



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

March 27, 2017

President Choi, telling it like it is

By Henry J. Waters III Sunday, March 26, 2017

The other day, University of Missouri System President Mun Choi told the Columbia Chamber of Commerce the university would have to reallocate resources to meet current budget challenges, meaning some programs will have to be eliminated.

Then later in the week he took his message to a tougher audience, the MU faculty.

Blaming prior administrations, faculty members said they did not like hearing such substantial information in press reports rather than firsthand. Choi said specifics of program reductions have not been decided and promised those decisions will be made in collaboration with faculty and others on campus.

“We are going to get through this in a way that is consultative,” Choi said. “It is not going to be top down.” He emphasized the supportive role of “general officers” like himself. “There is no university that claim that their stature has been reached because of senior administrators.”

To get started, everyone must agree there is a problem. Choi reminded the audience the combination of state budget cuts and significant drops in enrollment could mean budget reductions of about \$50 million for MU this year. Nobody likes to hear troubling news, but better to recognize the truth than continue to spread diminishing resources over too many programs.

By setting priorities, Choi says the university can be better. “I have to really dig deep into the programs, into where the budget lies, to make a determination that has the opportunity for us to take some of those resources and strengthen the university in the process,” he said. “That means there are going be certain programs that are going to be phased out.”

He also said reallocating internal resources while attracting new research money will appeal to lawmakers. Choi has a powerful point.

When Charles McClain transformed Northeast Missouri State University into Truman State University, a central part of his reform was reallocation. He reduced the number of programs from more than 140 to around 40. This sort of extreme focus is not in the cards for MU and should not be, but along with another innovation called “value-added education” McClain was

able to tell state lawmakers, “We are the only institution of higher learning in the state that can tell you what you are getting for your money.”

This was exactly what the solons in Jefferson City wanted to see. McClain and Truman consistently got better treatment in state budgets, to the chagrin of lobbyists from other institutions.

Without getting too far ahead of the story, President Mun Choi proposes a latter-day, less revolutionary version for the University of Missouri, particularly the Columbia flagship campus. Like Northeast Missouri State in McClain’s day, UM faces a budget challenge than can legitimately be called “exigency,” a condition of institutional stress requiring bold corrective action. If he and his colleagues on campus will propose credible corrections, the payoff in Jefferson City will be palpable.

As President Choi establishes his relationship with faculty and other constituencies deeply interested in the university, it’s helpful there is no permanent chancellor at MU. This is a big-issue moment nobody but the system president can handle. Unlike earlier reallocation attempts when leadership was fragmented among curators and administrators at the system and campus levels, this time the push comes straight from the top. The president establishes the need for reform and promises, as only he can, to make the tough changes in full collaboration with interested parties on campus.

The need is real, and the correction is properly laid out. It’s tricky business, but MU can be fundamentally made over to the great benefit of the institution. Ironically, the parsimonious mood of the state might be harnessed in the effort.

Choi and Co. will have to navigate devilish details. It will be a war, but a war worth winning.



MU students participate in service projects during spring break

Generated from MU News Bureau news release: Mizzou Students to Spend Spring Break Serving 44 Communities Across the U.S.

By Alan Burdziak Saturday, March 25, 2017

Instead of heading south to party in warm weather or home to see family next week during spring break, 658 University of Missouri students will go to 44 different communities across the country to do service projects as part of Mizzou Alternative Breaks.

Among the trips students will take are to Billings, Mont., to help preschool children at Head Start; to Charleston, S.C., to serve veterans at a hospital; to Yellowstone National Park to restore trails; to Washington, D.C., to help the homeless population; and to Houston to work at a recovery center for survivors of domestic and sexual assault.

Colleen Burns, a senior studying communications, will be heading to Fort Collins, Colo., to help the county conservation corps clean up and maintain trails. Students also will learn about environmentalism and how to protect land from invasive species.

Burns, 22, has gone on Mizzou Alternative Breaks during spring break all four years of college, helping build homes with Habitat for Humanity in Charleston, S.C., one year and going to Eagle Butte, S.D., twice to help a similar organization on a Native American reservation. The trips, she said, have challenged her and helped her to get out of her comfort zone. She said she's also made lasting friendships on the trips.

“It was nothing short of amazing,” Burns said of her experiences with Mizzou Alternative Break. “It’s definitely taught me a lot about life and people. It helped me realize how people are connected.”

Mizzou Alternative Breaks was started in 1994 as a way to get students involved in volunteer service. The university also sends students on service trips during the break between the fall and winter semesters as well as summer, winter and Thanksgiving breaks. In 2014, the breaks program partnered with MU Extension to expand the program, with a goal of sending students on service trips to all of Missouri’s 114 counties by 2020.

Students plan and execute all of the trips and lead the rest of their group while there. Mary Kate Kelly, a junior studying strategic communications, went on trips during spring break of her first three years at MU but is staying behind this year to provide support to other breaks groups when necessary. There are 13 areas of focus for service in the program, she said, including LGBTQ and women’s advocacy, helping homeless people and building homes. About 1,000 students will participate in the program this year, she said, over all of the university's breaks.

Like Burns, Kelly said her experiences with Mizzou Alternative Breaks have helped her forge tight bonds with people she otherwise wouldn’t have known.

“It’s really been an organization for me that encouraged a lot of relationship-building and connections,” Kelly said.

This year, Lillie Heigl will be one of the site leaders for a trip to the greater Chicago area to help out at group homes and centers for people with mental and developmental disabilities. Heigl, a

junior studying public relations, said she first got into volunteering when she went on a ski trip in high school with her family and younger sister, who has Down syndrome. The trip was for adaptive skiing and her sister learned how to ski as a form of therapy.

”I won’t ever forget what that felt like for me and for her and what that meant for my family,” Heigl, 20, said.

In Illinois, Heigl and others in her group will participate directly with disabled people and do a variety of services, from maintenance work to just hanging out with them and watching movies or going to classes.



