



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

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ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Declining enrollment adds to budget woes at the University of Missouri system

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 7 hrs ago

ROLLA, Mo. • State funding isn't the only issue plaguing the University of Missouri System as leaders plan for the coming year.

A continuously declining enrollment isn't helping either.

During a budget discussion Thursday at the Board of Curators meeting, interim chief financial officer at the system shared an anticipated tuition decrease of almost \$9 million across the four campuses — Columbia, St. Louis, Kansas City and Rolla.

Interim financial leader Ryan Rapp chalked it up to a drop in the number of freshmen expected to enroll this fall, as well as international students.

The exact numbers aren't set yet on any campus.

A non-refundable enrollment deposit is due on Mizzou's campus May 1, which gives leaders a preliminary indication of enrollment. But those numbers continue to change because students have up until class starts to enroll.

The numbers out of the St. Louis campus are also limited.

UMSL Chancellor Tom George said that because a large number of students there were transfers, it complicated getting data this far in advance of the fall semester. He said the conservative estimate was a 5 percent drop in tuition.

Earlier this month, the university system [asked its four campuses](#) to outline how they would trim between 8 and 12 percent of their budgets next year. Those estimated cuts had already factored in an expected drop in enrollment.

The enrollment issue consumed a large chunk of a lengthy budget discussion among the curators Thursday at their meeting at the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla.

Unlike typical spring meetings, the curators [decided against voting on a tuition increase this time](#), holding off for final budget numbers from the Legislature. A separate curator meeting will occur in May after the legislative session ends.

[A proposal shown to the curators](#) Thursday indicates the school won't seek a waiver to increase tuition greater than what's allowed by a statewide cap set at 2.1 percent this year.

That rate increase applies to in-state undergraduate students. Proposed increases varied by campus for out-of-state and graduate students.



University of Missouri System to lose millions of dollars to lower enrollment

By Rudi Keller

ROLLA — A proposed tuition increase will only close a portion of a \$23 million deficit in student revenue in the University of Missouri System next year, vice president for finance Ryan Rapp told the Board of Curators on Thursday.

The revenue loss will be due to declining overall enrollment and fewer international students, who pay the top tuition rate, Rapp said. He did not reveal actual enrollment estimates and said planned tuition hikes will cover about \$14.5 million of the shortfall.

The remainder is part of an 8 to 12 percent gap between anticipated revenue and operational spending for the year that begins July 1. That percentage gap represents a \$96 million to \$140 million deficit that must be closed.

“We are going to be replacing our outgoing class with a smaller class,” Rapp said.

UM’s finances were the subject of a 90-minute discussion by the board that included tuition increases, expected cuts in state support and how to finance capital construction needs. No decisions were made by the board, which will meet in May to set tuition rates and in June to approve a budget for the new fiscal year.

Under the proposal for tuition hikes, in-state undergraduate rates would rise 2.1 percent on each campus. That is equal to the rate of inflation for the past year and would not require a waiver from the state Department of Higher Education. For non-resident undergraduates, graduate and professional students, tuition would increase from 1.5 percent to 10 percent, with the largest increase for pharmacy doctoral students at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

On the Columbia campus, tuition for all categories of students except medical and veterinary students would increase 2.1 percent. Medical and veterinary students would pay a 6 percent tuition increase.

Required fees are also limited by law to inflationary increases, while “supplemental” fees for particular programs are not. Supplemental fees in the Trulaske College of Business at MU will increase 9 percent, or \$8 per credit hour for undergraduates and \$9.40 per credit hour for graduate students.

During the budget discussions, System President Mun Choi used the business school as an example of a school that deserves more resources. The faculty-student ratio is more than 100-1, he said, while the business school at Rutgers University has a ratio of 12-1, he said.

“By not being able to provide more resources to Trulaske school, students will not get the education they deserve,” Choi said.

The University of Missouri Review Commission recommended repealing the state law limiting tuition increases to the rate of inflation. The curators discussed implementing “differential tuition” that sets rates based on the cost in each school rather than campus-wide rates.

Lawmakers would need to repeal the law limiting increases before any plan could be implemented. Curators Finance Committee Chairman David Steelman said supplemental fees are already providing a part of that need.

“We use fees as a kind of a de facto differential tuition,” he said.

Choi took over March 1 with a dismal budget picture for the coming year. Along with the loss of tuition revenue from an enrollment decline, state appropriations are being cut. The shortfall

based on Gov. Eric Greitens' recommendation would be about \$50 million, including earmarked funding for particular programs.

The gap should be closed by actions to reduce spending, not by tapping reserves, Rapp told the curators. Greitens in January announced he was withholding \$31.4 million appropriated for the current year and the MU campus used reserves to cover the difference.

That works for a short period but isn't sustainable, Rapp said.

The budget for the coming year will require layoffs and likely require degree programs to be closed, but cutting can't be the only solution, Rapp said. The university wants to find money to promote research, student outcomes and financial aid. And it also must develop new sources of revenue.

University operations such as athletics or the MU hospital must help, he said.

Those auxiliary operations "ought to be able to provide some additional return other than be self-sustaining," he said.

Choi's background is in engineering, and he wants to make a major investment in new research facilities. The top construction priority for the MU campus is a request for lawmakers to provide \$100 million for renovating research space in five buildings.

One program for funding buildings isn't the best use of money or political capital needed to secure state support, Choi said. That is the program promising state support for half the cost of a building if donors provide the other half. That puts donors and lawmakers in charge, not the university, he said.

"Donor support cannot drive our strategic plan," he said. "Our strategic plan must drive donor support. If you throw out 12 different 50/50 plans without any strategic priorities, we are leaving up to legislators to set our priorities."



ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH



The Washington Post

University of Missouri sets new policies in wake of protests

Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=180f9a21-93bb-436d-8e33-93020ef5caa5>

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — The University of Missouri's Columbia campus announced revised policies related to protests on Thursday, nearly two years after the campus was besieged by demonstrations over racial concerns.

The new policies, developed over the past 15 months, include a commitment to "protecting the rights of expression, assembly, protest, and dissent." The changes also include making outdoor areas available whenever possible, even for unscheduled gatherings.

"Free speech and the ability to engage in our democratic process in public spaces is vital to the future of the United States and core to the mission of the University of Missouri," Interim Chancellor Hank Foley said in a statement.

The Columbia campus was at the center of unrest in the fall of 2015, when hundreds of students protested the way university leadership handled complaints and concerns about race and discrimination. At the peak of the protests, the Missouri football team threatened to boycott a game.

The unrest led to extensive changes at the university, including the resignations of then-University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe and the Columbia campus' chancellor, R. Bowen Loftin.

