



**MU News Bureau**

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# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

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St. Louis **Business** Journal

## Mizzou hopes to bring more students back to dorms with cost cuts, cheaper meal plans

By Ashley Jost – Nov. 3, 2017

**ST. LOUIS • The University of Missouri-Columbia is cutting the cost of some on-campus housing options starting next fall.**

That's one of many changes campus leaders announced Friday, along with new, reduced meal plan options and several others that they hope will make dorms more appealing to returning students.

Room rates for about one-third of on-campus living options are dropping from 2.2 percent to 5 percent, depending on location. Those dorm options that aren't decreasing in cost will remain flat.

Dining costs for some plans are also changing. New options could help reduce costs by at least \$300.

It's a risk, but one that leaders think is worth taking.

“This year is an investment year to gain back trust in that this university is the University for Missouri,” Mizzou chief operating officer Gary Ward told the Post-Dispatch. “We hear families saying the cost of education is high. We will continue to look for ways — not just in student affairs and operations, but institutionally — to change that.”

This is the third cost-related announcement University of Missouri leaders have made since June.

The first move was the open-educational resources model that piloted free online textbooks for 10 classes across the four university campuses and encouraged professors to explore how they can adopt such resources in their own classes.

In August, the flagship campus rolled out the so-called ‘Land Grants,’ which offer low-income students grants to cover the cost of tuition and fees. Students who are enrolled in the Honors College who also come from low-income households will have their tuition and fees plus room and board covered through the grants.

Ward said people should get used to these types of changes. It ties back to a message he’s shared frequently at board meetings: it’s time to be good stewards when it comes to money.

“There are families sitting around the table at night talking about affordability issues,” he explained, adding Mizzou has a responsibility as a public university to make these types of changes.

Ward estimates administrative cuts and other changes saved about \$1.5 million, making it a little easier for his finance staff to stomach the idea of lowering costs.

“We need students who want to live with us,” Alysha O’Neil, budget director for student affairs, said. “We’re investing this year to get more (buy in) in the future.”

### **Setting an example**

It’s no secret that a dip in the freshman class has added to the struggle of filling campus dormitories. Freshmen are largely mandated to stay on campus — a normal requirement among universities to help students adjust and build a community.

Luxury apartments all over Columbia give returning students another option.

Sophomore Maggie Recca hears that all the time from students as the president of the Residence Halls Association. Off-campus options are sometimes cheaper, and they don’t require a meal plan like staying in the dorms does — or did.

That’s another change that Ward and his team made. If students want to come back after freshman year and live on instant noodles, they can do that starting next fall.

Ward and his team have swayed Recca to consider another new option starting fall 2018: 12-month housing contracts with no restrictions about taking classes during the summer.

There's something appealing to Recca, a St. Charles native, about not moving her stuff from a dorm room to a subleased apartment for the summer months — only to move it all back to the dorm again.

“I think that one will be attractive to students trying to gain in-state residency,” she said. She was referring to a program where students have to prove they have lived in-state for 12 months and earned up to \$2,000, among other requirements, in order to receive in-state tuition. “I can also see some coming to college and realize it's awesome having that independence and deciding they would like to get a job and be part of the community.”

Ward doesn't know how all of these changes will help the university financially.

If it goes as well as he hopes, Ward said the still-new program allowing campus guests to rent dorm rooms like hotels on football game weekends could end after its first year.

“You know, this is an exciting time to be involved in public higher education,” Ward said. “In a couple of years, I think the rest of the country is going to be looking at what we're doing here as an example.”

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## **MU thinks lowering the cost of living on campus will boost enrollment**

**By Mara Rose Williams – Nov. 3, 2017**

**The University of Missouri announced Friday it is cutting by 3.5 percent the cost of eating and living on campus for many students, come fall 2018.**

The move represents the university's second major action to reduce the cost of a higher education on the Columbia campus. Earlier this year MU promised to cover 100 percent of the unmet need on the cost of tuition and fees for all Pell Grant eligible students.