Resistance Training Increases Bone Mass in Men

Generated from News Bureau press release: [Weight-Bearing Exercises Promote Bone Formation in Men](#)

Watch story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=5306a353-96a8-4eb0-97c9-d35f710c40d5>

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

WashU professors make more than any others statewide, report says

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Mar 24, 2017

ST. LOUIS • Of all of the full-fledged professors in the state, those at Washington University get paid the most, according to an updated database from the Chronicle of Higher Education.

On average, professors at the elite research university earned more than \$175,000, according to 2015-16 salary information updated on a faculty compensation database this week.

The data is collected from the United States Department of Education. All schools that participate in Title IX funding are required to disclose some information to the government. The salary information is for full-time, nonmedical faculty, [according to the Chronicle](#).

WashU ranked at No. 18 on the highest paid professors among [all four-year private institutions](#), just behind Vanderbilt University, and just ahead of Dartmouth College.

The second highest-paid professors came from the Missouri University of Science and Technology, according to the data. The average salary of a professor at the Rolla school is just more than \$127,000.

After that, the University of Missouri-Columbia comes in at almost \$119,880, then St. Louis University at \$119,646 and the University of Missouri-Kansas City at \$106,857.

After that, the numbers drop out of the six-digit figures.

The data also ranks schools based on other types of faculty, such as associate professors, assistant professors, instructors and lecturers.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

By Bryan Lowry

Analysis: Missouri governor avoids questions by relying on social media to spread message

Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens has relied primarily on Facebook to spread his message and curate his image, a strategy that grants him greater control and allows him to avoid answering tough questions.

Republican strategists applaud Greitens' political savvy in his use of social media, but other Capitol observers say his reluctance to answer questions raises transparency concerns and does a disservice to Missourians.

“This is the most reclusive, inaccessible and unengaged governor I’ve ever covered,” said Phill Brooks, the statehouse correspondent for KMOX, the CBS radio affiliate in St. Louis, who has covered the statehouse since 1970.

Brooks, professor emeritus at the University of Missouri School of Journalism, called the dearth of media access troubling given the lack of disclosure of the governor’s inauguration donors and other transparency questions that have arisen during his first months in office.

Greitens has been dogged by questions about so-called dark money, anonymous contributions to political groups that support the governor’s agenda.

Brooks said he approached Greitens with a question at the start of the legislative session. The governor refused to answer and his aides physically blocked Brooks from entering an elevator, Brooks said — a first-time experience for the veteran reporter.

Similar scenes have played out repeatedly during the governor’s first months in office. Greitens complained during a February speech at the Capitol that the media focus too much on conflict and ignore his efforts to build consensus. He quickly left the event without answering questions as aides blocked the path of reporters who approached.

The governor has held only one news conference where he fielded general questions from Capitol reporters. His communications office installed a keypad lock on its door, effectively blocking reporters from posing questions to his staff in person. The governor’s staff members often ignore questions posed by email or phone.

It’s a sharp contrast with Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback, a fellow Republican who regularly holds press events despite a sometimes contentious relationship with the media.

Greitens has used Facebook to make policy announcements rather than holding press conferences and fielding questions from reporters, including earlier this month when he announced he would be offering parental leave to executive branch employees with a Facebook video that featured his wife, Sheena, and young son, Jacob.

“It’s a little bit scary if Eric Greitens becomes one of the people who develops a way that public officials can do PR statements without having to be transparent,” Brooks said. “Donald Trump’s doing it with Twitter. Eric Greitens is doing it with Facebook.”

In an email, Greitens’ spokesman, Parker Briden, pushed back on the notion that the governor’s use of social media was meant to circumvent scrutiny. “We use every available resource to talk to the people, including social media where more and more Missourians are going for information about what the governor is doing to fight for them,” he said.

James Harris, a Jefferson City-based consultant who worked for former Gov. Matt Blunt, said Greitens' Facebook page, which has nearly 170,000 followers, has enabled the governor to forge more direct connections with Missouri voters than he would by speaking through the traditional media.

"He's very smart," Harris said. "It's a way for people to feel like they know him even if they've never met him. ... There's a sense of connection."

Harris noted that newspapers and television stations regularly pick up the news and report it based on the governor's Facebook posts — the same as they would if he held a press conference — and the website gives politicians the ability to target voters based on their preferences and IP address.

Greitens' Facebook page is a mix of announcements, policy statements and photos of the governor, who served as a Navy SEAL, working out with the National Guard or firefighters, or touring communities. The page is full of ebullient comments from Missourians thanking Greitens for showing how much he cares about their communities.

Jeff Roe, a veteran Republican strategist who advised U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz during his 2016 presidential campaign, called Greitens' use of social media a winning tactic.

"You can reach more people. You don't have to answer tough questions and you can get your message across without filters," Roe said. "There's no risk. All reward, no risk."

Roe, who noted that this has been a growing trend in national politics for several years, said that "with each passing day it is harder and harder to do a cost-benefit analysis on dealing with an unruly press ... than it is to talk to your own group of people."

Brooks called that way of thinking politically shortsighted, contending that if Greitens wants to govern successfully, he needs to reach a broader audience than his social media followers.

"Social media, it's a one-way street. You just blab off whatever you have to say. When you engage with reporters, it's an interaction," Brooks said. "... Every governor I've covered who succeeded in major politically difficult policy issues saw the need to go beyond just the people who listen to you."

Ben Warner, a professor at the University of Missouri who studies political communication, said using social media as an alternative to talking with the press has pitfalls.

"The risk is that you're talking to a much smaller slice of the electorate than you want to be communicating with," he said. "There are a lot of people you're not reaching."

Roe contrasted Greitens with Brownback, who regularly fields tough questions about Kansas' finances from reporters.

“He’s pretty open with the press and to what benefit?” Roe said, noting Brownback’s low approval ratings in recent years.

Brownback and his office have regularly criticized the media in public statements, but the governor has usually been willing engage reporters both at news conferences and in the Capitol halls.