Under the new policy, the camping that became common during the 2015 protests will largely be prohibited. But chalking will be allowed as a way to express thoughts and ideas.

The policy changes were developed by a special committee.

MISSOURIAN

[MU's new expression policies take effect June 1](#)

THOMAS OIDE, 12 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — **Eighteen months after Concerned Student 1950's protests, MU has officially banned camping and the use of megaphones on campus without a permit.**

MU will officially implement new and revised policies on protest and freedom of expression, Interim Chancellor Hank Foley said in an email Thursday. The policies, which were revised from an original proposal in October, were added to MU's business policy and procedure manual. Foley said the new policies will go into effect on June 1.

The new and revised policies include:

- Disallowing the use of sound amplification devices without a permit.
- Banning camping on university grounds. Overnight parking of vehicles will be allowed if MU or another university department gives written approval, gives a permit or collects a fee, if applicable. Previously, the UM System Collected Rules and Regulations banned the use of university grounds as "living rooms or bedrooms," but didn't explicitly state that camping was not allowed.
- Allowing unscheduled and impromptu events to continue, even if the group didn't reserve the space. Under the new policy, these events will be allowed until they need to be relocated for a previously scheduled activity.
- Disallowing the use of flashing or rotating lights, unless they are used by law enforcement officials or if the user has a permit.
- Enforcing that posters and flyers from recognized student organizations be placed on bulletin boards or in designated areas.

- Allowing the use of chalk, provided that it isn't within 25 feet of the entrance to any building or Traditions Plaza. Chalk also cannot be used on sidewalks on the Mel Carnahan or Francis quadrangles nor sidewalks adjacent to hospital buildings. Chalk can only be erased by the group who did the chalking.

Foley and MU Faculty Council chair Ben Trachtenberg created the Ad Hoc Joint Committee on Protests, Public Spaces, Free Speech and the Press in early 2016 to address confusion surrounding protests during the events in fall 2015, [according to previous Missourian reporting](#). That year, students, including the group Concerned Student 1950, camped out on the south quadrangle and protested the UM System's perceived inaction following racism at MU.

Bob Jerry, an Isidor Loeb professor of Law and the chair of committee, said he saw no "substantive changes" to the policies since October.

Jerry said all of the words in the committee recommendation and the business policies and procedure manual weren't the same, but the committee's intent for each policy was consistent.

"If you were to put the two documents side by side, you'd see a lot of identical language," Jerry said. "But at the same time, you'd also see that it's reformatted and rearranged to be in the style of the (business policy and procedure manual). I have found no substantive changes."

However, MU left out some aspects of the committee's original October recommendations. For example, the committee included a set of guiding principles in their recommendations that weren't included in the final version of the manual. Jerry said it didn't fit the typical language found in the manual.

"I hope the guidance memorandum is put in a prominent link that is easy to access," Jerry said. "It does a good job of educating all of us about free expression on a campus like ours."



[Camping, megaphone rules revised with MU campus protest rules](#)

By Kristen Reesor

Watch: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=2958b221-2fac-4808-b843-222aebadf5be>

COLUMBIA - The University of Missouri released new and revised policies relating to protests and free speech on campus, including banning camping on campus, a tactic Concerned Student 1950 used in the November 2015 protests.

The policy says camping is not allowed on MU grounds, in or under MU structures, or in MU buildings except under approved circumstances. It defines camping as the establishment of temporary or permanent living quarters anywhere other than MU housing; sleeping outdoors between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m.; sleeping in a car on campus other than for short naps; and maintaining an outdoor place for cooking, storing belongings or sleeping.

Ben Trachtenberg, a faculty council member who worked on the revised policies, said the regulations on camping are actually clarifications of existing rules.

He said the rules are pro-free speech.

"We have reasonable time, place and manner descriptions designed to prevent, for example, you having your rally at center court in a basketball game, or blocking the hospital or interrupting my exams or things like that," Trachtenberg said.

Other policies clarify rules about the use of sound amplification devices, such as speakers, musical instruments and megaphones.

"You can use sound amplification as long as you don't do it in a way that's disruptive to the functions of the university," Trachtenberg said.

Other policies set restrictions on chalk use; set limits on illuminated devices; provide guidelines for unscheduled events and the use of campus facilities; and revise rules for posting and removing material, like fliers.

According to an email sent to students and faculty, a committee of experts from law, political science, health and safety, public affairs and journalism worked on the policies for 15 months.

The month-long protests on campus in fall 2015 garnered national attention and were the catalyst for the revised policies.

Bob Jerry, Isidor Loeb Professor of Law and co-chair of the committee, said the events were "stressful."

"Our campus – students, staff and faculty – has exercised leadership in developing policies that promote free expression, celebrate peaceful protest and dissent and articulate standards for the responsible and reasonable exercise of these rights," Jerry said.

Full details of the policies can be found on MU's website. The policies go into effect June 1.



MU releases new policies on protests, public spaces

By Dan Claxton and Garret Bergquist

Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=e68b5ae3-2089-420f-8c07-283c1038defb>

COLUMBIA — After nearly 15 months of work, the MU Ad Hoc Joint Committee on Protests, Public Spaces, Free Speech and the Press issued new policies Thursday regarding rules for campus protests.

The policies include rules on the use of university facilities, the use of amplified sound, posting materials on campus, and the use of chalk on sidewalks and buildings.

The policy indicates the intent that "individual and group rights of expression assembly, dissent, and protest are not infringed or abridged." However, there are circumstances in which protests will not be allowed. The policy states that the university will interfere with protests that disrupt classes, research, study, lectures, and meetings. Protests or demonstrations will not be allowed in meeting spaces, private offices, labs, computer centers, museums, libraries, hospitals, or residence halls. "Camping" is also prohibited on university property. The university says it can deny the use of its facilities to any non-university organization or individual.

Sound amplification devices such as bullhorns, megaphones, and powered speakers are prohibited if the loudness of sound is deemed too high.

The new policies will not allow the posting of signs or other materials on the inside or outside of any building, on light posts, telephone poles, trees, trash cans, or cars.

The use of chalk to convey speech is prohibited in many areas, including within 25 feet of the entrance to any building, on Frances Quadrangle, on any vertical surface, or on any brick surface.

MU Faculty Council Chair Ben Trachtenberg said the policies largely clarify existing campus rules, noting existing policies already prohibit camping out. He said federal law allows for reasonable regulations to balance free speech and public safety. Trachtenberg said the ban on sidewalk chalk in high-traffic areas will keep chalking students from getting stepped on.