University officials expect both actions will help boost enrollment, which has been shrinking significantly on the campus for the past two years. MU enrollment is 30,870, the lowest since 2008 and down 12.9 percent from the record set in 2015.

Chancellor Alexander Cartwright said Friday that base housing rates for more than one third of the MU housing options will be reduced next year.

Rates on more than 650 community-style, double rooms, about 1,300 beds, will drop an average of 2.2 percent. Rates for 232 double rooms, about 464 beds in Hatch Hall, will drop 5 percent — creating a new economy housing option.

All other housing rates will remain flat.

In addition, university officials said that after talking with students they learned that for some of them existing housing options, even the least expensive, are too costly or lock them into having to pay for more meals than they would like.

So the university now is offering additional dining plans that include cheaper and more flexible options, said Jeff Zeilenga, dean of students.

“Not every student wants to eat three meals a day,” Zeilenga said.

For the first time MU will allow upperclassmen to live on campus without a meal plan.

Students who elect economy living and dining plans will be able to live and eat on campus for about \$1,000 a month, including utilities, internet, cable, laundry, cleaning of common areas and security, Cartwright told an audience of students faculty and visitors at Friday’s announcement.

With the cost reductions, MU housing rates now start at \$714 a month, nearly \$350 less than the current least expensive option. Dining plans start at \$283 a month, nearly \$300 less than the smallest plan available now.

“University leaders expect the plan will result in an overall 3.5 percent reduction in cost for the university’s most commonly selected housing and dining plans,” said Christian Basi, university spokesman.

To reduce dining rates, university officials had to cut expenses by reorganizing operations, including a reduction in staffing. Dining hall maintenance operations merged with university maintenance, eliminating administrative costs, Zeilenga said.

“Our goal is to ensure that our options are competitive and reduce costs for students and families,” said Gary Ward, interim vice chancellor of Student Affairs and vice chancellor of Operations.

Lowering what it cost to live on campus could attract more upperclassmen to campus housing.

“We are hoping to fill our halls,” Zeilenga said.

This year MU has seven residence halls that are closed, so there is space to bring upperclassmen back to campus and keep students who return after their freshman year from moving off campus.

“Students who live on campus are more likely to stay in school and graduate in four years,” Cartwright said.

In a third big student savings effort, MU is working with other four campuses in the University of Missouri System to expand open educational resource materials, including free text books for some courses. Already because of this effort, MU officials said, 30 percent of courses on the campus already offer class materials for less than \$40.



## University of Missouri-Columbia Slightly Lowers Housing Cost

The University of Missouri in Columbia is slightly lowering some on-campus housing and dining costs.

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — The University of Missouri-Columbia is slightly lowering some on-campus housing and dining costs.

Chancellor Alexander Cartwright on Friday announced the cost for a traditional double-bed dorm room is going down 2.2 percent from \$6,770 this academic year to \$6,621 starting fall 2018.

That amounts to about \$150 in savings over two semesters. As many as 1,320 students could be affected.

Double rooms in Hatch Hall will drop 5 percent, from \$6,770 to about \$6,430 for two semesters. That would mean roughly \$340 in savings for about 460 students.

Starting next year, students also can opt to live in on-campus housing all year, including during breaks.

A new meal plan available next fall will cost \$2,550 per academic year. It's roughly \$300 less than the cheapest current option.

*Similar stories ran nation wide*

# T COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE

## University of Missouri cuts housing, meal rates for 2018

By Rudi Keller – Nov. 3, 2017

**The University of Missouri is cutting the cost of living and eating on campus as it tries to lure freshmen away from off-campus housing and convince more returning students to stay in dorms for a second year.**

The cost of the most popular residence and meal plans will be reduced by an average of 3.5 percent for the 2018-19 academic year, which begins in August, with new options for meals that can reduce the cost further, Chancellor Alexander Cartwright said Friday.

