



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

August 2, 2017

MISSOURIAN

First day of school for new MU chancellor

[EDWARD MCKINLEY](#) 11 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — Alex Cartwright, former State University of New York System provost and executive vice chancellor, took over as MU's chancellor Tuesday.

His arrival marked the first day MU has had a non-interim chancellor since the end of 2015. Although he officially began Tuesday, he's been actively involved behind the scenes for some time.

At a UM System Board of Curators retreat last month, Cartwright called for MU and the system to build a "winning culture." He said the university needs to actively recruit faculty and staff that aren't just smart and talented but are also good human beings. He said by doing so, employees will encourage one another and recognize that "we're all on the same team."

A major issue for MU and the system has been a decline in state funding. Cuts to higher education funding, as well as enrollment declines, have forced MU to trim about \$60 million in reserves, programs and more than 400 jobs.

Because of this, President Mun Choi, system Chief Financial Officer Ryan Wrapp, curators and campus officials have discussed at recent meetings how the system's primary source of revenue will need to shift from state funding to tuition. At its July 28 teleconference meeting, the board discussed how funding for educational buildings has historically been from state or federal funding, but this cannot be the case going forward.

Cartwright is also stepping into the position at a time when MU's enrollment has nosedived. This year's first-time freshman class is estimated to be about 4,009 students, while three years ago, in 2014, the fall first-time enrollment was 6,515 — a decrease of almost 40 percent.

But Cartwright feels there's room for optimism.

"If you look at this institution, it has all of the components of being an absolutely great institution, an institution that has a tradition unlike many others in this country," Cartwright said when he took the job. "And I believe not only is it an attractive place, but it can become a premier public research university in this country."

Research is a key emphasis for MU going forward, Choi has said. Cartwright was the president of the State University of New York's research foundation from January 2015 to June 2016.

Curators voted Friday to request state funding for capital budget projects. MU's priority project was a planned new Translational Precision Medicine Complex, where new treatment techniques and technology would be developed and applied.

MU has come under fire for lacking diversity. The Liaison Committee on Medical Education found that MU's medical school needed to improve the diversity of its students or risk losing its accreditation. The racial climate on campus was at the root of unrest in the fall of 2015 that led to the resignations of Loftin and former President Tim Wolfe.

Cartwright brings experience in broadening diversity in a university setting. "Dr. Cartwright introduced and saw adopted a sweeping diversity, equity and inclusion policy which applies to all campuses and SUNY's System Administration," according to the State University of New York's website.

The State University of New York, commonly known as SUNY, is the largest state university system in the country. It has about 1.3 million students, and it is made up of 64 universities, according to its website.

Cartwright is married, has two children and was born in the Bahamas. He graduated from the University of Iowa with a doctorate in electrical and computer engineering, and he is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for his work researching and teaching optical engineering.

Good Housekeeping[★]

Science Shows Spanking Can Negatively Affect Children's Behavior

By [Caroline Picard](#)

Generated from News Bureau press release: [Spanking Can Be Detrimental for Children's Behavior, Even Ten Years Later](#)

"Spare the rod and spoil the child," the saying goes, but new research points to a much different conclusion. Spanking young kids can negatively impact future temperament over a decade later, according to scientists from the University of Missouri.

Even though the [majority](#) of Americans approve of spanking, data shows it's not only an ineffective way to discipline, but it actually has the opposite effect. A [2016 meta-analysis](#) using data on over 150,000 children over a 50-year period linked corporal punishment with aggression, antisocial behavior, mental health problems, cognitive difficulties and low self-esteem, among other negative outcomes. Basically, just because your parents spanked you doesn't mean it's a good idea to spank your kids.

The most recent research, published in [Developmental Psychology](#), came to similar conclusion but specifically looked at racially diverse, low-income families enrolled in the Early Head Start Research and Evaluation Project. While experts hadn't conducted many studies on this part of the population before, the results still came out against spanking.

Using surveys, home visits and teacher interviews, scientists found that African-American children who experienced severe punishment at 15 months of age were more likely to show increased aggressive and delinquent behaviors by fifth grade. Negative emotions like irritability predicted similar outcomes among European-American children, but both groups showed a correlation between good self-regulation and better behavior later on.

"Our findings show how parents treat their children at a young age, particularly African-American children, significantly impacts their behavior," Gustavo Carlo, Millsap Professor of Diversity at MU and director of the MU Center for Family Policy and Research, told [ScienceDaily](#). "It is very important that parents refrain from physical punishment as it can have long-lasting impacts. If we want to nurture positive behaviors, all parents should teach a child how to regulate their behaviors early."

While spanking won't help, [productive disciplining](#) can teach kids those valuable lessons. Focus on establishing clear rules and creating a strong parent-child connection instead, advises psychologist Dr. Vanessa Lapointe, author of *Discipline Without Damage*. "Our job is to make sure that the regulatory part of that child's brain is soothed, settled and calm," [she explains](#). "Then, reach in with a moment of expectation-setting for the next time around — and move along."

That simple strategy can not only soothe temper tantrums in the moment, but also set up kids for better behavior in the long run.



[Harsh punishment for babies may linger into childhood](#)

Generated from News Bureau press release: [Spanking Can Be Detrimental for Children's Behavior, Even Ten Years Later](#)

Infants who experience physical discipline may still face negative effects in temperament and behavior as late as fifth grade and into their teenage years, research suggests.

Past research has indicated that physical punishment, such as spanking, has negative consequences on child development. However, most research studies have examined short-term associations—less than one year—between discipline and development.

“Long-term studies on the links among parenting, temperament, and children’s social behaviors have been limited, especially among racially diverse, low-income populations,” says Gustavo Carlo, a professor of diversity at the University of Missouri and director of the university’s Center for Family Policy and Research.

“Our findings show that differences exist in the roles of parenting, temperament, and self-regulation and how they impact a child’s development.”

Carlo’s team analyzed data from 1,840 mothers and children enrolled in the Early Head Start Research and Evaluation Project. All participating families were at or below the federal poverty level and identified as either European American or African American. Information was collected when children were approximately 15 months old, 25 months old, and in the fifth

grade. Researchers used surveys of mothers and children, home visits, and interviews with fifth-grade teachers to complete the study.

The researchers found that if African-American children experienced severe punishment at 15 months they were more likely to exhibit increased aggressive and delinquent behaviors in the fifth grade. They were also less likely to show positive behaviors, such as helping others.

No link was found between punishment and negative emotions for European-American children. Instead, among European-American children, negative emotions, such as irritability, predicted such outcomes. For both groups, good self-regulation predicted better behavioral outcomes.

“Our findings show how parents treat their children at a young age, particularly African-American children, significantly impacts their behavior,” Carlo says.

“It is very important that parents refrain from physical punishment as it can have long-lasting impacts. If we want to nurture positive behaviors, all parents should teach a child how to regulate their behaviors early,” he says.

