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Co-founder of Taco Bell's parent company gives $21 million to Mizzou's journalism school

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch Sep 15, 2017 (2)

Generated from News Bureau press release: David Novak, Co-Founder, Retired Chairman, CEO of Yum! Brands Gives $21.6 Million to MU School of Journalism

ST. LOUIS • University of Missouri-Columbia leaders celebrated a $21.6 million gift to the journalism school Friday — the sixth-largest donation in the flagship campus’ history according to campus leaders.

The massive gift comes from David Novak, a co-founder and recently retired chief executive for Yum! Brands, the umbrella company for Taco Bell, KFC and Pizza Hut.

The donation will create a Novak Leadership Institute within the School of Journalism.

Novak, a leadership, advertising and marketing guru, is one of a few former Fortune 500 executives who does not have a business degree, Mizzou chief development officer Tom Hiles said. Instead, he graduated from Mizzou’s journalism program in 1974. That, according to Hiles, is something Novak considers to be pivotal in what shaped his career.

“I owe my success to my love of advertising and marketing that was discovered and nurtured here,” Novak said in a statement. “There is a tremendous void in leadership education in our country and we must teach our students the skills needed to make them great leaders and equip them to work with others to get the very best results.”
A leadership institute sounds ambiguous, and it sort of is, but the Institute’s leaders argue that that’s a good thing.

It starts with the strategic communications department in the journalism school, according to the Institute’s executive director Margaret Duffy.

She said the goal is to apply to the curriculum Novak’s principles of entrepreneurship. In addition it will focus on the power of earned recognition, rather than awarding someone for simply participating in an endeavor.

The money will fund undergraduate and graduate classes, an online master’s degree specialty program, lecture series, symposiums, mobile boot camps. In addition will work directly with companies on a certificate program, an effort that organizers hope will generate revenue for the university.

“We want this to be a legacy of his work and make that part of our culture,” Duffy said, adding that nothing about what the institute will do will be “static.” No class will read the same book from a thought leader semester after semester. It’s about being hands on, learning through research and experiencing “how to lead by taking people with you,” she said.

It starts with the journalism school, but Duffy said there were already conversations about bringing this institute’s curriculum to other Mizzou colleges, such as education and business.

“The thing that’s both fantastic and scary about this is that there really is no limit to what we can do,” Duffy said.

This gift pushes Mizzou to $940 million out of a $1.3 billion fundraising goal through the “Our Time to Lead” campaign that ends in 2020, according to Hiles.

One of the three components of the university’s campaign is to create five or more “signature centers and institutes” that, according to Hiles, will bolster research or enhance what makes the flagship school unique. Novak’s new institute is the fourth such center in this campaign, the others being the Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders, the Reynolds Journalism Institute and the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy.
Fundraising took a hit in the most recent budget year, topping out at $152 million, down $19 million from the previous, record year. Hiles said he was hopeful that this donation signaled a changing time of donor interest after a difficult few years at Mizzou.

The University of Missouri School of Journalism has landed a hefty donation from a prominent Kansas City native son and MU alum.

David Novak and his wife, Wendy, have committed $21.6 million to establish the Novak Leadership Institute at MU.

David Novak, a native of Kansas City, is the retired chairman and CEO of Yum! Brands, where for 15 years he shaped the strategic direction of Taco Bell, KFC and Pizza Hut.

“Wendy, (daughter) Ashley and I are honored and humbled to invest in leadership education at the School of Journalism,” Novak said in a statement Friday. “I owe my success to my love of advertising and marketing that was discovered and nurtured here.”

The Novak gift supports the “Mizzou: Our Time to Lead” fundraising campaign, which has an overall goal of $1.3 billion.

“We are honored that he and his family are making this investment in our students while creating a lasting legacy at Mizzou,” said David Kurpius, dean of MU’s journalism school.
University of Missouri Journalism School Gets $21.6M Gift

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The University of Missouri has received $21.6 million from a 1974 graduate.

The university announced David Novak's donation at a ceremony Friday, the Columbia Daily Tribune reported. The funds will be used to create the Novak Leadership Institute in the School of Journalism.

The institute will offer undergraduate training, graduate courses including an online master's degree, certificates and seminars on leadership. The courses will be based on a leadership program Novak created.

"This is going to set the standard for how leadership is taught in the world," Novak said. "We are going to break new ground on leadership."

Novak graduated from the journalism school with a degree in advertising. He said in a statement that he owes his success to his education. Novak was CEO of Yum! Brands, the company that manages Taco Bell, Kentucky Fried Chicken and Pizza Hut. He left in 2015 to launch a leadership training company called oGoLEAD.

Margaret Duffy, chair of the strategic communications department in the journalism school, will be the institute's director. Duffy said she hopes to have 100 students enrolled by 2018. "You can teach people to be the type of leader they can become and they are comfortable with," she said. "The idea is to help people become their best selves, how to gain insights into other people, how to communicate effectively and intelligently and in ways that people will understand."

The gift is part of the Mizzou: Our Time to Lead fundraising campaign, which aims to raise $1.3 billion to create centers and institutes, renovate facilities and add to the school's endowment.
$21.6 million gift one of biggest in University of Missouri history

By RUDI KELLER

There was nothing small at the celebration Friday of one of the largest gifts in University of Missouri history, $21.6 million to create and endow the Novak Leadership Institute in the School of Journalism.

First, administrators, faculty and alumni packed a room at the Reynolds Alumni Center for the announcement featuring David and Wendy Novak, 1974 journalism graduates. David Novak helped found Yum! Brands, the restaurant company that owns the Taco Bell, Pizza Hut and Kentucky Fried Chicken brands, when it spun off from Pepsico in 1999.

The gift itself is the sixth-largest ever received by MU.

And when the institute is fully operational, David Novak and Chancellor Alexander Cartwright said, it will change the world.

“This is going to set the standard for how leadership is taught in the world,” Novak said. “We are going to break new ground on leadership.”

The institute will be the only one teaching leadership on the scale imagined by its creators, Cartwright said.

“Simply put, if you want to teach, study or conduct research on leadership, you need to come to Mizzou,” he said.

The Novak institute will provide undergraduate training, graduate courses including an online master’s degree, certificates and seminars on leadership. The $21.6 million gift is part of the Mizzou: Our Time to Lead fundraising campaign, which has a goal of $1.3 billion to build the school’s endowment, create signature centers and institutes and renovate campus facilities.

The courses will be based on the leadership program Novak developed as CEO of Yum! Brands, the company created in 1999 to manage Taco Bell, Kentucky Fried Chicken and Pizza Hut
restaurants. He calls it “Taking People with You” and wrote a book by that name to outline the principles.

Cartwright said he read the book in August, soon after becoming chancellor. Asked to name a message from the book that will be implemented as he guides the campus, Cartwright said it was alignment.

“There is a whole chapter about how you get people aligned to your vision,” he said. “I think that is really important. If Mizzou is really going to be as great as I think it can be, then we have to have alignment of all the key people at the institution.”

Margaret Duffy, who chairs the strategic communications department in the journalism school, will be the institute’s director. She hopes to have 100 students enrolled by the spring of 2018.

While some people may believe leadership is a skill that is innate, Duffy disagrees.

“We all have those natural skills and, frankly, research bears me out,” she said. “You can teach people to be the type of leader they can become and they are comfortable with. The idea is to help people become their best selves, how to gain insights into other people, how to communicate effectively and intelligently and in ways that people will understand.”

Novak’s first job out of journalism school was writing advertising copy. He worked as a janitor and an encyclopedia salesman before graduating and when he and Wendy Novak married, they had $19 in the bank. After graduating, he worked as a night clerk at a hotel to supplement his day job as an advertising copywriter.

Born in Beeville, Texas, Novak’s father marked survey points for government mapmakers and the family moved every three months. By the time he was 12, he had lived in 23 states.

The two most important things his journalism degree gave him was an open door to jobs because of MU’s strong reputation and the communication skills that are essential to leadership, Novak said.

“You have to boil things down, simplify them, and then communicate them,” he said.

His fortune was made in the fast food industry, which typically relies on a large pool of low-paid workers. Novak said he worked for minimum wage himself in an early job and said his industry provides a broad array of advancement opportunities. Restaurant managers typically make $50,000 a year and supervisors with several restaurants can make $100,000 annually, he said.

“I think the restaurant industry has been unfairly maligned because I don’t know of too many industries that have provided as much opportunity as the restaurant business,” Novak said. After Novak stepped down as CEO of Yum! in 2015 and launched OGO, dedicated to building people up through recognition, and OGOLEad, a leadership training company. They emphasize
recognition as a way to motivate people and train industry leaders in techniques to give satisfying recognition to employees.

Before anyone can be a good leader, Novak said, they have to know themselves.

“T réal key to being a great leader or becoming a leader is to build self-awareness,” he said. “You need to understand how you come off as a person, what your strengths are and what your areas of opportunity need to be.”

After all the expansive rhetoric about the impact the institute will have, Cartwright was asked whether the results will be as impressive as the roll out.

“It will be backed up by reality,” Cartwright said. “If you look throughout the landscape of higher education, there is no one who has thought about doing leadership education on that scale.”

UPDATE: $21.6 million for leadership institute is MU's fourth-largest known academic gift

BY RACHEL WEGNER Sep 15, 2017 Updated Sep 15, 2017

Generated from News Bureau press release: David Novak, Co-Founder, Retired Chairman, CEO of Yum! Brands Gives $21.6 Million to MU School of Journalism

David Novak’s credo is to lead by taking others with him. “You’ll never accomplish anything big if you try to do it alone,” he wrote in his 2012 book on the approach.

Now, that message will undergird a leadership institute at MU built on strategic communication.

On Friday, Chancellor Alexander Cartwright announced a $21.6 million gift from the Novak family to endow the Novak Leadership Institute. It is the fourth-largest academic gift in MU’s history made public so far; including athletics, it’s the sixth-largest.

Cartwright said the institute joins a collection of “signature institutes” at MU. The collection includes the Reynolds Journalism Institute, the Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders and the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy.
A co-founder and former CEO of the Fortune 500 fast-food company Yum Brands, Novak believes “a tremendous leadership gap” exists in the U.S. That’s where the institute can make a difference, he said.

“We can teach people how to enter the workforce with heart,” he said at the announcement ceremony in Reynolds Alumni Center.

Novak, who retired last year as Yum Brands chairman, said he wants to see leaders who are empathetic, respectful and caring toward others.

“We can also teach people the hard skills that you need to have, how you have to put process and discipline around what really matters,” he said.

The two largest academic endowments in MU history were a $31 million gift in 2004 and a $25 million gift in 2012 from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation for the Reynolds Journalism Institute. The third-largest was $25 million given in 2015 from the Kinder Foundation for the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy. The amount of another gift and its ranking in the top five academic gifts is confidential.

Novak and his wife, Wendy, both graduated from MU in 1974. Novak admitted he was not the best of students until he discovered his passion for marketing. Amid high unemployment rates, he said, finding a job was a challenge for him when he first graduated. But eventually, he found his stride. Though he never earned a master’s degree in business administration, he said his experience as an advertising and marketing executive gave him the equivalent of one.

Yum Brands has nearly 44,000 fast-food restaurants in more than 135 countries and territories, according to its website. Its brands include KFC, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell. The company’s revenues were $6.4 billion in 2016, with $1.6 billion in profits, according to fortune.com.

Throughout his career, Novak said, he came to believe every person in a company counts — no matter their role.

“If you’ve got a job, it counts,” Novak said. “You matter. You’re needed.”

The institute that bears his name is moving into new offices in Lee Hills Hall in the Missouri School of Journalism. Margaret Duffy, a professor of strategic communication at MU, serves as its executive director. It will offer programs emphasizing research, strategy, creativity and collaboration, according to an official flyer. Founded in 2016, it currently offers two courses within the strategic communication department.

Duffy said she hopes students will emerge from the program as strong, empathetic, effective and ethical leaders in their workplaces and their communities. In turn, she believes this will raise the profile of MU as an educational and economic force in Missouri.

“It’s an opportunity for us to make a great institution even greater,” Duffy said in an interview. “I think we can be real standard-bearers.”
Starting in spring 2018, journalism students can apply to join the institute. Duffy said the vision is to expand into an interdisciplinary program open to all MU students.

Brandon Butcher, an adjunct professor in strategic communication, began his role as the institute’s associate director in July 2016. The development of the institute was funded by a grant over the past year.