The lowest-cost option for housing will be cut to \$6,430 from \$6,770 and the cheapest meal plan will be reduced from \$2,840 for 175 meals to \$2,550 for 150 meals. The reduction in the number of meals in the two most affordable plans is based on surveys to determine how many meals students are actually eating in the dining halls.

As enrollment has fallen, the university has faced increasing competition from private student housing, with some offering before the fall semester to buy incoming freshmen out of residence

hall contracts. The university has seven residence halls that have been closed or are seeing limited use because freshmen enrollment is down more than 30 percent over two years.

At an announcement on campus, Cartwright said the move is part of continuing efforts to make MU more affordable. The university has moved to make more open-source textbooks available to students free of charge, cutting the total student spending on course materials by \$1.8 million, he said. The Land Grant Compact, announced earlier this year, will cover tuition for Pell Grant-eligible students and 100 percent of unmet needs for Pell-eligible students in the honors college.

“I understand what it takes to do the hard work to be able pay for an education,” Cartwright said. “This is an opportunity for us to try to reduce those costs as much as we can.”

University regulations require first-time freshmen to live in residence halls unless they receive a waiver. That loophole was exploited by the new student housing apartment complex on Ninth Street, The Rise, to seek tenants as it prepared to open for the fall semester.

The university does not want to fill the halls by stricter enforcement of that rule, Vice Chancellor for Operations Gary Ward said. Instead, it wants to attract students to stay through their sophomore year — 275 have signed up already for next year, he said — and cutting the price is a way to do that.

“Instead of trying to be heavy-handed, we want to earn it,” Ward said.

During the announcement, Cartwright touted the benefits of residence hall living. The price is all-inclusive, covering cleaning, laundry services, security and participation in freshman interest groups to support studies, he said.

“It also includes support from live-in professional staff and access to academic success programs that apartments cannot offer,” Cartwright said.

If the university is more successful in attracting and retaining students in the residence halls, the owners of private student housing will probably seek to market their apartments to young professionals or others who want to live downtown, said Jerry Dowell, government affairs director for the Columbia Chamber of Commerce.

“Obviously Mizzou is going to do what they need to do and the off-campus housing owners are going to do what they need to do as well,” Dowell said.

# MISSOURIAN

## New affordability initiative to lower MU living and dining rates

BY DYLAN SHERMAN

**MU's campus dining and housing rates will be lowered by 3.5 percent in the fall of 2018, Chancellor Alexander Cartwright announced Friday.**

The housing rate will be reduced for one-third of campus housing options, and the rates for the rest of the housing options will remain flat. Cartwright said he believes this is the first time housing rates have been reduced.

“This will allow many students to live and eat on campus for under \$1,000 a month,” he said.

Now, students with the lowest-cost plan pay \$1,068 a month, or \$9,610 a year, MU spokeswoman Liz McCune said. With the change, students will pay \$998 a month, or \$8,980 a year, she said.

Students who use the most commonly chosen plan now pay \$1,119 per month, or \$10,070 a year. With the change, they'll pay \$1,080 a month, or \$9,720 a year, McCune said.

The reasoning behind this plan is to help students and families cope better financially and to minimize the number of students with college debt, Cartwright said.

These changes come in the wake of three other MU affordability plans: the [Missouri Land Grant Compact](#), changes to the student charge that prevent students from accumulating debt for non-academic expenses and an [affordable textbook initiative](#).

Tuition fees for the UM System were [increased by 2.1 percent](#) in May after a vote from the UM System Board of Curators.

Currently, 45 percent of MU students graduate with no federal loan debt, Cartwright said. And those students with loan debt have 25 percent less debt than the national average, a difference of \$7,000, he said.

Although Cartwright said the numbers are good, he emphasized the financial strain that an education creates.

“We know that college is still an expensive investment for students and their families,” he said.

But students who live on campus have better outcomes and more graduate on time, Cartwright said.

“We know that living in a dorm and being a part of a [Freshman Interest Group](#) has been proven to lead to student success,” he said.

