



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

July 7, 2017



What's next for Mizzou after 2015 campus unrest

Watch story: <http://www.ksdk.com/news/education/whats-next-for-mizzou-after-2015-campus-unrest/454727361>

By Art Holliday

On a summer semester morning, Mizzou's iconic symbols, the six columns on Francis Quadrangle, are surrounded by scaffolding and covered in mesh, as workmen smooth and seal cracks. The columns are undergoing a facelift.

So too is the university's image.

"If we are really committed to action, we will really rise like a phoenix," said Dr. Kevin McDonald. "I'm excited about that. To the extent that we don't, we will fail miserably."

Who is Kevin McDonald and why is so much riding on his success or failure at the University of Missouri-Columbia? McDonald's 1-year-old job title is a mouthful: Vice Chancellor of Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity, a new position created by the UM System Board of Curators. His mission is to develop a blueprint for healing a campus fractured by race in 2015.

"I've been accessible. I've been visible. I connected with anyone who will let me connect, to both identify the lingering issues, maybe some of the desires for a for a promising future, but also these kinds of solutions that our stakeholders are seen as equal partners," said McDonald.

In September 2015, then-student body president Payton Head, an African American, shared on social media that white people in a pickup truck yelled racist names at him while he was walking near campus. His Facebook post shared that this was the second time the n-word had been yelled at him. The Columbia Missourian picked up the story, setting off a chain reaction of campus politics and protests.

"I just really want to know why my simple existence is such a threat to society," Head wrote on Facebook. "For those of you who wonder why I'm always talking about the importance of inclusion and respect, it's because I've experienced moments like this multiple times at THIS university, making me not feel included here.

"Is it weird that I think that I have the right to feel safe here, too? If you see violence like this and don't say anything, you, yes YOU, are a part of the problem."

A slow response by Mizzou administration caused graduate student Jonathan Butler to start what became an eight-day hunger strike to force the resignation or firing of university president Dr. Tim Wolfe. The ripple effect continued with faculty support and a threatened boycott by the Tigers' football team that could have cost the school millions. The university president and chancellor both resigned.

McDonald recalls following the unfolding story at Mizzou while he was employed at the Rochester Institution of Technology as vice president and assistant provost for diversity and inclusion.

"I wasn't able to determine what the UM system or Mizzou brand was around diversity in general," said McDonald. "It felt to me their narrative was being controlled by the media and much of it was really negative."

With a new chancellor and a new president, what's next for the University of Missouri-Columbia and its diversity chief?

"I felt there was a level of leadership support that would provide me with the latitude to succeed or fail. I can work with those odds," said McDonald. "I think you are looking for opportunities to develop, to build, to create, to be innovative, to go where others won't. Where people saw doom and gloom, I saw opportunity."

McDonald's opportunity came in disguise as a significant drop in enrollment. In 2014, 6,500 freshmen enrolled at the UMC campus. That number dropped to 4,700 for 2016, resulting in a tuition revenue decline of nearly 10 million dollars. Financial rating agency Moody's recently downgraded the University of Missouri's credit outlook from stable to negative, citing enrollment declines and cuts in state funding.

"I don't know that it's entirely accurate to attribute the decline in enrollment solely to what happened in October, November of 2015. There are many more factors that are involved," said Dr. Berkley Hudson, citing declining state support.

Hudson is an associate professor of journalism at Mizzou and a member of race relations committee, formed prior to the campus unrest. In 2015, Time Magazine published his essay about Mizzou, race, and the challenge of getting people to respectfully listen to each other.

"It takes a willingness of heart and mind to say 'let's figure this out and let's learn.' I'm mildly optimistic that under our current president and incoming chancellor that we could do that," said Hudson. "We're a perfect place to be a model for figuring this out, but there has to be a willingness in leadership to say 'yes, we want to be a leader.' We want to show our example of how you can deeply listen to one another and come up with solutions."

Among those participating in summer orientation in June was the Hick family from Lee's Summit. Doug Hick and his wife Margaret are Mizzou alums who bleed black and gold.