Carlo suggests that this research will help parents, educators, and other resource providers understand well-being and resiliency in low-income, racially diverse children.

The study appears in the journal *Developmental Psychology*. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the funding agencies.

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Severe Discipline has Long-Term Effects on Children's Behaviors

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Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=75090633-b6a9-488e-89fd-5e2b219ed328>



MU Researchers Study Spanking

Generated from News Bureau press release: [Spanking Can Be Detrimental for Children's Behavior, Even Ten Years Later](#)

Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=4b5c29a4-ec90-4d42-a3de-dc09025cc376>

Trustees: Boone Hospital Center to explore MU Health partnership

By [Brittany Ruess](#)

The Boone Hospital Center Board of Trustees will explore the hospital's partnership options **with the University of Missouri Health Care in what representatives from both are calling a collaborative effort to compete with larger health care markets and enhance local subspecialty care.**

MU Health is one of four companies vying to operate the hospital, but Brian Neuner, chairman of the trustees, said the board is entering an "exclusive discussion" with the local health care provider. The trustees announced their decision Tuesday.

Neuner and MU Health CEO Jonathan Curtright emphasized during a news conference Tuesday that the discussions are preliminary and did not have certain specifics of a partnership when questioned by reporters.

Boone Hospital is under a lease with St. Louis-based BJC HealthCare that expires in 2020. The trustees and BJC must notify one another if they wish to continue, modify or terminate the lease by December 2018.

Trustees have also been considering leases with Kansas City-based St. Luke's Hospital and Duke LifePoint Health Care, a for-profit company based in Brentwood, Tenn. They also have the option to make Boone Hospital a standalone operation, meaning it would be managed by a newly-created not-for-profit organization, but Neuner said that option is likely too risky and expensive.

Neuner said in a news release that the trustees are notifying other potential partners they are putting negotiations on hold for the time being.

"All of three of" the companies "have said, 'We're going to be waiting there for you if this does not come to fruition,' but our goal is to make this" partnership "happen or we wouldn't take this step," Neuner said.

He said no decision has been made on the actual leasing of Boone Hospital, but the path of negotiations with MU Health could lead to the local health care provider leasing Boone Hospital.

MU Health has offered to lease Boone Hospital for 30 years. Curtright said the offer is a "starting point."

“That’s what the next step of this journey is going to look like,” he said, referring to future negotiations.

Any lease of the hospital, which is owned by Boone County, would require approval from the Boone County Commission per state law. Southern District Commissioner Fred Parry, who was previously chairman of the trustees, said he’s in favor of the partnership.

Boone County receives about \$2.3 million from the trustees’ hospital lease with BJC. Of that, \$500,000 goes to community health and social services agencies and the remaining \$1.8 million goes to the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services, animal control services and medical expenses for inmates at the Boone County Jail. When asked if MU Health will make a similar payment, Curtright said MU Health will make the financial deal right.

“It will not be a problem,” he said. “The finances of this, I’m not worried about it at all.”

Neuner said the partnership is an opportunity to make Columbia a health care destination and compete against larger health care markets, particularly in St. Louis, Kansas City and Springfield.

“Both hospitals are trying to attract world class health care and providers, you can’t do that unless you have appeal, unless you have a patient base,” Neuner said. “We’ve been told by some people that we’re limited in growth, but we don’t see that. If this happens, we’re going to move from competing against each other to competing against the larger markets to the east, to the west and to the south.”

Proponents of the partnership believe the hospitals will be able to recruit more subspecialists by pulling together their resources and patients. More subspecialists could improve access for patients and the quality of services in cardiovascular care, orthopedic surgeries, oncology and neurosciences, Curtright said.

Patrick Delafontaine, dean of the medical school, said the guiding principles of the partnership will be health care access, choice, quality and affordability. He said to a certain extent, services depend on patient volume to maintain quality.

For example, Delafontaine said the partnership could bring bone marrow transplants to Columbia. Local patients currently travel to St. Louis and Kansas City for the operation.

“We see this as actually growing, if you will, the range of services available and also, the quality that comes with doing cutting-edge services that are not currently available,” he said.

Curtright said MU Health and Boone Hospital clinics won’t be neglected in the partnership.

“The groups that make an outstanding model of how patients are going to flow through,” outpatient and post-acute care, “they win,” he said. “The ambulatory setting, the outpatient setting is just as much a part of this overall team as a traditional in-patient setting,” an emergency department and the operation rooms.

Neuner said he doesn't expect layoffs. Boone Hospital Center CEO Jim Sinek said BJC CEO Steve Lipstein has committed to helping employees transition to whichever company the trustees select.

Boone Hospital won't become a teaching hospital, but some medical residents could serve there, Neuner said.

"MU is the teaching hospital, we're the county hospital," Neuner said. "That's our identity, our culture rolls into that."

When the trustees first presented their options to the public in May, a consultant for the trustees said state lawmakers would need to pass legislation to regulate activities of a Boone Hospital-MU Health partnership to protect consumer interests.

Tom Schneider, the trustees' attorney, said both parties agree state lawmakers would need to pass legislation allowing a partnership to prevent antitrust.

"But it's all in what final structure looks like because if it's viewed as a monopoly, it's going to be an issue," Neuner said. "So, we'll have some structural challenges of putting it together, but the fact that we're aware of it really helps it."

Schneider said legislation would need to specifically outline the structure of the partnership and how it benefits the community. Legislation must also include which state government agency would oversee the partnership, he said.

MU employees have lower costs if they receive care through MU Health. Keith Hearle, a consultant for the trustees, has said the cheaper health care costs could be causing MU employees to choose MU Health over Boone Hospital. The university is the largest employer in Boone County and the MU Health hospitals and clinics are second to the university itself in employee numbers, according to Missouri CORE, a not-for-profit economic development group in Mid-Missouri.

One of the three University of Missouri employees' insurance plans also considers Boone Hospital out of network.

MU Health has offered to open its network to Boone Hospital if the two collaborate. When asked, Curtright did not specifically say if that is still on the table.

"I'm here to tell you that we'll do everything we can to make Boone Hospital and MU Health Care be successful, and it's in our best interest to make it so that we are running a highly, highly efficient set of health care services," Curtright said. "If that requires a look at any of our insurance plans, we're open to all of that. We have been from day one."

MISSOURIAN

UPDATE: Boone Hospital, MU Health Care exploring partnership

[BY EDWARD MCKINLEY NEWS@COLUMBIAMISSOURIAN.COM](mailto:EDWARD.MCKINLEY@COLUMBIAMISSOURIAN.COM) Aug 1,

COLUMBIA — Boone Hospital Center and MU Health Care have entered into exclusive discussions to establish a partnership, Brian Neuner, chairman of the Boone Hospital Board of Trustees, said Tuesday.

