



MU News Bureau

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MISSOURIAN

COLUMBIA'S MORNING NEWSPAPER

[UM System Review Commission cites lack of stable funding, not leadership, as key shortcoming](#)

BY CRYSTAL DUAN & ANDREW KESSEL

COLUMBIA — **It could have been a scathing report on the University of Missouri System's institutional failings.**

But instead of finding major shortcomings, the UM System Review Commission report found that the system's needs have more to do with a lack of funding than a lack of leadership.

The report, released Dec. 31 and presented to the Board of Curators at its Feb. 10 meeting, recommended a host of ways to increase revenue in light of recent state funding cuts. It also included recommendations for monitoring the system's progress toward more diversity.

The commission was created by the state legislature as a response to criticism directed at MU during the [tumultuous events of fall 2015](#). It stemmed from a Senate resolution sponsored by then-Sen. Kurt Schaefer to remedy a perceived lack of university leadership.

Commission chairwoman Jeanne Sinuefield, a longtime MU donor, said that by the time the review was completed, she believed the university wasn't doing as poorly as state legislators initially implied.

“You know how you come in and you have certain ideas about how things are, and then you realize how things are a lot more complex?” Sinuefield said.

It wasn't so simple after all, she said, and every organization has areas for improvement.

“Does that mean they’re doing a bad job? No,” she said. But when you’re hard-pressed for funding, you’re not going to be able to address every need, Sinuefield said.

Commission member Renee Hulshof said she was not surprised about the state of the UM System.

“I didn’t find things to be worse or better than I expected,” Hulshof said. “I found them to be about what I thought.”

The commission originated after months of legislative dissatisfaction with the UM System.

In October 2015, students disappointed by MU administrators’ lack of response to racially charged campus incidents founded the activist group Concerned Student 1950.

The group issued a list of demands, the Missouri football team announced a boycott, and former graduate student Jonathan Butler declared a hunger strike.

Both former UM System President Tim Wolfe and former Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin announced their resignations on Nov. 9.

These events alarmed Schaefer, then a Republican senator from Columbia, who prepared the resolution and added that future funding for the UM System would depend on its acceptance of commission recommendations.

The commission's report examined governance, diversity, workforce-readiness, and research and extension. Among its key recommendations are a two-year funding cycle, a rollback of the tuition cap imposed by state law and differential tuition for students in high-demand degree programs.

Two-year funding cycles: This would set the legislative funding for the UM System in two-year blocks instead of a new appropriation each year. The aim, according to the report, is to provide more accurate budgetary forecasting.

“As far as a large institution is concerned, it allows them to look forward,” Hulshof said. “Two years is an optimal state budget cycle. It’d allow all departments to assess and do and plan ahead.”

Differential tuition: This would charge students different rates depending on their degree program. Degrees with high job demand, such as engineering or nursing, would cost more, the report said, which would generate more revenue for those programs.

This would allow more faculty and staff in the programs that require more guidance and expensive laboratory equipment and put more highly skilled graduates in the workforce.

Judith Miller, dean of the MU Sinclair School of Nursing, said that given the high expenses of training students in a clinical setting, differential tuition has its merits. The roughly 1,200 nursing students go through extensive laboratory simulations but do not have to pay lab fees.

“Given the expense of the program, along with engineering, the idea is that we should be charging for what it costs to deliver the program,” Miller said.

Tuition is lower at the Sinclair School than other programs around the state, Miller said, which is unusual for a flagship institution. In other states, she said, students often pay more to attend flagship institutions.

“(Students) know at a flagship university faculty are researchers, expert teachers and clinicians, so there is extra rigor in terms of caliber of instruction and mentorship that the faculty provide,” Miller said.

Diversity data: Data on student diversity should be easier to access and more convenient to analyze, the report suggests. Diversity metrics on applications, admissions, graduations and graduate programs are not currently accessible in a concise, researchable format, which makes it difficult to measure how the university is doing.

Diversity data from each campus should be reported to the legislature and monitored over time. Those statistics would provide university administration and state lawmakers with benchmarks to set goals and track improvement.