Butcher said there are plans to connect students with a range of opportunities, including mentorships, apprenticeships and custom industry partnerships.

“We want students to get as much exposure as they can to industry and real-world environments,” Butcher said.

Journalism Dean David Kurpius said the gift is solely for the institute and will not go toward a building. He said the endowment allows the quick expansion of the program into other parts of the journalism school. It is the first leadership institute of its kind in the world, he said.

“There is no other leadership institute in the world that starts with communication,” Kurpius said. “That’s really the core of how David built his leadership style, and it’s been wildly successful. We want to follow that model and build upon it.”

Yum Brands co-founder David Novak and wife give $21.5M to Missouri journalism school

Sheldon S. Shafer, @sheldonshafer

Generated from News Bureau press release: David Novak, Co-Founder, Retired Chairman, CEO of Yum! Brands Gives $21.6 Million to MU School of Journalism
David Novak, the retired chairman and CEO and co-founder of the Yum Brands mega-restaurant corporation, and his wife, Wendy, are providing a $21.6 million grant to the University of Missouri School of Journalism.

The gift will establish the Novak Leadership Institute that is being named for the University of Missouri graduate.

MU Chancellor Alexander Cartwright announced the gift in a release, crediting Novak as being a "renowned expert on leadership."

Novak said in the release that "I owe my success to my love of advertising and marketing that was discovered and nurtured here (at Missouri). There is a tremendous void in leadership education in our country, and we must teach our students the skills needed to make them great leaders."

The institute's mission will be to prepare lifelong learners who make a positive and meaningful impact in their organizations and communities.

David and Wendy Novak, who met as journalism students at Missouri, maintain a home in Louisville.

Thomas S. Hiles, University of Missouri vice chancellor, said in an interview that both Novaks graduated from Missouri in 1974 with degrees in journalism.

“They are tremendous void in leadership education in our country, and we must teach our students the skills needed to make them great leaders.”

He said their grant will include $10 million upfront, with the rest of the funds spread over five years.

The release said that in 15 years as head of Yum, the world’s largest restaurant company, Novak "shaped the strategic direction for Taco Bell, KFC and Pizza Hut."

The Novak Leadership Institute "will be the world’s first center for communication and marketing-based leadership education," the release said. "It combines the reputation and resources of the world’s first school of journalism with David Novak’s industry-tested principles of leadership."

It said that students will get "hands-on experience in leadership development, organizational communication" and service.

David Kurpius, dean of the Missouri School of Journalism, referred to Novak as "one of our most esteemed graduates, (who) rose through the advertising and marketing worlds to become one of the nation’s most respected business leaders."

The institute will feature undergraduate and graduate courses; a lecture series and annual symposium; study-abroad opportunities; service learning partnerships; on-campus and online seminars and workshops; industry partnerships for apprenticeships and mentoring; and scholarships.
Alumni gives $21.6 million to MU School of Journalism

By: Shaletta Norwood


COLUMBIA - **MU alumni David and Wendy Novak gave $21.6 million to the University of Missouri's School of Journalism to construct the Novak Leadership Institute.**

The money, gifted Friday, will support the institute that is named after David Novak, who is noted for skills in advertising and marketing and his expertise in the area of leadership.

"One of the things I became enormously passionate throughout my career was just the ability to help people achieve their potential," Novak said.

MU alumni, faculty and students gathered in Reynolds Alumni Center to celebrate the gift.

Novak said it is important to have more leaders at MU and in America.

"When you look at what's going on in education, nobody is teaching leadership," Novak said. "Nobody is teaching people and preparing them on how to go in the workplace, how to run as leaders and how to win."

Novak is the co-founder, retired chairman and CEO of Yum! Brands. He said he wants to teach other people leadership skills he has learned throughout his career.

"As a CEO you get all this exposure, you get all this experience that most people don't get," Novak said. "I felt if I kept that to myself and I didn't share it, I would be selfish."

MU Chancellor Alexander Cartwright said he is excited about the Novak Leadership Institute.
Cartwright said it will give students a head start by teaching students strengths he didn't learn until he was in the workplace.

"We will help people be able to get to the stage that I got to after a number of years very quickly," Cartwright said. "Our students going out will have that skill set year one."

Two classes this semester are connected with the institute.

Former restaurant CEO serves millions to J-School

By: Dan Claxton

COLUMBIA — The former CEO of restaurants like Taco Bell, KFC, and Pizza Hut gave $21.6 million to the University of Missouri School of Journalism Friday.

According to a press release, university Chancellor Alexander Cartwright announced that the money will support an institute of leadership named for the former CEO of Yum! Brands, David Novak, a 1974 graduate of the J-School.

The Novak Leadership Institute will be the world's first center for communication and marketing-based leadership education," according the release. The institute will offer undergraduate and graduate courses, symposiums, research, and study abroad programs.
UPDATE: $21.6 million gift to Mizzou Journalism school announced


COLUMBIA, Mo. - UPDATE 9:31 A.M.: You can read the entire press release on the $21.6 million gift from David and Wendy Novak below:

David and Wendy Novak have committed $21.6 million to the University of Missouri School of Journalism to establish the Novak Leadership Institute. The gift, which was announced today by MU Chancellor Alexander Cartwright, will support the institute named for David Novak, an advertising and marketing executive and renowned expert on leadership, who is the co-founder, retired chairman and CEO of Yum! Brands.

“Wendy, Ashley and I are honored and humbled to invest in leadership education at the School of Journalism,” Novak said. “I owe my success to my love of advertising and marketing that was discovered and nurtured here. There is a tremendous void in leadership education in our country and we must teach our students the skills needed to make them great leaders and equip them to work with others to get the very best results. We are confident that the institute we have envisioned will put Mizzou at the forefront of leadership education.”

The story continues
University of Missouri Announces Novak Leadership Institute

By DAVID ESTRADA

A $21.6 million gift from the Novak family to the University of Missouri School of Journalism will establish what the university calls the world’s first center for communication and marketing-based leadership education.

The Novak Leadership Institute will provide students with hands-on experience in leadership and development, organizational communication, entrepreneurship and service.

David Novak, the retired chairman and CEO of Yum! Brands, says he gave to the university because there is a need to train students to become effective leaders.

“I believe there is a tremendous leadership gap in this country. And when you look at what’s going on in education, nobody is teaching people and preparing them on how to go into the workplace, how to grow as leaders, how to run projects, how to get people involved,” Novak said.

David Kurpius, dean of the Missouri School of Journalism, thanked Novak family for helping “prepare generations of Mizzou graduates to change the world by taking people with them.”

“Our famed Missouri method means learning by doing. The hands-on approach combined with David’s leadership, expertise and reputation as a marketing visionary will provide the University of Missouri students with an extraordinary opportunity to learn and apply the skills that will help them become transformative leaders,” Kurpius said.

Margaret Duffy, a professor of strategic communication at the school, who also served as department chair for 13 years, will be the first executive director of the Novak Leadership Institute.

Houston-area couple high and dry at MU dorm

By RUDI KELLER
On the day Marlene and David Spolane rushed about their Bellaire, Texas, home moving furniture to the second floor and elevating things that could not be moved, the television beeped almost continuously with new tornado warnings.

Now, hearing the sound sends Marlene Spolane back to that moment.

“The other day I heard that noise and I literally went,” she said, silently clenching her body. “I didn’t realize just how that would trigger that feeling of my god, it’s coming in, it’s going to come in, it’s going to come in. And that feeling of trying to get everything upstairs.”

Hurricane Harvey had dumped nearly 20 inches of rain on the city and would drop as much as 32 inches more before it moved off on Aug. 29. Water was lapping nearer and nearer their front door.

The water stopped just short of the Spolane’s house but got into all the houses on their block except one other. While they escaped from damage, family and friends did not and their story of the difficulties posed by an unprecedented disaster is an example of what to expect if the worst occurs.

The Spolanes are in Columbia to visit their daughter Lexi, a freshman at the University of Missouri who wants to major in psychology. It’s parents weekend, and while they hadn’t intended to visit so soon after moving her into her dorm on Aug. 11, she insisted. She called them daily during the flooding and they updated her hourly on conditions.

“I just had to see them because they went through a traumatic event,” Lexi said. “I wanted to see their faces.”

The Spolanes are getting a taste of how their daughter is living in her dorm room. They are staying in Excellence Hall, which had been sold out for public rentals for the weekend. MU opened a room for the Spolanes to use.

David Spolane’s mother lived on the 14th floor of a high-rise building. The basement, where all the electrical utilities were concentrated, filled with water. The building went dark and the elevators did not work. Age 88, she walked down 14 floors in darkness, with only a flashlight.

“She didn’t want to stay with us because we have stairs and it is too hard to climb,” Marlene Spolane said.

They had to get medications and clothes for her while she stayed in a hotel that did not flood.

“We had to go up the stairs, 14 flights of stairs, with no electricity and a flashlight,” she said.
They chose the house because it was a little higher than those surrounding it, David Spolane said. He sells life and health insurance and is one of the few people in Houston who also had flood insurance.

“We live near a bayou and that bayou overflows and it is just smart to have flood insurance,” he said.

The storm began on Aug. 25, with excessive rains for the next three days. Bellaire is situated between two official National Weather Service climate stations, one, Sugar Land to the west, which received 24 inches from the storm, and Hobby Airport, where 35.6 inches of rain fell.

The decision to move the furniture upstairs was made on the morning of Sunday, Aug. 27, he said.

“I was watching all night long and I just didn’t know how far it was going to get,” David Spolane said. “I saw it approaching our front door and I said it was time to take things upstairs.”

The Spolanes took in a friend from their synagogue, age 71, who was evacuated from her home by the Coast Guard.

“She grabbed her dog and grabbed a few medications and one change of clothes and that was it,” she said. “The Coast Guard took her by boat to Target. Volunteers drove her from Target to the NRG Stadium. And we picked her up at NRG.”

Their dogs are not compatible, so a veterinarian housed the woman’s dog for $5 a day, Marlene Spolane said.

Having her parents visit will help her refocus on courses after worrying about family and friends, Lexi Spolane said.

“It really freaked me out and I got pictures from my friend’s houses,” she said. “I just felt really helpless.”

MU parents embrace family in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey
A few weeks after Marlene and David Spolane sent their only daughter, Lexi, off for her freshman year at MU, their hometown of Bellaire, Texas, experienced Hurricane Harvey.

After moving Lexi’s twin brother into his school in Austin, the Spolanes arrived back in Bellaire, southwest of Houston, the night the clouds rolled in. David could hardly sleep because of the pounding rain. He woke up his wife at 6:30 the next morning because he was becoming worried.

They stepped outside and saw flooded streets and water coming their way. The Spolanes’ house is on higher ground, but they saw that their neighbors’ houses lower down had flooded. Once the water reached a certain distance from their house, they hurried to move everything they possibly could from the bottom to the top floor.

Then, there was a lull in the rain and the water receded slightly — until a second wave of rain brought it back. Still, they were OK.

“But 90 percent of my friends were not,” Marlene said.

Friends and family were deeply affected by the storm, she said. She and David helped his twin brother and his wife clean out their house. Drawers and cabinets had filled with water, and the furniture was severely damaged, she said.

Although the Houston area is better now, Marlene said, “it’s piles and piles of debris everywhere you go.”

“It’s just everywhere, house after house after house,” she said. “I know most of these people, it’s terrible. And we were spared because our land just goes a little bit higher than everybody else’s.”

While they were experiencing Hurricane Harvey, the Spolanes were comforted knowing Lexi was safe at school. They kept her updated on how they were doing with phone calls and FaceTimes, because Lexi was scared for her parents’ safety.
"I definitely experienced a lot of anxiety not being with my family and not being able to help my friends and their families," said Lexi, who plans to major in psychology.

The Spolanes are visiting their daughter for MU’s Family Weekend, but along with Saturday’s home game, they found it hard to find a hotel. Marlene said Lexi kept calling and asking them to visit, emphasizing how much she wanted to see them.

However, once Marlene asked MU if there were any available residence hall rooms to book, one was found.

"I’m just glad that (Lexi is) here and she’s safe," Marlene said, “and if it wasn’t for Mizzou, we wouldn’t have been able to come here because we couldn’t find a place to stay.”

They said being with Lexi gives them a break from the destruction in the Houston area, and they’re happy to be able to spend time with her.

“When you go through something like that, you really realize what’s important in life,” Marlene said. “Things can be replaced. It’s devastating, and it’s horrible, and it’s stressful — but things can be replaced. You can’t replace your family.”