Student Harold Ting disagreed. He said the new rules infringe on basic human rights to free speech. He said faculty should have consulted students more closely.

Trachtenberg said violating the new rules won't automatically result in disciplinary action. He said campus officials would first simply ask students to move their activities to another part of campus.

The new rules go into effect June 1.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

Tuition increases proposed for University of Missouri System schools

BY MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS

mdwilliams@kcstar.com

University of Missouri System schools on Thursday proposed raising base tuition and required fees by 2.1 percent for in-state undergraduate residents for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

For University of Missouri-Kansas City students, that would mean paying \$192 more each semester, raising the cost from \$9,172 to \$9,364. University of Missouri students would pay \$199 more.

Citing “significant financial and budgetary pressures” on the system’s four campuses in Kansas City, Columbia, Rolla and St. Louis, university officials propose raising tuition equal to inflation.

[Enrollment at the Columbia campus](#) for the 2016-17 academic year dropped by 2,182 from last year, a 6.2 percent decline, its lowest since 2010.

System officials called the [proposed tuition and fees increase](#) “modest” and said it would generate roughly \$14.4 million in revenue across the four campuses.

The system Board of Curators, which heard the proposals Thursday, will vote on them at a special meeting planned for May.

Missouri universities are prevented by law from raising base tuition and required fees above inflation. However, the law does not include fees that were passed by student referendum, such as the \$399 that UMKC students pay for their student union and transportation.

The law does not prohibit a higher-than-inflation increase on fees for programs that cost significantly more to deliver to students, such as engineering, nursing and dentistry. Fees for the programs vary by campus, but most of those increases would be about 3 percent to 5 percent.

“We need the revenue,” said Ryan Rapp, vice president for finance for the system. Rapp gave the tuition increase presentation during the curators meeting at the Missouri University of Science and Technology campus in Rolla. The meeting was streamed online.

Cheryl Schrader, chancellor at Missouri S&T, told curators about the need to preserve the academic core and to expand and diversify the university's revenue stream. But at the same time, Schrader said, it is important to "continue looking for ways to become more efficient with the revenue we do have."

Curators expressed concern that if certain course fees increase every year, students may have difficulty calculating the true cost of tuition for some programs. They also worried that the campuses might price some students out of certain areas of study.

"I've heard some students say that using fees as de facto tuition makes it hard to put their finance package together," said Curator David L. Steelman, chairman of the board's finance committee.

Other curators said they were concerned that some may think the system is trying to use fee increases to do an end run around the mandated tuition cap.

Curators plan to review how programs are priced in the fall.

MISSOURIAN

[Curators will vote on UM System tuition increase next month](#)

CRYSTAL DUAN, 10 hrs ago

ROLLA — A 2.1 percent hike in tuition and required fees is being considered by UM System Board of Curators to battle declining enrollment and a drop in state financial support.

The increase would add about \$200 a year to undergraduate resident students taking 15 hours per semester at MU, bringing the total bill to \$9,645 a year. For out-of-state students, the increase in tuition and fees would be more than \$500 a year at MU.

The 2.1 percent hike is the maximum allowed by state law, based on the rate of inflation. Curators could seek a waiver for a higher increase but did not indicate an intention to do so.

Curators discussed the proposal during a meeting Thursday in Rolla but did not vote on increasing tuition. The board will do so during its May meeting after the state budget is finalized by the legislature, curator

and Finance Committee Chairman David Steelman said. In June, curators will approve the entire University of Missouri System operating budget.

The 2.1 percent tuition increase would provide \$14.4 million to the UM System's budget, UM System spokesman John Fougere said in an email.

The system is anticipating an almost \$9 million decline in tuition revenue across the system's four campuses. In addition, state lawmakers are debating cutting as much as \$40 million in UM System funding, though that amount won't be determined until the state budget is finalized in early May.

Curators discussed other increases. Graduate tuition would also increase 2.1 percent at MU and more at other campuses. Professional school tuition would see different increases, ranging from 1.5 percent to 10 percent across the four campuses. MU's medical school would see a 6 percent increase.

Interim Vice President for Finance Ryan Rapp said the system would have to get creative to generate additional finances, looking at options such as partnerships or selling unneeded assets. The system will also look to identify programs it potentially can no longer afford, he said.

MU has already taken several steps to mitigate the effects of budget cuts and declining revenue.

In early April, MU announced it would lay off 20 administrative employees effective July 1. Five more will retire and not be replaced, according to MU spokesman Christian Basi. Cutting those positions saves MU \$1.75 million for fiscal year 2018.

UM System President Mun Choi has said the UM System will also consider laying off nontenure track faculty members, though nothing has been finalized. Nontenure track faculty make up 43 percent of MU faculty members, [according to previous Missourian reporting](#).

The four-campus system will also consider closing centers and institutes, and terminating degree programs with low enrollment.

The question of implementing differential tuition — adjusting tuition for different majors based on factors such as higher cost structures — was raised during Thursday's meeting.

Steelman said different majors have supplemental fees, which he called 'de facto' differential tuition. The law that limits tuition increases would have to be repealed for differential tuition to be implemented.

Rapp also posed the idea of moving away from a traditional credit-hour model, but he said recommendations would be made in the upcoming year.

Choi said the system should not depend on donors or lawmakers as a source for funding projects.

Donor support, he said, should not drive the system's strategic plan. It should be the other way around.

"If you throw out... plans without any strategic priorities, we are leaving it up to legislators to set our priorities," he said.

The board also formally approved the creation of a new Master of Science in Finance program at MU for the 2017-18 school year during Thursday's meeting. Senior Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Steve Graham called the program "very entrepreneurial" and said he hopes it will generate income for the school. The program will require 30 graduate credit hours and appeal to students interested in working in brokerage, real estate or insurance firms.

The need to upgrade facilities was also discussed. For Fiscal Year 2019, the system may need up to \$197 million for upgrading facilities, which include the MU Research and Education Strategic Redevelopment.

Choi said the quality of facility space is "critical to attracting and retaining top faculty," and mattered more than quantity.

This was the board's first meeting with Choi and with new curators Jamie Farmer, Jeff Layman and Darryl Chatman.



UM System tuition hike proposed at curators' meeting in Rolla

Watch story: <http://www.abc17news.com/news/um-curators-release-proposal-to-increase-tuition-for-missouri-residents/466364857>

By Marie Bowman

A 2.1 percent tuition increase for Missouri undergraduate students will likely be approved for fiscal year 2018.

Interim Vice President for Finance Ryan Rapp presented the proposal at Thursday's UM Board of Curators meeting held at Missouri S&T in Rolla.