Unlike Greitens, who is usually surrounded by aides and bodyguards when he walks through the Missouri Capitol, Brownback regularly strolls through the Kansas statehouse on his own. Brownback greets tourists, chats with lawmakers and, when approached by reporters, usually takes a few minutes to answer questions.

Brownback said in an email that “meeting with everyday Kansans — hearing their stories and learning from them — is one of the joys of being Governor” and that being “accessible to legislators is crucial to a healthy republic” when asked about his tendency to roam the Capitol hallways.

“While I don’t believe the media have always given conservative policies a fair shake, I believe that an open press is foundational to a free people,” Brownback said.

However, Brownback’s administration has in recent years become more aggressive on social media, using Twitter and Facebook as a forum to push back on media reports scrutinizing the governor’s fiscal policies.

“The people of Kansas deserve to hear both sides of every story and that is why we’ve gotten more active on social media,” Brownback said.

When Greitens does speak to the media, it’s usually national outlets, such as Fox News, rather than reporters who cover the Capitol on a daily basis. Greitens told conservative radio host Laura Ingraham on her nationally syndicated show in February that “people are tuning out a lot of what the liberal media is talking about.”

Jonathan Groves, president of the Missouri Sunshine Coalition, a group that works to promote open government, called Greitens’ selectivity a concern, noting that the governor ran on a campaign centered on transparency.

“The governor is representing all of the people in Missouri, not just the people who watch Fox News,” Groves said. “We should know how he is coming to the decisions that he’s making.

“... Do I expect him to do a news conference every week? Probably not. Do I expect to be accessible and answer questions once in a while? Yes, I do.”

Greitens did field questions from statehouse reporters at a Missouri Press Association earlier this month. Mark Maassen, the association’s executive director, said he thinks the governor “saw at that time that the big, bad press isn’t out to get him” and noted that Greitens said “he had hoped to have more accessibility.”

Greitens has held several Q&A sessions on Facebook Live, encouraging his followers to let him know their questions “about our mission for more jobs, higher pay, safer streets, and better schools” in a recent post.

Stephen Webber, the chair of the Missouri Democratic Party, said that these Facebook events don’t provide real scrutiny of the governor’s policies.

“He’s scared to take tough questions. So if he’s doing a Facebook Live, he can ignore questions about how seniors are going to face rising healthcare costs, and he can cherry-pick questions about how he likes doing a lot of pushups, which is a question he answered last time,” Webber said.

“It may be effective if his only concern is the enhancement of his political career. I don’t think it’s effective if his concern is actually communicating with real Missourians.”



The Price of Incentives: Officials weigh benefits, costs in deals to attract new businesses

By Jodie Jackson Jr. Saturday, March 25, 2017

When Aurora Organic Dairy opens its butter and milk processing plant in Columbia in late 2018, as many as 60 to 80 semitrailers a day are expected to deliver the goods to the site off Waco Road.

Most will predictably use the Interstate 70/Highway 63 connector, a cumbersome interchange that local businessman Dave Griggs recently called “Spaghetti Junction.” It’s also likely that some of the truck traffic headed to and from a proposed 500,000-square-foot distribution center for American Outdoor Brands east of Columbia off Route Z will navigate the dubious 70/63 connector.

Before the extra trucks start rolling into and through Columbia, county officials are weighing whether to offer real and personal property tax abatement via Chapter 100 bonds for the job-creating projects to put down roots in Columbia. The Aurora project already has received a 75 percent tax abatement. American Outdoor Brands is seeking 50 percent abatement.

According to the current policy, new companies requesting tax abatements must make at least a \$10 million capital investment, while existing companies are required to make a \$5 million minimum capital investment.

Any future Chapter 100 requests, however, likely will have to meet some new requirements and a more in-depth review process that looks at how a company could affect local infrastructure, particularly roads.

Boone County Presiding Commissioner Dan Atwill recently voiced his concern that “the obligations of government continue” after tax abatements are granted and a new business begins operation.

"I think we've got to include in our Chapter 100 evaluations more of the long-term consequences of community development in different areas," he said. "There are a lot of things that can be impacted by development that aren't readily apparent."

Criticism also was levied at the city for the \$2.1 million land sale to Aurora for property that the city purchased for \$3 million in 2015. City Manager Mike Matthes defended the sale, saying the city would get \$1 million annually in revenue from utility payments and pointing to other anticipated economic activity getting a boost from more consumer spending.

LONG-TERM COSTS

The Aurora Organic Dairy and American Outdoor Brands projects came to public light just a few weeks apart, promising as many as 450 jobs combined and more than \$200 million in capital investment with expected and future expansion plans. Columbia Mayor Brian Treece beamed as he announced the Aurora project during a meeting of the Regional Economic Development Inc. board of directors as “catalytic” for the city’s economy.

Local economic development officials, including Griggs, a member of REDI’s incentives subcommittee, hailed the creation of jobs – including Aurora’s commitment to hire at least a 10 percent minority workforce – as a compelling reason to offer tax abatement incentives to the companies. **One analysis prepared by a University of Missouri Extension agricultural economist showed a long-term cascade of economic benefit from just the Aurora project.**

“I think the whole package merits the extraordinary abatement,” Treece said of the Aurora Chapter 100 request.

Some of the conversation, however, has honed in on the unknown cost, not just the benefit, of the abatements and continued growth, which Fourth Ward Councilman Ian Thomas said will create additional demand for a variety of services from water and sewer to public safety and roads.

The 70/63 connector routinely comes up in those conversations, along with schools and the city's already-identified need for additional police officers.

Aurora asked for a 75 percent abatement of real and personal property tax for 10 years and will pay \$1.7 million during that period. American Outdoor Brands is seeking a 50 percent abatement and would pay an estimated \$2.5 million in real and personal property tax.

Story [continues.](#)



DESE releases new report for teacher preparation programs

By Roger McKinney Sunday, March 26 2017

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for the first time released an annual performance report for educator preparation programs at Missouri universities and colleges, ranking most programs in the Columbia area in the top two tiers.

"A lot of the programs, especially in the Columbia area, will be celebrating," DESE spokeswoman Sarah Potter said.