Lexi said she’s relieved and it means a lot to her to see her parents this weekend.

“I’ve been so anxious, just hoping that they’re OK,” Lexi said. “I was definitely very relieved to hear they didn’t flood. So, for them to be here right now, it means a lot to see them.”

Mizzou Helps Texas Family

Generated from News Bureau direct pitch
Choose college for right reasons

By OUR OPINION

In some quarters, new data about the University of Missouri-Columbia are another reason to note the university’s reputation has taken several hits recently.

This line of thinking holds that because MU no longer is the No.1 choice among the state’s college-bound students taking the ACT exam – that distinction now belongs to Missouri State University in Springfield – there must be linkage here that reflects poorly on MU.

However accurate that conclusion is, there are other points worth making:

Students who graduate with the preparation needed for college are a diverse lot. Not everyone will thrive on the largest campus in the state, and not everyone will want to try.

MU as a “first choice” is the dream of many thousands of graduates each year. And yet, students have more good choices available to them than ever before and are exercising them.

Financial considerations are factors no matter the availability of scholarships and loans. More families are realizing college should be approached like an investment: the costs must be justified and the payback plan manageable.

Choosing a university closer to home, and with a lower tuition cost, can save thousands of dollars each academic year. This prompts the student to ask: Do I need to move away and take on a larger debt to realize my dreams?

Academics are at the core of the undergraduate experience. Throughout the state’s public institutions of higher learning, much work has been done over the past 20 years to lift the quality of instruction and expand the offerings.

Northwest Missouri State University and Missouri Western State University in our region stand as two strong examples. Whether your chosen career path is nursing, education, fine arts or business, each campus is engaged in meeting the higher education needs of thousands of students who see how this makes sense for them.
Boosters of MU should be concerned about enrollment declines and the multiple contributing factors. But the fact that other parts of the state’s higher education system are able to meet the needs of a large proportion of our graduating seniors should not be overlooked.

As St. Louis protesters mull boycott, leaders call for peace after police acquittal

BY MAX LONDBERG AND MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS

The Kansas City Star

SEPTEMBER 15, 2017 12:00 PM

A judge acquitted a white former St. Louis police officer Friday in the death of a black man who was fatally shot following a high-speed chase in 2011.

The acquittal of Jason Stockley in the death of 24-year-old Anthony Lamar Smith came amid concerns of significant unrest, but St. Louis Circuit Judge Timothy Wilson wrote that he was bound by the Code of Judicial Conduct to not be swayed by “partisan interests, public clamor or fear of criticism.”

The verdict prompted bipartisan agreement. In a series of statements, Missouri elected officials expressed similar sentiments.

“I stand in solidarity with all that will non-violently react,” he said in a statement. “This not guilty verdict of a police officer who violently killed a citizen is another slap in the face to the black community in St. Louis. And a shot in the heart to the family of the victim.

“This system and all the politicians calling for peace are ignoring the pain this verdict causes our communities. Anthony Lamar Smith is dead from a violent act and you want us to be peaceful? You want us to not feel anger? The very people paid to protect us are killing us, paid to make peace are perpetuating violence, and we are supposed to be peaceful?”

On the University of Missouri campus in Columbia, UM System President Mun Choi in a campus-wide statement also called for calm.

Choi said he is aware that members of the MU campus community have followed the murder trial closely “and may have deep feelings and strong opinions about the verdict.” Choi also said he knows that conversations about the trial outcome are being planned around campus.
“The University supports every individual’s right to express personal opinions and feelings in a peaceful manner,” Choi said in the statement. “Our values of Respect, Responsibility, Discovery and Excellence guide all of us, and we remain committed to free expression, but that expression must be shared in a peaceful manner.”

Many MU students hail from St. Louis. Some were on campus in the fall two years ago when a black student led protest erupted there, leading to a student hunger strike, football players threatening not to play, and turning a national spotlight on the school. The protest led to the toppling of then system president Tim Wolfe and MU chancellor R. Bowen Loftin.

The November 2015 MU protest came 15 months after Michael Brown, the 18-year-old black teen who was fatally shot by a white police officer in Ferguson, Mo. just outside St. Louis.

Gov. Eric Greitens echoed Hummel, addressing the pain the verdict has wrought:

“We know this verdict causes pain for many people. We have been in touch with city and county officials, and the State of Missouri will continue to assist them. I’m committed to protecting everyone’s constitutional right to protest peacefully, while also protecting people’s lives, homes, and communities. For anyone who protests, please do so peacefully.”

Greitens put the National Guard on standby in the days leading up to the verdict as a precautionary step ahead of possible unrest.

Friday morning, protests in response to the verdict swelled in some areas, as protesters blocked an on-ramp to a highway, called for an economic boycott and discussed shutting down other means of transportation, according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill, a Democrat, said:

“Some Missourians are sure to be pained by today’s decision, and others will agree with the ruling, but the fact is that none of us can let it detract from the goals that we all should share — safer streets, where police have the trust of the communities they serve, and a system of justice that’s fair to all of our citizens. We can’t let today’s decision send us back to our respective corners.”

McCaskill’s likely opponent for the Senate in 2018, Attorney General Josh Hawley, encouraged protesters to demonstrate peacefully, “mindful of their safety and the safety of others. I know our law enforcement will work to keep them safe.”

Republican U.S. Sen. Roy Blunt said:

“The family of Anthony Lamar Smith suffered a tragic loss. This is a difficult day for them, and for all St. Louisans who sought a different outcome in this case. ... If this verdict is met with violence and destruction, it will do nothing but reignite the fear and anger that law enforcement and community leaders have worked tirelessly to address since Ferguson. If it is met with a renewed commitment to continuing the work that is needed to rebuild trust between law enforcement and those they serve, it will show the world how we, as Americans, move forward.”
McCaskill also evoked Ferguson, saying the events following Michael Brown’s death after being shot by an officer “shook our region to its core.”

“But since then, our law enforcement and the families and businesses they serve have begun talking and hearing each other.”

MU reacts to Stockley ruling

By: Maoyan Wei


COLUMBIA - In the wake of the Jason Stockley verdict, people on the MU campus are calling for racial equality.

Students, faculty and staff gathered Friday afternoon to discuss the verdict. Stockley, a former St. Louis Metropolitan police officer, was found not guilty of first-degree murder in the shooting death of Anthony Smith, a black man.

Protests erupted in St. Louis following the verdict, with demonstrators clashing with riot police.

Stephen Graves, a post-doctor professor in political science and black studies, said the Stockley case is not just one incident and is not only about just one race or one group of people.

“There are always members of the American citizenry and American communities are feeling affected,” Graves said. “We should all feel somewhat disheartened about things that are happening.”

Graves said it is important there are safe places for students to go, where they feel comfortable to share their frustrations and feel the connectivity.

Olivia McGee, a MU freshman, also attended the discussion.
“Prior to the meeting, I hadn’t heard anything about the verdict,” McGee said. “This is a very emotional time for a lot of people and it is good to know that there’s someone out there that cares about.”

In terms of moving forward, Graves emphasized the essence of bringing about a sense of community, creating spaces and opportunities for people to have open conversations where they can express their ideas continually.

“All the things that need to be done is that these conversations about race need to take place in all disciplines and take place more frequently,” Graves said. “It just can’t be every time there’s something negative in the press happens or something racial tension happen on campus and we start to say questions about race.”

Graves also urges revolutions within existing systems.

“There needs to be some institutional tweaks and situational changes that take place within the police department, within our justice systems and within our legal systems,” Graves said.

MU Chancellor Alexander Cartwright released a statement shortly after the verdict:

The University supports every individual’s right to express personal opinions and feelings in a peaceful manner. Our values of Respect, Responsibility, Discovery and Excellence guide all of us, and we remain committed to free expression, but that expression must be shared in a peaceful manner.

It is important for all members of our community to know they are respected, valued, safe and a vital part of creating a positive culture on our campus. We are aware that conversations are being planned around campus. We will be sure to let you know as the details are finalized so that we can come together as a community to engage in meaningful dialogue.

Columbia NAACP, mayor react to Stockley verdict in St. Louis

By: Taylor Petras
COLUMBIA, Mo. - NAACP Columbia Chapter President Mary Ratliff said Friday's acquittal of former St. Louis police officer Jason Stockley was "mind-boggling."

"We are working hard here in Columbia to bring peaceful resolutions to our communities, to do some togetherness," she said. "Things like this make it awful hard."

Ratliff said she tried getting in touch with her NAACP colleagues in St. Louis Friday with no luck. "I am suspecting that they are out there in that crowd somewhere."

In 2014, Ratliff led a march from Ferguson to Jefferson City following the fallout in Ferguson in reaction to the death of Michael Brown. Ratliff said at this time she has no plans to go to St. Louis to participate in the demonstrations. "Hopefully we're working together to make sure we don't have this kind of thing happen in Columbia," she said. "If I could talk to the other communities, I would say 'You all need to start doing what we're doing here in Columbia now and start calling your people together.'"

Columbia Mayor Brian Treece released the following statement Friday afternoon:

"Today, former St. Louis Police Officer Jason Stockley was found not guilty of murdering Anthony Smith while on duty in 2011. As this decision inspires protests in St. Louis, some in our community may properly question whether justice was served in this decision."

"Here in Columbia, the City Council has taken specific steps to address the challenges our communities face. The City's independent Civilian Police Review Board examines complaints and allegations of misconduct. New Municipal Court reforms have been adopted, which include extended court hours to accommodate citizens and the recently announced warrant amnesty program. Body cameras are used to document every interaction with the citizens our officers serve and protect, and Columbia Police Officers undertake hundreds of hours of training to become better public servants by recognizing bias and how to de-escalate events to avoid the use of force."

**The City of Columbia - along with the University of Missouri, Boone County, Columbia Public Schools and others - have made social equity a keystone of our interactions with everyone in our community.**

Peaceful protests and public discourse are a cornerstone of our community's civic and democratic values. We ask those who wish to gather to do so peacefully and safely at Courthouse Square on Walnut between 9th and 10th streets. Our local law enforcement officers are committed to protecting First Amendment rights and public safety.

We continue to discuss policing issues with members of our community including the NAACP;
Race Matters, Friends; local clergy and youth groups. Much progress has been made. But more work remains to be done. We embrace differences and learn from each other to create a better community for all.

**Questions of gun planting, outburst key in officer's verdict**

By ROXANA HEGEMAN

A judge's decision to acquit an officer of murder in the death of a black suspect came down to two major questions: Did the officer plant a gun, and did his outburst about killing the man seconds before the shooting signal premeditation?

St. Louis Circuit Judge Timothy Wilson determined Friday that prosecutors failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Jason Stockley's use of deadly force was not justifiable self-defense. Anthony Lamar Smith was killed in the 2011 encounter.

"Ultimately when people argue about this case, they are going to be arguing whether the judge drew the right conclusion from the evidence and probably less about the law," said Ben Trachtenberg, an associate professor of law at the University of Missouri.

Here's a look at how the judge parsed those arguments in his ruling:

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**DID THE OFFICER PLANT THE GUN?**

The officers were investigating what appeared to be a drug transaction in the parking lot of a fast food restaurant. The car sped away and a high-speed chase ensued. Police slammed their SUV into Smith's car. Stockley then got out and fired five shots into Smith's car, killing him. A handgun was found in the car after the shooting.

Prosecutors argued the presence of Stockley's DNA — and absence of Smith's DNA — on the gun proved the gun must have been planted by the officer. They also noted curious details after the shooting, including Stockley digging into a bag in the back seat of the police SUV before returning to Smith's car.

But the defense countered that Stockley heard his partner yell "gun" and saw the driver's hand on a gun as the car sped by him. Stockley testified he did not draw his service weapon and fire until
he saw Smith reaching around inside the vehicle after it was stopped. He said Smith changed his demeanor, suggesting he found the gun.

Stockley testified that after the shooting he found the gun tucked down between the seat and the center console, and he rendered the gun safe by unloading cartridges from the cylinder and then left the gun and cartridges on the passenger seat.

In his ruling, Wilson wrote that "a fact issue that is central" to the case is whether Smith had the gun when he was shot. He found the state's contention that the officer planted the gun is not supported by evidence.

As for Stockley digging around in a bag in the police SUV, Stockley testified that he retrieved a "quick clot" pack, a medical item designed to stop serious bleeding, and put it in his shirt pocket. In the police video showing Stockley looking in the bag, a viewer can't see what he's doing or what he might have taken out of the bag.