On the faculty level, the report said, no substantive diversity breakdown exists. Creating one would allow for the system to set goals that are “optimistic and realistic and set against national standards attainable at like campuses.”

In September, UM Chief Diversity Officer Kevin McDonald announced a goal of doubling the amount of faculty of color from 6.7 percent to 13.4 percent of faculty.

The commission also wants the UM System to look closer at the diversity, inclusion and equity course that has been required of all incoming freshmen since January 2016. The report recommends that the four campuses fund research into the effectiveness of the program and report the results to lawmakers and media.

Hulshof said that MU was doing well, but the university should look at its recruitment priorities more holistically, especially focusing on in-state recruitment.

“It’s never good to treat marketing like a faucet and turn it on and off,” she said.

She also said she believes the university needs to be proactive about its communication, rather than reactive. She criticized MU’s responses to Ferguson and allegations against Delta Upsilon that led to the chapter’s suspension.

“The university issued a statement, and that was the end of it,” she said of the DU incident.

“Why didn’t the university take this as an opportunity to examine what’s happening in Greek Town? It lacks a proactive communication piece.”

McDonald said in an emailed statement that the university would continue to review the commission’s suggestions and will adopt those that are deemed helpful.

“We're always appreciative of input from our state legislature or bodies established by the legislature such as the UM System Review Commission,” he said in an email. “Such input is helpful to us as leaders of the University as we go about improving our processes or as an organization.”

The eight-member commission was originally funded with a \$750,000 appropriation, later withheld by then-Gov. Jay Nixon. It met four times in 2016.

Supervising editor is Allison Colburn.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Greitens appoints three new University of Missouri curators

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ST. LOUIS • Gov. Eric Greitens filled three positions on the University of Missouri Board of Curators on Friday, including one representing part of the St. Louis area.

The three appointees are Republicans Jeff Layman of Springfield and Jamie Farmer of Jefferson City; plus Democrat Darryl Chatman.

All three names were submitted to the Senate for confirmation consideration.

Layman, who has a bachelor's in business administration and management from Missouri State University, works as a [senior vice president at Morgan Stanley](#) in Springfield. He replaces Donald Cupps, whose term expired Jan. 1. He also worked as [finance chairman for Greitens' campaign](#).

Jamie Farmer is president of [Capital Sand Proppants LLC](#), a Jefferson City-based construction materials company. She replaces Pamela Henrickson, whose term also expired Jan. 1.

She is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia's Trulaske School of Business, and holds an MBA from Washington University in St. Louis.

Chatman, a St. Charles County native, is listed as [general counsel for the Department of Agriculture](#), starting under former Gov. Jay Nixon.

He has four degrees from Mizzou: bachelor's and master's degrees in animal science, a master's in agricultural economics and a J.D. He also has a master's in Public Administration from North Carolina State University.

The announcement came days after the typically nine-member board met at Mizzou. Six members showed up for the meeting, including two curators whose terms recently expired. It's standard that board members continue to attend after their term expires until a replacement is chosen.

"Our state has excellent students, talented teachers, and a people committed to education," Greitens said in a statement Wednesday. "There are also many areas where higher education can be improved. We can encourage more intellectual diversity and become the best state in the country at preparing students for rewarding careers."

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

[Gov. Eric Greitens appoints three to University of Missouri Board of Curators](#)

By Mara Rose Williams

The University of Missouri System has three new curators — an attorney and two business leaders.

Gov. Eric Greitens announced the appointments to the UM System Board of Curators on Wednesday, saying, "These curators bring knowledge and real-world experience to the table."

Joining the board for a six-year term:

- Darryl Chatman, general counsel for Missouri's Department of Agriculture. He is a former Mizzou linebacker and played from 1993 to 1996. Last summer, Chatman was named to a five-person advisory committee to find a new MU athletic director.
- Jeff Layman, a senior portfolio management director in Morgan Stanley's Portfolio Management Group and the founder of The Layman Group at Morgan Stanley.
- Jamie Farmer, president and principal of Farmer Holding Co., the parent company of building products and aggregate companies in the Midwest.