The annual performance reports for K-12 schools have been around for a long time, but this report looks at the institutions that supply the teachers, administrators and counselors for those schools based on five years of reporting from the educator preparation programs at colleges and universities. The programs reported how many candidates passed the certification exam within two tries and the grade point averages of the teacher candidates. It also used survey results from first-year teachers and their principals, as well as new principals and their supervisors.

The results aren't in a tidy score or percentage of possible points earned, as in the K-12 reports. Instead, the educator preparation programs are placed in tiers, with Tier 1 programs in the 90 percent to 100 percent of possible points earned range; Tier 2, 70 percent to 89.9 percent; Tier 3, 50 to 69.9 percent. None of the programs ranked were in Tier 4, 0 to 49.9 percent.

The results also didn't look at programs that produced fewer than 15 certification candidates.

Beginning next year, the State Board of Education will start using the performance reports to make decisions about accreditation. Starting in 2019, the board will issue provisional or conditional accreditation to Tier 3 and Tier 4 programs, respectively, which will then be given conditions to meet. Programs that are ranked in Tier 3 for five consecutive years or Tier 4 for four consecutive years will be unable to recommend candidates for certification the next year.

"We worked very closely with the universities and colleges and actually created it with them," Potter said.

She said college and university associations were involved in the process, and DESE officials made a presentation of the results to institution presidents before being released to the public.

The University of Missouri has 30 certification programs and reported 1,748 certification candidates. "The University of Missouri is one of the big producers of educators in the state," Potter said.

Sixteen of the 30 programs were identified as having 15 or more certification candidates. Thirteen of those were placed in Tier 1. Programs for grade 5-9 general science, 5-9 language arts and 9-12 social science were in Tier 2.

John Lannin, associate dean of academic affairs in the teacher education program at the MU College of Education, said he's pleased with the overall results.

"It provides a positive view of our teacher education program," Lannin said, adding the new tool is useful in measuring effectiveness and provides some indicators for ways to improve. "We're certainly happy when our students are performing well."

He said in the three programs in Tier 2, students' grade point averages affected the placement. He said that can fluctuate from year to year.

"We want students to have a strong GPA, but it's just one indicator of their knowledge," he said, noting the university's mission is to produce a successful teacher.

The Columbia College 9-12 social science program was in Tier 1 and the 1-6 elementary education program was in Tier 2.

Linda Bradely, clinical director of education and DESE liaison at Columbia College, said she's OK with the mixed results. She said the college has 21 educator certification programs, but those two were the only ones with enough candidates to be included in the surveys.

"We feel very good," she said. "We know we produce top quality teachers. This is very good direction to our program and how to grow teachers. We always know we can improve."

Only two programs, 7-12 counselor and K-8 counselor, were measured at Stephens College, a private college for women in Columbia, and both were placed in Tier 1.

At William Woods University in Fulton, the 7-12 and K-8 principal programs and K-12 superintendent program were listed in Tier 1. The university's K-12 physical education teacher preparation program is in Tier 3, the 50 to 69.9 percent range.

Timothy Hanrahan, chairman of the division of education human performance and humanities at William Woods and assistant professor of physical education, said since the reporting goes back five years, some of the information from the physical education teacher preparation program is from before he was hired in 2013. He said as soon as he was hired, he began to address deficiencies in the program.

"The preliminary information for next year is the program won't be in Tier 3," he said. "Our measures have gone up."

He said most of the teachers and administrators who graduate from William Woods work in Mid-Missouri. The DESE APR noted the school reported 575 certificate candidates.

"Teacher education in Missouri is doing a great job," Hanrahan said of the state overall. "We have good teachers and we're producing good teachers. Our job is to put teachers in a position to be an outstanding teacher when they get there. It's a continuous improvement cycle."

Westminster College in Fulton didn't have enough candidates in any of its programs for the rankings.

The Missouri Association of Colleges for Teacher Education is one of the associations that worked with DESE in developing the report. Its president is Diana Rogers-Adkinson, dean of the College of Education at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.

"We're very happy with how it's shaping up," Rogers-Adkinson said of the initial report. "Colleges of Education have high standards. We find it to be a good process."

She said the annual performance report for educator preparation programs will evolve over time.

"I'm doing everything I can to make sure my students succeed," she said.



[Mike Alden goes "back to school" for his second act at Mizzou](#)

Watch story: <http://www.komu.com/news/mike-alden-goes-back-to-school-for-his-second-act-at-mizzou>

By Corey Miller

COLUMBIA - **During his time as athletic director at the University of Missouri Mike Alden oversaw a little bit of everything.** Now, he's in the middle of a new chapter in his life, and using his experiences to influence a new group of Tigers, in the classroom.

"I loved being the athletic director at Mizzou. Literally. I enjoyed that. It was a dream job for me," Alden said. "A destination place for us and destination opportunity. But sometimes people say 'You don't realize how heavy the load is until you put it down'. So when you step away and retire you don't realize the demands that were put on you. Personally, physically emotionally and in a lot of different types of ways."

Alden's new load includes teaching four classes within the department of education at the university for both graduate and undergraduate students, and frequently acting as a guest lecturer around campus.

"It's given me a little bit more flexibility and freedom to be able to schedule our time and my time in a different way and I find that refreshing," Alden said. "I'm able to bring different life experiences I think towards the class in addition to whatever the textbook material may be."

The change in pace has also changed Alden's family life, and personality.

His wife, Rockie Alden, said, "It's odd seeing him in blue jeans almost every day. I think being able to take a step back, his personality has changed. He's much more laid back. It's great to have him home. Just have him be able to do things either at our house or at the farm and he's always loved going out there and now has the time to do it."

Both his family and colleagues know being a teacher is a perfect fit for Alden.

Rockie Alden said, "He's just a teacher at heart. We have a lot of teachers in our family. Our son's just getting ready to graduate and become a teacher. I think you're just wired that way. Even when he was in athletics teaching was the biggest part of it for him."

Professor Ty Douglas said having Alden as a teacher is a great opportunity for students.