The deal is not done yet. Tuesday's announcement just means that Boone Hospital Center has chosen MU Health Care as the best of the suitors it had to choose from in April.

"There's a lot of work to be done, but we're going to do it together," MU Health Care CEO Jonathan Curtright said at a news conference at the Chamber of Commerce.

Boone Hospital Center has been in a partnership with BJC HealthCare for 28 years. The contract runs until December 2020, and Boone Hospital Center has until December 2018 to notify BJC if it will not renew the deal for another five years.

"We're still married," Neuner said about Boone's relationship with BJC HealthCare.

But a split seems likely.

Curtright and Neuner said there are certain financial records and other numbers that MU Health Care and Boone Hospital Center couldn't share with each other until Tuesday, but now they can.

"We're going to date for a while — we're going to get to know each other better" is how Neuner described the process.

In the meantime, Neuner said, other health care organizations interested in a partnership with Boone Hospital Center — BJC HealthCare, Duke LifePoint Healthcare and Saint Luke's Health System — are in waiting mode but still interested.

Neuner said one of the health care companies told him it hoped negotiations with MU Health Care fell through so it could work with Boone Hospital. He did not say which company.

But Curtright isn't worried: "The financial deal, we will make it right," he said.

Moods were high at the Tuesday news conference. On his first day in office, MU's new Chancellor Alexander Cartwright was there, shaking hands and sitting next to Mayor Brian Treece. UM System President Mun Choi congratulated Cartwright, saying, "You're having a big first day."

"What a fantastic day this is. This is glorious," Curtright said at the press conference.

Neuner was equally enthusiastic. "If this becomes a reality, we're going to be bigger and stronger together," he said.

If the deal is finalized, Boone Hospital Center will not suddenly become a full-blown teaching hospital, Neuner said. Rather, Boone Hospital may offer the option for some doctors to have their residencies or fellowships there.

"MU is the teaching hospital. We're the county hospital," Neuner said.

He and Curtright said that in this new partnership, the two major Columbia hospitals would be able to avoid a duplication of efforts, provide additional access to health care, attract more doctors and specialists and stop competing with each other and start competing with Kansas City and St. Louis hospitals.

"If this can happen, we're going to be a health care destination," Neuner said.

One example of a program the partnership may enable is bone marrow transplant, Neuner said. The process of receiving bone marrow transplants is painful and tiring, so it would be helpful if Columbia's residents didn't have to drive to St. Louis or Kansas City to receive such care .

Time and time again throughout the news conference, Neuner and Curtright emphasized the importance of access to health care. "A major part of quality is access," Curtright said at one point.

But last month, MU Health Care sold its minority stake in the Fulton Medical Center. This 35 percent stake was part of a 2014 agreement with NuHealth. The goal of the agreement was to provide access to quality care for people in Fulton and surrounding rural areas.

After MU Health Care announced it would sell, Fulton Medical Center announced it will close by Sept. 22. Residents interviewed responded with mixed views about the medical center but were uniformly concerned about the looming lack of emergency services. When any of Callaway County's roughly 45,000 people need emergency services they will have to drive to Jefferson City, Columbia or a different county's hospital.

In response to a question Tuesday on why MU Health Care pulled its funding from the Fulton Medical Center, Curtright said it was primarily because of a lack of patients. He also said rural health care is facing a serious challenge: People in rural areas often bypass their local hospitals, electing instead to go to bigger health care centers in urban areas that offer more options.

Asked whether Boone Hospital Center will lay off employees, Neuner and other officials in the room laughed. This partnership is entirely an opportunity for the hospital to grow, Neuner responded.

One challenge the potential partnership may face is antitrust laws that could be triggered by two hospitals in the same market working together. Curtright emphasized this issue is something both sides are conscious of, and they'll be working together and with their lawyers to address it.

Any agreement MU Health Care and Boone Hospital Center could be subject to legislative approval.



Boone Hospital trustees to explore merger with MU Health

Watch the story: <http://www.abc17news.com/news/boone-hospital-trustees-to-explore-merger-with-mu-health/597102080>

By: Sara Maslar-Donar

COLUMBIA, Mo. - The Boone Hospital Board of Trustees have unanimously agreed to discuss aligning with the University of Missouri Health Care system.

Trustee chair Brian Neuner said Tuesday they made the announcement to inform their other potential partners BJC HealthCare, Duke/LifePoint Health Care and Saint Luke's Health System that they would be putting negotiations with them on hold.

The current Boone Hospital lease with BJC Healthcare ends in 2020.

"We're going to dive in deep and we're going to keep going until we know it can't work (with MU)," said Neuner. "If we get to the end and we know it can work, then we work with BJC on how we exit."

BJC must be informed of a chance in the lease by the end of 2018.

Discussion and evaluation of the potential partnership will begin immediately and trustees said they hope there could be a potential to enhance quality, increase efficiency and expand the delivery of health care access in the communities that they both serve.

"These discussions have the potential to help us identify ways to build a truly innovative and more effective system of healthcare delivery and innovation," said Neuner. "Working together, we have the potential to deliver healthcare that is second to none."

MU Health and Boone Hospital leaders said Tuesday they didn't know how this would affect patients and their insurance plans.

"That's definitely a discussion point, but i think the best answer I can give you is we will definitely talk about that," said Neuner. "It's day 1 and i couldn't give you a specific answer."

"This is the beginning and it's part of a process," said MU Health CEO Jonathan Curtright. "I am here to tell you we'll do everything we can to make Boone Hospital and MU Healthcare successful and if that requires a look at any of our insurance plans, we're open to all that from day one."

Right now, there are no employee jobs at stake for either organization.



MU Health, Boone Hospital lease would need state approval

By: Lucas Geisler

COLUMBIA, Mo. - The Missouri General Assembly would need to pass a bill allowing MU Health Care to operate Boone Hospital Center.

The county-owned hospital's board of trustees announced on Tuesday that it would exclusively negotiate the lease to the hospital with MU Health Care. The hospital's current lease with BJC Healthcare expires at the end of 2020. Trustees have courted four health care providers, including BJC and MU Health Care, as possible tenants.

Board attorney Tom Schnieder told ABC 17 News that the state government would need to pass a bill pursuant to federal antitrust law. Both MU Health Care and Boone Hospital offer similar services in the area, and their collaborating would mean a displacement of competition.

The "state-action doctrine," or "Parker doctrine" was established by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1943. Schneider said the bill would need to articulate why the benefits of the collaboration outweigh the end of competition. The bill would also assign a supervisor of the deal to ensure those benefits are being met, Schneider said. That could be a single person or a government agency.

Because BJC Healthcare will operate Boone Hospital until 2020, Schneider said the bill could be passed anytime before then, if MU Health Care was offered the lease.