All three are alumni of the University of Missouri. None could be reached for comment.

"We have the potential to make Missouri's higher education system a national model," Greitens said in a statement. "Our state has excellent students, talented teachers, and a people committed to education. There are also many areas where higher education can be improved. We can encourage more intellectual diversity and become the best state in the country at preparing students for rewarding careers."

Curators Donald Cupps, an attorney from Cassville, and Pamela Henrickson, an attorney from Jefferson City, are leaving the board with expired terms. Both, at different times, served as chairman of the board during racially charged unrest on the Columbia campus in the fall of 2015.

Henrickson chaired the board through the termination of Melissa Click, the former communications professor reprimanded for calling for "muscle" to block a student journalist trying to document a protest on campus.

Following the unrest, three curators abruptly left the board, citing reasons for their resignations that ranged from health to family and business responsibilities.

Former Gov. Jay Nixon then appointed three new members: former NBA player Jon Sundvold; business executive Thomas R. Voss; and Mary E. Nelson, an attorney. Voss and Nelson resigned their seats last year.

At the end of January, Greitens withdrew the nominations of Sundvold and Patrick Graham, a University of Missouri senior who had been appointed by Nixon last June to serve as a nonvoting student representative on the board.

With the governor's three new board appointments, two voting member seats and the student seat remain vacant.

University officials had no comment on the governor's appointments.

The board of curators is the nine-member governing body for the UM System's four campuses in Kansas City, Columbia, St. Louis and Rolla.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

AP Associated Press



ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

St. Louis Business Journal



Greitens names appointees to University of Missouri curators

By Summer Ballentine

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.- **Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens on Wednesday announced three appointees to the University of Missouri System governing board, including a former linebacker on the Columbia school's football team and the governor's campaign finance chairman.**

Greitens picked former University of Missouri linebacker and Missouri Agriculture Department deputy director Darryl Chatman, former campaign finance chairman Jeffrey Layman and Jamie Farmer, who is president of Capital Sand Proppants. The company provides sand used for fracking oil and is a subsidiary of Farmer Holding Company.

Chatman is a Foristell Democrat and attorney. Springfield Republican Layman is a senior vice president with Morgan Stanley and donated about \$10,000 to Greitens' campaign.

"These curators bring knowledge and real world experience to the table," Greitens said in a statement. "They will be important voices for our students and families."

If confirmed by the state Senate, Greitens' appointees will inherit leadership of a four-campus system that drew national scrutiny following 2015 protests over racial issues at the Columbia campus.

One student went on a hunger strike, and the football team threatened not to play over concerns that administrators were indifferent to complaints of racial problems. The protests culminated with the resignations of the former system president and Columbia campus chancellor.

Leadership of the system has been in flux since then. Interim President Mike Middleton is set to step down in March for his permanent replacement, Mun Y. Choi. Three curators resigned in the months following protests in Columbia, and two more resigned in January.

The board now is without any racial minorities and only has one female curator, Pamela Henrickson, whose term expired. Chatman would be the only black curator, and Farmer would be the only female curator.

There still will be two vacant seats on the board if Greitens' three appointees are confirmed.



Greitens fills three of five vacancies on Board of Curators

By Rudi Keller

Gov. Eric Greitens has appointed his campaign finance chairman, a St. Louis area attorney and a Jefferson City business executive to three of the five open seats on the University of Missouri Board of Curators.

The appointments fill the three seats on the nine-member board that came open on Jan. 1. Two other open seats were held by appointees of former Gov. Jay Nixon who resigned since Greitens was inaugurated. All three will have a full six-year term through Jan. 1, 2023 if confirmed by the Missouri Senate.

In a news release announcing the selections, Greitens said he wanted to make Missouri a national model for higher education.

"We can encourage more intellectual diversity and become the best state in the country at preparing students for rewarding careers," Greitens said in the release. "These curators bring knowledge and real world experience to the table. They will be important voices for our students and families."