The judge found the idea that Stockley took a gun from the police SUV to Smith's car not credible. A full-sized revolver was too large for the officer to hide in his pants pockets and he was not wearing a jacket, the judge said. If the gun had been tucked into his belt, it would have been visible on a bystander's video that showed Stockley walking between the police car and Smith's car, he found.

Wilson also noted none of the officers standing next to the vehicle were called to testify that Stockley planted a gun. And he recounted witness testimony that the absence of a person's DNA on a gun does not mean that person did not touch the gun.

"Finally, the Court observes, based on its nearly thirty years on the bench, that an urban heroin dealer not in possession of a firearm would be an anomaly," the judge wrote.

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DID THE OFFICER'S OUTBURST INDICATE PREMEDITATION?

Smith drove at speeds of up to 87 miles per hour on wet roads, endangering other drivers and pedestrians. About 45 seconds before the chase ended, police dashcam video captured Stockley saying, "going to kill this (expletive), don't you know it."

Prosecutors argued that statement proved the officer deliberated about killing Smith even before the pursuit ended.

When questioned about his statement at trial, Stockley said he could not remember saying those words. The ruling noted Stockley testified he had not made a decision to kill Smith and could not recall the context in which the statement was made.
The judge said in his decision that it was apparent from the dashcam audio and video that the pursuit was stressful, both because of its high speed and the confusion caused by multiple radios and communications with the dispatcher.

"People say all kinds of things in the heat of the moment or while in stressful situations, and whether Stockley's statement ... constituted a real threat of action or was a means of releasing tension has to be judged by his subsequent conduct," the judge wrote.

The court does not believe the officer's conduct following the end of the pursuit is consistent with the conduct of a person intentionally killing another person unlawfully, Wilson wrote. He noted testimony by the state's witnesses that Stockley ordered Smith to open the door and show his hands.

It was not until 15 seconds after Stockley arrived the driver's side door that he took his service weapon out of its holster and fired several shots.

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**Experts: Protests will happen with or without media**

By Kurt Erickson St. Louis Post-Dispatch

**JEFFERSON CITY •** After coverage of the unrest in Ferguson came under scrutiny in 2014, Friday’s acquittal of a white police officer in the killing of a black motorist brought a round of reflection for media outlets serving St. Louis.

By merely covering protesters angered and frustrated by the outcome of former St. Louis police Officer Jason Stockley’s trial in the death of Anthony Lamar Smith, is the media inflaming the event?

Douglas McLeod, professor of journalism and mass communications at University of Wisconsin-Madison, said protests would happen with or without cameras and reporters present.

“The frustration in St. Louis is going to happen today regardless of whether the cameras show up,” McLeod said. “They (protesters) are very angry because of conditions that have persisted a long time.”

Earnest Perry, associate dean for graduate studies at the University of Missouri School of Journalism, agreed, saying a good advocate for a cause wants the public to know about the problems they are fighting. That’s part of the reason the protest is held in the first place.
To properly cover a protest or planned protest, however, journalists must be careful not to make assumptions about what might happen.

For example, Perry said reporters should not merely try to confirm a story that they’ve already written in their heads.

“When we in the media focus on what our city officials are doing to control the violence, we’ve made an assumption that there will be violence,” Perry said.

Similarly, just because reporters post pictures of a particular moment, it doesn’t mean they are endorsing or criticizing the events unfolding before them.

KSDK (Channel 5) released a statement saying valuable lessons were learned during the coverage of unrest in Ferguson that would help guide its coverage of any protests arising out of Stockley’s acquittal.

“Our goal here at 5 On Your Side is to cover the story and not become part of the story,” the message noted. “We’ll try to avoid unnecessary hysteria and will only break into programming if there’s a threat to public safety or when public officials hold a news conference that they deem important to you.”

On Friday, KTVI reporter Dan Gray was shoved and doused with water by protesters who said he shouldn’t be in the streets.

“Get the (expletive) out of my movement,” a protester yelled at Gray.

Later, Gray told the Post-Dispatch he was shaken. He said his boss told him to pull back if any violence occurred during the protests.

“So, we’re leaving,” Gray said.

Though both Perry and McLeod said the media tended to overestimate its role in protest coverage, others believe any attention paid to protesters can give them an outsized level of influence.

In the wake of last month’s racially charged violence in Charlottesville, Va., for example, a conservative watchdog group cautioned about giving media attention to hate groups.

“Giving all this attention to these guys only encourages them even more,” said Don Irvine, chairman of Accuracy in Media, in an interview on WJLA in Washington. “You give them this spotlight, they’re going to take advantage of it,” he said.
The first travel advisory in the history of the NAACP was issued Aug. 2 for the state of Missouri over concerns about the safety of African Americans, and once again tensions between law enforcement officers, state officials and minorities were thrust into the spotlight.

The advisory, originally set to expire Aug. 28, was renewed, according to The New York Times. Missouri NAACP President Rod Chapel said it will remain in effect until at least late September.

When NAACP Interim President and CEO Derrick Johnson announced the organization’s travel advisory, he cited statistics that depict racial disparities in Missouri.

“The numerous racist incidents, and the statistics cited by the Missouri Attorney General in the advisory, namely the fact that African Americans in Missouri are 75 percent more likely to be stopped and searched by law enforcement officers than Caucasians, are unconscionable, and are simply unacceptable in a progressive society,” Johnson said in the statement.

The advisory was issued largely in response to SB 43, which requires employees who claim workplace discrimination prove bias is an explicit reason for being fired, rather than just a contributing factor. It was also in response to a “series of questionable, race-based incidents occurring statewide recently.”

We wanted to look into Johnson’s statement about racial disparities in Missouri. Are law enforcement officers a full 75 percent more likely to pull over and search an African American?

**Stops versus searches**

When we reached out to the NAACP, communications director Malik Russell said Johnson may have gotten some of his numbers mixed up, since he didn’t have the data in front of him. But he emphasized the larger point, saying the difference between the numbers that he might have mixed up is small.

Russell didn’t give any additional evidence, but the statement announcing the advisory cited data from the attorney general’s office.

In 2000, concerns from both Missouri residents and the legislature prompted the passage of a law that requires law enforcement officers collect specific information, including race, for every traffic stop. Each agency must provide this data to the attorney general, who in turn sends it to the governor.

A team of researchers has been compiling this information for the attorney general since 2001.

The 2016 Vehicle Stops Report Executive Summary from the attorney general’s office breaks down the data related to vehicle stops last year. There were 21 agencies that did not submit the data by the required date and 58 agencies that reported no stops out of 682 law enforcement agencies in the state.

Blacks represent 10.9 percent of the driving population and 18 percent of all traffic stops, while whites represent 82.8 percent of the population and 78 percent of stops.
Richard Rosenfeld, a criminology professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, has been on the research team since 2001.

Rosenfeld said the researchers divided stops made by the number of people 16 years and older in the state to come up with a “stop rate.” A value of one means there is no disparity, values greater than one mean there is overrepresentation, and values below one mean there is underrepresentation.

The disparity index, which is the proportion of stops divided by the proportion of the population, was 1.65 for blacks last year, overrepresenting the black population by 65 percent. Whites, on the other hand, were stopped at a .94 rate, underrepresenting the white population by 6 percent.

Researchers divided 1.65 by .94 to get 1.75, or a 75 percent higher stop rate for blacks than whites. This is the number Johnson used in his statement.

But stops and searches are different things.

Blacks are 57 percent more likely to be searched than whites. (Formula: 8.77 percent search rate for blacks divided by 5.57 search rate for whites = 1.57.)

Our ruling

Johnson stated that African Americans in Missouri are 75 percent more likely to be stopped and searched by law enforcement officers than caucasians.

Blacks in Missouri are 75 percent more likely to be stopped by law enforcement officers than whites, which is reflected in the attorney general data.

That’s not true about searches. Blacks are 57 percent more likely to be searched than whites. The discrepancy in searches is huge, but it’s not 75 percent.

We rate Johnson’s statement Half True.
Study finds tweets boost learning during presidential debates

Generated from News Bureau press release: Viewers Who Tweet During Presidential Debates Learn More about Political Issues, MU Study Finds

COLUMBIA (AP) — A study from the University of Missouri has found that people who tweet during presidential debates tend to learn more.

The Columbia Missourian reported that researchers with the university's Political Communication Institute tried to determine if tweeting during debates is a distraction.

The study found that regardless of political leaning, people who tweeted learned more about the candidates' stances.

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The study found that regardless of political leaning, people who tweeted learned more about the candidates' stances.

The study focused on two kinds of debate tweets: ones that focused on certain issues presented during the debate and ones that focused on a candidate’s image and debate performance.
The study was based on the idea that people can be primed to process new information to either deliberately solidify their existing opinions or allow them to set aside biases to process new knowledge accurately.

University of Missouri police report rape

By THE TRIBUNE’S STAFF

University of Missouri police alerted the campus of an early Sunday rape outside of a home on the 500 block of Kentucky Boulevard.

The victim and male suspect met before the assault, according to a campus-wide MU Alert. Students and employees were notified of the assault via text message and email at 4:15 a.m.

The alert provides few details. It does not disclose the gender of the victim or provide a description of the assailant beyond a “white male driving a dark colored vehicle.”

“The investigation will continue and anyone with information about the assault is encouraged to call MUPD,” the alert said.

Victim reports sexual assault near Kentucky Boulevard

ZIPEI LIN

A sexual assault was reported around 3 a.m. Sunday near the 500 block of Kentucky Boulevard, according to an MU Alert. No arrests have been made and the investigation is ongoing.

Law enforcement said the suspect was described as a white male driving a dark colored vehicle, and that the victim and suspect met on Saturday evening before the assault happened.
The MU Police Department received the original report, handing it over to the Columbia Police Department when police determined that the assault occurred off-campus.

The Columbia Police Department was unavailable for comment Sunday afternoon. Anyone with information about the assault is encouraged to call 573-875-8477 to report tips anonymously.

Sex assault reported near Mizzou campus

By: Taylor Petras


COLUMBIA, Mo. - The University of Missouri Police Department said it received a report of a sexual assault early Sunday.

In an MU Alert sent out at 4:15 a.m. police said the assault happened around 3 a.m. in an outside area in the 500 block of Kentucky Boulevard.

The only suspect description provided at the time was a white man driving a dark-colored car. MUPD later said preliminary investigation revealed the victim and suspect had met earlier in the night before the assault.

MU police later determined the assault happened at off campus and was turned over to the Columbia Police Department.

It's not clear if this reported assault would be handled by the Title IX office since it happened off campus. Mizzou also has another group on campus, It's on Us, that promotes the end to sexual assault and the normalization of sexual harassment. The campaign is a part of a national movement.

ABC 17 News reached out to CPD for more information on the investigation. We will continue to update this story as we learn more.
University of Missouri Museum of Anthropology opens in a new location

By WAVERLY COLVILLE

The University of Missouri Museum of Anthropology reopened in a new location after a three-year hiatus because of construction on Saturday at Mizzou North.

The new location is about the same size as the original location in Swallow Hall on Francis Quadrangle, but has a better layout Assistant Curator Amanda Staley Harrison said. The museum is adding a new exhibit for the Grayson Archery collection, which they weren’t able to do before. It’s the largest and most complete collection of its kind in the world.

Museum Director Alex Barker described the new space as more modern.

“In Swallow Hall, exhibit cases were just put in where they fit and they were done over time trying to make the best of what space was available,” Barker said. “Here, we designed the exhibitions to be chronological and thematic. It’s a lot more focused, brighter and a more modern space.”

The only anthropology museum in Missouri’s original location in Swallow Hall and the original location of the Museum of Art and Archaeology Pickard Hall began construction in 2014. The university decided to move the sister museums to the same location at its Business Loop 70W campus.

The museum’s leadership also changed. The museum used to be a departmental collection within the Department of Anthropology but changed to a freestanding museum in early 2017 reporting to the Dean of the MU College of Arts and Science.

Barker said this change makes the museum’s goal of getting accredited easier and will make the museum eligible for federal grants only available to museums, not academic departments with collections.

The museum had a soft opening Friday evening where members of the public were invited to see the space before the grand opening celebration on Oct. 19.
Lucinda Signaigo came because of her interest in what the past can teach humans.

“You learn a lot from looking back and it’s amazing to see how innovative people in primitive times were,” Signaigo said. “A lot of what they did helped us think of new things we’ve created in modern times.”

Kathy Warner brought her two children Hazel, 9, and Clara, 7.