Many people at a town hall in Columbia in May said they had concerns with MU Health Care taking over Boone Hospital. The lack of competition would hurt the quality of health care in Boone County, as well as the price.

Both county and MU leaders said the real health care competition was occurring at the state level. Rather than a fight in Boone County, the hospitals could compete against systems in St. Louis and Kansas City.

Boone County Commissioner Fred Parry said he was happy to see MU Health Care get exclusive negotiating rights. He referred to the relationship as a "collaboration" rather than a merger between the two.

"I think that both hospitals are looking for a way to start at square one and to see really what the best potential is," Parry told ABC 17 News.

For MU Health Care, the 397-bed facility would add space for their growing services. The hospital reported high numbers of births and emergency room visits this fiscal year, leading to a windfall of profits so far.

"By any metric you want to look at, we are about full capacity to the point where we're becoming a little bit less efficient than we want it to be," MU Health Care CEO Jonathan Curtright said.

County commissioners will ultimately get the final say on a lease. Parry said any lease he signs will need to ensure the company will honor and offer benefits to the hospital's current employees.

"Making sure that our employees continue to enjoy the level of benefits that they receive, that their years of service are protected, and that they enjoy a culture much like they have at Boone Hospital," Parry said.



Boone Hospital considering partnership with MU Health Care

COLUMBIA — The Boone Hospital Center board of trustees will exclusively work with University of Missouri Health Care on a partnership.

Representatives from both the hospital and MU said in a press conference Tuesday that MU Health Care was chosen over three other companies competing to operate the hospital in Columbia.

Boone Hospital currently has a lease with St. Louis-based BJC HealthCare that expires in 2020. The trustees and BJC are required to notify one another about any changes in the lease by December 2018.

Brian Neuner, the chairman of the board, said the hospital notified BJC and the other competing health care programs: Duke/LifePoint Health Care (Kansas City, Missouri) and Saint Luke's Health System (Brentwood, Tennessee). He said the other programs are still willing to work with Boone Hospital Center in case negotiations with MU Health fall short.

"We met with Marcy Gram and John (Curtwright)," Neuner said. "Gram, who is president of the university's board of curators, started the meeting by saying, 'This has to be a win-win.' We have never heard that from MU."

Johnathan W. Curtwright, chief operating officer at MU Health Care, said this is a collaborative partnership and not a merger. He said the move provides more facilities and services for patients.

"We are currently very, very full," Curtwright said. "By any metric you want to look at, we're at about full capacity to the point where we're being a little less efficient than

we want to be. We have some growth in our main facility, we have some growth in Missouri Orthopedic Institute. But our main hospital, university hospital and women's and children's hospital are extremely tight right now."

Neuner said it's too early in the process to determine what effect the potential partnership will have on patients. He said the next step would be for both sides to meet together to determine the feasibility of the partnership. He also said Dan Atwell, the Boone County Presiding Commissioner, would be at the meeting to ensure the community is represented.

"Boone Hospital is the county's largest asset," Neuner said. "So our decision greatly affects the county, and we want Dan involved in that."

Neuner said he expects the meetings to last for at least six months. He also said representatives from both Boone Hospital Center and MU Health Care plan to visit other hospitals with similar systems already in place, such as the University of Indiana's partnership with Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana.



Boone Hospital Moves Forward in Talk of Partnering with MU Health

By NATHAN LAWRENCE

In a release posted today, Boone Hospital in Columbia announced it's one step closer to a possible alignment with University of Missouri Health Care after a unanimous agreement of Boone Hospital's board of trustees to explore the details of an arrangement.

As part of this process, the hospital says it's putting conversations with other potential partners, including BJC HealthCare, Duke/LifePoint Health Care and Saint Luke's Health System, on hold.

In April, Boone Hospital said they were re-evaluating arrangements in advance of their agreement with BJC HealthCare's expiration in 2020. At the time, they were exploring five different options, including a new agreement with BJC and a partnership with MU Health.



[MU Healthcare, Boone Hospital exploring partnership](#)

Watch the story: <http://krcgtv.com/news/local/mu-healthcare-boone-hospital-exploring-partnership>

By: Garrett Bergquist

COLUMBIA — Officials for Columbia's two largest hospitals on Tuesday announced they would look for ways to work together on future healthcare needs.

Boone Hospital said in a news release its board of trustees voted Monday to begin discussions with MU Healthcare. Spokesman Mike Vangel said the two hospitals want to plan how to meet future healthcare needs in mid-Missouri together. He said those discussions haven't begun yet, so it's too early to say how the partnership would work.



MU to cut more workers as some staff merge in two divisions

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/mu-to-cut-more-workers-as-some-staff-merge-in-two-divisions>

COLUMBIA - MU announced it is reducing some staff as the maintenance and custodial operations merge in the Division of Student Affairs and Division of Operations. MU Spokesperson Christian Basi said the university will cut 30 positions and save \$1.2 million. Ten of the 30 positions are administrators.

In July, MU Student Affairs, which covers the university's Residential Life, Greek Life student health and other departments, announced it would management and partially join the Division of Operations. Seven administrators lost their jobs in the initial transition.

Basi said the cuts will focus on using student and university money more effectively. "We've seen some duplication and so it may not be an area where we're doing more work, it may be an area where we're not doing the same work twice," Basi said.

Basi said Residential Life uses its own maintenance staff, but because some Operations staff can do the same work, there will be consolidation of those employees.

A new position will be added to the leadership of the Division of Student Affairs. The Dean of Students will oversee the department, taking over duties previously tasked to several administrators. According to the MU Student Affairs [website](#), the university expects this decision will save \$745,000.

Basi could not say when or if more layoffs would occur within these departments, but said all campus departments are under review, so more changes are possible.

"There's constant change always going, and so there's no specific end date, we'll always be looking and reviewing our operations because things change," Basi said.



Mizzou Making Parking Changes

Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=1377edfb-40ab-4da2-8461-962e38595eb8>



NAACP warns that women, people of color, LGBT “may not be safe” in travelling to Missouri

The NAACP says it may be dangerous to travel to Missouri, citing stats that say even driving could be a hazard

By CHARLIE MAY

On Wednesday national delegates from the NAACP voted to issue a “travel advisory” in Missouri, out of concern that civil rights will not be respected in the state.

According to the Springfield News-Leader, women, people of color, LGBT people and those with disabilities have been told to “travel with extreme caution” because “they may not be safe.”

“Our ongoing issues of racial profiling, discrimination, harassment and excess violence towards people of color have been further exacerbated by the passage and signing of [Senate Bill] 43,” Cheryl Clay, Springfield’s NAACP president, told the News-Leader in a statement.

Clay was referencing the bill signed on June 30 by Gov. Eric Greitens which “modifies the Missouri Human Rights Act to make it more difficult to prove discrimination in housing and the workplace in courts of law,” the News-Leader reported. Clay said that the legislation “rolls back civil rights protections for employees and whistleblowers.”