"You see people, perhaps on television, or you see their names, but how often do you get to sit at the feet of someone who has helped to build a program," he said. "There's an access piece that as a student, you can't pay for that."

For Alden, his two jobs are more similar than different.

"It's not for you to tell them what to do. It's to be a servant leader and help guide them and support them and encourage them. No different than when you're an athletic director," he said. "I hope they've taken with them that failure is just a part of life. If we're not getting the assignment just right, that's ok. What do we do about that, what do we learn from that and how do we grow from that, because we grow so much more from those things that we fail from than we do from our successes."

NEW YORK POST

Art dealer knocks 'phony' King David sculpture displayed in the Met

By Isabel Vincent

The Metropolitan Museum of Art is playing head games with an antique dealer who claims its 12th-century sculpture of King David's noggin is a fraud.

Robert Walsh, 62, took an interest in the Met's sculpture after he bought a very similar head at a Greenwich Village antique store for \$600 in 2012.

But when he first visited the Met's King David, he knew instantly that the fine-grained, grey limestone head — which the museum contends once graced a portal at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris — is not the real thing.

He believes it is a knock-off made between 1919 and 1920 in Paris, and that the model may have been his own, valid sculpture.

The Met sculpture was acquired by “Monuments Man” James Rorimer, a curator of medieval art for the museum who was played in the 2014 movie “Monuments Men” by Matt Damon.

Walsh, who says his head is worth up to \$20 million, expected the Met to embrace his findings. Instead, he has been consistently rebuffed since he came forward in 2012.

Walsh has spent the last five years immersed in research. He has had his head scientifically tested and even traveled to Paris to consult with experts. **In 2014, a piece of the limestone from Walsh’s sculpture was drilled and tested by experts from the University of Missouri, which has a database of samples of antique French limestone.** Walsh’s sculpture was found to contain traces of limestone from a quarry in the Burgundy region of France, proving that the head is indeed of French origin and an antique.

His research has also revealed that the Met’s head was originally for sale from a dubious French gallery that trafficked in fakes.

French art dealer Georges Demotte employed one of France’s greatest forgers, who turned out “antiquities” that were sold to the Louvre and the Metropolitan Museum in the 1920s and 1930s. Walsh believes that Demotte’s Paris-based forger used his head to make the Met’s sculpture.

In a landmark French investigation in 1923, Demotte’s New York agent Jean Vigoroux, called Demotte “the world’s greatest faker,” according to newspaper reports of the day. Vigoroux told a French court that Demotte “has inundated America with false art,” and said that the gallery had sold at least six fakes to the Met.

The Met’s head was first offered for exhibit and sale at Demotte’s New York gallery in November 1930. The catalog lists the object as “Crowned King’s head.” There is no mention of King David or Notre Dame. In fact, the catalog’s preface says that the head was found “in Paris in the environs of St. Germain de Pres,” which is across the River Seine from Notre Dame.

The Met’s head was purchased for the museum by Rorimer in 1937 for \$2,500 to display at the The Cloisters, the Met’s medieval art museum in northern Manhattan. Rorimer bought it from the art dealer Arnold Seligmann, who acquired the head after Demotte’s son’s death in 1934.

In that same year, the Louvre in Paris bought a similar head from Demotte’s New York gallery. After Walsh contacted the famed French museum two years ago, the head was removed from public display.

“I suddenly discovered there was something very wrong,” said Walsh. “The museum’s story of their head is a lie.”

And he is worried that the Met’s refusal to acknowledge the true history of its sculpture will prevent him from cashing in on his.

The Met maintains that its head is the real thing. A spokesman said, “The Met’s Head of King David is an important example of early gothic French sculpture that the Met is proud to feature

in its medieval galleries. Our firm conclusion after extensive research is that the piece is indeed authentic, and connected to comparable works produced in Paris in the twelfth century.”



Christensen hopes to bring ‘fresh perspective’ to hospital board

By Brittany Ruess March 26, 2017

With years of experience in medicine and no ties to Boone Hospital Center, Gordon Christensen said he can bring new eyes to the hospital’s Board of Trustees.

A former physician at Truman Memorial Veterans’ Hospital and University of Missouri Hospital, Gordon Christensen is now seeking a five-year term on the Boone Hospital board. His opponent, Randy Morrow, worked for the hospital for 38 years and retired in 2014 as its vice president and chief operations officer.

Christensen said he will bring a “fresh perspective” to the board while seeking greater transparency among the trustees. He has criticized how the trustees have handled the closed-door lease negotiations for a potential new management plan. Boone Hospital’s lease with St. Louis-based BJC HealthCare expires in 2020 and parties must notify each other by 2018 if they want to continue, modify or terminate the current lease.

His motivation for public service was spurred by a situation when Christensen was a whistleblower on attempts to cover up patient murders in 1992 at the VA Hospital. No charges came out of the investigation.

“It’s a desire to give back,” Christensen said. “In my case, the desire is fueled by a dreadful episode in my life, probably the most dreadful episode in my life.”

Raising awareness over the deaths ultimately cost Christensen his career as a research academic physician.

“Even though I lost my career, a lot of people started looking to me as someone who would do the right thing, who would show some leadership,” he said.

Eddie Adelstein, chief of pathology at the VA Hospital, worked with Christensen at the time and requested he conduct an epidemiological study of the deaths, which is what got Christensen involved in the situation. Adelstein said Christensen has always been unwavering in voicing what he believes is right.

Christensen “is absolutely committed to the truth and is uncompromising to his principle,” Adelstein said.

After the whistleblowing episode, Christensen was elected to chairman of the Faculty Council at the University of Missouri and led an overhaul of the faculty’s grievance system, which the administration approved.

He also was elected as University Hospital chief of staff by his colleagues. Serving in that role for two years, Christensen said he worked to improve hospital morale and facilitated meetings between the medical staff and administration. In that time, he also worked to switch the hospital to an electronic medical records system and transition the makeup of the now Women’s and Children’s Hospital from an orthopaedic hospital. Though he is now retired, he continues to teach at the MU School of Medicine.