The details of this plan, according to an MU news release, also include:

- The cost of 1,320 beds in community style rooms will drop 2.2 percent. The cost of 464 beds in double rooms in Hatch Hall will drop by 5 percent.
- Students will be given an option to live in certain halls year-round.
- A new economy dining plan will be added, with 150 meals per semester.
- A new flexible dining plan will be added that will work at multiple locations, including the Student Center.
- The dining plan requirement will be eliminated for returning students.
- Plans for 175 and 225 meals per semester will be merged into a plan for 200 meals per semester.

Asked during a press conference if the changes were a “move in desperation” to bring more students to MU, Cartwright said no.

“I understand how hard work is needed to pay for an education,” he said, “and this is an opportunity for us to try and reduce those costs as much as we can.”

Gary Ward, the interim vice chancellor for student affairs, echoed the sentiment.

“This is the right thing to do for MU students and their families,” he said. “We have lowered the cost of education material for students across the UM System by more than \$1.3 million” between fall 2016 and fall 2017.

The changes to housing costs are a result of listening to feedback from students and their families, according to an MU news release.

Maggie Recca, a sophomore and the president of MU’s Residence Halls Association, believes students are being heard.

“The dean of students (Jeffrey Zeilenga) constantly asks us, what can we do?” Recca said. “The cost of an education and student debt isn’t a secret, so it is the first thing we came up with.”

Recca said she believes the housing rate decrease is proof that MU is responding to the concerns of students. This is a plan that will help alleviate stress and make students feel more comfortable at MU, she said.

“Our student voice is loud, and administration is listening,” she said.

As someone who has to pay for her education herself, Recca said she knows student debt is a reality that many students face. Many students will be relieved and excited with lowered rates, she said.

With this new plan, Recca said, “the dream of becoming a Tiger will become a possibility for more students than ever.”



## **MU will lower some student housing & dining costs for next school year**

By: Jasmine Ramirez

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/mu-will-lower-some-student-housing-and-dining-costs-for-next-school-year>

**COLUMBIA - The University of Missouri announced it will lower the cost some students pay to live on campus. The initiative makes the most common housing and dining plan cost about \$1,000 per month.**

MU Chancellor Alexander Cartwright said he hopes the economy housing initiative will relieve the financial burden select students face. He said he understands first-hand what it's like.

"I had to work my way through school. This is an opportunity for us to try to reduce those costs as much as we can and, being stewards of the public, to give people and making sure we give people the access they deserve," he said.

The plan will lower housing and dining plan costs by an average of 3.5 percent for one-third of campus housing options.

Residence hall living includes utilities, internet, cable, laundry and cleaning.

The base rate for 1,320 beds in community-style dorms drop by 2.2 percent and rates for 464 beds in double rooms in Hatch Hall will decrease by 5 percent.

Cartwright said the initiative helps give students the opportunity to live in the dorms and join freshman interest groups. He said the groups help increase student academic success.

Residence Halls Association President Maggie Recca said she is excited students will have the opportunity to experience "building community, having everything at your convenience, having constant support."

Recca said she wants to encourage students to live in the residence halls beyond their freshman year.

After hearing student feedback, the university announced it is also giving students the option to live in residence halls year-round. This option is available in a select number of halls.

MU said it will make dining options more affordable by adding a new economy dining plan and eliminating the requirement for returning students to purchase a meal plan.

Recca said the initiative will relieve some of the stress she faces and hopes it will help other students.

"I know as a student who has to pay for my own college and living expenses, this will be great for me," she said.



## [MU to announce affordable campus housing initiative amid efforts to increase enrollment](#)

By Ashley Tooney – Nov. 3, 2017

COLUMBIA, Mo. - [The University of Missouri is expected to announce an initiative Friday that will make living on campus more affordable.](#)

The university says the "new plan features cost friendly and affordable options involving student housing and meal plans."

This comes as Mizzou faces a significant drop in enrollment. The current freshman class is lowest the university has seen in at least a decade.