The NAACP has also accused the state of the following:

- “Racial and ethnic disparities in Education, Health, Economic Empowerment, and Criminal Justice.”
- “A long history” of “violent and dehumanizing” racial discrimination and harassment.
- **Racially charged incidents at the University of Missouri in Columbia in recent years.**
- The shooting of two men from India last year, one of whom later died, because a white patron in a bar thought they were Iranian Muslims — an incident which took place in Olathe, Kansas, not Missouri.
- Comments made in May by a lawmaker on the House floor asserting a “distinction between homosexuality and just being a human being”

The group has also criticized the state for law enforcement abuse, citing a study released on May 31 by Attorney General Josh Hawley’s office. The data concluded that African-American drivers were 75 percent more likely to be pulled over than whites in 2016.

Last weekend President Donald Trump made incendiary comments in a speech to law enforcement officers in which he said that laws had been “stacked against” the police. Trump also advocated for rougher use of force, telling officers “don’t be too nice” to suspects they hold in custody.

“We as a city need to recognize that we have to be able to attract and keep quality officers,” Clay said in a statement, according to News-Leader. “Not all the communities have the desire or the will to do the right thing for people in their community.”

“Thus, this is why Missouri has earned the travel advisory for the whole state.”

DAILY NEWS
NYDailyNews.com

NAACP issues travel advisory for Missouri in wake of police brutality incidents, passage of ‘Jim Crow Bill’

By TERRENCE CULLEN

The NAACP has adopted a travel advisory for Missouri, the first of its kind issued in the organization's 108-year history.

The warning to travelers comes after several high-profile police brutality assaults on black residents in the last few years as well as a new "Jim Crow Bill" that makes it harder to sue for discrimination.

"The advisory is for people to be aware, and warn their families and friends and co-workers of what could happen in Missouri," Rod Chapel, president of the Missouri NAACP, told the Kansas City Star. "People need to be ready, whether it's bringing bail money with them, or letting relatives know they are traveling through the state."

Chapel's state chapter first issued the advisory in early June, and the national organization adopted it last week. The advisory will be ratified in October.

Advisories typically come from the State Department and warn about visiting other countries with unsettled political conditions or health hazards.

But the Missouri NAACP crafted its warning in part because of recent incidents that included racist statements to University of Missouri students, a hot glue gun attack on black teens in St. Louis and the May death of Tory Sanders.

Sanders, 28, suffered from depression and lived in Nashville when he went for a drive on May 5, the Riverfront Times reported at the time. A wrong turn landed him in Mississippi County in southeast Missouri, where the married father of eight ran out of gas.

He went to police for help — telling them there was a warrant for his arrest in Nashville — and he was taken to the police station, but never arrested.

He was medically evaluated and cleared to go, according to the Kansas City Star, but for some reason he wouldn't leave his cell.

A second checkup recommended he be held for 96 hours, the newspaper reported. During that time he had conflicts with the staff, who stungunned Sanders and pepper sprayed him.

Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley successfully got Mississippi County Sheriff Cory Hutcheson suspended during the investigation, days after he'd already been arrested for robbery and assault in a separate case.

"You have violations of civil rights that are happening to people. They're being pulled over because of their skin color, they're being beaten up or killed," Chapel told the Kansas City Star. "We are hearing complaints at a rate we haven't heard before."

His civil rights group's advisory, citing data from the attorney general's office, notes African American drivers at 75% more likely to be pulled over than white drivers.

"These stops have resulted in increased traffic fines, senseless searches of vehicle and persons, and on occasion unnecessary violence," the advisory says.

The notice also warns of a new "Jim Crow Bill," which makes it harder to sue for discrimination, particularly over employment or housing.

The new law will kick in on Aug. 28, and requires discrimination claims to prove that race, gender or religion are "motivating" factors for discrimination, not "contributing," according to CBS News.

Gov. Eric Greitens recently signed the law into action, and told CBS News it was a needed reform. The standards set out in the bill were the same used by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, he added.

Pat Rowe Kerr sued Missouri seven years ago for sex and age discrimination, winning a \$3 million lawsuit in 2016.

But Kerr, 64, now worries others in her position won't be able to get justice.

"It is wrong, it is flat out wrong," she told CBS News. "This is just another example of not being progressive, and if we want to be a progressive Missouri, why are we going backwards?"



NAACP issues first-ever travel advisory for a state — and it's Missouri

BY IAN CUMMINGS

icummings@kcstar.com

AUGUST 01, 2017 5:49 PM

NAACP officials say their recent travel advisory for Missouri is the first that the civil rights group has issued for any state.

But the warning follows a recent trend of similar alerts issued by other groups for vulnerable people around the United States.

The travel advisory, circulated in June by the Missouri NAACP and recently taken up by the national organization, comes after travel alerts began appearing in recent years in light of police shootings in the U.S. and ahead of immigration legislation in Texas and Arizona.

The Missouri travel advisory is the first time an NAACP conference has ever made one state the subject of a warning about discrimination and racist attacks, a spokesman for the national organization said Tuesday.

Missouri became the first because of recent legislation making discrimination lawsuits harder to win, and in response to longtime racial disparities in traffic enforcement and a spate of incidents cited as examples of harm coming to minority residents and visitors, say state NAACP leaders.

Those incidents included racial slurs against black students at the University of Missouri and the death earlier this year of 28-year-old Tory Sanders, a black man from Tennessee who took a wrong turn while traveling and died in a southeast Missouri jail even though he hadn't been accused of a crime.

“How do you come to Missouri, run out of gas and find yourself dead in a jail cell when you haven't broken any laws?” asked Rod Chapel, the president of the Missouri NAACP.

“You have violations of civil rights that are happening to people. They're being pulled over because of their skin color, they're being beaten up or killed,” Chapel said. “We are hearing complaints at a rate we haven't heard before.”

At the same time, Chapel said, the state government is throwing up barriers to people seeking justice in the courts for discrimination. The travel advisory cites legislation signed by Gov. Eric Greitens that will make it more difficult to sue for housing or employment discrimination.

Asked about the travel advisory on Friday in Kansas City, Greitens said he hadn't seen it yet. His office did not return messages seeking comment on Tuesday.

The new law on discrimination lawsuits takes effect Aug. 28, and Chapel urged people to file any complaints they have before then.

Chapel, who was silenced by a Missouri House committee chairman while speaking against the legislation earlier this year, said he was especially alarmed that the University of Missouri System backed an earlier version of the bill.

The NAACP's advisory also cites the most recent attorney general's report showing black drivers in Missouri were 75 percent more likely to be pulled over than whites. Those reports have been showing the disparity since the attorney general began releasing the data in 2000.

In May, the owner of a Blue Springs barbershop found his shop windows stained with racial slurs. The same two words appeared on three separate windows in black paint: “Die (N-word).”

