri School of Medicine, said individuals with marketplace insurance need to be aware about whether and when changes might occur once Trump takes office, but it should not stop them from seeking health insurance now.

“Don’t assume, find out for yourself,” Edison said. “Go to websites. Act on what is happening today, not tomorrow. It’s not going to go away overnight, it’s way too complex for that.”

Since winning the election, Trump has signaled he is willing to keep certain aspects of the Affordable Care Act. In an exclusive interview with the Wall Street Journal published online Nov. 11, Trump said he is willing to keep protections for those with pre-existing conditions and allowing children to stay on their parents’ health insurance plans into their mid-20s.

Republican lawmakers have been trying to repeal the law for years, but it is far more likely now that Republicans will hold majorities in Congress with Trump in the White House. What comes after the repeal is far less clear.
Trump mentioned some specific health care reforms in his campaign, such as allowing insurance providers to sell across state lines and putting more emphasis on health savings accounts, but he and GOP leaders have not come forward with a detailed plan.

“Right now, as a hospital community, we really don’t know what the future looks like,” said Dave Dillon, vice president of public and media relations for the Missouri Hospital Association. “There’s a lot of talk of administration following the path of repeal and replace, but the problem with that is what replace looks like. There’s not been a vision articulated for that.”

Jeremy Cady, state director for the Missouri chapter of Americans for Prosperity, a conservative group with a national reach, said opening up insurance across state lines and expanding the use of health savings accounts would be two favorable changes in replacing the Affordable Care Act.

The health care industry was one of the most regulated industries before the Affordable Care Act, and it became more so when Obama’s health care reform went into effect in 2010, Cady said. With a Trump presidency and Republican majority in Washington, D.C., he said, he hopes regulations will be lifted to bring down the cost of health care.

On the state level, Cady said, he anticipates legislation preventing “frivolous” medical malpractice lawsuits as well as Republicans continuing the push for Medicaid reform.

Trump also has proposed using Medicaid block grants. The federal government still would disperse funding for Medicaid to the states, but the states would be able to manage their own programs. Dillon said this allows states to internally establish Medicaid standards that the federal government has looked down upon, such as drug testing and work requirements.

If the Trump administration goes forward with block grants, Dillon said, Missouri will need to ensure it is receiving its fair share of federal dollars. Block grant funding could be based on the number of Medicaid participants in each state, he said. Missouri, which has not expanded Medicaid, has one of the lowest income eligibility limits in the country at 19 percent of the federal poverty level for adults with children. For example, a three-person household cannot make more than $301 per month to obtain Medicaid. Medicaid-expansion states cover individuals at or below 138 percent of the federal poverty level.

In August, more than 967,000 Missourians used Medicaid, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. Twenty-three states each had 1 million or more people using Medicaid, including Illinois, a Medicaid-expansion state that had more than 3.1 million in the system.

For those covered by the existing plans or looking at being covered through those plans, Edison said they should not make assumptions about the future and should find out what they might qualify for at healthcare.gov or covermissouri.org.
Elderly Americans will depend more on friends, extended family as country ages

Family members already form an "invisible workforce" that cares for America's frail elderly. But changes in policy and family structure — from elderly divorce to smaller families — suggest that friends and extended family will play even more important roles as caregivers in coming years.

Eighteen million Americans already care regularly for a fragile older relative, most often a spouse or a parent, and the number is expected to at least double by 2050.

Meanwhile, aging baby boomers have relatively fewer children than previous generations, creating what Richard Schulz, director of the University Center for Social and Urban Research and associate director of the Aging Institute at the University of Pittsburgh, calls a "looming gap between what's needed and its availability." Those most in need of help are individuals with dementia or who have difficulties taking care of their own basic needs, from dressing and bathing to preparing their own food and managing their medications and finances, among other daily tasks.