The new curators are:

- Jeffrey L. Layman, a Republican from Springfield who was Greitens' finance chairman for his gubernatorial campaign. Layman is a senior portfolio manager with Morgan Stanley, holds an undergraduate degree from Missouri State University and studied business at MU. Layman represents the Seventh Congressional District and replaces banker Donald Cupps of Cassville.
- Darryl M. Chatman, a Democrat from Foristell and an attorney who served as a deputy director of the Department of Agriculture under Nixon. Chatman has worked for the Armstrong Teasdale law firm and holds numerous degrees from MU, including his law degree and advanced degrees in agriculture. Chatman was a linebacker on the MU Tigers football team in the 1990s and a member of the search committee that selected Jim Sterk as athletic director in 2016. Chatman represents the Fourth Congressional District and replaces Jon Sundvold of Columbia.
- Jamie L. Farmer, a Republican from Jefferson City and president of Farmer Holding Company, which owns Capital Sand Company and other construction-related businesses. She holds a business degree from MU and an MBA from Washington University in St. Louis. Farmer represents the Third Congressional District and replaces Pamela Henrickson of Jefferson City.

None of the new curators could be reached immediately Wednesday for comment.

The other two open seats were held by Mary Nelson of St. Louis and Thomas Voss of Eureka. Nelson, a Democrat, was serving a term that expires Jan. 1, 2019, and Voss, an independent, was serving a term that expires Jan. 1, 2021. Both were appointed last summer by Nixon, a Democrat, and had no chance of being confirmed by the Republican-controlled Senate. Nelson and Voss resigned in January.

After the new appointments, the board will have four Democrats and three Republicans. Because state law requires a partisan split with no more than five members from one political party, Greitens, a Republican, is likely to select two more Republicans for the remaining vacancies.

The student representative seat also came open last month when Greitens withdrew Nixon's appointment of Gail Patrick Graham, an MU music student, for a two-year term.

The curators met Thursday and Friday, set higher room and board rates for the fall and discussed the financial crunch created by budget cuts ordered by Greitens. Their next scheduled meeting is April 27 in Rolla.

The appointments were announced in messages sent Tuesday to the Senate.

Additional stories:

[Greitens appoints three members to UM System Board of Curators](#)

[Greitens makes three appointments to University of Missouri Board of Curators](#)

[Former Mizzou football player among Greitens' picks for university system's governing body](#)



[Living Apart Together – Redefining Relationships After 60](#)

Generated from News Bureau press release: [Older Adults Embracing ‘Living Apart Together’](#)

ST. LOUIS (KMOX) – For more and more older Americans who’ve been married before, their new over-60 relationship is different.

Dr. Jacquelyn Benson with the University of Missouri has a term for it: living apart together, mature adults in committed relationships who do not live together. Dr. Benson says some of it is about maintaining their own independence or not wanting to merge households. She says many of the couples she interviewed were quite satisfied with the arrangement.

“How focused they are on just living in the present and limiting their expectations and not putting a lot of pressure on their relationship, on their partner and we tend to do that in marriages,” she says.

One downside, however, is not really discussing end of life issues.

“Where do they fit in in the wider family network as far as being present at their partner’s bedside, perhaps if they’re ill? Are they accepted as kin in that way, as family kin? Do they get to be a part of that decision making just as much as anyone else?”

Benson says those who’ve dealt with these issues already were quite negative on that aspect. Another issue older adults face is what to call that significant other to whom they’re neither

married to or living with. She says most couples felt silly introducing a 70-year-old as a boyfriend or girlfriend.

“It’s a really frustrating exercise for them, because ‘friend’ doesn’t particularly convey they fact that they are intimate partners, that it is a romantic relationship, and they also default to boyfriend and girlfriend, although the vast majority dislike using those terms because they see that as a reference to youth culture. Referring to their 70-year-old boyfriend or girlfriend just seems odd to them because they’re not a girl and they’re not a boy,” she says.