"A daughter about to go here, a daughter that is a senior, and a son that was here three and a half years," said Doug Hick. "We are diehards. We are not going to give up on the university."

Hick hopes that the new administration will be proactive. "The university needs to get out in front of things when they happen, or try to undo some of the damage a little bit harder," said Hick. "I felt like they were reacting the whole time. The leadership has to lead and not just react."

Tyler Brumfield of Chicago was a freshman in 2015 and considered transferring from Mizzou following the campus unrest. He stayed and now hopes the university will seize the day.

"I want to see our university start a movement, start a trend," said Brumfield. "Not just for the University of Missouri, but for universities across the nation because these are not just issues that Mizzou faces."

The bronze statue and fountain at Tiger Plaza is a well-known campus landmark, that features the inscribed lyrics of "Old Missouri". The argument continues that old Missouri must make way for a new Missouri.

"There are times in an organization where the social movements are gone," said McDonald. "2015 is gone and maybe people might have the mindset that we can get back to the way things used to be. I think we have to be committed to moving forward."

MISSOURIAN

MU combines Student Affairs positions with Division of Operations in newest round of cuts

By Edward McKinley

COLUMBIA — MU made another round of budget cuts and layoffs on Thursday, this time to the Division of Student Affairs. One part of the division is merging with the Division of Operations, a move that is expected to save \$1.5 million, according to MU spokesman Christian Basi.

A total of 165 facilities management positions will be moved from Student Affairs to the Division of Operations, according to an FAQ page on the Student Affairs website. University officials expect a reduction in 10 to 15 positions during the restructuring due to a combination of voluntary departures and layoffs, according to Basi. This alone was expected to save the university approximately \$750,000.

Previously, the Department of Student Life was directly supervised by the vice chancellor of student affairs, and the assistant vice chancellor oversaw departments such as Residential Life, Campus Dining Services and University Bookstores.

The merger will streamline the administration that provides many of these services and programs under a newly expanded position of dean of students, and the assistant vice chancellor position will be eliminated. The dean of students will oversee the Department of Residential Life, Greek Life, Student Conduct, Student Life, Student Recreation and Student Unions.

Some administrative positions were eliminated: One assistant vice chancellor position, three director positions, one senior associate director position and two administrative support positions. These moves will save an additional estimated \$745,000, according to the Student Affairs website. Basi would not confirm which employees' positions were being eliminated.

“Our goal is for all of these changes to benefit our students,” Basi said. He added that these budget moves were aimed at providing a “stronger and vibrant student experience, while simultaneously being the best stewards of the fiscal resources given to the university.”

He also said the university plans for the cuts and restructuring to address immediate budget challenges and provide money that can be invested in students.

Following these cuts, Basi estimated that a total of \$2.3 million have been saved within student affairs since June, when the first round of budget cuts occurred.

MU eliminated 343 positions from the general operating budget in June, according to previous *Missourian* reporting. Operations and student affairs, the target of Thursday's cuts, were the victims of 108 total job losses for the 2018 fiscal year in those earlier cuts. The departments previously lost 115 full-time positions for fiscal year 2017.

Many other schools and academic departments have been impacted by the budget cuts, including the Trulaske College of Business, the College of Education, College of Human Environmental Sciences and the School of Journalism. Those cuts had a variety of effects and included fewer scholarships, fewer graduate assistants and eliminated positions.



Massive shakeup at MU's Division of Student Affairs

By Lucas Geisler

Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=f88bccf6-2ad1-406c-a03d-4031593d9494>

COLUMBIA, Mo. - The University of Missouri's Division of Student Affairs will make several changes to its organization in hopes of saving more than \$1 million.

The web page explaining the moves shows several director positions and an assistant vice chancellor position will be cut. More than 100 "facilities management" staff will move under the Division of Operations, which is expected to save the Student Affairs \$750,000. The cuts and consolidation of administrative positions will also save them \$745,000, and include a new dean of students position.

The moves come amid hundreds of layoffs and millions of dollars in cuts to the University of Missouri System's flagship campus. Dropping enrollment and reduced state funding have both contributed to the hard times at MU.