That gap will likely widen further because fewer Americans are marrying, couples who don't marry are less apt to see themselves in caregiving roles for each other, and divorce among older couples has been on the rise. So caregiving networks increasingly include what some gerontology experts call "chosen kin" and "collateral kin," an umbrella that includes friends, neighbors and more distant relatives, like nieces and nephews or in-laws.

That shifting landscape of caregiving was a major topic during the 2016 annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, held in New Orleans in mid-November. Experts say not only are family and friends tapped to provide a large portion of the care frail old people need, but they're also tasked to provide more complicated care.

The impact on caregivers can include more stress, financial pressure and health-related problems of their own.

Non-professional help

Rita Choula's caregiving story from Charleston, South Carolina, is fairly typical. The senior adviser to the AARP Public Policy Institute described watching her mom care for her own parents: "It's what we do. We don't put our folks into homes."
Then it was Choula's turn to juggle caregiving and career and marriage and family. She remembers shopping trips with baby supplies on one side of the cart and adult diapers on the other. Eventually, her mom's needs were beyond her capacity and she had to put her into long-term care. "I think I was more upset than she was," Choula said.

About half of family caregivers are in the workforce, as Choula was, juggling sometimes competing responsibilities. They have little training despite the fact they often undertake tasks once solely the realm of skilled professionals like doctors and nurses, according to Schulz.

Because family caregivers typically fall into the role without learning a right or wrong way to provide care, "they have little confidence in their own know-how to get the job done," said Jennifer L. Wolff, a gerontologist, researcher and associate professor of health policy and management at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. Such caregivers are "at greater risk for burnout, depression and not being able to care for themselves."

To further complicate things, because of health privacy and security rules, those caregivers are among the "least likely (to be) able to get the information they need to coordinate and manage care" for their frail or ailing relatives or friends, she said.

Several experts at the conference emphasized the need for individuals while healthy to make sure they've completed paperwork to name trusted people to speak for them medically — and just as importantly, to receive information about their care should need arise.

Caregivers need support, including training, and must be incorporated into the formal care team — usually made up of professionals, including doctors and home health providers, among others — "as a critical and active member," said Rani Snyder, program director of The John A. Hartford Foundation, which focuses on improving care for older adults.

"Caregivers are the linchpin of long-term care," she said, "the person who holds together critical elements of another person's life."

As people live longer, more live alone. They are also more likely to develop disabling conditions that require more everyday care. "It's a major question who will provide that care," said Jacquelyn Benson of the University of Missouri, who noted "divorce and remarriage may weaken adult children's sense of obligation." Nor is it clear who will care for the growing number of single men and women.

About 65 percent of people age 85 to 89 need help. Of those 90 and older, only 25 percent do not need assistance, said Rosemary Blieszner, associate dean of Virginia Tech's graduate school.

"Chosen kin"

If one expands the number of caregivers to include the so-called "chosen kin" or "collateral kin" who provide different types of help to older Americans, caregiver numbers jump to 34 million-plus. Chosen kin include friends and neighbors, while collateral kin are relatives like siblings and nieces and nephews. Most of those helpers don't provide the same level of assistance as spouses.
and children, who Jyoti "Tina" Savla, assistant professor of human development at Virginia Tech's Center for Gerontology, called the "first safety net" for frail elderly.

Friend caregivers are typically younger than the person they assist, are most apt to be female (also true of family caregivers), and often are highly educated, single and without minor children. Often, the individual they assist does have children, said Tracey LaPierre, a University of Kansas sociologist.

Pals are more likely to take an old friend grocery shopping or to the doctor than to provide personal care, though that may change alongside demographic shifts. Their help consists largely of providing transportation, assistance with household tasks and companionship. Blieszner notes that "chosen kin are often preferred over family" by the individual receiving care. Adult children and aging parents don't always get along.

Friends typically are unpaid and, unlike family caregivers, seldom live with the person they assist. Nearly one in five chosen kin provide some care for more than 10 years.

Friends play a significant role for LGBT adults who need care, she said.