“It’s a good educational experience,” Warner said. “It’s beautiful. I know they put a lot of work into it and it shows.”

The Museum of Anthropology plans on increasing their programming with local schools and organizations. The museum will start after-school programs in the spring and also will also organize activities in middle and high schools such as talking about excavation and how to map an archaeological site.

“I’m working extensively to develop programs and activities that are going to complement teacher’s curriculum,” Harrison said. “It’s really important to us that the community sees us as a source for education.”

The Museum of Anthropology will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and noon to p.m. on weekends.

MU Museum of Anthropology to re-open after three years of renovations

By: Matt Weller

COLUMBIA - MU's Museum of Anthropology will open its doors Saturday for the first time in nearly three years.

The museum will open for the first time at Mizzou North after spending 48 years on MU's campus.

Museum Assistant Curator Amanda Staley Harrison said the new facility features more wall space to allow for exhibits to follow a chronological path.

"[Guests] now have the ability to walk down the line and see how different tools have progressed over time," Staley Harrison said.

The increased space will allow for the more of the Grayson Archery Collection to be displayed.

"The Grayson Collection is the most complete collection of its kind anywhere in the world," said museum director Alex Barker. "It deals with all different areas, all different periods. Anything that involves using that particular kind of physical force, bending energy, storing it in the bow, and then releasing it to fire an arrow, is represented in the collection."

The museum will have a grand re-opening ceremony in October, but Staley Harrison and Barker said there was no question they would open the doors as soon as the facility was ready.

"There's an enormous amount of staff work that goes into getting the museum ready to open, and we're ready now," Barker said. "And the idea of keeping it closed and turning people away when the exhibits are ready to go, just didn't make sense. A lot of people have been waiting a long time for the museum to re-open. We're excited to welcome them back in."

The museum originally left the Francis Quadrangle on MU's campus in 2014 and was closed for three years due to renovation complications.

"This space used to be the operating area for the hospital, so we had to take out gas lines, we had to take out asbestos and old tile. It was quite a renovation process from the get go and we had complications from there," Staley Harrison said.

"To get to today, there's certainly a 'finally' feeling to it. We're all very excited to show the public what we've built."
Safest Bet in Sports: Men Complaining About a Female Announcer’s Voice

By JULIE DICARIO

CHICAGO — “Shrill.”

“Grating.”

“Like listening to my ex nag me.”

“Sounds like my mom yelling at me.”

Women in sports broadcasting are used to men criticizing their voices. In my three years in sports radio, I’ve had more men complain about my voice than everything else about me combined — and trust me, there are a lot of other things they don’t like about me.

“It has nothing to do with you being a woman,” they tell me, “I just can’t stand the sound of your voice.”

For someone who gets paid primarily to say sports words on the radio, listeners hating the sound of her voice is somewhat troubling.

Even women at the top of our profession aren’t immune. Beth Mowins smashed through the thickest glass ceiling in sports this month, becoming the first woman to call a game on “Monday Night Football.” The moment Mowins spoke a word into her microphone, Twitter lit up with complaints about her voice:

That is just a tiny sample. Never mind that many of the men complaining about her voice were holding small daughters in their Twitter avatars — daughters who will presumably grow up to sound something like Mowins. Never mind that Mowins had to carry Rex Ryan in his truly terrible broadcasting debut, and was without a sideline reporter after Sergio Dipp’s first hit from Sports Authority Field in Denver misfired.

The veteran N.F.L. reporter Andrea Kremer said she was hardly surprised by the backlash against Mowins’s play-by-play on the sport’s biggest stage. “I have no doubt that ‘hating the sound of her voice’ is code for ‘I hate that there was a woman announcing football,’” Kremer told me.
The whining was neither surprising nor accurate, Kremer said: “One of the many positives about Beth doing the game, in addition to her being a top-notch, seasoned broadcaster, is that she has a great voice that cuts through all the ambient noise in the stadium. Whether you’re in the booth or on the field, you need a resonant voice that can be audible. The voice is like an instrument, and Beth is blessed with some great pipes.”

Much of the social-media discussion of Mowins’s voice was preceded by the always dubious claim that the criticism had nothing to do with the fact that Mowins was a woman. Setting aside that starting a tweet with “I’m not sexist, but” usually ensures that what follows will be sexist, it’s hard to imagine how to separate Mowins the woman from Mowins the voice. Beth Mowins sounds like a woman.

“The negative online reaction to Mowins’s play-by-play calling football games is steeped in sexism,” said Rebecca Martinez, who teaches women’s and gender studies at the University of Missouri. “The comments, mostly from men, have focused on her voice being annoying to the point of not wanting to listen to her. They’ll focus on the naturally higher pitch of women’s voices and ‘shrillness,’ all the while claiming their critiques of higher pitch have nothing to do with sexism. Women who have high visibility, particularly in settings that are traditionally male, will experience backlash.”

The response to female broadcasters’ voices is not new. Sports are commonly perceived to be an arena for men — by men, of men — and anything that disrupts that makes some men uneasy.

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“As women in high-profile sports broadcasting jobs, we get criticized from head, and hair, to toe,” Kremer said. “We are in a subjective business, and the haters are always going to find something they don’t like about us because they don’t want us there.”

Andrew Dzurisin, an assistant professor of sociology at Middlesex County College, said the criticism stems from deep-rooted cultural beliefs.

“‘Friday Night Lights’ isn’t just a movie or book; it’s real,” he said. “In many parts of the country, football is an ingrained part of masculinity, culturally. Of the major sports, football is seen as the one that fits the traditional definition of masculinity. It’s rough, it’s violent, it’s tribal, it’s a ‘man’s’ game. To hear a woman do the play-by-play of the sport that most fits the traditional definition of masculinity is beyond comprehension to some men.

“The primal masculinity of football makes a woman calling a game antithetical to their core ideas about gender.”

Barriers persist in other sports, too. The ESPN baseball analyst Jessica Mendoza has also been the target of social-media scorn, despite high praise from many of her colleagues and from former players.

“Mendoza to me is an example of ‘new’ baseball intersecting with the gender and even ethnicity,” Dzurisin said. “Most of her commentary revolves around analytics.
audiences also skew older, so male viewership is more likely to embrace traditional gender norms that do not include female baseball analysts. The fact that she is Hispanic also irks men, as they see a sport of the ‘white man’ until Jackie Robinson now becoming increasingly Hispanic.”

Some men insist they turn to sports to get a break from women. This is something I hear more than you would probably believe. I’ve been told my voice is too high, too low, too young-sounding, too Chicago-sounding, too harsh, too soft, and “just generally obnoxious.” The only time I’ve ever been complimented on my voice was when I had bronchitis and a bunch of men called in to tell me my voice was sexy. But bronchitis is hard to maintain on any kind of regular basis just to please the lonely faction of my male listeners. And anyway, antibiotics forced me to go back to sounding like myself.

Sports fans have been subjected to a large number of male broadcasters with objectively terrible voices, from Howard Cosell’s nasal staccato to Phil Simms’s Kentucky twang. Chris Russo’s New York accent was so thick, his Florida station supposedly sent him to speech therapy. The White Sox’ Hawk Harrelson is given to long stretches of silence in the booth when he’s upset. Do we even need to list the former male athletes with marbles in their mouths and very little to say who somehow retain seats in the broadcast booth?

So it’s 2017, and some Americans are unwilling to tolerate a sports broadcaster sounding like a woman. Can we overcome it? I am confident we can.

'Stick to sports' or stick to reality? Jemele Hill controversy highlights media issues

By SHANNON RYAN

Years ago, it seemed standards were pretty clear for most journalists: Keep your opinions to yourself.

This is still the ethos many of us try to live by as an understanding that our professional life and our personal lives overlap as journalists. We aren't really ever off the clock or not representing the media outlet for which we work.

But that’s getting trickier with social media and news outlets like ESPN encouraging less reporting and more debate, commentary and opinion. It’s also always been a difficult tightrope act for many reporters who are women, people of color or part of any other marginalized group often expected to ignore their identity as a means of maintaining this abstract idea of objectivity.
When ESPN singled out Jemele Hill with a public reprimand for her tweet calling President Trump a "white supremacist" it struck me and others as unnecessary and hypocritical.

ESPN has been especially adept at blurring the line, creating controversy and hoping the formula results in higher ratings. To its credit, ESPN also has been one of the rare media outlets in sports — maybe the only one — that has truly diverse hiring practices.

So does ESPN want these employees — like Hill — to share opinions about anything except the ideas that perhaps affect them most on a personal level and on which they have a unique ability to speak?

Cynthia Frisby, an author and journalism professor at the University of Missouri, says women of color, in particular, walk a fine line.

"Women of color are held under different standards, much higher expectations, oftentimes having to watch our every move and sometimes change our behavior," Frisby said. "(Hill as a journalist only voiced what so many others have felt.)"

Should Hill have considered that as a member of the media her tweet may have been seen as inappropriate? Yes. Should she have realized that although her colleagues tweet controversial statements and even though she is paid to have an opinion, according to ESPN, on sports and "culture" that she would be in violation of a company code of conduct? Yes.

But Hill's outspokenness is part of her appeal for many viewers, and ESPN has promoted her accordingly.

ESPN further mishandled the situation by reportedly trying to replace Hill on "The Six" with other black hosts, a plan that was foiled when, in an act of solidarity, they refused to replace her. (ESPN has denied this version of events.)

ESPN public editor Jim Brady made an embarrassing display on Twitter in what I assume was an effort to clear up the decision about reprimanding Hill. He corrected at least two of his own tweets he admitted were poorly worded. A little ironic, right?

ESPN President John Skipper sent out a reasonable memo to employees about the code of conduct related to sports, politics and social media. But Brady undid any sound reasoning again on behalf of ESPN.

Responding to a tweet defending Hill, he asked, "Investigate the claim of whether Donald Trump is a 'white supremacist?' I think he'd done a lot to make a case against himself."

So it's OK for Brady to say Trump has made the case that he is a white supremacist but Hill cannot use the term?
As Jay Smooth, a New York hip-hop radio personality, pointed out in his tweet reply to Brady, "The assertion that 'white supremacist' should be regarded as 'name calling' is not, itself, a neutral position politically."

"I didn't weigh in on the truth of the statement," Brady tweeted on Friday about Hill's tweet. "Doesn't matter. We get paid to adhere to some code about how we communicate."

Since when does truth not matter in journalism?

Which brings us to another question we should be discussing more in journalism: Whose truth are we telling?

One reason why black-owned newspapers existed — and still do — is because white-owned newspapers largely ignored stories that affected black communities, especially through the Jim Crow era. White papers mostly overlooked the story about the vile harassment black baseball players faced while breaking the color line. Ida B. Wells, a pioneering black reporter who worked in Chicago, investigated lynchings because white papers ignored the epidemic. Jet magazine published Emmett Till’s open-casket photo and caused white papers to finally devote deserved coverage to his murder and others like it.

Today, there would be a near monolith of opinion on the coverage of Colin Kaepernick if not for mostly black analysts and some reporters adding the perspective of many black fans.

"The media is more focused and proceeded more in bringing different types of faces than bringing different types of perspectives," author Ibram Kendi told the Washington Post. "Jemele's statements are statements that are widely believed, philosophically, within the African-American community. For her to be censured for something that is widely believed in her community is simultaneously censuring the ideas of her community."

The topic is complex. The answers aren't easily agreed upon.

But ESPN — like other outlets — has to decide: "Stick to sports" or stick to reality.
FACT CHECK: Roy Blunt points out a serious lack of internet infrastructure in Missouri

BY KATELYN BROWN AND PAT MUELLER

The internet has become a part of everyday American life, and people are more connected now than ever before. However, some Americans do not have access to high quality broadband services.

At the Missouri State Fair, Republican Sen. Roy Blunt addressed an audience about the importance of broadband access for rural residents, saying that two-thirds of rural Missouri residents are lacking broadband access.

“Nearly ⅔ of rural Missourians don’t have access to broadband. That needs to change,” Blunt posted on Twitter Aug. 8, 2017.

The tweet included a video clip from the address, and Blunt went on to talk about why he believes broadband is necessary. He also went on to discuss how he is an advocate for broadband issues on the Senate floor.

Blunt’s remarks got us thinking: Are two-thirds of rural Missourians really lacking access to the service?

A spokesperson for Sen. Blunt pointed us to a Wall Street Journal piece, as well as some past research by the PolitiFact team as the sources backing the statement.

What is broadband?

Before we delve deeper into the issue, let’s establish what “broadband” means.