Last week, national NAACP delegates voted to adopt the travel advisory, sending it to the national board for ratification in October.

“The advisory is for people to be aware, and warn their families and friends and co-workers of what could happen in Missouri,” Chapel said. “People need to be ready, whether it’s bringing bail money with them, or letting relatives know they are traveling through the state.”

Travel advisories

Traditionally, travel advisories come from the U.S. State Department to warn citizens of current dangers in all corners of the world. The department this year has issued more than 40 advisories alerting travelers to political instability, violence and hurricanes in various countries.

While the Missouri travel advisory may be a first for the NAACP, other groups have issued similar warnings around the country, often to draw attention to dangers faced by minorities.

In 2016, the government of the Bahamas issued a travel advisory for the United States, urging its citizens to be careful when traveling in the U.S. and to exercise caution, especially when interacting with police.

The advisory from the Caribbean nation, which is 91 percent black, came soon after fatal shootings of black men by police in Louisiana and Minnesota.

In May, the American Civil Liberties Union issued a travel advisory for Texas, warning travelers of “possible violation of their constitutional rights when stopped by law enforcement.”

The alert came with the passing of a Texas law punishing local law enforcement for not detaining people on immigration violations, which the ACLU said would lead to police asking for immigration papers during routine traffic stops and widespread racial profiling.

The ACLU had issued a similar advisory in 2010 when Arizona passed its own immigration enforcement law.

“We don’t issue them lightly,” said Edgar Saldivar, a senior staff attorney at the ACLU of Texas. “I think it serves the function of alerting people to what’s going on in the states where they’re traveling, but also advising people of their rights.”

Missouri problems

Missouri reported 100 hate crimes in 2015, the most recent year statistics were available from the FBI’s hate crime reporting program. That put the state at 16th in the country, though not all law enforcement agencies participate in the program.

The Kansas City Star has joined a collaborative reporting project with ProPublica and journalists from nearly 40 news organizations across the country to create a national database of hate crimes.

To understand the danger to travelers, one need only look at what happened to Sanders, Chapel said.

Sanders had left his Nashville home on May 4 to go for a drive but got lost and mistakenly drove into Missouri, where he ran out of gas.

He hitchhiked and eventually ended up in the small Mississippi County town of Charleston, where he approached police to ask for help. Sanders reportedly suffered from mental illness and asked police to see a counselor. He told police he had a warrant for his arrest in Nashville.

Police took Sanders to the jail for a mental evaluation. A mental health professional examined him and said he could be released. The arrest warrant didn't allow for him to be extradited to Tennessee authorities. Police planned to let him go.

But for reasons that remain unclear, Sanders continued to experience mental distress and did not want to leave his cell. Another mental health evaluation recommended that Sanders be held for 96 hours.

A series of conflicts between Sanders and jail staff followed, during which staff reportedly shocked Sanders with a stun gun at least three times and used pepper spray on him. Sanders collapsed and was taken to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Sanders' death is being investigated by the Missouri Highway Patrol. Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley had previously charged the sheriff responsible for the jail with numerous crimes in separate cases and had him removed from office during the Sanders investigation.



MU Health graduates first class from Career Institute

By: Josh Matejka

COLUMBIA, Mo. - MU Health celebrated its first graduating class from its Career Institute in a formal ceremony Tuesday.

The Career Institute was started in 2015 as a way to combat a lack of professionals in health care. Students at the institute are trained to serve as medical assistants or neuro-diagnostic technicians.

Sue Kopfle with MU Health said the institute is good for students and the university as it advances their careers while filling positions of need within the organization.

MISSOURIAN

MU Theatre professor's career influenced by Sam Shepard

BY LORETTA LEE 11 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — David Crespy remembers seeing “Fool for Love” and “Curse of the Starving Class” in his late teens on a trip to New York. Two plays by the Pulitzer Prize-winning Sam Shepard, the latter piece features nude, blood-covered actors and a scene where a man urinates on his sister’s poster.

The two stuck with Crespy through the years, so much so that he directed “Fool for Love” at the MU Corner Playhouse in March 2005.

Shepard, who passed away July 30, was an influence on Crespy, a professor with the MU Theatre Department and the author of “The Off-Off Broadway Explosion”, a book about the off-off Broadway movement in New York during the 1960s. Shepard is widely considered one of the most influential playwrights of the movement.

Of that first experience seeing “Fool for Love,” Crespy said he was near-speechless. “It was emotionally riveting. I felt kind of overwhelmed,” Crespy said. “But I was attracted to it like a moth to flame.”

He said his parents picked the play because Shepard was famous. Crespy did not expect the play’s intensity — he remembered being scared, frightened and unnerved while watching the play — but said he enjoyed it because of Shepard’s honest writing.

“I liked it because we are fed so much problems; day-in and day-out, we’re fed lies and problems. The play felt brutally honest to me,” Crespy said. “Clearly, Sam Shepard knew what he was talking about. He had brought up that life. It’s kind of relentless. He was relentless.”

When Crespy decided to direct the play in 2005, he found the experience overwhelming, terrifying and disturbing — but exactly what he wanted.

“I think the faculty thought I was a little bit nuts because I wanted to try this kind of experimental thing,” Crespy said. “But there has to be a side to me that’s a bit crazy because you have to be to direct a Sam Shepard play.”

Crespy admired the way Shepard’s “incredibly theatrical” works come to life visually and orally on stage.

“He writes all those things that we all live with but are afraid to talk about honestly,” Crespy said. “His plays just always felt like a jagged glass.”

Crespy is currently teaching a class on “dreamwork” for dramatic writing, in which he teaches students the technique to write surprising and interesting work using ‘the engine of dreaming.’ Crespy said Shepard had a big influence on his considering the idea of writing plays similar to dreams.

Shepard’s plays are required texts for Crespy’s students in his advanced play-writing class because of the works’ level of difficulty, Crespy said. He also said students need to be committed in order to study Shepard’s work.

Crespy wants to eventually direct some of Shepard’s other plays such as “True West” and “Chicago.” He said he also wants to do a presentation about Shepard’s shorter works to give people a chance to better understand the playwright’s earlier works.

“He left a huge legacy — because it’s a legacy of experimentation and getting at the myth of America and within the American West,” Crespy said.

Charges fill direct mail in 50th District race

By [Rudi Keller](#)

Direct mail attacks flooding mailboxes in the 50th Missouri House District portray Democratic candidate Michela Skelton as an atheist backed **by radical University of Missouri professors and Republican Sara Walsh as a rubber stamp for Gov. Eric Greitens and the favors he wants to bestow on secret donors.**

The final push is on for Tuesday's election. Direct mail will consume most of the spending in a race where turnout is expected to be low. It is the most effective way to reach voters in such a race and the images being used give clues to what polling shows voters either like or dislike.