For MU students, the proposal means the per credit hour rate would increase by \$5.80. Rapp said the tuition hike would bring in about \$14.4 million in additional revenue. The proposed increase is also within the limitations set by Senate Bill 389.

Another option discussed at the meeting was differential tuition. That means students would pay more for high cost programs, such as engineering, in comparison to something like history or liberal arts.

"As students and parents continue to pay for more and more in the cost of education, there's going to be demand to pay at the program level," one official said.

President Choi said all options need to be discussed. "As we move forward we will bring you pros and cons of 389 and differential tuition," he said.

The tuition proposal comes amid unprecedented budget cuts from the state. President Choi has said he expects \$57 million in cuts to permanent funding.



University of Missouri system proposes tuition increases

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) - The four-campus University of Missouri system is proposing raising tuition and required fees of in-state undergraduates by 2.1 percent for the fiscal year that begins in July.

The Kansas City Star reports that system officials consider the increases announced Thursday "modest" and say they'd generate \$14.4 million in revenues. The administrators cite "significant financial and budgetary pressures" on the campuses in Columbia, St. Louis, Kansas City and Rolla.

Tuition and fees at Columbia would rise by \$199 per semester, while students at the Kansas City campus would increase by \$192.

Enrollment at the Columbia campus for the 2016-17 academic year dropped by 2,182 from last year. That's a 6.2 percent decline and the lowest enrollment since 2010.

The system's governing board will vote on the proposals next month.



University of Missouri System Proposes Tuition Hike

Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=6ba4d205-ac26-44c3-951d-bdd1fae8a74d>



You Paid For It: A sweetheart deal for a top state worker

Watch story: <http://fox2now.com/2017/04/27/you-paid-for-it-a-sweetheart-deal-for-a-top-state-worker/>

By Elliot Davis

ST. LOUIS, MO (KTVI) - The "You Paid For It Team" investigates what the Missouri State Auditor calls a sweetheart deal for a top state worker. **Richard Loftin is the former Chancellor of the University of Missouri Columbia campus.** He was forced out of his job in the campus uproar in 2015. That proved to be the beginning of special deals that allowed Loftin to rake in a half million dollars over the next year.

Loftin got to stay rent free in the Chancellors residence, even though he was no longer Chancellor. He kept getting a Chancellor's pay of \$459,000 for six months. The State Auditor says, during that time, they couldn't find any evidence of him doing work for the school.

The University just created a new job for him called Director of National Security Research Development. The pay for that job is \$344,000. He also got a \$15,000 allowance for a luxury car, a \$35,000 stipend on top of his regular pay, and \$50,000 to travel around the campuses and around the nation.

The State Auditor calls it one of the worst deals for taxpayers she's seen. Marcy Graham, the head of the University Board of Curators, admits it's questionable. She says officials were dealing with an extraordinary situation at the time.



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Which 10 U.S. Metros Have the Most Empty Nesters?

BY [LINDSAY COHEN](#)

Generated from News Bureau expert pitch

Kids in the Great Lakes region are, apparently, more likely to fly the coop.

Pittsburgh is strong as steel when it comes to empty nest households, according to new Zillow research.

Steel City holds the top spot in a new survey of markets where older homeowners live in a house with no children. The number of empty nests nationwide is [higher than ever before](#), having climbed steadily in the past decade, says Aaron Terrazas, a senior economist at Zillow.

An “empty nest” is defined as a home where the heads of the household are 55 years or older, own the home, and have lived in it 10 or more years. There are no children — of any age — living in the home.

In Pittsburgh, 20.2 percent of homes are considered empty nests, based on U.S. Census Bureau data. Buffalo, Cleveland, Richmond, and Birmingham round out the top five metros with the highest percentage of empty nesters.

But empty nests aren't necessarily a bad thing, says Dr. Christine Proulx, an associate professor at the University of Missouri who studies families, relationships, and marriage.

“For the most part, the change was sort of marked with pride and a sense of awe and wonder,” says Proulx, who has analyzed empty nesters as part of her research. “[You’re] watching this human being that you have been in charge of since birth — or close to birth — mature into a young adult.

“It’s just a very pleasurable shift in that relationship,” she adds.

The places with the lowest densities of empty nests include booming cities with strong job markets, such as Austin, Phoenix, and San Francisco. Retirement communities, such as Fort Myers, Tampa, and Orlando — all in Florida — also registered low on the list.

An additional 4.3 million households are “near-empty” nests, meaning they would be empty nests if an adult child currently living at home were to break out on their own.

That harkens back to the idea that empty nesting may not be a permanent thing, Proulx adds.

“I call them boomerang families,” she says. “I don’t think empty nesting is now a one-time shot.

“I’m more Gen X,” continues Proulx, now a parent herself. “I think people in that generation are also leaving and then coming back.”

Read the [full report](#).

MISSOURIAN

[MU researchers develop safer way to remove tattoos](#)

MICHAEL CONNOLLY, 14 hrs ago

Generated from News Bureau press release: [Laser-Based Dermatological Procedures Could be Revolutionized with New Technique](#)

COLUMBIA — [A safer and less costly way to remove tattoos has shown promise on pig skin, and MU researchers are trying to move the new method toward human trials.](#)

The new method, called sonoillumination, which needs approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration before public availability, is billed as safer and more effective than current methods, and it could save people money and trips to the doctor, associate professor Nicholas Golda said.

This new method of removing tattoos was developed by a team led by MU assistant professor Heather Hunt, graduate research assistant Paul Whiteside and Golda

The standard method used by dermatologists currently only uses a laser directly on the skin. Also, this treatment occurs in the open air, so light that reflects off the patient's skin can potentially cause eye damage to the patient or doctor.

Golda said sonoillumination differs from the standard laser treatment methods in two ways.

First, sonoillumination uses a combination of a laser and ultrasound. The ultrasound is used to alter the skin and make it more susceptible to treatment. Golda said it eases the transition of light past melanin, a pigment in skin that absorbs light. This allows the target area, perhaps an unwanted tattoo, to absorb the laser more completely

To allow for this process, the researchers created a device that combines a waveguide and plastic shield — the second difference from the traditional method as the shield contains the light and prevents it from reflecting and harming the eyes.

The waveguide, meanwhile, is an attachment that goes onto the laser. This allows doctors to move the laser away from the skin but still guide the light to hit the target. The waveguide is the reason it's possible to use ultrasound at the same time as the laser.

The laser can treat the target area 174 percent more effectively when the sonoillumination is used, Whiteside said.

Removing a tattoo usually takes about 10 treatments over a period of multiple years, each costing hundreds of dollars, Golda said.