The Student Affairs post expects 10-15 facilities management positions to be laid off in the switch to Operations, with the possibility of more later. Those employees previously worked "maintenance, custodial and design" jobs for the school's residence and dining halls, student unions and Mizzou Rec.

School spokesman Christian Basi told ABC 17 News the savings made from the moves would be re-invested in programs MU decides need growth.

"We're hoping that students who come to Mizzou will come here and have the continued strong experience, and we hope an improved experience with activities outside the classroom," Basi said.

The new dean of students positions will oversee Residential & Greek Life, Student Conduct and Student Life. The website said such a position is a common across other campuses in managing student activities and well-being.

"Previously these responsibilities were split between several administrators, including the vice chancellor for student affairs, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs, director of student life and director of residential life," reads the post about the situation at MU. "Centralizing student life, Greek life, residential life and recreation programs under an expanded Dean of Students role improves coordination of out-of-classroom programs that contribute to student success."

Seven administrative positions will be cut in the switch. That includes an assistant vice chancellor, three directors, one senior associate director and two administrative support positions. Basi told ABC 17 News he could not confirm exactly which administrative positions were cut.

"We want to respect the privacy of the individuals who are impacted by this," Basi said.

Janna Basler, the Student Life leader seen on tape blocking a photographer during the 2015 campus protests, was no longer listed on the division's staff page. Basler was the Office of Greek Life director at the time, then moved to Associate Dean of Student Life last October. Basler did not respond to an email seeking comment on Thursday night.

Basi said Student Affairs would go through a further review of its management during the fall semester. The school will hire a consulting firm by the end of the month, and send its recommendations to the chancellor at the end of the semester.

T COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE

Greitens' cuts mean uncertain future for University of Missouri cooperative programs

By Rudi Keller

University of Missouri programs funded with earmarked tax dollars are in limbo following Gov. Eric Greitens' decision to withhold all funding for higher education initiatives in the fiscal 2018 budget.

A program operated by the Columbia campus School of Medicine that provides clinical medical education in Springfield could be lost, as could a cooperative program between UMKC and Missouri State University to train pharmacists. In a prepared statement, the UM System said both programs would be reviewed to determine if they should continue.

"Whatever decision is made, we remain committed to ensuring that current and admitted students to these programs will have opportunities to complete their degrees," the statement read.

The two programs received a combined \$6 million, part of \$12 million withheld by Greitens from higher education initiatives. The UM System is involved with almost \$11 million of that amount, although only \$7.9 million is the UM portion. The remainder is spent through the budgets of cooperating universities.

Greitens also imposed restrictions on the university's base appropriation, cutting \$11.3 million from the \$419.2 million approved by lawmakers. A new round of layoffs, this time in the Division of Student Affairs on the Columbia campus, took place Thursday but system spokesman Christian Basi said it was part of ongoing administrative restructuring.

The university transferred 165 design, maintenance and custodial positions from student affairs to the Division of Operations, a move that will eliminate 10 to 15 full time jobs and save \$750,000, Basi said. The restructuring will eliminate another seven jobs and also save \$750,000.

Previous layoffs and retirements in the division saved \$812,000, Basi said. A consultant has been hired to report on additional savings in the student affairs division, Basi said.

In its budget request for the next fiscal year, UM is asking for the \$11.3 million cut from its base budget and the \$7.9 million to support the programs cut by Greitens. The request also seeks an additional \$21 million for system operations overall and \$8 million in earmarked funding.

The programs that receive dedicated funding are cooperative programs with other universities and education programs for medical and engineering students. The medical education program in Springfield is part of a partnership with CoxHealth and Mercy Springfield hospitals.

The cooperative programs are for engineering and pharmacy with Missouri State University and dentistry at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin.

The medical program, when fully functioning, would add 32 students annually to the School of Medicine enrollment, with those additional students completing the third and fourth years of their training at a clinical campus that opened in June in Springfield. The program currently has nine students enrolled.

The program has received as much as \$10 million from lawmakers in past years. This year's budget included \$5 million, which Greitens is not allowing to be spent.

Greitens withheld \$3 million from the dentistry program, \$1 million from the pharmacy program and \$1 million for expanding the engineering program.