[MU researcher’s findings serve warning about the BPA you may be feeding your dog](#)

Watch story: <http://fox4kc.com/2017/02/16/mu-researchers-findings-serve-warning-about-the-bpa-you-may-be-feeding-your-dog/>

This story was generated by an MU News Bureau press release: [Bisphenol A in Canned Dog Food May Increase BPA Concentrations in Pets](#)

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- Researchers at the University of Missouri are warning dog owners that some canned foods could lead to potential health risks.

Pet owners now see a lot of options when they walk down the pet food aisle, from bags of dog food to rows of cans. But new research shows the container they come in may lead to significant health concerns.

You likely take your dog to the vet every year for routine check-ups, and to ask important questions.

“We get asked about what is the best pet food. What pet food ingredients do we need to be careful about? What is a good product to feed my animal?” Dr. Christina Belew at Union Hill Animal Hospital said.

But a new study has pet owners asking another question.

“What’s in the lining of these containers, is it something that is truly dangerous, does it pose a problem?” Dr. Belew continued.

The University of Missouri is looking for an answer. Researchers looked at “Bisphenol A” levels found in canned dog food.

BPA is a chemical that researchers have linked to countless health issues, including reproductive disorders, neurological disorders-- even cancer. It’s a chemical that’s likely sitting in your pantry right now.

“Unfortunately now when I go to various pet food stores, I am thinking how many chemicals are in this and how many chemicals could be going into my dog,” Cheryl Rosenfeld with the MU College of Veterinary Medicine said.

Rosenfeld led the investigation and volunteered her own two dogs for the study. She found that feeding dogs canned food for just two weeks nearly tripled the level of BPA in their system.

“It’s disheartening to think I was feeding them something that was not good for them. That is what really saddens me,” Rosenfeld said.

But this is just the beginning of the research. While there have been all sorts of findings about the impact on humans, Rosenfeld’s study is one of the first to look at canned foods for dogs.

In the meantime, you may continue to find canned food in your vet’s office. Dr. Belew says until there is more research, she continues to follow federal guidelines.

“Science and research is changing all the time. It’s what the science right now is telling us is important. That’s what’s critical and the things we need to be worried about right now. I think it may become a problem down the road, but we need more research first,” she said.

She suggests you wait until your next vet visit before making any big changes to your pup’s diet. Rosenfeld’s advice is to limit the amount of canned foods you feed your pet altogether.



Silver scaffolds grow bone while blocking MRSA

This story was generated by an MU News Bureau press release: [Silver Ion-Coated Medical Devices Could Fight MRSA While Creating New Bone](#)

Silver ion-coated scaffolds can slow the spread of—or even kill—methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) while growing new bone, say researchers.

“Osteomyelitis is a debilitating bone infection that can result when MRSA invades bone tissue, including bone marrow or surrounding soft tissues,” says Elizabeth Lobo, dean of the University of Missouri College of Engineering. “Increasingly, those in the healthcare profession are running out of choices when it comes to treating MRSA while regenerating tissue.

“Using previously reported scaffolds that were created in our lab, we set out to determine the efficacy of coating these structures with silver ions and whether they were useful in treating or preventing osteomyelitis.”

The scaffolds were created from a polymer called polylactic acid (PLA), which is an FDA-approved material that eventually biodegrades in the body. Next, researchers applied a silver ion releasing coating to the scaffolds and “seeded” them with fat-derived adult stem cells that could be “triggered” to create bone cells.

Researchers also seeded the scaffolds with MRSA so that they could observe whether silver ions could fight the bacteria. The scientists found that the silver ion-releasing scaffolds not only inhibited MRSA, but also supported bone tissue formation.

“Silver is well known for its antimicrobial properties and is highly toxic to a wide range of microorganisms such as MRSA,” says Lobo, also a professor of bioengineering. “Silver ions work mechanically—they actually disrupt the cellular machinery of MRSA.”

“Our research now has shown that bone tissues still can be formed even in the presence of MRSA. We’ve created the materials needed for bone tissue engineering that will allow patients to use their own fat cells to create patient-specific bone and surgically implant those cells and tissues while diminishing, or potentially eliminating, the risk of MRSA infection.”