The FCC describes it in a 2016 report as the speed benchmark of 25 Mbps download speed and 3 Mbps upload speed for fixed (not mobile) services.

The FCC is required by a portion of the 1996 Telecommunications Act to report on whether Americans are able to access advanced telecommunications capabilities. They define this as,
“‘high-quality’ capability that allow users to ‘originate and receive high-quality voice, data, graphics, and video’ services.”

Basically, high-speed internet.

In the same report, the FCC said 10 percent of Americans lack access to broadband — 39 percent of rural Americans and 4 percent of Americans living in an urban area.

Currently, many rural Missourians use alternatives to broadband like DSL, or digital subscriber line, which uses the same two-wire copper telephone line used for landlines. Some people just use their phones for internet, but for Northeast and Northwest Missourians, it’s tough to get service. Surprisingly, 8 percent of rural Missourians still use dial-up internet.

The numbers

While 39 percent of rural Americans live without access to broadband internet, that figure jumps to 61 percent in Missouri, according to the FCC.

Missouri is lagging compared to surrounding states. Forty-nine percent of rural residents in Kansas are without broadband access, 56 percent in Illinois, 37 percent in Iowa and 48 percent in Arkansas.

The lack of access affects everything from telemedicine to searching for jobs. It even touches agriculture: Janie Dunning, Missouri Farm Bureau’s consultant for broadband, said farmers utilize technology in order to do “precision farming.” By combining computers and farm equipment, production can increase, and business can be easier to manage.

Further, when looking at a map provided by the FCC, we can see that in Missouri, even when rural areas have broadband access, most of those residents only have one provider option.

It gets worse.

“One caution on using broadband maps and data — you need to understand how ‘access’ is being counted,” said MU Extension state specialist for community development Sharon Gulick. “In many cases, as long as one person or business in the zip code has access, that zip code is considered covered. Also, having it available and it being affordable are also two very different issues.”

In most rankings, Missouri is around No. 40 to 47 when it comes to broadband access, Dunning said.
Missouri has over 6 million people living it, 70 percent of whom are in urban areas and 30 percent in rural areas, Dunning said. So with almost a third of the population residing in rural areas, how are there so many without broadband?

When looking at people per square mile, the state average is 87.1 people per square mile. In urban areas, that number skyrockets to 5,000 people per square mile; conversely, some rural areas have as few as one or two people per square mile.

“Even nonprofit providers need a return on investment,” Dunning said. “Providers prioritize the urban areas since there’s more people who will use their services. It’s just more financially feasible.”

**Our ruling**

Blunt said that nearly two-thirds of rural Missourians don’t have access to broadband. FCC numbers back up his statement.

Experts agree that Missouri has a broadband access issue, and all cite the same FCC report. The 2016 Broadband Progress Report from the FCC states that 61 percent of rural Missourians lack access to broadband. The report is the most recent and uses a benchmark of 25 Mbps/3 Mbps for high-speed internet.

While 61 percent isn’t two-thirds, it’s nearly so, especially in the context of the statement.

We rate Blunt’s claim True.

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**Lagging University of Missouri enrollment leads to more choices, lower rentals**

**By MEGAN FAVIGNANO**

East Campus typically is a go-to area for students renters. By this time, houses are usually filled up, but “for rent” signs dot the neighborhood well after the semester has begun.
Aaron Hedlund, associate professor of economics at the University of Missouri, said the university’s enrollment has a big impact on the local economy and rental market.

“Columbia has a lot more than just the university, but the university is one of the major economic drivers of Columbia,” he said.

Hedlund said declining enrollment means there is less demand just as several student housing complexes have opened downtown. Most of those student housing high rises are higher-end rentals, Hedlund said. Either those new developments will see a large number of vacancies or they will lower rent prices to compete.

The decrease in demand will affect all rental units, not just the higher-end units downtown, Hedlund said. An employee with Midwest Property Management said rentals on East Campus previously were in such high demand the units would be rented a year in advance in some cases.

With the increase in rental options, he said, students can choose a 100-year-old house in East Campus or a downtown apartment building with pools and other amenities. It just comes down to cost.

About half of the households in Columbia rent. The past five years, more than 3,000 rental units have been added to the city’s stock.

This month, there are 10,095 buildings and 27,779 units registered as rental properties with the city. In September 2012, there were just 9,058 buildings and 24,496 units registered as rentals. A decade ago, there were 21,981 rental units in the city.

The vacant rental units in East Campus don’t necessarily represent the state of the rental market across Columbia. A manager at Columbia Crossing Apartments said he hasn’t noticed any significant changes in the complex’s occupancy rate or felt strained to attract renters. Columbia Crossing, located on Whitegate Drive, attracts a variety of renters, not just students.

It seems the biggest hit has been in areas catering to students, whose numbers have dropped at the University of Missouri, perhaps contributing to a surplus of rental housing targeting that demographic.

Columbia Neighborhood Services Manager Leigh Kottwitz said it’s difficult to determine how many rental properties are vacant because the city does not track the vacancy rate. Kottwitz said utility information is not an accurate measurement because a significant number of landlords keep utilities on even when a unit is vacant.

High-rise buildings constructed with student renters in mind have opened this year downtown. The Rise on 9th is a 10-story apartment building at Ninth and Locust streets. It added more than 430 beds when it opened this year. The Rise earlier this summer listed monthly rent for $689 to
$1,499. But the apartments were discounting rates through signing bonuses to attract new tenants.

The U Centre on Turner, another new apartment building, has room for more than 700 residents. The latest developments add to a long list downtown in recent years, including two Brookside locations, District Flats and TODD.

Plans for these apartment buildings were made when MU was breaking enrollment records each fall and predicting further growth. The university, however, has seen an enrollment crash in the past two years.

“If you’re someone already renting, that’s good news. It’s going to mean more affordable rent,” Hedlund said. “If you’re a builder, that’s not so good. You’re not going to get as much profit as you thought you were.”

According to first day counts, MU’s incoming class this semester had 4,100 students. That’s the smallest incoming class in two decades but 100 more than university officials projected in May. Overall first-day enrollment last month was more than 30,000 students.

Hedlund said MU’s low enrollment should slow construction. City Development Services Manager Pat Zenner said the city has not received new permit or project requests recently related to student housing. Brookside Downtown, a multi-story building at 6th and Elm streets that opened this year, was the last large-scale student housing project to file requests, Zenner said. Brookside management did not respond to a message seeking comment.

Hedlund said it’s unlikely the city will see more new high rises any time soon.

“The demand is not there to support a bunch of new buildings,” he said.

If enrollment turns around, that could change quickly. In the meantime, Hedlund said rental prices should decrease or at least stay flat rather than increasing. This will especially be true downtown but Hedlund said it will affect rent costs across the city.

The U.S. Census Bureau’s most recent five-year estimates found the median monthly rent for Columbia residents was $799. A report to the Columbia City Council last November found several complexes already planned to advertise to non-students and lower rent to fill vacant units.

Many renters here are students, Hedlund said. But he said the owner-occupied market could see some change because of the layoffs at MU.

“Those people who no longer have those jobs, many if not most of them probably lived in Columbia,” Hedlund said. “Now that they are unemployed they are going to have to find another job ... and if they can’t, that may mean some of them move away outside of the city entirely.”
That could have a small effect on home prices or just make houses take longer to sell, he said. Slowing construction could have negative effects on the city’s economy as a whole. Construction increases economic activity, including new stores and restaurants opening up near new housing.

From fiscal year 2015 to fiscal year 2016, city revenue from construction fees, rose from about $1.5 million to $2.3 million. For fiscal 2017, which ends Sept. 30, the city expects to bring in $2.1 million from construction fees. The city’s proposed budget for fiscal 2018 projects about $50,000 less than the current fiscal year.

Next wave of EPA science advisers could include those who question climate change

By CHRIS MOONEY AND BRADY DENNIS

People who have questioned aspects of mainstream climate research appear on a list of 132 possible candidates for positions on EPA’s influential Science Advisory Board, which the agency has opened for public comment until September 28. The board currently has 47 members, but 15 have terms ending in September and could be replaced by some of the candidates.

One candidate believes more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere will “confer great benefits upon future inhabitants of the globe” by driving plant growth. Another has said of the climate change debate that “scare tactics and junk science are used to secure lucrative government contracts.” Five candidates have challenged the Environmental Protection Agency’s own science on the warming of the planet in court.

The board nomination process is an open one — anyone can nominate anyone else for consideration — and an EPA official involved in the process said that there had been “no whittling down” of the names submitted, other than making sure those nominated were indeed interested. The list includes scientists with diverse subject matter expertise and a long lists of credentials.

But the inclusion of a handful of climate contrarians has caused early concern among environmental groups and some employees at the agency.

“We should be able to trust that those who serve the EPA are the all-stars in their fields and committed to public service,” said Michael Halpern, deputy director of the Center for Science
and Democracy at the Union of Concerned Scientists. He said the upcoming round of appointments will test whether EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt is “remotely interested” in independent scientific advice. “He already has a parade of lobbyists and advisers providing him with the perspectives from oil, gas, and chemical companies. The Science Advisory Board is a check on political influence and can help the agency determine whether the special interests are telling it straight.”

The EPA official, who requested anonymity because the selection process is ongoing, said that after the public comment period ends, staff members likely will scale down the list of nominees to a smaller group of qualified candidates, with an emphasis on balancing out the board and trying to make sure there are experts across a range of disciplines, from hydrology to microbiology to statistics. But the final decision of who winds up advising the EPA resides with one person.

“Administrator Pruitt ultimately makes that decision,” the official said.

E&E News last week identified about a dozen board candidates that it said had previously expressed skepticism of widely accepted findings of climate science.

Even though none may ultimately end up on the board, the current list is raising eyebrows in light of Pruitt’s own statements questioning the human role in climate change and the agency’s removal of an informational website that publicly presented established climate science.

“There are definitely some inappropriate names on there,” said one EPA scientist, who spoke on the condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal. “I don’t know how concerned to be. But I’m hoping that the scientific community comments actively on the list.”

Several of the candidates are affiliated with the Heartland Institute, an Illinois-based conservative think tank with a long history of questioning various aspects of climate change science. E&E News reported that it had suggested a number of the names.

“We applaud any effort by Administrator Pruitt to bring qualified non-alarmist scientists onto the EPA’s advisory boards,” Heartland spokesman Jim Lakely told the publication.

One Heartland-affiliated scientist who is now a candidate for the EPA board is meteorologist Joseph D’Aleo, a co-founder of the Weather Channel and currently chief forecaster with WeatherBELL Analytics LLC. D’Aleo was one of 13 scientists who submitted an amicus brief in litigation over the EPA’s Clean Power Plan, challenging the agency’s science, including its key finding that atmospheric carbon dioxide, by driving climate change, endangers human health and welfare.
“EPA has no proof whatsoever that CO2 has a statistically significant impact on global temperatures,” the scientists, including D’Aleo, wrote. “In fact, many scientists feel no such proof exists.”

D’Aleo reiterated his skepticism that humans are driving a steady warming of the globe through greenhouse gas emissions, instead saying he thinks urbanization is creating pockets of heat where people live. “I really believe that virtually all of the warming is due to population building out cities and even building out small towns,” D’Aleo said.

D’Aleo also has opposed the agency’s 2009 “endangerment finding,” a scientific document that provided the basis for the Obama administration’s efforts to regulate greenhouse gas emissions. “If I was asked to participate, I would want to find out how much I can do and what they plan to do with the endangerment finding before I made my decision,” he said.

Four other scientists who co-authored a legal brief challenging EPA’s conclusion regarding human-caused climate change also appear on the list of advisory board candidates.

One of them, astrophysicist Gordon Fulks, wrote in The Oregonian in 2010 that he is “concerned that many who promote the idea of catastrophic global warming reduce science to a political and economic game.” Fulks also is a policy adviser with the Heartland Institute.

Asked his take on the causes of global temperature change, Fulks responded by email that the Earth has seen “modest warming as we have come out of the Little Ice Age since about 1830 in ice core temperature reconstructions. That surely says that the warming over the last almost two centuries is natural in origin.”

He also said that the Science Advisory Board has suffered from conflicts of interest and that “my hope is to make sure that the decisions that the EPA makes regarding regulations are firmly based in science and not superstition.”

Another scientist, Craig Idso, is chairman of the Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change, where he has written that “the modern rise in the air’s CO2 content is providing a tremendous economic benefit to global crop production.”