Because it makes the laser more effective, Golda said sonoillumination may decrease the number of treatments needed to remove a tattoo, which would save people time and a lot of money.

Incorporating the method into dermatologists' offices should be easy, Hunt said.

“The benefit is that it builds on the technology that’s already out there,” Whiteside said, “so it’s not a substantial deviation from what people are already used to, but it is a substantial improvement”

The only addition dermatologists will have to make to their clinics if they want to use sonoillumination is a device they can attach to the laser, Hunt said. The device will be compatible with existing lasers, so doctors wouldn't have to purchase entirely new equipment.

“Sometimes when you have a new platform, you have to retrain people,” Hunt said, “This doesn’t require that. Just take your system that you’re very happy and comfortable with and add a new piece to it.”

The team, though, is far from the finish line.

The researchers are looking for corporate backers to fund future trials and commercialization efforts. They have gained the interest of one major U.S. aesthetic company, Golda said, but he would not name the firm, citing ongoing negotiations.

A medical device usually takes about seven to 10 years to go from a concept to being available on the market, and sonoillumination is two years past concept, Whiteside said, so the earliest to expect it to be available would be in five years.

Despite the obstacles, the team is excited by the fact they know there is demand for their product.

“As you're looking over that cliff, and you have to make that leap," Hunt said, "it’s good to know that clinicians really do want this type of technology.”



Excess social media use can be an addiction

Watch story: <http://www.abc17news.com/news/excess-social-media-use-can-be-an-addiction/466633054>

Generated from a News Bureau expert pitch

‘By Sara Maslar-Donar

COLUMBIA, Mo. - Social media has become woven into the fabric of society and is often a necessary part of everyday life.

But communications experts at the University of Missouri explained that increased and constant Internet and social media use can impact adults and adolescents in unhealthy ways.

"We develop a media dependency and we may call that an addiction, and sometimes it may just be some sort of problematic use," said Elizabeth Behm-Morawitz, an associate professor of communications at MU.

An addiction to social media isn't just spending more time than usual on the internet, she said, but more about the increased use having a real impact on other components of life.

"That's when you know you have true addiction or problematic use," she said. "You're spending too much time on the Internet and even thinking about the Internet when you're not on it."

According to a study by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), social media can enhance social interaction in preteens and teens but "because of their limited capacity for self-regulation and susceptibility to peer pressure, children and adolescents are at some risk as they navigate and experiment with social media."

For teens and adults, the constant use and lure of social media can manifest itself into an addiction that even develops actual physical symptoms of withdrawal if someone stops using it for a while. Real relationships can also be impacted if social media use becomes an addiction.

"Over time, cumulatively, that can have an effect on relationships such that you are ignoring your real relationships and those that are present with you to focus on this online space," Behm-

Morawitz said.

She said for teens and preteens this is possible but it can also impact their academic performance in school.

Additionally, those who have struggle with depression or loneliness can be influenced tenfold by excess social media use or even the type of content they're viewing online, which could include the burden of negative news that's easy to access online.

The American Academy of Pediatrics linked preteen and teen use of social media to a new phenomenon called "Facebook depression."

"As with offline depression, preadolescents and adolescents who suffer from Facebook depression are at risk for social isolation and sometimes turn to risky internet blogs for 'help' that may promote substance abuse, unsafe sexual practices, or aggressive or self-destructive behaviors," the study said.

Behm-Morawitz said the best way to approach curing or curbing social media addiction is to think of it in the same way as food.

"It's not something we should remove from our life," she said. "It has healthy benefits for us but we need to adopt everything in moderation."

Behm-Morawitz recommends keeping a media diary in the same way people might keep a food or calorie diary. She said recording just how much time you're actually spending on apps like Facebook or Instagram can be the first step in finding ways to pull back from those spaces.

"In some instances there needs to be absence altogether," she said.

If need be, Behm-Morawitz said there may be benefits in seeking help for the whole individual and well-being from a counseling perspective.

AAP guidelines are to encourage parents to talk to their children about their online use, and how that can lead to specific issues like cyberbullying, sexting and difficulty managing their time. That can include parents becoming better educated about the technologies their children are using and discussing a supervised, family online-use plan that emphasizes healthy behavior.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Late budget from Greitens leaves tight negotiating window for Missouri lawmakers

By Kurt Erickson St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 14 hrs ago

JEFFERSON CITY • Budget negotiators in the House and the Senate are expected to start crunching numbers this weekend in an attempt to meet a May 5 deadline for the Legislature to get a budget plan to Gov. Eric Greitens.

On Thursday, the Missouri Senate approved the final pieces of a proposed \$27.8 billion spending package that will provide money for programs in the fiscal year beginning July 1.

The action capped a [frantic push by both chambers](#) to put their fingerprints on a spending proposal floated in February by Greitens. Greitens, a political newcomer who was sworn in on Jan. 9, delayed the release of his budget plan by about two weeks as the state transitioned from then-Gov. Jay Nixon, a Democrat, to Greitens, a Republican.

Lawmakers said Thursday that they felt the pressure.

“We got it really, really late,” said Sen. Dan Brown, R-Rolla, chairman of the Senate budget committee.

His counterpart in the House, Rep. Scott Fitzpatrick, R-Shell Knob, said he understood the governor needed time to get up to speed.

“When you’ve got a new administration coming in and a bunch of new people that are new to state government, they had a lot of tough decisions to make,” Fitzpatrick said.

Nonetheless, Fitzpatrick added, “This is definitely the latest that we’ve been in the process since I’ve been here.”

Under Missouri's budgeting system, the governor releases his version of the budget early in the annual legislative session. The House then approves its version, which may vary from the governor's. The line-by-line review process then moves to the Senate for further work.

And now, the differences between the House and Senate version need to be reconciled with an eye on keeping the governor from using his veto pen on the final document.

Key differences that face negotiators include how each chamber attempted to grapple with the fast-growing cost of Medicaid, the health insurance program for low-income Missourians.

Greitens had sought to reduce or eliminate health services to thousands of elderly and disabled people. In response, the House approved a plan to phase out a tax credit for elderly renters to restore the cuts the governor was seeking.

The Senate declined to follow the House plan and is now pushing a compromise that will oust some elderly and disabled from nursing homes, but fewer than the number in Greitens' proposal.

The Senate's budget would also fully fund the Missouri State Employee Retirement System — nearly \$46 million — to keep the pension system solvent. In order to balance its budget, the House had cut that funding by about \$30 million.

Brown said that could become a sticking point in upcoming negotiations. But, he said former state workers need to know their pension system is solvent.

"There's so many thousands of Missourians dependent upon that. I don't want that fund to get behind," he said.