UM System President Mun Choi has said nothing is more important than getting enrollment numbers to increase.

Currently, seven residence halls are closed on campus due to low enrollment numbers.

ABC 17 News will be attending today's announcement and will have a full report in our 6 p.m. newscast.



## [MU to announce on-campus living affordability initiative](#)

By Megan Sanchez – Nov. 2, 2017

**COLUMBIA — The University of Missouri is set to announce Friday an initiative that will make living on campus more affordable. According to a media advisory, the new plan features cost-friendly and affordable options involving student housing and meal plans.**

This comes amidst Dr. Garnett Stokes announcing her departure from the university Thursday. She will serve as the new president of the University of New Mexico.

University of Missouri Faculty Council Chair Dr. William Wiebold said Mizzou's struggling reputation had nothing to do with Stokes leaving.

He said he gets asked often what the university is doing to work on their reputation, and he understands why departing faculty looks bad.

"I don't think she's leaving because of anything that's happening here at the university," he said.

"In fact, she's been instrumental in trying to work on the branding, increasing enrollment, doing a good job to get the good story that really is here."

He said when trying to repair the university's reputation, it comes down to individuals. He said each individual faculty member provides some benefit to the community.

"It's unfortunate that the reputation has taken a hit," he said. "I've talked to people in my job. When I talk to farmers, they tell me that. I just slowly kind of work through [and say] 'Well think about what MU has really done for you in your lives,' and they'll say 'Yeah, that's true.'"

Wiebold said Stokes worked to hire many of the department deans that are currently employed at the university. He said quality deans helps to push the university in the right direction.

"There's a lot of important things that a provost does," he said. "One of them is to hire the deans, and good quality deans make a difference in faculty lives, student lives, staff lives."



## **MU Announces New Housing and Dining Affordability Initiative**

By Erin Schroeder

**The University of Missouri announced a housing and dining affordability initiative Friday morning that will reduce the most common housing and dining plans by 3.5 percent.**

Chancellor Alexander Cartwright says the university is reducing rates for more than one-third of its available residence halls rooms.

"This will allow many students to live on campus for less than \$1,000 a month," Cartwright says.

Resident Hall Association President Maggie Recca says students have consistently expressed their concerns through "resident rants" about on-campus expenses.

"Hopefully these changes will allow the students to understand that their voices are heard," says Recca.



## Hickman seniors react to MU dorm price cuts

By MARK SLAVIT

Watch video at: <http://krcgtv.com/news/local/hickman-seniors-react-to-mu-dorm-price-cuts>

COLUMBIA — **Mizzou officials announced they were trimming the prices of living in some of the on-campus dorms.**

The price reductions came as the University of Missouri faced problems with enrollment and reputation.

MU Chancellor Alexander Cartwright said next year's lower prices for one third of Mizzou's dorms were not an act of desperation as he tried to recruit and retain students. Cartwright said the bargain prices on dorm rooms and campus dining were a new way to help benefit students and their families.

"This is an opportunity for us to try to reduce those costs as much as we can," Cartwright said. "It is being stewards to the public and making sure we give people the access they deserve."

The price cuts would have students living and eating on campus for less than \$1,000 a month in the fall of 2018, Mizzou said. That included room rates starting at \$714 a month which was \$350 less than current prices and a \$300 savings in dining plans with a new price of \$283 a month.

The price cuts came on the same day as Columbia Hickman High School seniors bought their caps and gowns for graduation. Some Hickman seniors planning on going to Mizzou welcomed the lower prices.

"I'm going to pay for most of my college," Hickman senior Elliott Johnson said. "The lower, the better, the prices."

“It’s one less thing that I really have to stress about,” Hickman senior Kieran Malloy said. “If I can get that out of the way as opposed to paying a lot, that is super beneficial.”

Mizzou officials were aggressively recruiting students through new marketing campaigns. MU leaders hoped their lower prices gave high school seniors and their families more confidence in choosing Mizzou.