In a survey, LaPierre said care recipients rated higher their relationship quality with friends who help than that of others. The friends agreed: "80 percent reported no financial, emotional or physical difficulties from caregiving," she said.

Remedial Classes are Costing Students, Universities

What Does Betsy DeVos Have in Mind for Higher Ed?

By Dan Berrett, Sarah Brown, Eric Kelderman, Brock Read, and Fernanda Zamudio-Suárez

By selecting Betsy DeVos to become the next secretary of education, President-elect Donald J. Trump has signaled his commitment to an ambitious plan to reform elementary and secondary education. But after a campaign during which Mr. Trump offered few details on higher education, the pick does little to clarify his vision for that sector.

Ms. DeVos, 58, is a leading player in the national school-choice movement. As chairwoman of the American Federation for Children, she has advocated aggressively for the expansion of charter schools and voucher programs for low-income students. She has served on the boards of several other organizations that have supported school choice, including the American Enterprise Institute, the Great Lakes Education Project, and the Foundation for Excellence in Education, which was established in 2007 by Jeb Bush, one of Mr. Trump’s foes in the Republican primary.

A Michigan native who served two stints as chairwoman of the state’s Republican Party, Ms. DeVos is known also for her philanthropy and support of conservative causes. The Dick and Betsy DeVos Family Foundation — which she runs with her husband, Dick DeVos — has been a reliable donor both to community projects and to
national think tanks and research groups. (Mr. DeVos, a Republican, failed in a 2006 bid to become governor of Michigan.)

In fact, Ms. DeVos belongs to two families that have played a transformative role in Michigan’s politics and economic development. Dick DeVos’s father, Richard M. DeVos, Sr., amassed his fortune as a co-founder of the direct-selling company Amway. Betsy DeVos’s father, Edgar Prince, was the founder of the Prince Corporation, an automobile-parts manufacturer. Both family names now adorn buildings at Ms. DeVos’s alma mater, Calvin College, in Grand Rapids, Mich., where she studied business administration and political science.

Doug Koopman, a professor of political science at Calvin, said Ms. DeVos’s political views tend to fall in line with those of moderate, business-minded conservatives like Mitt Romney, the 2012 Republican presidential nominee.

As leader of the state’s Republican Party, she built up the organization by improving technology and financing, and by bringing on a professional staff, according to Mr. Koopman. "She was focused on the nuts and bolts of how to win an election," he said.

Ms. DeVos’s lack of a track record in higher education is by no means unusual. Several Department of Education leaders — including Arne Duncan, President Obama’s choice for the post, and the late Shirley M. Hufstedler, who became the first education secretary under President Jimmy Carter — had no professional experience in the sector.

But it’s hard to find evidence of Ms. DeVos having taken any positions on higher-ed policy. Neal McCluskey, director of the libertarian-leaning Cato Institute’s Center for Educational Freedom, put it bluntly in an analysis of her nomination: “I have no idea where DeVos stands on early-childhood or higher-education issues, and the latter, especially, is gigantic.”

"DeVos will essentially be taking over a hugely bureaucratic lending company — with lots of regulatory power — that on a day-to-day basis could prove to be a far greater burden than she expected," Mr. McCluskey wrote.

Where to look for clues on her higher-ed priorities? Many observers are turning to her philanthropic record and her longtime advocacy for school choice. Here’s what we know about the new nominee:
'An Education-Reform Warrior'

Margaret Spellings, president of the University of North Carolina system, considers Ms. DeVos a friend. Ms. Spellings, who was secretary of education from 2005 to 2009, said the two had worked together on education issues while Ms. Spellings was president of the George W. Bush Presidential Center, from 2013 until this March.

"She’s been an education-reform warrior and has put her money where her mouth is, literally and figuratively, for a very long time," Ms. Spellings said.

Ms. Spellings said she isn’t sure where Ms. DeVos stands on higher-education policy, but she suggested a couple of goals that the new secretary might prioritize — streamlining pathways from secondary to postsecondary education and supporting community colleges.