Funding for higher education also could become a source of debate. The House version cuts funding for the University of Missouri System by 9 percent. The Senate cut is 6.5 percent.

The Senate also added an extra \$3 million to jumpstart a buyout program for homes near the West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton. The program, sponsored by Sen. Maria Chappelle-Nadal, D-University City, is designed to let homeowners move away from a landfill where radioactive material is buried.

Senators did ultimately agree with the House to [fully fund the school aid formula](#), which means schools would get \$45 million more than what Greitens had proposed. Brown said the budgeting process was made harder because state tax revenues were not growing as quickly as projected.

“We knew it was going to be tight,” Brown said. “I think we’ve been really responsible.”

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

Banned MU frat challenges Carrie Underwood over Stanley Cup playoffs

BY LISA GUTIERREZ
lgutierrez@kcstar.com

Members of Sigma Pi fraternity at the University of Missouri have called out Carrie Underwood.

The frat brothers root for the St. Louis Blues.

Underwood is married to Mike Fisher, captain of the Nashville Predators.

The Blues and Predators are playing each other in the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Game on.

Frat members challenged Underwood to a bet in a video they posted to Twitter on Tuesday.

The challenge goes like this: If the Predators beat the Blues, the frat members will donate 200 hours of community service to a charity of Underwood’s choosing.

If the Blues win, Underwood agrees to perform a concert in Columbia with all proceeds going to a charity of the fraternity’s choice.

“Your move,” frat member Tim Schweiss says in the video before he and his frat brothers break out into a “Let’s go Blues” chant.

“Columbia is obviously a big Blues, Blackhawks town, and we noticed Carrie Underwood is a big Predators fan,” Schweiss told [Fox 17 in Nashville](#).

“Our chapter director came up with the idea to reach out to her and place the wager. We thought it was a really good idea so we followed through with it.”

Lots of people have seen the bet, which has been retweeted more than 3,000 times.

No word on whether Underwood has seen it, but she's been a little busy lately. Last week she surprised fans in Nashville by singing the national anthem before the Predators played the Chicago Blackhawks in Game 3 of their first-round playoff series.

Or perhaps someone tipped her off that Sigma Pi last year was [banned from Mizzou](#) after several years of violations including hazing and giving alcohol to minors. Members still live in the house with [support from the national fraternity](#).

Schweiss said even if members don't hear from Underwood they might follow through with their side of the bet anyway.

"We're so focused on getting more people to share this and see where this thing goes," he told the [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#)

He told Fox 17 that even "Predators fans still like the idea of her coming (to Columbia) so I guess it's a win-win for everybody."

Well, not exactly a win-win for everybody.

The Predators beat the Blues 4-3 in the first game of the series on Wednesday.



[We're Getting Closer to Mass Production of Bones, Organs, and Implants](#)

By Adam Popescu

Medical researchers have been able to create certain kinds of living cells with 3D printers for more than a decade. Now a few companies are getting closer to mass production of higher-order tissues (bone, cartilage, organs) and other individually tailored items, including implants. This kind of precision medicine, treating patients based on their genes, environment, and lifestyle, could herald the end of long organ donor lists and solve other problems, too.

Organovo Holdings Inc.

Based in San Diego; 120 employees

What Organovo has successfully transplanted human liver tissue into mice to cure chronic liver failure. Pending the success of human trials, possible applications include the \$3 billion market for inherited conditions such as hemophilia.

Who Ten-year-old Organovo, co-founded by bioprinting pioneer Gabor Forgacs, a professor at the University of Missouri, has received more than \$100 million in funding for its development of 3D-printed tissues. The company uses bioprinted tissue to test drug toxicity and effectiveness on behalf of Big Pharma companies including Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. and Merck & Co.

Next Steps The company says it plans to begin human clinical trials by 2020. It's also developing printable bone tissue for skeletal disease research and co-developing 3D-printed skin with L'Oréal SA.

Aspect Biosystems Ltd.

Based in Vancouver; 15 employees

What Aspect prints tissue cells to create structures that resemble parts of the human body, such as an airway or meniscus, to spur easier research on treatments for, say, asthma or muscle tears. By taking muscle cells from a lung, for example, the company built respiratory tissue that responded to common asthma inhalers as a person's body should.

Who Engineering Ph.D. dropout Tamer Mohamed co-founded Aspect in 2013 with nanotechnology and biology experts. They've teamed with a Johnson & Johnson subsidiary to work on tissue development with their heavily customized printers.

Next Steps The focus of the J&J partnership is a prototype artificial meniscus that could be implanted without the need for more invasive and expensive knee surgeries. The companies haven't set a timetable for human trials, though Mohamed says he's hoping to get there in the next few years.

Materialise NV

Based in Leuven, Belgium; 1,400 employees

What Materialise designs custom 3D-printable implants, surgical guides, and other medical devices. It's waiting on approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for implants designed to fuse bones. It's considering starting the approval process for tracheal splits meant to keep airways open.

Who Chief Executive Officer Fried Vancraen founded the \$440 million company in 1990 and has joined with companies including Siemens AG and UL LLC to develop or manufacture medical equipment. Sometimes the items are as simple as glasses or custom hearing aids; sometimes they're individually tailored models of a person's organ designed to help surgeons spot potential trouble.

Next Steps Materialise says a series of forthcoming research papers will strengthen its bone implant case with the FDA. The next hurdle will be persuading health insurers to cover its 3D-printed gear.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

Research conferences on mitochondrial disease start Monday

BY ANDY MARSO
amarso@kcstar.com

The Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute is starting its second series of Collaborate2Cure conferences Monday, with a focus on bringing together researchers who are working on mitochondrial illnesses.

Mitochondrial illnesses are caused by changes at the cellular level. They include Alzheimer's disease, which is the focus of Monday's 4 p.m. presentations at the University of Kansas Alzheimer's Disease Center at 4350 Shawnee Mission Parkway in Fairway.

Sessions scheduled for May 8, 15 and 22 will focus on other mitochondrial dysfunction research topics. Registration for all is [available online](#).

The events are geared toward scientists, entrepreneurs and students, but are open to the public. Research collaborations spawned by the presentations and discussions that follow are eligible to apply for \$50,000 grants.

The Kansas City Life Sciences Institute's goal is to link human health researchers with animal health researchers along the Interstate 70 corridor that stretches from Kansas State University in the west to the University of Missouri in Columbia in the east. Last year's Collaborate2Cure series focused on cancer research and [led to a collaboration](#) between an Olathe animal health company with a vaccine for dog cancer and Children's Mercy Hospital researchers who are preparing to test the vaccine in humans.