# MISSOURIAN

## Critical report on Greek system ignored MU's own data on freshmen academic performance

BY CONNOR HOFFMAN

In a report critical of Greek life last week, the Florida-based consulting firm Dyad Strategies recommended that freshmen no longer live in fraternity houses.

**This was based partly on the claim that they perform worse academically than non-Greeks.**

**MU’s own data suggests otherwise.**

Since at least 2013, the latest year available, the average GPAs of fraternities’ new member classes — which are mostly freshmen — were higher than the average GPA of all male freshmen on campus, according to MU data.

“(Greek) GPA is consistently and significantly above the all male average,” said John Dean, chair of the academic achievement committee for the Missouri Fraternity Alumni Consortium.

This past spring, the average MU freshman male GPA was 2.761. Of the 25 fraternities surveyed, 72 percent of the new member classes had GPAs higher than that, [according to the Office of Greek Life](#).

MU, which has [cracked down on fraternities in recent years](#), commissioned the report for \$22,000. The original report was released Oct. 26, but a modified version — without the language about the academic performance of freshmen fraternity members — was posted to the MU website on Thursday.

The original report, [which didn't list any research to support the claim about freshmen fraternity members](#), stated: “There is ample research to suggest that freshman students who live in residence halls have the most positive academic and co-curricular outcomes. Freshman fraternity members at Mizzou do not perform well academically compared to their non-affiliated peers.”

The [last sentence was removed](#) in the modified report.

[The recommendation](#) that freshmen not live in fraternity houses was also based on additional factors, including “risk management, health and safety (including hazing) issues, as well as a scenario in which most chapters are run by sophomores with upperclassmen generally ‘checking out’ of the fraternity experience.”

Gentry McCreary, Dyad’s CEO, said, during his initial visit to the MU campus, an administrator — whom he did not identify — told him that freshmen fraternity members do not perform well academically. He put that comment into his notes, and it ultimately ended up in the report.

“I have since been provided with grade reports indicating that some (but not all) fraternity freshman perform above the all freshman male average,” McCreary wrote in an email. “I should have checked the information in my report against the campus grade reports but did not.”

Dean said the flaw calls the report into question.

“I find that the report is lacking in credibility,” he said.

John Hartman, president of the Missouri Fraternity Alumni Consortium, declined to comment.

The Residential Life Committee, which includes Dean of Students Jeffrey Zeilenga, met the day after the original report was released, and its members discussed an unenforced rule that all freshmen live in residence halls, said Tom Phillips, the committee chair.

“We think it would be good if more people lived in the residence halls because it does promote good academics and college success,” Phillips said.

Gary Ward, interim vice chancellor for student affairs, said in an [Oct. 26 statement](#) about the Dyad report that “no final decisions about specific recommendations will be made before spring.”

Zeilenga was not available for comment Friday.

Former MU Residential Life Director Frankie Minor, [who was laid off during university budget cuts in July](#) and has since taken a similar job at the University of Rhode Island, said decades of research indicate students benefit greatly from spending their first year living on campus.

“It gets them connected with each other, and it gets them connected with the campus,” Minor said. “It’s the one experience they share in common.”

But individual experiences are hard to predetermine, he said.

“No one can predict what’s going to be the best experience for an individual student,” Minor said. “We have to look at what we know is best for most students and develop policies and practices around that.”

Minor said he recognized that some students want or need alternatives to living on campus and that Greek life is one available option.

“It’s unfortunate that some of the men didn’t choose to (live on campus),” Minor said. “They chose something that they thought was equally as good and beneficial.”

McCreary is expected to return to the MU campus in the coming weeks to share recommendations with Greek students, alumni, faculty, staff and MU leadership, [according to Ward's statement](#).

An open forum to discuss the report is scheduled for 2 p.m. Nov. 10 in Jesse Wrench Auditorium in the Memorial Student Union, MU spokesman Christian Basi said.