The engineering expansion would have added a degree in mechanical engineering to the civil engineering and electrical engineering programs already being operated by MSU and UM's Rolla campus, the Missouri University of Science and Technology. The two programs already in place are funded out of the base budgets of both schools and will not be affected by the cuts, said Andrea Mostyn, spokeswoman for MSU.

The mechanical engineering program is uncertain, she said. The money was intended to be start-up funding, to help pay for lab equipment and other needs.

“We are looking at some other funding opportunities,” Mostyn said. “It is not totally off the table but it is not moving forward at this time.”

Whether the pharmacy program will continue is up to UMKC, she said.

“We have not received any indication that it will not continue,” Mostyn said.

Missouri Southern State University did not return messages seeking comment on the future of the dental program.



MU Restructures Student Affairs, Announces More Budget Cuts and Layoffs

Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=64bc560d-aede-4c7d-99fb-d0990e3a53b8>



Cut Off

Mizzou will ban students from using ID credit cards to buy nonacademic items from campus store, saying it will promote better spending habits. But students can still buy campus massages with their IDs and use their credit cards for other things.

BY JEREMY BAUER-WOLF

At the University of Missouri at Columbia, students can whip out their college ID and use it exactly like a credit card, to charge food, clothes, toiletries, even an Xbox -- anything available for purchase on campus -- to pay off later.

Not so next month, when the university will limit what can be bought through this method to just textbooks and other academic materials in the university store, a move meant to stymie students' debt and preserve their academic standing.

Mizzou has encountered this problem: students sometimes don't pay their account balances, which eventually means they can't enroll in classes, said Jim Spain, vice provost for undergraduate studies.

Of the roughly 1,800 students who dropped out from the spring to the next fall semester, about 34 percent have a financial hold on their account, Spain said. A little less than half of those holds can be attributed to buying nonacademic items, he said -- and not paying.

The university store functions like any Target or Walmart -- students can buy food, Mizzou-branded clothes, makeup and electronics there, Spain said. While the university won't re-evaluate stocking some of the most glamorous options, which he said would remain as part of the normal operations of the store, the institution is attempting to review students' financial access to them. Students can still buy these items with typical credit cards or cash -- and students aren't always responsible with their credit cards.

The university card caps charges at about \$1,200 per semester.

Students at Mizzou can still use their student IDs to pay for products elsewhere on campus, outside the store, like at the recreation center, or even for campus spa services -- massages, facials and waxes.

Many student expenses fall outside what Mizzou is now limiting, said David Helene, who founded a company called Edquity, which offers digital tools for college budget planning. Helene said the administration's choice to change student spending is one of "good faith" but it's unclear it will produce desired results, particularly for poorer families.

Though imprudent spending choices may lead to dropouts, experts say that more often low-income students, especially, struggle to pay for college at all, research indicates. A report from the Wisconsin HOPE Lab, part of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, shows that more than 70 percent of 19,000 undergraduate students interviewed in 2014 were at least sometimes worried they couldn't afford college.

"For low- and moderate-income students in particular, it's unclear students aren't simply spending money on things like bills, health-care expenses and the like that are essential to either their own or their families' welfare," Helene wrote in an email. "As it strikes me that this was a safe and reliable form of financing for students -- one that also helped with cash flow, which for students can be extremely irregular and difficult to manage -- it's possible students may subsequently resort to student loans or other credit products to try to fill this void."

Spain acknowledged that students can pay in other ways but said that those options wouldn't jeopardize a student's standing at the university. He said in the worst-case scenario, the university would have to pursue the outstanding charges through a collection agency, which would also affect a student's credit rating. The university would also withhold students' transcripts, which would prevent them from transferring, Spain said.

"We're going to be looking deeper at our processes and policies and trying to further advance student success by improving their financial relationship with the institution," he said.

In his experience, Helene said, most students prefer a debit or preloaded credit card, especially after the federal Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure -- or CARD -- Act of 2009, which offered new protections against credit card fraud and unfair fees and payment structures.