Yet another scientist, Richard Keen, is a meteorologist and author who traveled with the Heartland Institute to Rome in 2015 for a “prebuttal” to Pope Francis’s encyclical on climate change. There, he argued that “in the past 18 years and how many months, four months, there has been no global warming.” Another candidate, Anthony Lupo, is an atmospheric sciences professor at the University of Missouri. In 2014, he told a local Missouri media outlet, KOMU 8, that “I think it is rash to put the climate change completely on the blame of humans.”

Under Pruitt, the agency has already removed a Web page devoted to climate change science that presented the scientific consensus view that it is largely caused by humans, and Pruitt has
endorsed the idea of a “Red Team”/“Blue Team” exercise, in which a group of outside critics would interrogate the validity of mainstream scientific conclusions. The agency also has begun taking steps to roll back Obama-era climate regulations, while President Trump has proposed deep cuts to climate research.

Story continues.

Fulton Medical Center no longer closing

By: Clair Kopsky


FULTON - The Fulton Medical Center will not be closing as previously announced.

The center was scheduled to close Sept. 22 after MU Health decided to sell its 35 percent stake in the hospital.

City administrator Bill Johnson announced a change in plans Friday, saying another group stepped in and purchased the medical center. He did not specify who the group was.

A visitor to the Fulton Medical Center, Christina Barham, said she's glad the center will not be closing.

"To me, the doctors here are a lot more caring because it is a small town," Barham said. "So are the nurses. Plus, I've been coming here since I was born."

Barham also said she prefers to have something closer to home rather than needing to drive to Columbia.

"When I come here it's just like a family meeting. Just like coming home," Barham said.
Barham also said that while some residents criticize the quality of the medical center's services, she disagrees.

"Yeah, they lack in some areas, but as far as hospitality and patient care, I think they do what they can do to make the patient more comfortable and more relaxed," Barham said.

Johnson said there will be a press conference next week with more details.

**The Maneater**

**Campus Safety Walk aims to identify possibly unsafe locations around campus**

By STEPHI SMITH

The Missouri Students Association hosted its annual Campus Safety Walk on Tuesday to identify areas of campus deemed unsafe. Students from various organizations, including the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Center and the Residence Halls Association, participated in the walk, which took place after dark while street lamps were on.

The event began at Memorial Union. Participants were then split into five groups with each assigned to a different area of the university. One member of MUPD walked with four of the five groups. Each was given a map of its assigned area and two blank sheets of paper to record any findings.

Justin McDonald, director of the Department of Student Services, a branch of MSA, was in charge of planning and carrying out the event.

“That’s a huge area,” Environmental Health and Safety technician Josh Nunn said to McDonald when he saw his group’s map.

“We have a huge campus,” McDonald said to Nunn.

Before the teams went their separate ways, McDonald notified the room what to look out for. He said to look for dimly lit walkways and reminded everyone that they should be able to see up to 50 feet in front of them. He also said to look out for tripping hazards and any bushes or trees that have overgrown and covered lights or signs.

MUPD Officer James Young walked with McDonald, Nunn, senior Gabby Vest and sophomore Rebecca Wilkes. Young attended the walk last year and brought a light meter to measure the amount of visible light in a given area on campus.
The light meter measured the illumination in “foot candles” and Young said most walkways should be 1-2 foot candles. Young tested a sidewalk by Ninth Street, where a tree blocked most of the light. It came up as .2 foot candles and McDonald wrote it down.

McDonald said having MUPD officers is crucial to the walk as they provide more information about the campus that students may not know. They’re aware of what it means for a light to be “up to code,” he said.

As the group walked their designated areas, surrounding and within the Francis Quadrangle, they marked burnt street lights and broken lamps outside MU buildings. On the stretch of Ninth Street, in between University Avenue and Elm Street, McDonald noted two street lamps were not illuminated.

Young said there are generally two ways to go about lighting a college campus: lighting the entire campus at all times or simply lighting the pathways that students are encouraged by the university to follow. Young said MU tends to light only the pathways that should be used. Lighting the entire campus leads to heavy light pollution, Young said, but that can be reduced by installing cutouts on the street lamps to direct the light downward.

In addition, McDonald also wrote down whenever a member of the group said they didn’t feel safe. Vest said she didn’t feel safe in the walkway leading up to the Neff Hall Arch between Neff Hall and Walter Williams Hall.

“I don’t like how dark it is,” she said. “Whenever I’m walking alone at night, I don’t walk through there.”

McDonald said it’s important to note those places since he believes every college student should feel safe.

“I think it’s important to address that if a student doesn’t feel safe, it could be an issue even if everything is up to code,” he said.

Campus safety affects not just students, McDonald said. From prospective students on a tour to faculty at MU, he thinks everyone should feel safe on campus.

“I think safety is just part of the overall college experience,” he said. “You want to have a safe campus so you’re allowed to have that.”

He also said he was pleased that students not active in MSA or other programs on campus specifically aimed at safety participated in the walk.

“You don’t have to be in a leadership position to care,” McDonald said.

Vest attended as a member of the Mizzou Unity Coalition, a student-run group that aims to integrate the disabled population with the community of Columbia.
Vest decided to participate after McDonald reached out to her through her group. The Unity Coalition puts on its own walk in the spring, called the Accessibility Walk, aimed to target and note any problems regarding accessibility, specifically. Vest said MSA representatives have walked and participated in that in the past and she wanted to return the favor.

“I like working with them; they make things happen,” she said.

She said she also wanted to provide expertise with accessibility problems at MU.

“A lot of campus safety has to do with accessibility, which is what I specialize in and know a lot about,” Vest said.

After McDonald and his team finished, they headed back to their original meeting place, Memorial Union, to turn in their notes and marked-up maps.

“We found a couple lights out, some areas of concern; always good to do that once a year at least,” McDonald said.

McDonald and others at MSA will later gather the notes to write up a complete report and reach out to various offices around MU who would be in charge of reported areas. The report should be finished within the next two weeks, McDonald said.

Sports nutrition adds to collegiate arms race, but what does Missouri bring to the table?

BROOKS HOLTON Sep 15, 2017

It’s 6:15 a.m. on Aug. 18, and as groggy Missouri football players walk into the Mizzou Athletics Training Complex to begin another day of fall camp, I’m following director of sports nutrition Claire McDaniel as she fast-walks between her office in the MATC weight room and the student-athlete dining hall at such a pace that it’s surprising she hasn’t worn a tread into the tile flooring.

She’s made a tray of blueberry smoothies and transports them into the dining hall, stopping only to admire the bright orange clementines sitting on ice at the fruit bar. Now, she’s visiting football
players’ tables to comment on breakfast choices and remind those with sickle cell anemia to fill out forms to monitor their daily eating habits.

Walking down the hallway toward the weight room again, McDaniel — empty smoothie tray in hand — lets out a “BEEP BEEP” to get a couple of linemen walking in front of her to let her through before complimenting redshirt senior linebacker Eric Beisel on his light blue Nike T-shirt as the two cross paths.

In a supply room next door to her office in the weight room, she surveys plans for a new salad bar that’s to be installed in the MATC dining hall with manager Jeff Melegrito. Minutes later, she’s going into the training room to make sure a member of the athletic training staff is in the locker room to weigh players before they head out to the practice fields.

“I’m always going in different directions,” McDaniel said. “All the football position coaches know to stay out of my way.”

McDaniel, who swam for the University of Georgia from 2003-07, is passionate about sports nutrition because of the positive impact it had on her athletic career. After making minor contributions to the team her first season with the Bulldogs, she said she decided to become more conscious about her health. It paid off in the form of receiving women’s All-American honors during her final three seasons, winning the 2006 NCAA title in the 800-yard freestyle relay and posting a Georgia top-10 time in the 500 freestyle.

“The (UGA) coaches love that story, because I worked my ass off and I have no regrets because I did everything I could to be as good as I could,” said McDaniel, who moved to Columbia with her husband, a Missouri native, after working at the University of Denver as a sports dietician and swim coach. She wasn’t planning on taking the director job at Missouri but saw the opening posted online and described the feeling as, “weird, eclipse-type, meant to be.”

Just over a month into her first stint as a collegiate director of sports nutrition, which oversees every one of Missouri’s 18 varsity sports, McDaniel’s plate stays full. As the only full-time staff member in MU’s sports nutrition department, she said she spends 70 to 80 hours a week in the MATC working with a rotating staff of 23 unpaid student interns to efficiently fuel and educate
all Tiger athletes on proper nutritional habits. While some coaches will get their offseason at the end of the fall, the director of sports nutrition gets a new set of athletes and coaches to work with and new routines to keep.

But McDaniel won’t make it that far. Twelve days after shadowing her during Missouri fall camp, I’m called back to the MATC and enter McDaniel’s office. It’s midafternoon, and the director of sports nutrition is quietly sitting at her desk. McDaniel had acknowledged the reservations she had about the job’s time commitment during our first encounter, but it’s evident now that long weeks spent in the MATC — a place she jokingly compared to New York City because “it never sleeps” — have been wearing her down.


**COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE**

**Major college athletes still not reaping just rewards**

By TOM KRUCKEMEYER

In February of 2014, Sarah Steelman and I completed a paper we called “College Athletes Everywhere Just Wanna Be Free.” The paper estimates the economic value of major college football and men’s basketball players. This was done by determining what an average player in these sports would be paid if big time college sports used a free market system like professional sports. We found that an average football player in a major program has an annual economic value of $435,000 while an average men’s basketball player has an economic value of $591,000. While recognizing that the “scholarships” that players receive have substantial value ($25,000 per year), clearly these players are woefully under compensated.

While our paper generated considerable interest, there has been little progress in the economic status of major college athletes. Meanwhile, the revenues generated by the big time college sports programs have grown rapidly. As the 2017 football season beckons, I have looked at what has changed and what has not. **With the University of Missouri now a member of the Southeastern Conference, I updated the calculations for the SEC.**
Led by the $164.0 million Alabama athletics generated for the 2016, the SEC department average for 2016 was $121.2 million. This was 38 percent greater than the $87.8 average seen four years before. The Missouri athletic operation collected $91.6 million in 2016, nearly 50 percent ahead of the $61.2 million total in 2012.

In 2012, an average SEC football player was worth $543,000. By 2016, this had increased 41 percent to $764,000. Alabama led the way with its football players being worth over $1.1 million. An average Missouri football player was worth $382,000 in 2016.

For 2016, the average SEC head football coach was paid $4.1 million, led by Alabama’s Nick Saban who earned $7 million. Over the last four years, the average football head coach pay rose about 26 percent in the SEC. Missouri’s Barry Odom made $2.35 million last season.

LISTEN: Mizzou Sports Podcast

By any reasonable standard, major college football and men’s basketball players remain woefully under compensated relative to the bounty they generate. That said, positives have taken place. In 2015, the five major conferences voted to allow “full cost of attendance” payments to their scholarship athletes. This provides cash payments to athletes to cover the incidental expenses. The payments are generally in the $3,500 range. (Missouri paid $4,300 to full scholarship athletes in 2016). In addition, some schools are providing their athletes with multi-year scholarships.

Nonetheless, the gap between what major college football and men’s basketball players generate and what they are “paid” is substantial. In addition to the obvious unfairness of this, the enormous economic “value” that talented athletes represent provides incentive that drives some universities and their boosters to provide athletes with improper financial support and/or to engage in academic subterfuge to keep athletes who may be marginal students eligible.

Where do we go from here? Despite some progress for revenue producing college athletes, the brazen unfairness of their situation is clear to those who have crunched the numbers. History teaches us that those who have economic power over others rarely give it up willingly. The revenues generated by football and men’s basketball players finance the “non-revenue” sports, and fund lucrative salaries for thousands of coaches/administrators.

Reasonable people generally agree on the inequity of the present system, but there is little consensus on a solution. Establishing an openly professional division for big time football/men’s basketball would allow player compensation to approach free market value and would largely end the “scandals” that plague college sports. If this is not feasible, surely progress can be made by providing more revenue producing athletes with multi-year scholarships, the same “transfer” rules the coaches enjoy, medical insurance that extends beyond playing careers. While the attempt by the Northwestern University football team to unionize in 2014/15 did not succeed, the process legally established that they were in an employer/employee relationship. In America,
employees have rights. Let us hope that knowing the financial realities of major college football/men’s basketball coupled with America’s innate desire for fairness will lead to equitable treatment for the athletes we cheer and admire.

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The Free-Speech Stronghold

Purdue U. has won praise for embracing all expression. What risk does that posture bring in an era of violence?