Record Levels of Toxic Flame Retardants Found in College Dorms

NO MU MENTION

By Douglas Main

Very high levels of toxic flame retardants have been found in dust samples collected from college dormitories, raising concerns that they could impact the health of many young people.

A study published in April in the journal *Environmental Science & Technology* found large quantities of chemicals meant to suppress fire—which have been linked to cancer and hormone disruption—in dust bunnies.

Two of the flame retardants were detected in record-breaking quantities. The main chemical within DecaBDE, a flame retardant that was largely phased out in 2013, was found at levels nine times higher than ever previously recorded in any environment. The Environmental Protection Agency considers this substance a “possible carcinogen” due to its ability to cause cancer in lab animals. A related compound, PentaBDE, was found in college dorms in concentrations four times higher than discovered anywhere else. The EPA officially banned the manufacture of this chemical in 2005; it has been shown to be an endocrine disruptor, meaning it interferes with the function of hormones. It has also been known to negatively affect the development of fetuses, and has neurotoxic effects, says study first author Robin Dodson, a research scientist at the Silent Spring Institute

“We know it can interfere with the way thyroid hormones act and work,” says Ami Zota, an assistant professor at George Washington University’s school of public health who wasn’t involved in the paper. Exposure to it, especially during critical periods early in life can negatively affect brain development, she adds.

The findings are based on 95 dust samples taken at two colleges in the Northeast, but are likely to generalize to other schools, Dodson says. As to why college dorms have a higher level of flame retardants, Dodson suspects it’s because they are small, relatively confined places that contain a lot of furniture (often old furniture). Furniture and electronics contain flame retardants that leach out and get into dust.

More than half of the dorm rooms tested had dust concentrations that exceed the EPA’s risk-based screening levels for soil. (The agency doesn’t have such levels for dust, though it too can

cause exposure to toxins, such as through skin contact and accidental ingestion.) These screening levels usually correspond to “an increase in risk of at least one additional case in a million exposed people,” says Todd Whitehead, a researcher at UC-Berkeley, who wasn’t involved in the study.

All of these findings are “reason for concern,” Whitehead says. Miriam Diamond, a professor at University of Toronto says that it’s not possible to quantify the health risk just yet. “One reason why it’s not possible is because these chemicals tend to have effects that take a long time to manifest,” Diamond adds. “Those effects are endocrine disruption [interference with hormones and the endocrine system], where the strongest evidence shows effects due to fetal exposure. The second reason is that the effects are not known for all the FRs and we don't know the impact of exposure to the complex mixture of chemicals” people come into contact with in the United States and elsewhere.”

Four flame retardants were found in 100 percent of the 95 dust samples studied. Three are suspected carcinogens, meaning they may be capable of causing cancer. Two of them, chemicals known by their bulky acronyms TDCIPP and TCEP, are listed by the state of California as carcinogens. The third, TCIPP, was found in dorms in double the median quantities found in other indoor environments. TCIPP hasn’t been extensively studied, but chemicals it closely resembles in structure have toxic effects on brain cells in animals studies, and may lower thyroid levels and decrease sperm quality in humans. As to the fourth chemical found in all dust samples, named TPHP, “there is growing evidence that [it] could affect hormones, metabolism, reproduction and development,” the Environmental Working Groups reports.

Regardless of how much risk these chemicals pose, it’s a good idea to try and limit your exposure to them, scientists agree. Dodson recommends replacing furniture if it’s more than a few years, as new furniture is less likely to contain flame retardants, and also making sure the product is made without flame retardants. Regularly vacuuming and dusting, pursuits that college students aren’t particularly known for, also help enormously. Diamond also suggests ventilating rooms to avoid a build of chemicals leaching from furniture and electronics, almost all of which contain flame retardants. She also advises to not eat with your hands after touching electronics like cell phones, tablets and keyboards, all of which contain flame retardants.

Bryan Goodman, a spokesman for the American Chemistry Council, an industry group, points out that many of the chemicals found in this study have been phased out. The quantities of flame retardants found in dust were also “far lower than the levels at which toxicological responses have been observed in animal studies,” he says. “Fire is still a real threat to life and property, and college campuses are no exception,” he says, adding that “flame retardants, which are used at times by manufacturers to meet these flammability standards, can be an important line of defense for those living on college campuses.”

However, there isn't much good evidence that using more flame retardants actually makes fires less deadly, and some scientists suggest the opposite, showing that flame retardants can give rise to toxic fumes. In general, their efficacy is controversial, and "not really backed up by well-supported data," Zota says.

The paper found that one of the schools with a more stringent flame retardant standards—known as TB 133—had higher levels of these chemicals than the school with a less demanding one, known as TB 117. The former is typically observed in public areas, while the other applies to residential areas. But this more "stringent" standard hasn't been conclusively shown to better prevent fires.

Dodson emphasizes that the authors aren't against fire safety. "There are lots of non-chemical tools...like installing sprinklers that can effectively increase fire safety," she says.

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

[In Trump's First 100 Days, Higher Ed Sees More Shadow Than Substance](#)

By Adam Harris APRIL 28, 2017

At an October campaign rally in Columbus, Ohio, Donald Trump, then the Republican nominee for president, gave his [most substantive speech](#) on higher-education policy. He suggested a simplification of income-driven repayment plans for student-loan borrowers and railed against government regulations — a staple of his campaign. Mr. Trump vowed that if he became president, he would "immediately take steps to drive down college costs by reducing the unnecessary costs of compliance with federal regulations so that colleges can pass on the savings to students in the form of lower tuition."

As President Trump approaches his 100th day in office, several observers say his administration has yet to scratch the surface of setting or pursuing significant higher-education policy — let alone achieving success in it. And aside from the offering in October, President Trump has rarely spoken at length about higher education — a trait that is shared by his education secretary, Betsy DeVos.

In her first public remarks on postsecondary education following her confirmation, Ms. DeVos [told a gathering of community-college trustees](#) that President Trump's 100-day action plan "is his contract with the American voter," and that it included the importance of "expanding vocational and technical education." And, by and large, Ms. DeVos has stuck to the same formula in [speaking about higher education](#) in the time since.

In the absence of a clearly defined policy, however, the Education Department, and the Trump administration writ large, have made moves that directly affect various sectors of higher education. From the White House's controversial [ban on travel to the United States](#) by citizens of

six predominantly Muslim countries to the Education Department's much-criticized unwinding of several Obama-era reforms, there has been no shortage of activity.

But for all of the rollbacks in the department, there has been very little rulemaking. And with a [budget blueprint](#) that threatens significant cuts to research funding and federal student aid, administrators, faculty, and students on campuses across the country are uncertain about what may be in store for higher education during the Trump administration.