Paul Golden, a spokesman with the nonprofit National Endowment for Financial Education, said that many felt the CARD legislation solved all the issues -- but it's still up to the consumer to take ownership and read the fine print of credit card agreements.

Students are still adjusting to this, Golden said. They are particularly vulnerable because often they have a new degree of financial freedom, he said. His organization has been following 2,000 college students in a decade-long longitudinal study and found that often they formed poor spending habits early on in college.

"It seems to be a good idea ... it gets people mindful and thoughtful about their spending decisions and what's going on," Golden said of the Mizzou changes.

Some students, however, have criticized the shift, claiming the administration didn't consult them.

One member of the university's student senate, Jacob Addington, posted to Twitter, saying that students deserved "to have a voice" because it's a massive change to the way they purchase items.

This set off a digital debate, with another person replying that while some policies deserve student input, this was not one of them.

Spain said that in the past 18 months the university has conducted focus groups with students about wider financial issues than just the charge card. He said he could not identify how many sessions the university has held, because the employee running them left Mizzou.

Another student, Tim Davis, wrote on Twitter that some students couldn't afford food without the charge option.

"Not all parents pay for their child's education, and when I have no money at the moment to buy food, I am glad that student charge exists," his tweet reads.

Spain said that much of the student criticism stemmed from them feeling that charging purchases to their ID was most convenient.

In a poll that the student senate conducted on Twitter, 80 percent of the nearly 500 who responded said they disagreed with the decision.

MISSOURIAN

Sweat test could become new tool in assessing a surgeon's readiness

By Katherine Herrick

Generated from MU Health press release: [A Way to Objectively Measure Residents' Surgical Skills? No Sweat](#)

COLUMBIA — First-time resident physicians enter the operating room with moist palms and increased levels of stress. But don't sweat it — a new study strives to objectively monitor stress to help determine when resident physicians are ready to operate.

The study began two years ago but will continue for at least three more to try to identify a trend that will determine exactly when surgical residents reach a level comparable to experienced surgeons. Even experienced surgeons sweat during challenging procedures, but their overall levels are much more stable.

The study was motivated by the need for a more objective measure for evaluating a resident's readiness for surgery. **Jacob Quick, the lead researcher on the study and an acute care surgeon at MU Health Care, said the traditional model of subjectively testing residents works well and experienced doctors are certainly capable of evaluating residents.** But as more regulatory bodies have become involved in education, something less "gut level" has been needed.

Previous attempts to find objective measures of potential surgeons have included monitoring heart rates or looking at increased blood flow in different areas of the brain with an MRI machine, but neither of these methods have been used during actual surgery.

“There’s not a great test for it,” Quick said. Some people are very good at taking standardized tests, so those kinds of tests won't reveal whether someone might falter "when they’re on the fly and an unexpected problem occurs.”

Quick’s study uses sensors to monitor the electrodermal activity of a resident’s skin while the person is performing surgery.

“During a stressful event, you have increased sweating that changes the amount of sodium in your skin, and sodium is an electrolyte that conducts electricity, so you look at the conductivity of skin,” Quick said. “As the conduction potential rises, that is consistent with more stress.”

The test subjects wear the sensors around their wrists like watches and then cover them with the sleeve of their sterile gown and two layers of sterile gloves for the patient’s protection. As the resident operates, the sensors monitor changes on the skin and collect data.

Each resident performs the same surgery for the tests, which is a laparoscopic cholecystectomy, a standard gallbladder surgery.

Several studies have objectively tested surgical residents in simulation. Quick’s is the only objective test that has been used during live surgery. So far, 15 residents as well as several faculty members have participated in the study.

To track their total progress, study of each of the participating residents begins at the start of training and will continue until residency training is completed. Faculty members, meanwhile, were tested to determine "what’s a normal level of stress for a competent, skilled, experienced surgeon and what sort of level of stress you have there versus a neophyte and where that tends to normalize out," Quick said.

Before each test, the resident about to perform surgery must sit still and quietly for five minutes so sensors can collect a baseline stress level for comparison.