John M. Engler, a former Republican governor of Michigan who is now president of the Business Roundtable, an association of corporate leaders, praised the selection of a woman he has known for 40 years as "an inspired choice."

"She’ll be a very able advocate for the proposition that in the 21st century you can’t have children in schools that aren’t performing," he said. Asked what that stance might signify for postsecondary policy, Mr. Engler hazarded some guesses: a focus on transparency and performance, an emphasis on work-force development, and a defense of free speech on campuses.

"I think Betsy will be very strong in that area," he said. "She’s not going to be imposing litmus tests on higher education."

But Ms. DeVos’s nomination also met with some sharp criticism from both the left, where some see her as an opponent of public schools, and the right, where her stance on Common Core standards has come under scrutiny. Donald E. Heller, provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of San Francisco, wrote on Twitter that Mr. Trump’s pick "could have been worse. But not much."

In an interview, Mr. Heller, who was previously dean of the College of Education at Michigan State University, said that his main concerns stem from watching Ms. DeVos wield her influence, financially and otherwise, on Michigan’s primary- and secondary-education system. Her support for school choice — much of it realized through the Great Lakes Education Project, which she and her husband founded — has been felt across the state, including in Detroit, where critics have decried the share of students in underperforming charter schools.
Others have taken issue with the fact that Ms. DeVos has never before worked in a school system or at a college. But "one advantage she brings, to be fair, is that she’s very involved in the political process and policy," Mr. Heller said.

Mr. Heller takes Ms. DeVos’s support for charter schools and privatization in education as a suggestion that she will be much friendlier to for-profit colleges than the Obama administration has been. He doubted, for example, that she would enforce the contentious gainful-employment rule, which seeks to evaluate career-oriented programs — many of which are run by for-profit companies — based on their graduates’ debt-to-earnings ratios.

And her past work with faith-based organizations could offer additional clues about her approach to postsecondary education, Mr. Heller said. "She may push for federal funding that would make its way more toward private and religious institutions at the expense of public institutions," he said.

*Autonomy vs. Accountability*

Ms. DeVos’s positions on vouchers and expanding access to charter schools do not automatically make her an enemy of federal support for higher education.

Michael J. Petrilli, president of the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, a conservative education-reform group, said that advocates of school choice and charters often look to the Pell Grant program as a model. After all, that program is essentially a voucher program for low-income students. ("Should Pell Grants be allowed to be spent on remedial education?" asked Mr. Petrilli in an essay outlining "20 Questions for Betsy DeVos.")

Frederick M. Hess, resident scholar and director of education policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute, where Ms. DeVos is a board member, also noted that advocates of voucher and school-choice plans view Pell grants as a model. It’s unclear whether Ms. DeVos would consider changing Pell Grant restrictions, he said.

Mr. Hess called Ms. DeVos a "principled conservative." He said he does not foresee her advocating for ideas that have gained traction in President Obama’s Education Department, like student-loan forgiveness and free college, especially with a Republican-dominated Congress.

David Hecker, president of the Michigan chapter of the American Federation of Teachers, argued that an Education Department led by Ms. DeVos would "undermine" education. It could restrict access to Pell Grants or make them less generous, he said: "Things don’t look good at all for the people most in need."
Ultimately, the most important question about Ms. DeVos’s vision may be the hardest to answer, even for her: How will she use the Education Department to hold higher education accountable for student outcomes, as President Obama’s education secretaries have done?

Mr. Petrilli expects Ms. DeVos to think very differently about accountability for institutions that receive federal student aid. "She will want to go after all schools that are harming students, not just for-profits," he said. "Most mainstream conservatives were aghast at the Obama administration’s treatment of the for-profit colleges," he said.

Beyond that, however, it’s hard to get a read on Ms. DeVos’s oversight strategy, according to Mr. Petrilli. "I don’t know how much she’s thought about these issues," he said.