The Missouri Republican Party put out one direct mail piece promoting Walsh with a picture of President Donald Trump filling one side. Skelton uses photos of Walsh with Greitens in her attack pieces.

Two pieces from the GOP — which has reported spending \$6,953 supporting Walsh — use the controversy over the November 2015 protests at MU and former assistant professor Melissa Click to attack Skelton. One mail piece says Skelton is “funded by MU professors who defended Melissa Click.” Another states she is “backed and funded by liberal professors at the University of Missouri who expressed support for ConcernedStudent1950 and Black Lives Matter protests on campus that led to decline in MU enrollment, lost tuition revenue and job cuts.

The charge is based on \$100 from Theodore Koditschek, a professor emeritus of history, and \$50 from Elizabeth Chang, a professor of English, GOP Executive Director Austin Stukins wrote in an email. With 114 other faculty members, they signed a December 2015 letter supporting Click. Chang, Stukins wrote, “liked” an official MU Facebook posting for a December 2014 Black Lives Matter gathering.

Koditschek has donated \$350 in all and is listed in other donations as unemployed. Skelton has raised \$98,187 since the campaign began in January and reported 1,452 donations.

“They are just inflammatory distractions intended to not get our people talking about real things, like education, health care or decent jobs for our community,” Skelton said.

The mail from the Republican Party is being produced independently of Walsh's campaign, Stukins wrote. The party is free to spend as much as it wants as long as it does not coordinate efforts with the campaign. Party donations to campaigns are subject to the \$2,600 limit.

Walsh is a member of the Republican State Committee, which controls the account being used on her behalf.

“Sara Walsh and her campaign committee have been firewalled and excluded from any funding, messaging, or strategic decisions made in this race by the Missouri Republican Party,” Stukins wrote.

Democratic State Committee members have run for the Missouri House with the support of the state Democratic Party, Stukins wrote.

Two negative mail pieces from Skelton tie Walsh to Greitens. One declares that “On Healthcare, Taxes and More, Sara Walsh isn’t on our side,” the other that “Sara Walsh would be a rubber stamp for Eric Greitens and Special Interests.”

Both focus on the legislation passed in a special session creating low electric rates for companies proposing to build metal smelters in southeast Missouri. If the manufacturers locate in the state and the rates are too low for Ameren to cover its costs, the difference can be shifted to residential and other commercial customers.

Walsh has not directly endorsed the legislation.

“I support the governor’s effort to create jobs,” Walsh said in May. “When I am in the legislature, that is when I will vote.”

Walsh did not return calls seeking comment for this article.

Skelton said Walsh is trying to straddle the issue so she doesn’t offend anyone.

“She hasn’t taken a strong position on anything, yet the Republican Party is speaking for her on all her mailers,” Skelton said.

The final fundraising reports of the campaign were filed Monday. Skelton extended her lead in donations over Walsh, taking in \$23,462 from July 1 to July 27 compared to \$6,645 for Walsh.

Skelton’s report lists 397 donations during the period, averaging \$57.10. One donor, the Carpenters’ Union political action committee, gave \$2,600, the largest allowed by law. Two other donors, former state Rep. Chris Kelly and U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill, each donated \$1,000.

Walsh’s report shows 20 donations, averaging \$332.25. Her largest donations during the period were from Paul Scheetz of Hallsville, business manager at Industrial & Petroleum Environmental Services, Inc., who gave \$1,500, and three donors who each gave \$1,000 — the Cooper County Republican Central Committee, Associated Industries of Missouri and State Farm Insurance agents political action committee.

Along with Republican Party spending, others making independent expenditures in the race include the House Republican Campaign Committee, which has spent \$6,550 opposing Skelton, the Moniteau County Democratic Club, which has spent \$1,487 supporting Skelton, and Missouri Right to Life, which has spent \$2,111 on Walsh’s behalf.

The attacks on Skelton’s religious belief is based on a comment she made in 2010 on a Facebook posting by a St. Louis couple studying religion. They had posted they would pray for a week to see if it made a difference in their religious feelings.

“Seeing as I pray to no gods of any kind, I can’t pray for you,” Skelton wrote. “However, I hope your ‘experiment’ is insightful.”

Dragging up the seven-year-old comment is another attempt to distract voters, Skelton said. She is currently a member of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Columbia, where she attends services with her husband and children, she said.

The largest direct mail piece is a four-page effort from the Missouri Republican Party with three pages of positive accolades for Walsh and a “compare the candidates” on the fourth page.

The first issue listed, “Missouri Native” states Walsh “is from Missouri” while Skelton “only recently moved to Missouri.” Neither is a Missouri native. Walsh was born in Torrance, Calif., and moved to Missouri as a child. Skelton was born in Alabama to an Air Force career officer and moved to Missouri in 2010 to attend Washington University. She moved to Central Missouri in 2013.

Stukins defended use of the word native. Walsh has lived in the state for a long time, he wrote, and “she is a native Missourian in all ways germane to the voters.”

Few of the GOP attacks have anything to do with the race itself, Skelton said.

“This is a race about local issues and what we can do locally here in Missouri,” she said.

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

In Trump Era, the Use of Race in Admissions Comes Under New Scrutiny

NO MU MENTION

By ADAM HARRIS

Donald Trump rarely spoke about higher education during his presidential campaign, which left many people wondering how he might deal with scores of campus issues.

The picture became clearer Tuesday on one front: affirmative action in college admissions.

According to an internal memo obtained by The New York Times, the Justice Department will begin redirecting resources to investigate, and potentially sue, colleges and universities over admissions decisions that are perceived as discriminating against white applicants. The Times

reported that the department's new effort is likely to be run out of its front office, which is staffed by political appointees, rather than the part of the department staffed by career officials.

The news drew the swift rebuke of groups who saw the memo as another sign of the Justice Department — under the leadership of Jeff Sessions, the attorney general — significantly scaling back its role in protecting civil rights.

“By assembling a team of attorneys in the front office of the Civil Rights Division to focus on so-called 'intentional race-based discrimination', this Justice Department is laying the groundwork to attack policies that help promote racial diversity at colleges and universities,” Kristen Clarke, president and executive director of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, a liberal advocacy group, wrote in a statement.

Others welcomed the news. Roger Clegg, formerly a top official in the civil rights division during the Reagan administration and the first Bush administration, told the Times that the project was a “long overdue” development. “The civil rights laws were deliberately written to protect everyone from discrimination, and it is frequently the case that not only are whites discriminated against now, but frequently Asian-Americans are as well,” said Mr. Clegg, who is now president of the Center for Equal Opportunity, a conservative think tank.

The Justice Department did not immediately respond to requests for comment about the memo.