Several staff members in the hospital wore the sensors throughout a normal day and kept a log of their activities to make sure the sensors worked before using them for the study. Megan Crane, a student support specialist at the MU School of Medicine who helps conduct the tests, said she liked testing the sensors by wearing them herself and seeing the variation in her stress levels throughout the day.

It's a great learning tool for the residents. “It’s exciting how it could change the future,” she said. “Anything that can help improve someone’s skills is pretty cool.”

Jen Doty, the clinical coordinator of surgery for the MU School of Medicine, worked with Crane to monitor the residents as they used the sensors. Both stayed in the operating room for each test and recorded what was happening throughout the surgery to compare their accounts with the data to see which critical points in the surgery were most stressful.

“We’re the feet-on-the-floor people,” Doty said.

The main drawback to the testing is the cost of the sensors, which are about \$2,000 each, she said. The cost makes it difficult for the study to be done on a larger scale and at other universities.

“It’s an academic setting, you want to be doing these things,” she said. “Everything is more and more competitive, so you try to make sure that you provide support to people that want to do research. Quick is a researcher, but he’s also a phenomenal surgeon.”

After this study, Quick said he plans to begin looking at motion capture technology to analyze the efficiency of hand movements during surgery, which has been done in simulation but, again, not in the operating room.

“If you can identify a level — once you reach this, you’re good to go — then that gives a way for the residents to operate by themselves,” Quick said.



Guest commentary: Missouri should be accountable for UMKC arts campus

BY WARREN K. ERDMAN

Recently, the University of Missouri System announced it would develop alternate plans to match \$48 million in local and private pledges for a new downtown UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance that would address accreditation issues at its current facilities. The system will not seek support from the state of Missouri.

The important thing now is to make sure this alternate plan for funding the state match is done in a way that does not impose unreasonable financial stress on the UMKC campus.

UMKC is designated as the University of Missouri System’s campus for the performing arts. Founded in 1906, the conservatory is globally recognized. It has been praised by The New York Times as “one of the country’s liveliest academies.”

It has a Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and four Guggenheim Fellows. It trains performers for Missouri’s important tourism economy, teachers and music therapists.

The conservatory is a center of excellence for the UM System, in spite of its current inadequate facilities. Its accrediting body, the National Association of Schools of Music, has expressed serious concerns about its outdated, undersized and inadequate existing facilities, concluding that “it does not appear that the

facilities are sufficient to support the faculty needs, all curricular offerings, and all students enrolled in them.”

The space was built for 300 students. Today’s enrollment is 543. Something must be done.

A new conservatory facility next to the internationally renowned Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, where the land has been acquired, cleared and is ready to break ground, would benefit the entire state of Missouri. According to Americans for the Arts, cultural and arts tourism generates \$1.1 billion in annual economic activity in Missouri, over 33,000 jobs and about \$110 million in local and state government revenue every year.

Local leaders worked hard to raise \$48 million in private pledges to fund half of the project. Donors included the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation, which pledged \$20 million. Other philanthropic foundations and private citizens have pledged their financial support as well.

The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce made the project a Big 5 priority for Kansas City, and it enjoys the support of many other local organizations.

Realizing Missouri is not able to fund its match through a capital appropriation using the state’s 50-50 match program for such projects, Kansas City leaders worked with the Missouri General Assembly to pass legislation authorizing revenue bonds to match the local and private money. It passed overwhelmingly, with 117 votes in the House and 28 in the Senate. It would have provided a tool to provide the state’s match for the project over time, subject to future debt service appropriations.

Kansas City is very grateful to the many legislators who worked hard to pass this solution.

Unfortunately, Gov. Eric Greitens vetoed the legislation, in spite of overwhelming support from the legislature.

Now it’s up to the University System and governor to make sure the alternate plan they propose is implemented without imposing unreasonable financial stress on the UMKC campus.

They are accountable.

WARREN K. ERDMAN IS A CURATOR EMERITUS WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI SYSTEM.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Mizzou finances keep rising but still near SEC bottom

By Dave Matter St. Louis Post-Dispatch 15 hrs ago (0)

COLUMBIA, MO. • After five years in the Southeastern Conference, Missouri's athletics department continues to make more money and spend more money than ever before but MU continues to sit near the bottom of the league when it comes to athletics revenue and expenses.