Susan Dynarski, a professor of education, public policy, and economics at the University of Michigan, argued on Twitter that the selection of Ms. DeVos signals an imbalance between two necessary but competing forces — autonomy and accountability. Too little autonomy stifles innovation, Ms. Dynarski wrote. Too little accountability leads to the proliferation of bad actors who take advantage of students.

"I worry, a LOT, that this administration is going to scale back much-needed oversight" of postsecondary education, "especially the for-profit sector," she tweeted. "If for-profit colleges are left to regulate themselves, we will see ballooning debt, ballooning defaults, and students’ lives ruined."

Ms. Devos’s online remarks about Common Core standards offer a possible glimpse of her view on federal agenda-setting for education. "Have organizations that I have been a part of supported Common Core? Of course," she wrote. "However, along the way, it got turned into a federalized boondoggle."

But on Wednesday, she left no room for misunderstanding about her opinion of the standards:

Follow

Betsy DeVos @BetsyDeVos

Many of you are asking about Common Core. To clarify, I am not a supporter—period. Read my full stance, here: http://betsydevos.com/qa/1:20 PM - 23 Nov 2016
A Philanthropic Trail

Over decades in local and national politics, the DeVos and Prince families have left a conservative policy imprint on other matters that have touched education. Betsy and Dick DeVos lobbied for Michigan’s "right to work" laws, passed in 2013, which posed a financial threat to unions by making the payment of dues voluntary. Such laws, now adopted in more than 20 states, have been seen as particularly damaging to faculty unions in some cases.

In addition to its local economic-development grants, the DeVos Foundation has been a reliable donor to conservative-leaning think tanks and research groups, including the Mackinac Center and the Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty. Between 2010 and 2013, the foundation made four donations, totaling $25,000, to the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, a watchdog group that pursues cases in defense of free speech on college campuses. (The foundation also gave $20,000 to the Clinton Global Initiative in 2012.)

And in 2013, the foundation awarded nearly $500,000 to colleges and universities, including $50,000 in gifts to Princeton University, Rollins College, and the Compass College of Cinematic Arts, a $100,000 gift to Ferris State University, and a $200,000 donation to Northwood University, Mr. Devos’s alma mater.

As news of her nomination spread, observers pointed out donations by the DeVos and Prince families to anti-abortion and anti-gay-marriage causes. But Mr. Koopman, of Calvin College, argued that Ms. DeVos is "not a movement conservative," meaning she has not aligned herself with either the Tea Party or evangelical Christian factions of the Republican Party.

"She has a large enough global perspective; she’s not the parochial Midwesterner one might think." Mr. Koopman said. "The key to understanding her is the belief that choices bring out the best in people."
Donald J. Trump’s selection of Betsy DeVos, a charter-school advocate, to lead the U.S. Department of Education suggests that the new Republican-led Congress could have an outsize influence on American higher-education policy. So far there have been few surprises as the incoming Congress moves forward in selecting its leadership and setting an agenda: The power brokers are largely familiar names, with well-known positions on the issues. And although college leaders and academics might not agree with everything legislators are seeking to accomplish, the familiarity may be something of an antidote to the uncertainty of the president-elect’s agenda and amped-up rhetoric.

Sen. Lamar Alexander, Republican of Tennessee, will continue to be chairman of the Senate’s Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Sen. Patty Murray, Democrat of Washington, will continue as her party’s ranking member on the committee.

The two, who are often said to have a good working relationship, have cooperated on the recent overhaul of the federal law governing elementary and secondary education.

Committee assignments have yet to be made in the House of Representatives, but Rep. Virginia Foxx, Republican of North Carolina, will probably take over as chairwoman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. She had previously led the House’s subcommittee on higher education.
In an interview with *The Chronicle*, Ms. Foxx said her goal was to work with the Trump administration to limit federal involvement in higher education, including through limiting federal spending, and to "stop the executive branch from writing regulations that take over the role of Congress."