The early-stage results of this research are promising. If additional studies are successful within the next few years, university officials could request authority from the federal government to begin human device development. After this status has been granted, researchers may conduct human clinical trials with the hope of developing new treatments for osteomyelitis.

Their findings appear in the journal *Tissue Engineering, Part A*. The research team comes from the Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of North Carolina and North Carolina State University; Silpakorn University in Thailand; and North Carolina State University.



[City of Columbia seeks to intervene in wrongful death lawsuit over firefighter's death](#)

Watch story: <http://www.abc17news.com/news/city-of-columbia-seeks-to-intervene-in-wrongful-death-lawsuit-over-firefighters-death/335096934>

By Alyssa Toomey

Columbia, Mo. - The City of Columbia is looking to intervene in a wrongful death lawsuit filed after a Columbia firefighter died in a walkway collapse.

The city filed a motion to intervene Friday, alleging they have a right to be reimbursed for workers' compensation paid to Britt's widow, Leigh Kottwitz, and her daughter, Stormy Britt.

Court documents say the "City of Columbia has paid workers' compensation benefits including ongoing weekly workers' compensation death benefits to Bruce Britt's dependents beginning from the date of his fatal injury to the present." Britt died while responding to a walkway collapse at University Village, a university-owned complex, back in February 2014.

One month after his death, Britt's widow filed a lawsuit against the University of Missouri curators. The lawsuit claims the university didn't properly maintain the apartments.

Last week, an undisclosed settlement was reached between Britt's widow, her daughter and the university. A hearing was scheduled Tuesday for a judge to decide whether to approve the terms of the settlement. The hearing, however, was canceled when the city filed its motion.

In response, the plaintiffs have filed a motion in opposition to the city's motion to intervene. Court documents say the city has "failed to meet its burden to establish an unconditional right to intervene or entitlement to intervene". They also say "a workers' compensation carrier has a multitude of options available to recoup benefits it has paid."

The defendants in the case, University of Missouri curators, also filed a motion for a change of judge Tuesday. A UM spokesman says the university does not comment on active legislation.

Neither the City of Columbia's attorney, nor Kottwitz's attorney, were available for comment.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH



Columbia seeks to intervene in firefighter death lawsuit

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — A settlement in a wrongful death lawsuit stemming from the 2014 death of a Columbia firefighter has been canceled.

The move comes after the city filed a late motion to intervene and the University of Missouri requested a new judge.

The Columbia Daily Tribune (<http://bit.ly/2IL3ud8>) reports the settlement canceled Tuesday would've made a payment to Lt. Bruce Britt's widow, Leigh Kottwitz, and established an annual payment on behalf of their daughter.

The city filed its motion to intervene Friday, saying it worried it wouldn't be able to recover reimbursement for the workers' compensation benefits paid since Britt's death.

Britt died while responding to a call that a roof had collapsed at University Village. A National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health report said he suffocated while being trapped under debris.



Mizzou battling mumps outbreak on campus

Watch story: <http://fox2now.com/2017/02/15/mizzou-battling-mumps-outbreak-on-campus/>

By Jeff Bernthal

COLUMBIA, MO (KTVI) – A mumps outbreak is lingering over the Mizzou campus Wednesday night. Students are being offered free vaccine shots to stamp out the outbreak.

All day today and for the next several days students can go to the Memorial Student Union to receive a vaccination for free. The university is trying to curb the mumps outbreak.

Students were lining up earlier today getting what's known as an MMR vaccine, that stands for measles, mumps and rubella.

Mumps is a contagious viral infection that can make you feel miserable and take a week to ten days to recover from.

Since the beginning of the fall semester the university has reported 341 cases of the mumps involving students. But the Mizzou campus isn't alone, there have been spikes on other college campuses as well.

Typically, the vaccine is given twice, with the third round something not typically given. But the university consulted with state and federal health agencies and determined offering a third round for students would be a good idea and could possibly slow down the outbreak.

The vaccinations will be offered tomorrow and Friday from 10 am to 6 pm at the Memorial Student Union.