Legal experts who spoke to The Chronicle on Tuesday night said that it is not surprising to see a conservative administration go after race-conscious admissions policies. Over the past several years, the battle over race-conscious approaches has played out in the U.S. Supreme Court — most recently, in the case of *Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin*. Abigail Fisher, a white woman who was denied admission to the university’s flagship campus in Austin, sued the institution over what she believed to be a discriminatory admission policy. The Supreme Court ruled against her last summer, upholding a race-conscious admissions program at the university.

Several observers who criticized the Justice Department’s apparent move noted the Fisher case and that the court has often stood on the side of race-conscious policies. “Long-standing Supreme Court precedent has upheld the constitutionality and compelling state interest of these policies, and generations of Americans have benefited from richer, more inclusive institutions of higher education,” said Vanita Gupta, president and chief executive of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

Donald E. Heller, provost of the University of San Francisco and a veteran researcher of issues related to race, class, and college access, is not as sure that the Supreme Court has clearly defined the legal limits of race-conscious admission policies. “We won't know until there is another test case,” he said. But the Justice Department could potentially “feel it can relitigate”

questions raised before the court before, in lawsuits mounted by advocacy groups against the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

“At a time when there are actual threats to students of color on campuses in this country, it seems like that would be a lot better issue to focus on. How do we make those students feel safe and protected?”

In previous administrations, frays about race-conscious policies have surfaced in the Justice and Education Departments. The agencies challenged the legality of programs on college campuses reserved for women and minority students during the Bush administration.

Some legal experts said that the federal government could, if it chose to, initiate compliance reviews of race-conscious admissions policies at dozens of colleges right now. The fear, one expert said, is that institutions could be randomly identified and targeted. Those colleges would then be forced to produce extensive data supporting their limited use of race in admissions. And although colleges with race-conscious programs are supposed to compile such evidence already, having it on hand is one thing, submitting it to scrutiny is another.

Neal H. Hutchens, a professor of higher education at the University of Mississippi, worries that the administration's actions will "put a chill" on institutions' efforts to work within the law to help underrepresented students. “If we look at high burden the court has already placed on colleges, and couple that with the fact that states like Michigan and California have already put bans on the use of race in higher-education admissions, this just creates one more hurdle and barrier to furthering important equity and diversity goals.” And, he added, "at a time when there are actual threats to students of color on campuses in this country, it seems like that would be a lot better issue to focus on. How do we make those students feel safe and protected?"

John B. King, president of the Education Trust and a former education secretary during the Obama administration, said in a statement that with this project, the Trump administration “appears to be taking a hard line against efforts to increase campus diversity,” as opposed to addressing the opportunity gap facing low-income students and students of color.

If the administration does intend to pursue litigation against colleges for perceived discrimination in race-conscious admissions policies, it must have an alternative that maintains racial equity on campus, said Richard Kahlenberg, a senior fellow at the Century Foundation. “If the administration wants to be successful, they have to have an affirmative plan for making sure that disadvantaged students are included. Otherwise,” he said, “it just seems punitive.”

Mr. Kahlenberg said that if the administration truly wanted to improve fairness in admissions, it would also look at practices such as legacy preferences. And he’s not alone in thinking that. Kim Yi Dionne, an assistant professor of government at Smith College, tweeted:

How much affirmative action is too much "is really the question most of us are asking now," said Mr. Heller, of the University of San Francisco.

"Hopefully, universities will not be cowed by any action the Justice Department might take."

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Bipartisan Senators Resist DeVos's Switch on Loan Servicing

NO MENTION

By ADAM HARRIS

A bipartisan group of lawmakers in the U.S. Senate introduced legislation on Monday that would [cancel](#) the Department of Education's process to choose a contractor to service the billions of dollars in student loans that it issues.

The legislation, the Student Loan Servicer Performance Accountability Act, is sponsored by Sen. Roy D. Blunt, Republican of Missouri; Sen. Elizabeth A. Warren, Democrat of Massachusetts; Sen. James P. Lankford, Republican of Oklahoma; and Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, Democrat of New Hampshire. It stipulates that the department cancel its current process to choose a company, and any amendments to that process. It also says Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos "shall not award a contract to a single servicer to service all Federal Direct Loans."

Ms. Warren said [in a news release](#) that the Education Department has a responsibility to "make sure student-loan servicing is working for student borrowers and for taxpayers. The Education Department's plan to switch to a single servicer for its trillion-dollar loan portfolio heads in the wrong direction and could create a 'too big to fail' federal contractor."

In May the Education Department announced that it would change its loan-servicing process by choosing a single company to handle the student-loan portfolio. "The federal student-loan-servicing solicitation we inherited was cumbersome and confusing — with shifting deadlines, changing requirements, and de facto regulations that at times contradicted themselves. Internal and external stakeholders both agreed it was destined for a massive and unsustainable budget overrun," [said](#) Ms. DeVos when the shift was announced.

The department argued that by switching to a single servicer, it could exercise better oversight over the company. But the move immediately raised alarms for consumer advocates and lawmakers.

During a Senate Appropriations subcommittee hearing on June 6, when Ms. DeVos testified about the Trump administration's budget request, Senator Blunt [expressed concern](#) about the

switch. “We’ve been working with the department to create more competition among loan servicers,” he said, adding that a single loan servicer would eliminate such competition and fail to improve customer service.

The Higher Education Loan Authority of the State of Missouri filed a protest regarding the solicitation with the Department of Education in early July. The department, which has 30 days to respond to the request, is expected to do so by Monday.



Appeals Court: Teen Can’t Bring Title IX Suit Because She’s Not a Student

NO MU MENTION

By JEREMY BAUER-WOLF

A teenager who said she was sexually assaulted while visiting Culver-Stockton College doesn’t have the legal grounds to bring a Title IX lawsuit against the institution -- a federal court dismissed her suit, and a court of appeals won’t overturn that decision.

Last year a 16-year-old high school junior, known by the pseudonym K. T., sued the Missouri college under the federal gender discrimination law, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, after she said she was sexually assaulted at a fraternity party. She was spending the night at the college as a potential athletic recruit.

K. T. alleged the college failed to prevent the assault -- she was not supervised properly, and she asserted that officials did not investigate the matter once it was reported.

A federal appeals court sided with Culver-Stockton, which had requested the lawsuit be dismissed, saying that the teen could not bring a Title IX claim against the institution because she was not a student.

The court also found even if K. T. was a student, she was not harassed because of the indifference on the college’s part, and she did not demonstrate that officials knew of prior incidents.

A federal appeals court on Tuesday affirmed the lower court’s decision.

“K. T.’s complaint lacks factual content allowing us to conclude that either the alleged misconduct or Culver-Stockton’s response to K. T.’s allegations had the required ‘systemic effect’ such that K. T. was denied equal access to educational opportunities provided by Culver-Stockton. The complaint therefore failed to state a claim of peer harassment under Title IX,” the appeals court filing reads.