## [MU Faculty Council stands behind naming new hall after Lucile Bluford](#)

By JALYN JOHNSON

Watch video at: <http://www.komu.com/news/mu-faculty-council-stands-behind-naming-new-hall-after-lucile-bluford>

COLUMBIA - **MU's newest residence hall is named just that: New Hall.**

But that could soon change, as the MU Faculty Council voted this week to back the suggestion to name the building after Lucile Bluford.

Bluford was a Kansas City native who applied and was admitted to the journalism graduate program in 1939. Once she showed up to register for classes, the registrar denied her because she was African-American. She was awarded an honorary doctorate degree in 1989.

The original suggestion for the name came from the Residence Hall Association last July. Former RHA President Matt Bourke said he was passionate about the new hall being named after Bluford.

“When you look at our campus, there are few buildings named after people of color, so a huge part is representation on this campus and acknowledging all the different kind of people that come to this campus,” Bourke said.

According to the resolution, honoring Bluford with this building would be a way to recognize past mistakes made by the university and add to the healing process.

Some curators have hesitated on accepting the proposal because Bluford isn’t an alumna of the university.

With that in mind, the Faculty Council still believed that backing RHA’s proposal was an easy decision.

“We think that it is important to commemorate Lucile Bluford’s exemplification of the university’s core values,” Kristen Taylor, and Executive Committee Member of the Faculty Council said.

Bourke said he was elated when he found out the Faculty Council was backing RHA’s suggestion.

“It’s one more group of stakeholders on this campus that also agree that this is a building name that we should have.”

While Bluford has not been set in stone as the figure New Hall will be named after, Bourke thinks the suggestion is at the front of the line. Bourke is serving on a University Working Group that will create a proposal for the name to give to the Board of Curators in February.



## Faculty Council to Support Renaming of Residence Hall After Lucile Bluford

By ERIN SCHROEDER

**The MU Faculty Council voted Thursday to support a resolution to rename a new residence hall after Lucile Bluford. Bluford was rejected from the university 11 times in the early 1900s because she was African-American. She went on to become a successful journalist and civil rights activist until her death in 2003.**

Faculty council member Berkley Hudson says the council and the diversity enhancement committee wanted to add their voices to support those like Bluford who have advocated for civil rights in the past.

“In doing so, it acknowledges her critical role in the fight for improving race relations at Mizzou in the 20th century,” Hudson says.

In recent years, the university has struggled with race relations and acknowledging its racial history, Hudson says. He says that renaming a residence hall after Bluford is part of a process of owning, acknowledging and celebrating the university’s history.

“It’s a way to add both truth and reconciliation to that long term process of improving race relations at Mizzou and it gives physical testimony of that,” he says.

Legion of Black Collegians executive member Autumn Henderson-Carson says renaming a hall would be a step in the right direction but the university still needs to improve its race relations.

“For instance, Rollins was a slave owner, but we still have Rollins as the residence hall on campus. So it is progressive in a way, but we have to recognize that Mizzou has a lot of places on campus that still perpetuate the idea of racism,” she says.

Henderson-Carson says that the university’s progress, however, is important.

“They are at least trying to become more inclusive and diverse with not only their students but other departments,” Henderson-Carson says. “So I think it is a slow step but they are making those steps to becoming more progressive.”

Bluford received a Missouri Honor Medal from the university’s journalism school in 1984 and an honorary doctorate in humanities degree in 1989. In 2016, July 1 became “Lucile Bluford Day.” Hudson says Bluford’s memory should not be limited at the university.

“There can be scholarships in her name and other things done,” Hudson says.

Hudson says that the council approving this resolution is a “just and good thing to do.” The Board of Curators has yet to approve a new name for the residence hall.

## Mizzou study examines how couples communicate after a miscarriage

NOVEMBER 2, 2017 BY [ALISA NELSON](#)

Generated from News Bureau press release: [People who rely on intuition judge situations more harshly](#)

Anywhere from 10 to 25% of clinically recognized pregnancies end in loss, according to the American Pregnancy Association, making miscarriage a socially significant health issue. A University of Missouri study examined how men also have to cope with their partner's miscarriage and how married couples can use "communicated perspective-taking" to cope. Those surveyed included 183 married couples that experienced a miscarriage within the last 10 years.