[USA Today's annual report on NCAA spending](#) shows that Mizzou ranked No. 30 among public Division I schools in athletics revenue and No. 32 in expenses. MU is No. 12 among the 13 public schools in the SEC in both categories. The figures represent money made and spent during the 2015-16 school year, when the Tigers went 5-7 in Gary Pinkel's final season as football coach and the basketball team finished 10-21 and sat out the SEC tournament because of self-imposed NCAA sanctions.

Mizzou athletics made \$97,275,839 in the 2016 fiscal year, as [reported here in January](#) this year, and spent \$94,323,983. In the SEC, both figures fell behind Ole Miss and came in ahead of Mississippi State.

Texas A&M led the league in revenue and ranked No. 1 nationally with \$194,388,450, while Alabama spent the most on athletics in the SEC, \$145,277,366. Vanderbilt, a private school, did not disclose its financial numbers for the report.

Missouri's revenue was greater than all but three public schools from the Big 12: No. 2 Texas, No. 6 Oklahoma, No. 26 West Virginia.

Eight Big Ten public schools generated more revenue than Mizzou, just two Pac-12 public schools (No. 23 Oregon, No. 29 UCLA) and four ACC schools. Illinois was one spot behind MU in athletics revenue, making \$96,249,500. Illinois ranked No. 27 in athletics spending at \$102,912,910.

Story continues: http://www.stltoday.com/sports/college/mizzou/mizzou-finances-keeping-but-still-near-sec-bottom/article_d809c1c3-25ed-5f70-abcd-61bee0398c0a.html

MISSOURIAN

Man pleads guilty in sexual assault cases

KELLYN ALISE NETTLES, 15 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — Zachary Jones, 23, faces up to two life sentences after pleading guilty Monday to two counts of rape.

According to the probable cause statement, Jones approached a woman from behind in the early hours of March 5, 2016, near the intersection of University Avenue and Hitt Street. After telling the woman that she should not be walking alone, Jones grabbed her waist and proceeded to push her onto the ground and attempt to rape her.

The woman broke free from Jones' grasp, hit him in the face repeatedly and called the police. When Jones realized police had been contacted, he fled.

Around 20 minutes later, Jones approached a different woman from behind and forced her to the ground. Jones raped her and forced her to perform oral sex, according to the probable cause statement. After a short time, the woman led Jones into her MU residence hall, where she was able to escape from him.

Police used surveillance camera footage of Jones in the residence hall to identify him, and police located him that afternoon in the parking lot of the Daniel Boone Regional Library. Jones admitted to sexually assaulting both women in an interview after his arrest.

Jones was originally charged with one count of attempted rape, one count of rape and one count of sodomy all in the first degree, according to the criminal complaint. Jones was homeless at the time and not an MU student, [according to previous Missourian reporting](#).

Jones' sentencing was set for July 17.

MISSOURIAN

Newman Center to hold public prayer service for MU faculty and staff

CONNOR LAGORE, 19 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — **The St. Thomas More Newman Center will hold a prayer service July 18 for MU faculty and staff members affected by recent budget cuts.**

The service will be at 5:15 p.m. July 18 at the Newman Center, 602 Turner Ave. It is open to all walks of faith, according to an invitation from the Newman Center.

Some faculty and staff members showed a need for spiritual support amid the cuts, said JoAnn Shull, the center's development director. The Newman Center wanted to fill that need,

“Several faculty and staff members have already expressed concern and worry,” Shull said, “so this is just our opportunity to try and help people pray for the campus, pray for those who have been impacted, pray for the leadership just as we move forward so that it’s an atmosphere of hope.”

The Rev. Rich Litzau, OP, said it may help if those affected by the cuts knew they were not alone.

“As we talked about it, we wanted other people to know they were being prayed for as well,” Litzau said. “It helps, I think, to know that there are people of faith who are praying for them and supporting them and aware of their concerns.”

Although the Newman Center is a Catholic parish, the service will be structured in a way that invites all people, Litzau said.