Continuity in the halls of Congress will bring some measure of predictability to the prospects of higher-education legislation, said Jason D. Delisle, a resident fellow in and higher-education financing at the American Enterprise Institute.

Seasoned legislators could well become the driving force in formulating policy under a president who has shown little interest in higher education, he said.

Some of Mr. Trump’s costlier proposals may not be well received by the fiscally conservative Republicans in Congress, such as changes in income-based repayment of student loans and a return to subsidizing private banks that make student loans, said Mr. Delisle.

One area in which the White House and Republicans in Congress are in agreement is in rolling back regulations enacted under President Obama.

In an outline of Republicans’ policy priorities, called "A Better Way," House Speaker Paul Ryan, from Wisconsin, called the president’s regulatory actions "governing by executive fiat" and said the new rules inhibit innovation.

Much of the new regulation was meant primarily for for-profit colleges, said Ms. Foxx, rather than to provide accountability across all sectors of higher education. But limiting federal involvement could reduce costs for both colleges and students, she said.

That change could be relatively simple in some cases. Legislators could employ the Congressional Review Act, a little-used measure passed in 1996. It gives lawmakers the ability to reject new rules and regulations within 60 "legislative days" of their becoming final.

Two higher-education regulations that may be subject to the act are new requirements for teacher-preparation programs and rules for students who want to have their student loans forgiven in cases of fraud or misrepresentation by the college.

Under the act, Congress can rescind those rules with a simple majority vote in each chamber.

Other regulations would be more difficult to unwind but could be handled in the next budget. For example, lawmakers could direct that no federal money be used to enforce
"gainful employment" regulations, which are aimed at career-college programs that saddle students with unmanageable debt relative to their earnings. Republicans say the rules endanger federal aid for many students and unfairly target for-profit colleges.

‘Do More ... With Less’

Some regulatory relief would be welcomed by associations of public and private nonprofit colleges, who have felt that President Obama was demanding on their members.

Michael C. Zola, vice president for government relations and policy analysis at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, said the group planned to work collaboratively with Congress and the new administration on regulatory issues, but would also seek to preserve its budget priorities, including Pell Grants for low-income students.

On budget issues, however, Rep. Foxx said higher education must rely much less on the federal government. "We have to look for ways to do more, or the same amount, with less" money," she said.

"Federal money is not manna from heaven. It’s taken from taxpayers" and sent to Washington, which takes a significant amount for administering programs, she said. She wants the money to be left for state governments to use.

At the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, there are concerns about cuts in both student financial aid and federal support for research that would result if Congress decided to both reduce taxes and increase spending in other areas, such as defense.

And expecting the states to step up their support of higher education may not work out so well when many are still recovering from the recession and low oil prices.

Louisiana, for example, has made some of the largest budget cuts for higher education, because of stagnant oil prices and an abundance of state tax credits for businesses, which have kept the state in the red.

F. King Alexander, president of the Louisiana State University system, said that even if he could get an increase in Pell Grant money for his students, it wouldn’t do much good, because he would still probably have to raise tuition to offset state budget cuts.

Eventually Louisiana could spend no money at all on higher education, he said, which would shift all support for the university to the federal government. Mr. Alexander
has been an outspoken proponent of a partnership with the federal government that would require states to maintain their level of spending on public higher education.

"The big question is, What are we going to do keep states from backing out of their responsibility?" he said.

Mr. Delisle, of the American Enterprise Institute, said the rhetoric of federal budget cuts in higher education may be a lot worse than the reality. "Their bark is worse than their bite," he said of congressional lawmakers. "They love education, and they love their schools."

Cutting Pell Grants in particular may be politically difficult because of the impact such a move would have on lower-income students and their parents. Congress didn’t cut Pell Grants when it had the opportunity under President George W. Bush, Mr. Delisle noted.

"This may be one of those things they talk about when they know it won’t happen," he said.