Christensen then pursued tropical medicine and eventually led a group of University of Missouri residents and physicians to Jamaica to provide care.

His next mission came in the midst of years of debate of the Affordable Care Act, which he supports.

“It needed improvement, but it did not need to be dumped,” he said. “I thought that was perhaps the next step, and that meant contesting the election of” U.S. Rep. “Vicky Hartzler, which I did.”

Hartzler won re-election in November with 68 percent of the votes. Christensen took 46 percent of the votes in Boone County, where he said he had a significant constituency.

Disappearing after that election would be wrong, Christensen said, as the issues that got him in the Congressional race did not subside.

“We need local support for the Affordable Care Act,” he said. “We need local support for why universal health insurance is important. So, maybe this is not the Fourth Congressional District, but it is important to Boone County, which is where my strength was, and in a sense,” being a trustee “does address some of the issues.”

If elected, Christensen said he also will promote telemedicine among the local hospitals and health care providers.



Big decision, little information

Trustee candidates consider county hospital's future while lease options still secret

By Brittany Ruess March 26, 2017

The future of Boone Hospital Center will be shaped by conversations the board of trustees is now having about its lease or management, and the two winners of the April 4 election will have a say in the hospital's lease or management.

But four of the five candidates — like the general public — will not have details about options they will have to consider until after the election.

Boone Hospital's lease with St. Louis-based BJC Health Care expires in 2020 and parties must notify each other if they wish to continue, modify or terminate the lease by 2018. Trustees solicited proposals and received submissions about a year ago, and those options have been the subject of hundreds of hours of negotiations, said trustee Bob Wagner, who is running for a one-year term on the board.

Wagner is competing against Taylor Burks, director of distribution, inventory and asset management for the University of Missouri System and a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserve, and Richard Shanker, an electrician, for a one-year, unexpired term left open by Fred Parry's resignation after he was sworn in as Boone County's Southern District commissioner.

Randy Morrow, former vice president and chief operating officer of Boone Hospital, and Gordon Christensen, who was a physician at Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital and University Hospital, are competing for a five-year term.

Trustees are considering five management options, including one with BJC. Another option is for Boone Hospital to manage itself. The county-owned, 397-bed facility is the county's largest asset, employing about 2,000 people and generating an annual revenue of about \$300 million. The county receives about \$2.3 million annually from the lease with BJC, including \$500,000 dedicated to the county's Community Health Fund. The remaining \$1.8 million is divided

between the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services, animal control services and medical expenses for inmates at the Boone County Jail.

Where the candidates stand

As a trustee, Wagner has been involved in the negotiations, but he is tied to non-disclosure agreements with companies vying for the hospital's management and cannot talk about what the trustees are considering. He called the negotiations the "most important decision the board of trustees" has "ever faced."

"The negotiations with all the suitors are kind of at a critical stage so it wouldn't be appropriate for me to go into a lot of details," he said.

Without knowledge of the options and Wagner's inability to disclose them, candidates have been talking about what they would like to see in a lease in their campaigns and at forums.

Shanker said he's in the race because he represents a population of Boone County residents who would like the hospital to be autonomous, as it was before coming under a lease. The board of trustees agreed on the hospital's original lease in 1988, a 10-year agreement with Christian Health Services, which later merged with BJC. The current lease was created in 2006 and amended in 2012.

"I don't know if anything's gone right or wrong" with the current lease, Shanker said. "I do know there's a huge amount of money that is not being directed to us."

BJC receives an annual management fee, which is 2.5 percent of the hospital's gross annual revenue, said Tom Schneider, the trustees' attorney. The hospital's gross annual revenue is about \$300 million, meaning BJC pockets \$7.5 million. BJC also receives a quarter of any increase in the hospital's cash balance at the end of the year, Schneider said. Between 2011-2014, BJC's share totaled to about \$14.9 million per year and in 2015, the figure was negative because of a debt issue that has since been resolved. The cash split total for 2016 is not yet available.

"I'm just wanting to put forth that we could possibly do this by ourselves," Shanker said. "That's really the only position I'm running on."

But becoming a stand-alone hospital would be challenging with the continuously changing healthcare environment, Wagner said. Hospitals often need to share the costs of expensive items, such as software necessary for reporting requirements.

From left, nursing student Shelby Propst, nurse Zoe Prevette and nurse Kari Jansing talk in the cardiology unit at Boone Hospital Center on Wednesday. Some candidates for the Boone Hospital Center Board of Trustees have stressed that employees should be part of the decision about the hospital's next management lease.

Sarah Bell/Tribune

"I'm not saying impossible, but it's very difficult," Wagner said. "Just look around, there aren't many free-standing hospitals anymore."

The BJC lease numbers also don't sit well with Burks, who said the agreement should benefit Boone County and its taxpayers more. He said the community needs more financial gain from the "local hospital" founded with local taxes "and led by a local board."

"So, any lease structure, any agreement that we have with a management partner has to put Boone Countians first and I don't think that's been the case in the recent past," Burks said. "We've sent tens of millions of dollars per year out of the Boone County economy in services to St. Louis and referrals to St. Louis and that's hurt Boone County. Our next lease has to put Boone County first and provide a return for the taxpayers who founded Boone Hospital."

Morrow was involved in the hospital's first lease negotiations and has been part of every one since. If elected, Morrow said, he'll decide what he thinks is best for the hospital based on the overall effect on the patients, hospital employees and community.

"This decision that will be made will be a generational decision," he said. "I don't think there's one or two things that I'm looking at. I'm looking at the bigger picture on how can we sustain the health care for this community over the next generation?"

An agreement with a larger company would give Boone Hospital additional resources, such as supply costs and increased quality measures, Morrow said.

"I think a system gives us more strength," he said.

His opponent, Gordon Christensen, said he wants to analyze how the medical staff will be treated under a new management plan because he is concerned with current work conditions.

"This may be something that's a manifestation of modern medicine," he said.