What the Administration Has Done

The step that started the ball rolling on regulatory rollbacks was the "[Dear Colleague](#)" [letter](#) rescinding Obama-era guidance that had required public schools to allow [transgender students](#) to use the bathroom that matches the gender they identify with. That letter, issued February 22, was followed by [actions in March](#) that [delayed enforcement](#) of the gainful-employment rule and [withdrew guidance](#) issued in 2015 that had barred student-loan servicers from charging certain fees to borrowers in default. Also in March, [conflict-of-interest concerns](#) surfaced about a pair of the [department's hires](#).

Most recently, the department earlier this month [withdrew a set of memos](#) aimed at reforming student loan-servicing to emphasize customer service. On Wednesday, more than 130 Democratic lawmakers sent a [letter](#) to Ms. DeVos asking that she reconsider that action. "Your decision to rescind these memos — including the guidance making servicers' past performance and record of compliance with the law the most important non-cost factor in the evaluation," the lawmakers wrote, "will put millions of borrowers and taxpayers at risk."

The letter was one of many that members of Congress have sent the department in recent months, but the department has been slow to respond — if at all. A spokesman for the department told *The Chronicle* the perceived delay in response was due to the department taking its time to ensure its responses were "accurate and fair."

While much of the activity from the Education Department has been negative in the eyes of many student and borrowers' advocates, it has not all been. Early in April, the department announced that it would follow through on actions initiated by the previous education secretary, John B. King, to [restore Pell Grant eligibility](#) to students affected by the sudden closure of their campus, as happened with the for-profit [ITT Technical Institutes](#) and [Corinthian Colleges](#). It also began [publishing information on institutions from accrediting agencies](#) using common definitions, making information on accrediting decisions more available and understandable than it was before.

Out of everything the Education Department has faced in the new administration's first 100 days, perhaps the most notable is the outage of the Internal Revenue Service's new data-retrieval tool, which, when it works, allows applicants to easily fill out tax data for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the Fafsa. The tool, which was [taken offline](#) in early March, is expected to be down until at least the fall, as officials work to fix vulnerabilities that may have compromised data on up to 100,000 people.

Lawmakers and consumer organizations have pushed for the department to quickly get the data-retrieval tool [functioning again](#). And the department has held confidential briefings for lawmakers on the status of the tool and the reasons for it being offline. The department announced steps it had taken to [ease some of the burden](#) for Fafsa applicants affected by the outage of the tool on Monday. However, for others affected by the tool's outage, including those on income-driven loan repayment plans, there has been little aid.

For many observers, however, early signs give few clues in terms of what higher-education policy will look like for the next four years.

"It's hard to say what their focus is, or is going to be, in higher education," said Robert M. Shireman, a senior fellow at the Century Foundation. However, he said, "they have been responsive to some of the big financial players," referring to large loan-servicing companies. "I worry about what that might mean going forward, but I'm not sure what it is."

A Shift Away

Some of the lack of definitive policy may be caused by a lack of planning by President Trump's close advisers before the election and during the transition period, due to doubts that he would win, as [Politico](#) and other news outlets have reported. Because of the uncertainty, the administration didn't begin its transition efforts as early as some previous administrations, who had anticipated a victory and had the benefit of conventional Washington players on their transition staffs, said Daniel T. Madzellan, assistant vice president for government relations at the American Council on Education.

The first step to nominating individuals for executive-branch positions that require confirmation is announcing the intent to nominate. Mr. Madzellan, who worked in various roles in the Education Department for 33 years, told *The Chronicle* that this is where the Trump administration has had issues. And the Education Department has not escaped that criticism. Aside from Ms. DeVos, only one out of 14 remaining department officials who require Senate confirmation has been announced.

Mr. Shireman, of the Century Foundation, who served as [deputy under secretary of education](#) under President Obama, joined Mr. Obama's team during the transition. Any success that the department was able to enjoy early on would not have been possible, Mr. Shireman said, if people weren't in place in various bureaucratic roles early on. Arne Duncan, who [served as secretary of education](#) for most of the Obama administration, was confirmed just hours after Mr. Obama was sworn into office. Sen. Lamar Alexander, Republican of Tennessee, [told Mr. Duncan](#) at the time, "Obama has made several appointments, and from my view, you are the best." Ms. DeVos, in comparison, faced a [rocky confirmation process](#) that required Vice President Pence to cast an unprecedented tie-breaking vote to tilt the scale in her favor.

"I went into it knowing that what happened in the first six months, that's the time you're most likely to put something in motion that can succeed," Mr. Shireman said. "After that honeymoon period, it can be more difficult."

President Obama's major focus after taking office in 2009 was pulling the country back from the brink of the financial crisis. And in the [stimulus package](#), which passed in February of that year, members of the Education Department were able to push for some increased funding for Pell Grants — one of their major priorities, Mr. Shireman said.

But while the guidance withdrawals are on the radar of Mr. Madzellan, of the American Council on Education, he said they are not what their primary focus. Instead the group is more concerned with the direct orders that have come from the White House, including the continuing legal fight over President Trump's travel ban, he said.

What Colleges Hope For

It's not just lobbyists who have expressed concern over the policy that has come from the White House in the early days of the Trump era — students, faculty, and administrators have as well.

Marty Meehan, president of the University of Massachusetts system, said that early moves, such as the [travel ban](#), have directly affected UMass's campuses, and he worries about what effect it might have on students and faculty going forward.

When President Trump's [initial travel ban](#) took effect, two faculty members at UMass-Dartmouth [were detained](#) by U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents while returning from an academic conference in Paris. The professors, both in the College of Engineering, are legal, permanent residents of the United States. "It had a very negative impact on the morale of our faculty and our students," Mr. Meehan said. "We collaborate with faculty in other countries around the world — so it has had a very negative impact on the University of Massachusetts."

For Mr. Meehan, who is a former member of Congress, the travel ban and President Trump's [proposed budget cuts](#) for agencies that provide research funds to universities, including the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation, go hand-in-hand.

"I am hopeful that more moderate Republicans in both the Senate and House will stand up to many of these cuts," he said.

Several members of Congress, he said, come from states and districts with major public and private research universities, and they "understand the role research plays, and the role attracting students and faculty around the world plays in making universities great."

And as opposed to banning immigrants from other countries, Mr. Meehan said, as the Trump administration moves beyond the 100-day mark, he hopes the president and his cabinet can embrace them.

"What I would like to see more than anything else is a culture that recognizes the value of these highly skilled folks who bring strength, not weakness, to our country and to our economy."