MISSOURIAN

COLUMBIA'S MORNING NEWSPAPER

[MU students line up for free vaccinations as mumps outbreak continues](#)

BY JESSICA DENNIS

COLUMBIA — It was just a slight pinch behind the shoulder, and students were on their way.

"It wasn't bad at all. Just a little prick," said MU freshman Allison Wieberg. "It was worth it, just to be safe."

Wieberg was one of a couple hundred students who stood in line throughout the morning Wednesday to get their free third measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine at a clinic organized by the MU Student Health Center and the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services.

The clinic runs Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the second floor of Memorial Union North. Any student with a valid student ID can get vaccinated.

Filling out paperwork, standing in line and waiting for shots took less than 10 minutes for most students, many of whom stopped by between classes.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services gave the health center 2,000 doses, with more on the way depending on how many students take advantage of the clinic, said Susan Even, executive director of the Student Health Center.

Since the beginning of the fall semester, 334 mumps cases have been reported to the center, [according to its website](#). Although numbers have declined, the outbreak is still considered a problem.

At least 23 new cases have been reported since the beginning of the spring semester.

Although the university is not requiring the third vaccine yet, during the past two months the health center has been urging students get a third MMR shot to help stop the mumps outbreak. Students are required by the university to receive two MMR vaccines, and the center sees the third as a precaution to stop the spread of mumps on campus. Students who have already been diagnosed with mumps do not need a third vaccine.

Usually if students wait to get vaccinated at the center, it costs \$86 and can be covered by insurance. The three-day clinic was the first initiative by the health center to offer free MMR vaccinations.

As of Feb. 7, just over 2,325 students had reported receiving a third MMR. That's only about 7 percent of MU's student population — about 32,000.

"Something that's free always attracts attention, you know?" said Even, who was at the vaccination clinic Wednesday. "I'm just hoping that students tell each other and faculty and staff members tell their students that it was pretty easy."

Some students say they've been worried about the outbreak, but they've been deterred by the cost. The free clinic prompted them to get vaccinated.

"I'm getting it now because they were offering free shots, so it doesn't get billed through insurance or anything like that," said MU sophomore Austin DeHaven. She said because she's been spending more time this semester with Greek Life students, she worries she has a greater chance of getting sick.

Students in Greek Life or living in dorms are said to be at a higher risk for mumps because of closer contact with one another though all students are at risk, according to the health center.

Aside from receiving a third vaccination, the health center reminds students to cover coughs and sneezes, wash their hands more frequently, avoid sharing eating and drinking utensils and avoid sharing saliva as the infection is transmitted through bodily fluids.

Those experiencing swollen glands, pain moving the jaw, fever, fatigue or headaches are asked to call the health center at 882-7481 and stay home if they experience symptoms. Students who receive a diagnosis outside the health center should reach out to Megan Huddleston at 884-9937 or huddlestonm@missouri.edu.

Supervising editor is Allison Colburn.



MU offers Mumps vaccines to students amid rising concerns

Watch story: <http://www.komu.com/news/mu-offers-mumps-vaccines-to-students-amid-rising-concerns>

By Chris Joseph

COLUMBIA - Local health officials began offering free MMR vaccines to MU students on Wednesday amid new cases of mumps reported in Springfield and questions about the effectiveness of a third vaccine shot.

University of Missouri health officials teamed up with the Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services to offer the vaccines from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Memorial Union Wednesday through Friday.

"We know that there's still contagion and there's still spread happening and we want to do additional measures to try and see if we can reduce the number of cases in our MU students," said Dr. Susan Even, executive director of the MU Student Health Center.

The City of Columbia reported 39 confirmed or probable cases of mumps have been identified in Columbia this year through Feb. 7. Since August, 370 cases have been identified.

Five new cases have been identified in the Springfield school district and one case in Willard.

KOMU 8 News reported earlier in February that a third non-mandatory MMR vaccine may not provide absolute protection against mumps, however all of the students who have gotten the mumps at the University of Missouri have already received two MMR vaccines.

"This would be an additional third, recommended specifically to help with outbreaks," Even said.

Despite already having early MMR shots, some students who got the vaccine on Wednesday wanted to protect themselves and their families.