MU has recently [cut more than 400 jobs and various programs](#) because of state budget cuts.

“I think that when there’s a lot of things that are divisive, it’s nice to know that there are also a lot of things that are unitive, that bring people together and support each other in a way that has nothing to do with anything other than spiritual support,” Litzau said.

Shull believes it is important to be a welcoming community.

“Just like everyone was impacted, there should be no reason why we exclude someone,” she said. “If you are experiencing budget cuts or experiencing a job loss personally, or maybe a friend or a coworker, that supersedes any faith denomination or tradition.”

“We’re using Scripture that everybody uses,” he said. “It’s just going to be a simple opportunity with some hymns and some prayers and some conversation and some quiet time.”

In addition to organized events such as the prayer service, Litzau said the Newman Center is open for anyone in need of comfort.

“We try to be present, just available, as a prayerful safe space,” he said.



Shaky International Yields

At undergraduate level, Southern institutions appear to be having a tougher time attracting students from outside the U.S. Nearly half of graduate deans see declines at the master’s level, and 31 percent at the Ph.D. level.

NO MU MENTION

BY ELIZABETH REDDEN

Survey results released Thursday offer a first look at yield rates of prospective international students -- that is, the percentage who accept an offer of admission for the fall -- and suggest that universities may see different patterns depending on where in the U.S. they’re located.

The yield rate for international undergraduates declined modestly from 26 to 24 percent from fall 2016 to fall 2017, a dip that’s on par with a decline in the domestic student yield rate from 30 to 28 percent, according to a survey conducted by the Institute of International Education in conjunction with four other higher education groups. However, the overall two-percentage-point drop masks significant variations in yield rates across regions -- with the biggest declines in yield rates reported by institutions in Southern states -- and colleges in general are reporting high levels of concern among some groups of prospective international students about their safety and ability to obtain a visa.

Meanwhile, 46 percent of graduate school deans reported declines in yield rates of two percentage points or more at the master’s level, and 31 percent reported such declines at the doctoral level, according to a separate survey from the Council of Graduate Schools. The CGS survey did not ask about absolute yield rates, but asked instead about relative declines and gains compared to the fall 2016 admission cycle.

The context for these two surveys is the widespread concern that large numbers of prospective international students might stay away from the U.S. due to perceptions of a less welcoming climate toward immigrants and international visitors and difficulties obtaining a visa under what President Trump

has described as more “extreme vetting” processes. Higher education professionals have also expressed concern about the unwelcoming message sent by Trump's partially blocked travel ban barring entry for nationals of six Muslim-majority nations (a legal challenge to the ban will be considered by the U.S. Supreme Court in October) and there is continuing uncertainty about what changes, if any, the Trump administration will propose for the H-1B visa program, which many international students use as a pathway to work in the U.S. (Trump directed a review of the H-1B visa program in April, though it's worth noting that one possible change floated by the administration -- adjusting the lottery to give an advantage to master's degree holders -- could potentially benefit international students).

A survey released this spring showed that nearly four in 10 colleges reported declines in the number of international student applications they received from fall 2016 to fall 2017.

“We need to be mindful of where the survey’s coming from,” said Rajika Bhandari, the head of research, policy and practice at IIE. “Over the past six or seven months, there’s been so much anxiety and speculation in U.S. higher education about whether international students will continue to come to the U.S. in large numbers.”

“The fact that our findings show that in fact there’s just a two-percentage-point drop in admissions yield compared to last year to me is a pretty big finding in that it shows us that the situation is not as dire as everybody had predicted,” Bhandari said. “In terms of what does that mean for institutions, it could go either way. What we did hear from institutions is that many of them were continuing to receive acceptances of admissions offers from international students and that the process wouldn't be completed for a while. It could mean that when we look at international enrollments, numbers might be up by a small amount or they might decline by a small amount. It's too small of a difference to predict a definitive trend this fall.”

“That being said, we are seeing quite a diversity in terms of the impact that the developments over the past six months have had on institutions,” she continued. “Even though it might be just a two-percentage-point drop in undergraduate yield on average, it affects different institutions differently, and it affects different types of students.”

[*Story continues.*](#)