In the past, physicians were typically independent of hospitals, but still used the facilities. Now, hospitals employ more physicians. Christensen said the arrangement means physicians lose independence, are susceptible to being treated poorly like any other hospital employee and can be treated like a commodity.

Collaboration with MU Health

Most of the candidates agree that Boone Hospital should collaborate in some way with the University of Missouri Health Care system. Shanker, who was initially in favor of a collaboration with MU Health, said he's now opposed to the idea and wants the hospitals to remain completely separate to ensure competition.

The other candidates said they want the hospitals to remain separate, but work together in certain fields.

Morrow said he could see a free flow of patients between the two hospitals while still giving them a choice in providers. More patients needing specialized care could allow the hospitals to attract subspecialists and prevent them from traveling outside the area. In the end, Morrow said, he's going to heavily weigh the opinions of those tied to the hospital.

"Culture plays a role, the employees play a role and the medical staff," he said. "I guess what I intend to do is listen to what our citizens, what our medical staff, what our employees are thinking and try to address them."

Christensen said he wants to see collaboration not only between Boone Hospital and MU Health, but also other health organizations such as Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital, Landmark Hospital and Boyce and Bynum Pathology Laboratories to strengthen the overall health care network in Boone County. These groups could also partner in telemedicine, he said, which would benefit rural patients and save them a trip to Columbia.

"At the same time it arranges a network response if the health care provider feels that the patient's needs are more than they can address given the limitations of wherever they are," he said. "So, it would reduce costs, improve care and improve satisfaction for patients and healthcare providers."

Wagner said the hospitals could collaborate in ways that eliminate duplications to save money while ensuring all needs are met. One of the collaborative options that has been on the table for years, he said, is mental health services.

"We're starting to make some strides, but there's a lot more that can be done there," he said. "That's a line that's never going to make money for any health care provider, so maybe we can share the pain a little bit, because that's a need in the community. It really is."

Wagner said he worries how turnover at MU Health and the university could affect the continuity of any collaboration.

"One of the concerns I had, and I don't want this to be misconstrued, is the lack of stability," he said. "The board of curators changes regularly. The president of the hospital changes way too fast, if you look at the last couple of years. The dean changes. The people you're dealing with now may or may not be there. They're good people, but they may not be there."

Burks said the community needs to remember there are three major hospitals in Columbia — Boone Hospital, University Hospital and the Truman VA Hospital. MU Health and the VA already collaborate as physicians work for both institutions. Collaboration between Boone Hospital and MU Health could "something as simple as" Boone Hospital medical staff delivering babies at MU.

Boone Hospital and MU Health could have a shared governance board made up of trustees and curators, Burks said.

But without knowing what trustees are considering with the hospital lease or management plan, the specifics of a collaboration between Boone Hospital and MU Health is unknown right now.

"There's such a big question mark," Burks said. "People want different health care options here in this county, but they also want low-cost, quality health care. I've never heard anyone object to MU and Boone collaborating more. People like the idea of some collaboration even if they want specialty care at Boone and specialty care at MU."



Learning from others' experiences

By Roger McKinney, Saturday, March 25, 2017

A transgender student, a student inspired by her sister and grandmother to become a doctor and a student who finds an outlet for his emotions in arts were among the stories told Friday at Battle High School.

The second daylong TEDx Battle High School event was held Friday in the school's auditorium. The event, which began last year, is modeled on the popular TED Talks, with TED meaning technology, entertainment and design. The "x" designated an independently organized TED event.

Junior Rory Dinkins said gender is an identity and can mean neither male or female.

"I identify as a another gender," Rory said. "I am not an 'it'."

Rory read a poem titled "Misgendered," in which the student describes the pain and anger felt when someone says "she" or "her" when referring to the student.

"I can't bring myself to correct them," Rory said, reading from the poem.

Rory talked briefly after leaving the stage and described having attributes of both male and female genders, which is why identifying as either can be problematic.

"For me, it's like another gender, neither male or female," Rory said.

Junior Kelsey Caine described growing up with her sister, Kodi Caine, who has cerebral palsy. She said when Kodi was in the hospital in critical condition as a child, her parents and grandmother tried to hide it from her, but she demanded they keep her informed, even at age 6.

She said from then on, she was at the hospital many times while her sister was being treated.

"I began to love the way science worked," she said about spending time in the hospital. She said when her grandmother was seriously injured in a car accident, she was fascinated by doctors' descriptions about how they would mend her broken bones. She said she also liked to review the X-rays.

"I fell in love with bones over the course of her healing," Kelsey said, adding her life experience has inspired her career choice. "One day, my prefix will go from 'M S' to 'D R.'"

Justus Hightower, also a junior, said he was abused as a child, which led to depression. He said he began to draw and took refuge in comic books and from there, his involvement in the arts has blossomed.

"Dance, music, art, my religion — all of these things have become outlets for me," Justus said.

Justus said finding an outlet is key, and everyone has one.

LaGarrett King Jr., an assistant professor in learning, teaching and curriculum at the University of Missouri, talked about why black history matters, noting what is historically important to white people may not be the same for black people. He said through most of American history, black people didn't matter.

"Black history matters, because, frankly, we don't know anything about black people," said King, who is black.

He said when black people speak up on a social issue, they're often attacked.

"For black lives to matter, it needs to start in the classroom, and black history is one of the first steps," he said.

Greg Soden, a Battle High School teacher, said traveling to locations where, as a white man, he was a racial and religious minority inspired him.

"I began to understand what it means to be an outsider," he said.

Soden teaches religious studies at Battle, where his class learns about Jewish, Buddhist, Muslim, Christian, Sikh and other religions and the people who belong to them.

"These experiences taught me that curiosity is the meaning of life," Soden said. "It is constantly challenging for me. It is constantly fulfilling for me."

He urged those in the audience to be as curious as possible.



Additional counselors sought at county jail

By Brittany Ruess March 27, 2017

Tom Fuhrman starts his work day at the Boone County Jail in the "A" pod, where newly-booked inmates and those who are suicidal stay.