By SARAH BROWN

The booming voice of Brother Max, a street preacher, rang out: "Women with short hair and those who wear slacks are all whores! And they’re bound to burn in hell!"

His words were clearly meant to provoke. How would the students passing by respond?

One female student was so hurt that she told her friend she wanted to return to her dorm room and not go to class. A male student suggested, "We should go beat his ass for spreading that hate speech!" He was restrained by his companions.

Others decided to engage the preacher in a conversation. "If we stand up to him and show up what we feel and how ridiculous his ideas are," one student said, "maybe we can bring attention to this campus’s true values."

"Brother Max" was actually a character played by a student actor, who starred in the first skit of Purdue University’s freshman orientation session on freedom of speech. But the scenario was based in reality.

At the start of each academic year, a wave of new students complains to Purdue administrators about street preachers like Brother Max who attack their appearance or identity. The skit is supposed to help explain to freshmen that, while university leaders don’t endorse the preachers’ point of view, they also won’t kick them off the campus.

Last year Purdue became what is believed to be the first institution to create an orientation program focused solely on the First Amendment. It’s part of a campaign of sorts that’s materialized here over the last three years that promotes an unfettered embrace of the vast majority of speech.

At a time when colleges have faced criticism for disinviting controversial speakers and allegedly shutting down constitutionally protected expression, Purdue has cast itself as an exemplar of institutional support for open and robust debate.
"Our basic rule of thumb at Purdue is that we will consider punishing conduct but never mere words," said Mitch Daniels, Purdue’s president, in a 2016 interview with the George W. Bush Institute. "We may condemn or disassociate, but we won’t punish let alone try to prevent speech from occurring in the first place."

Purdue’s free-speech push gained steam in 2015 and 2016 as dozens of colleges faced student protests against racism and demands for "safe spaces," and a letter to freshmen from a University of Chicago dean sparked further debate about trigger warnings and students’ desire for safety.

Around that time, critics of how colleges were handling speech controversies sounded a common theme: Institutions were enabling coddled students to be sheltered from ideas they didn’t agree with. But recently, white supremacists and other members of the so-called alt-right have altered the nature of the debate. Some of them have appeared on campuses. And things have gotten violent.

Purdue ‘will consider punishing conduct but never mere words,’ Mitch Daniels says.

Just days before Purdue’s orientation last month, a white-supremacist rally rocked Charlottesville, where the University of Virginia is located. Suddenly the consequences of allowing everyone to speak freely seem less like intellectual abstractions. Such a posture now carries more-urgent implications involving safety and risk, life and death.

Purdue has secured a reputation as a free-speech stronghold. But in a climate where white supremacists are targeting colleges, the university is being forced to wrestle with thorny questions about what that posture really means.

Three years ago, Purdue was no poster child for free speech. At least not in the eyes of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, or FIRE.

The free-speech advocacy group annually rates hundreds of colleges as green, yellow, or red based on its interpretation of their speech policies. Purdue’s rating was yellow. That meant some of its policies were vague, according to FIRE, and "could too easily be used to restrict protected expression."

Things might have stayed that way if it weren’t for an accidental free-speech activist named Andrew K. Zeller, a Ph.D. student in mathematics.

In the spring of 2013, Mr. Zeller was pitching an idea for a debate club to members of a political student group on campus. After their meeting was over, a few of them planned to attend a lecture given by Greg Lukianoff, president of FIRE, and they invited Mr. Zeller to tag along. He hadn’t heard of Mr. Lukianoff, but he didn’t have much work to do that night, he reasoned. Why not?

During his talk, Mr. Lukianoff discussed what he saw as the discouraging speech trends on many campuses. He told the story of a student at Valdosta State University who was expelled after protesting the construction of two campus parking garages. (After the student filed suit, with FIRE’s support, the university reinstated him.)
Mr. Zeller hadn’t witnessed such problems at his institution. "The culture of Purdue is one that lends itself to respect the rights of people to speak," he said in a recent interview. But the fact that a student anywhere could be severely punished for a peaceful demonstration shocked him.

The following year, when he was elected vice president of the graduate-student government, he knew he wanted to secure FIRE’s highest rating, a "green light," and ensure that Purdue’s policies aligned with its culture. He contacted FIRE’s lawyers, who explained which policies they found problematic and why.

Progress came swiftly at first. In the fall of 2014, both the undergraduate and graduate student governments passed resolutions urging the university to revise the five policies FIRE had flagged, like one that the group thought defined threats too broadly. But soon their efforts seemed to stall. Then, in April, Mr. Zeller was elected president of the graduate-student body, and he had a conversation with Mr. Daniels.

When Mr. Daniels came to Purdue in January of 2013, he was already tuned into debates around campus free speech and perceived liberal bias in higher education. In his 2011 book, *Keeping the Republic*, he wrote: "There has been enough research done on the political slant on college campuses for us to conclude with confidence that many students are offered a one-sided view of the world when in college." One of the first speakers he helped bring to Purdue was Mr. Lukianoff.

Mr. Daniels, a former governor of Indiana, is also a savvy politician. Getting off of FIRE’s naughty list and formally embracing the University of Chicago’s landmark statement on free expression — something no public university had done at the time — would put Purdue on the map.

"I think he saw an opportunity to get out in front of what was clearly a looming and difficult issue over the question of safe spaces and trigger warnings," said David C. Atkinson, an associate professor of history at Purdue.

Within weeks, the deed was done. With Mr. Daniels’s blessing, Purdue’s Board of Trustees signed off on the policy changes that student leaders had asked for. The board also endorsed the Chicago principles.

Since then, Purdue has received adulatory coverage from conservative outlets like Fox News, the National Review, and The Weekly Standard that have seized onto the campus-culture-war narrative. They framed the story as a contrast: Purdue stands up for free expression, while other colleges, with their focus on diversity, inclusion, and political correctness, chill speech.

Mr. Daniels doesn’t seem to see it in such black-and-white terms. He has made references to his support for diversity right alongside his emphasis on free speech. (He declined multiple requests to be interviewed for this article, referring all questions about Purdue’s stance on the First Amendment to Steven R. Schultz, Purdue’s legal counsel.)
Still, Mr. Daniels hasn’t hesitated to cast his institution as an outlier in higher education’s free-speech battles. Soon after the board endorsed the Chicago principles, he drew attention to that fact during his spring commencement speech. "If you absorbed anything of our Constitution, you know that it contains no right not to be offended," he said. "If anything, by protecting speech of all kinds, it guarantees that you will be able to, as they say, ‘Deal with it.’"

Katie Sermersheim, dean of students, was interviewing for her job at Purdue around that time and remembers being both perplexed and pleased by the university’s stance. "There’s question after question on free speech, and that Purdue has embraced the Chicago principles, and we’re a free-speech campus," she said. "And I’m thinking, How could you not be before? What does that mean?"

"But all in all," she continued, "it sent a very positive and powerful message to me that we welcome, we celebrate, we embrace free speech in all forms."

Later that year, when protests by black students and demands for safe spaces were roiling other colleges nationwide, Mr. Daniels took the opportunity to tout his institution’s bona fides as a protector of free expression.

"What a proud contrast," he wrote in an email to the campus community, "to the environments that appear to prevail at places like Missouri and Yale." A glowing editorial in The Wall Street Journal called him "an adult on campus." Some Purdue students called on him to apologize. One put it this way: "I felt like his letter reinforced the silence put upon the black experience at universities."

Story continues.

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

A Free-Speech Divide

Why students and professors may think differently about free expression

By BETH McMURTRIE

When it comes to technology and pop culture, the gulf between professors and students can seem enormous. But is there also a generational divide on free speech?

Judging by an endless stream of op-eds in response to student protests over controversial speakers, the answer would seem to be yes: Young people today are overly sensitive and doctrinaire, the critics argue, demanding protection from viewpoints they find offensive. Contrast that with the free-speech movement of the 1960s, when students resisted authority rather than demanding protection by it.
But free-speech advocates and student activists say those comparisons are unfair and inaccurate. Today’s students are not as intolerant, and yesterday’s were not as open-minded, as it may appear. They agree, though, that the forces shaping this generation have influenced its members’ ideas on speech and censorship. And while some of those forces have had a positive effect, they’ve also led to an increased willingness to trade one perceived good — unfettered expression — for another — inclusivity.

A series of surveys backs up those views:

- In a 2015 survey by the Pew Research Center, 40 percent of millennials said the government should be able to prevent people from making public statements offensive to minority groups, while only 27 percent of Generation X members agreed.
- A 2015 report on college freshmen by the Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California at Los Angeles noted that 71 percent of those surveyed said colleges should prohibit racist and sexist speech on campuses, up from 60 percent a decade earlier. And 43 percent said that colleges had the right to ban extreme speakers.
- In a 2016 Gallup survey of college students, 72 percent said they did not think colleges should restrict speech that expresses political views upsetting or offensive to certain groups. Yet 69 percent favored restrictions on speech using slurs or other language that is intentionally offensive to some groups.

While some of those beliefs may seem contradictory, free-speech advocates say they can be explained by several social trends. For one, many students come to college far more supervised than previous generations were. Authority is not their enemy.

Jonathan Zimmerman, a professor of the history of education at the University of Pennsylvania, recounts a hypothetical challenge he recently posed to some undergraduates as they discussed administrative interventions like bias-response teams. A Muslim student and a gay student get into an argument. The Muslim student tells the gay student his lifestyle is sinful; the gay student tells the Muslim student his religion is prejudiced. "My question wasn’t whether they insulted each other, it was why we’re asking a suit to rule in this," Mr. Zimmerman recalls. "I think it diminishes people. It says you don’t have enough agency and independence to settle this on your own."

But the students disagreed. They had grown up under systems that are highly monitored, and such intervention seemed normal to them, he says: "Prior generations wanted less authority. This generation wants more."

The pervasiveness of social media and their experiences in elementary- and secondary-school classrooms have also profoundly shaped how today’s students view free expression, free-speech advocates say. Given how quickly small debates can go viral, students are often wary of speaking their minds. And many schools implicitly teach students that controversy is best avoided, says Catherine J. Ross, a law professor at George Washington University who has written about school censorship. High schools routinely violate students’ free-speech rights in the name of harmony, she argues. Pro-Trump or pro-Hillary slogans, arguments for or against LGBT rights, T-shirts in support of our armed forces or against the war in Iraq — all of those expressions have been censored at some point in school systems, she has found.
"We shouldn’t be pointing fingers at them and saying, Those millennials don’t get it," she says. "How should they get it if they don’t experience it?"

The current generation of college students is also more diverse and less biased against minority groups, according to national surveys. That means students in the majority are more attuned to prejudices and slights others may experience, free-speech advocates say, while minority students are increasingly comfortable speaking out when they encounter bias. That may explain a greater willingness to police hate speech.

Storm Ervin is a founding member of Concerned Student 1950 at the University of Missouri at Columbia, which has protested the treatment of black students on the campus. Speech that is clearly racist or homophobic should be policed because it has no value, she argues. "Legally I know language is protected under free speech, but morally it’s harmful," says Ms. Ervin, who is earning a master’s in public policy at Rutgers University. "I don’t think the First Amendment is under attack; what is under attack is people’s ability to be racist."

“Prior generations wanted less authority. This generation wants more.”

Zachary R. Wood, a student at Williams College, disagrees with Ms. Ervin on censoring speech. He started a program on his campus called Uncomfortable Learning, which invites speakers with controversial ideas. As a black student from a disadvantaged background, he says, he understands how young people connect specific offenses to broader social problems of prejudice and racism. But, he says, they can’t fight these problems without engaging their opponents. "Martin Luther King couldn’t achieve change by saying, ‘I’m not going to talk to people who don’t support the Voting Rights Act.’ The world is a rough, tough place. You’re going to have to deal with a lot of things."

Geoffrey R. Stone, a law professor at the University of Chicago who speaks frequently about the importance of free speech on college campuses, says that sympathizing with students’ concerns about hateful speech while explaining the relevance of the First Amendment to earlier social movements should be part of any conversation about free expression. "Make clear that we are taking seriously the underlying issues," he says. "Universities that say, ‘Get over it, you need to understand free speech, and then we’re done,’ that’s a mistake."

The growth of the so-called alt-right and the election of Donald J. Trump have raised the stakes for free speech. The rally by white supremacists in Charlottesville, Va., this summer, which led to the death of a young protester and assaults on several others, will make students more likely to block influential "hate speakers" from coming to their campuses, says Ms. Ervin.