"A friend from home, I just saw that he got it last week and I thought that we were in the clear and we're not," said Maddie Wehrle, a senior at MU. Wehrle is a member of the Greek community which has been more prone to mumps cases.

"They kinda told us we were the main epicenter of mumps," Wehrle said.

Megan Rehmer, another MU senior, wanted to keep her family healthy when she sees them soon.

"I have a nephew who just turned 1 and I'm going to be visiting him soon, and if I gave him the mumps that would just kinda suck," Rehmer said.

Even estimates the mumps outbreak risk could last for as long as a year, and recommends parents make sure their children are up to date on their MMR vaccines.



The Right Not to Be Recorded

Orange Coast College suspends student who secretly and in violation of college rules videotaped professor's anti-Trump comments, which later went viral.

By Colleen Flaherty, February 16, 2017

The Orange Coast College student who videotaped a professor calling Donald Trump's election as president "an act of terrorism" has been suspended. The status of the investigation into the professor of psychology who made the comments, Olga Stable Perez Cox, is unclear.

Orange Coast College Republicans, the student group that initially shared the video online, [announced the suspension](#) on Facebook, calling it "victim blaming at its finest." The college "is making a clear statement that it doesn't give a damn about its students and is completely in the pocket of the teachers' union. We will continue to fight this and we will win," the group said.

The dispute has become a flash point in campus culture wars since the election. To College Republicans, the case is about squelching their ability to raise criticisms of faculty members. But to many who back the professor, the case illustrates the ability of some students to violate college rules by secretly recording and possibly distorting an instructor's comments, leaving them vulnerable to harassment.

Caleb O'Neil, 19, was notified of his spring and summer semester suspension last week, via email, according to information from the group. He was accused of violating the Orange Coast's Student Code of Conduct on two counts, unauthorized tape recording and unauthorized use of electronic devices.

In addition to his suspension, O'Neil faces one semester of disciplinary probation upon his return to campus. He must apologize to Cox and write a three-page essay on why he videotaped the class, the impact of it becoming public and how he'll prevent such an episode from happening again.

At an on-campus news conference Wednesday, O'Neil said he was a known Trump supporter and pulled out his phone to document Cox's comments because "I was honestly scared that I would have repercussions on my grade." *Story [continues](#).*

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

[GoFundMe to pay for college? More Missouri students are giving it a try](#)

NO MU MENTION

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ST. LOUIS • Maggie Helderle didn't have high hopes for her [GoFundMe account raising money for college tuition](#), but it was worth a shot. Every dollar would help.

She raised almost \$2,200.

The Woodson Terrace native's story was [highlighted by GoFundMe in a report released Wednesday](#) that spoke to the [growing trend of students using crowdfunding for tuition costs](#), as well as the company's new platform to make that effort smoother for students.

According to the report, more than 2,000 Missouri college students have turned to the crowdfunding website seeking help with college costs. Those students have raked in about \$676,000.

Nationwide, that number climbs to 130,000, receiving \$60 million in donations.

Helderle quickly realized that between financial aid and loans, she was \$5,000 short of what she needed for her freshman year at Park University, a private college just north of Kansas City. That prompted her to set up the GoFundMe account. Her friends' donations helped get her through her first semester, but she wasn't able to make her second semester work financially.

Now, Helderle is working through her general education classes at St. Louis Community College, which is paid for by her financial aid. She's also working part time at a grocery, saving up her money to potentially go back to Park University, at \$391 per credit hour, or the University of Missouri-St. Louis, at \$335 per credit hour.

GoFundMe is promoting a new "guidebook" with tips for students like Helderle on boosting their odds on their fundraising pages gaining traction. The guide explains the importance in showing donors the value of what they're paying for by touting awards and experiences with updates.

"I am officially moved in to my dorm and it is because of your help and support," Helderle shared in a post last semester, including a photo of her unpacked dormitory.

"It's always worth trying," she says now about the experience with GoFundMe. When the time comes to transfer back to a four-year school to finish her bachelor's degree in business administration, Helderle said she might breathe more life into her fundraising page.