As the jail's only mental health counselor, he assesses those on suicide observation and changes their status level if appropriate. He directs the correctional officers on how to manage inmates on suicide watch and then goes to his office to check email and communicate with jail staff about inmates with mental health issues.

He typically ends his day with five counseling sessions, on average, with inmates who've requested to see him after an initial mental health screening upon arriving at the jail.

Though the amount varies weekly, Fuhrman said, he also responds to suicide attempts or someone talking about committing suicide about once a week.

At any given time, 25 percent of the Boone County Jail population is experiencing mental illness and Fuhrman is the only full-time counselor to assist those inmates.

The average number of inmates booked daily at the jail in 2014 was 16.69 and the average daily population was about 217. In 2015, the jail housed 5,736 inmates. More detailed figures were not available.

Fuhrman works from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. When there's a mental health emergency, the jail calls for a backup counselor who is available 24/7, said Capt. Keith Hoskins, who supervises the jail.

Fuhrman's 40-hour week doesn't give him enough time to do what he really wants — more follow-up appointments with inmates and case management to give them direction for life after jail.

"There is more need of me than there is me to go around, but we do the best we can," he said.

When asked the amount of inmates in his caseload, Fuhrman said he doesn't have a caseload in the true sense of the word.

"A caseload implies that you're going to see people more than one time," he said. "And one of the things that is difficult in a jail this size with only one mental health professional here is being able to follow up with people you've already seen."

Inmates presenting mental health problems come to Fuhrman after a mental health screening upon booking. Correctional officers, who undergo mental health training regularly, conduct the screening, asking questions about their psychological history, family and personal history with mental illness and suicide and medications.

Anyone who raises a red flag goes to see Fuhrman.

The large amount of inmates with mental health issues in need of counseling warrants another mental health counselor or potentially a social worker at the jail, said Northern District Commissioner Janet Thompson, but the question remains on how to fund the position.

"If it's possible and financially feasible, yes, that would be nice to have," Hoskins said.

The county also must use data to show that the services this person would provide saves money down the line, said Thompson, who was a longtime public defender.

Inmates who leave jail with mental health counseling and case management services have lower chances of recidivism, Thompson said, and in turn, saves costs in law enforcement, the court system and health care on indigent emergency room services.

The Boone County Commission will vote on seeking a grant that would provide technical assistance in accessing information on the local homeless population and criminal justice system to support housing efforts, Community Services Director Kelly Wallis told the commission during a meeting Thursday. She said the data can help county officials determine how to spend dollars for the jail population in the future.

"The goal is really to gather this data to see where we can make the most impact with the resources that we have," Wallis said. "It also would make us more competitive for applying for other funds, whether that's at the state or federal level. Everybody wants data to show the impact of our efforts."

Boone County's jail bodes well compared to other jails across the nation that offer no mental health services, but Thompson said more still can be done.

“Best practices show follow-up and case management really get you down the road, it starts changing the trajectory of that person’s recidivism behavior,” she said. “We’re doing better than a lot of places, but in an absolute sense, are we doing the best we can? No.”

Fuhrman said adding a social worker with experience in treating substance abuse disorders and case management would serve the jail population best.

“There are some who” come to jail who “are straight substance abusers,” he said. “There are some who have both substance abuse and mental health problems, and those are especially difficult and challenging cases because, as I said, many of the folks who live with mental illness self-medicate with illicit drugs many times because they can’t afford prescription medications.”

A partnership between the county and the University of Missouri could alleviate case management concerns, Thompson said. There are discussions of bringing in students seeking a master’s degree in social work to conduct discharge planning with inmates.

Kelli Canada, a social work professor at MU, said students could help inmates set up housing, financial assistance, health services, access to food and other needs to give them stability when they exit jail. Without these resources, as well as employment, former inmates sometimes commit crimes that help pay bills and meet their basic needs.

“It’s not just about the people who are incarcerated,” Canada said. “It affects their kids, their family system, their financial ability to be productive members of society and it totally impacts everyone of us in the community. It’s our tax dollars, health care and the safety of our neighbors.”

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Colleges That Circulated the Highest Percentages of Digital Materials, 2014-15

Compiled by Ruth Hammond MARCH 26, 2017

Circulations of digital and electronic materials had far surpassed circulations of physical books and media at many colleges by 2014-15. A diverse set of institutions lent out more than 90 percent of their materials in digital form that academic year. Among them were distance-education-only colleges, health-science centers, research institutions, and liberal-arts colleges.

4-year public institutions

Institutions with circulations of 1 million or more

Rank	Institution	Total library circulations	Digital share
1.	Granite State College	9,251,606	100.0%
2.	U. of Science and Arts of Oklahoma	2,382,400	99.8%
3.	Texas Southern U.	1,636,415	99.8%
4.	U. of New Hampshire	23,206,032	99.8%
5.	Brazosport College	2,788,058	99.7%
6.	U. of Massachusetts at Boston	3,492,051	99.2%
7.	U. of Nebraska at Lincoln	9,158,717	99.0%
8.	Indiana U. at Bloomington	33,731,503	98.9%
9.	Virginia Tech	8,942,211	98.6%
10.	Marshall U.	2,926,675	98.6%
11.	U. of Texas at Arlington	4,057,092	98.6%
12.	U. of Utah	10,380,206	98.4%
<u>13.</u>	<u>U. of Missouri at Columbia</u>	<u>4,196,107</u>	<u>98.2%</u>
14.	U. of Memphis	2,068,138	98.2%
15.	U. at Albany	18,751,798	97.8%
	Over all for 67 institutions in category	274,739,523	94.8%

Showing 1 to 16 of 16 entries

Note: Only degree-granting public and private nonprofit four-year institutions in the United States that are eligible to participate in Title IV federal financial-aid programs are included. Percentages are rounded, but institutions were ranked before rounding.

Tied institutions are listed alphabetically. Examples of digital or electronic materials are databases, e-books, and media in digital format that can be downloaded or streamed. The "Digital share" column heading encompasses both digital and electronic materials.