Communicated perspective-taking (CPT) is communicating to attempt to understand another person's point of view. It is showing your partner that you are attempting to "walk in their shoes" by listening to them, validating their ideas and asking questions to better understand their experience.

**"We wanted to examine how both men and women use CPT to make sense of loss following a miscarriage," said Haley Horstman, an assistant professor of interpersonal and family communication in the MU College of Arts and Science. "Due to the taboo nature of miscarriage, many individuals struggle with disclosing their feelings and often rely on a spouse for continual support. We studied the ways in which men and women can use CPT to cope with loss and strengthen their relationships."**

Findings showed that when wives took their husband's perspective on the miscarriage, husbands benefited from understanding the miscarriage more positively, and both spouses had higher relational satisfaction.

According to Hortsman, when husbands are imagining their wives' points of view, couples have stronger relationships. However, wives may feel burdened by taking their husband's perspective after a miscarriage, indicated by less positivity about the miscarriage.

“Overall, CPT is a very important aspect in how couples manage the intense loss of a miscarriage together,” Horstman said. “Understanding how CPT is used successfully in relationships also can help mental health practitioners adapt and augment their couples counseling services following a miscarriage.”

The researchers also found that husbands and wives who were more committed to their role as parents were happier in their marriage overall. On the other hand, those people who were less committed to being parents relied more on their spouse to help them cope with the miscarriage.

# T COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE

## Garnett Stokes

By HJW III (HANK'S VIEW)

Dagnabit, the better your officers and employees the more likely they will be spirited away by another institution able to offer a promotion. **So it is with current and soon to be former MU Provost and Executive Vice-Chancellor Garnett Stokes.**

**On March 1 she will leave to become the president of the University of New Mexico.** You can't blame her, but you can't blame us for contemplating some sort of involuntary servitude that would keep Stokes here indefinitely. I suppose there's a law against that.

Contemplating her departure, MU Chancellor Alexander Cartwright bravely wished her the best and, we can assume, swore to himself at his bad luck, wondering why in his first months in office he must lose his right-hand star.

Stokes' departure is a loss, but her presence here made a real difference. She created momentum that will live beyond her tenure. She was involved in selecting nine of the 12 current MU deans and established the university's Office of Civil Rights and Title IX, heavy duty accomplishments that will be very important as MU heads for a better future. Cartwright and his boss, UM President Mun Choi, have a much more manageable chore ahead of them thanks to the changed flagship institution Stokes leaves behind.

Now Cartwright & Co. have the mold they will want to fill. Finding another Garnett Stokes is the goal, elusive though it may be.

Meanwhile, Stokes promises she has much to do between now and March 1. Good for us.

# MISSOURIAN

## MU Health Care will not accept Cigna's ACA marketplace plans

BY NANCY COLEMAN

**Boone County residents registering for health care through the Affordable Care Act marketplace will not be able to use their plan at MU Health Care hospitals and clinics.**

Open enrollment for the government-run health care exchange began Wednesday and [will remain open through Dec. 15](#). Although MU Health Care accepts [several health care plans from various insurers](#), the only plan available in Boone County through the insurance marketplace is not one of them.

Cigna, which offers marketplace plans called Cigna Connect, is [the only health insurer in Boone County](#) to offer plans through the exchange in 2018. MU Health Care participates in all Cigna insurance products except Cigna Connect, MU Health Care spokeswoman Mary Jenkins said.

To become a provider in Cigna Connect's network, Jenkins said, Cigna would need to allow MU Health Care to be included and the two must "reach mutual agreement on the terms of participation."

"We have been working with Cigna and have expressed our desire to be included in Cigna Connect," Jenkins said.

Boone Hospital Center is part of the network and will accept Cigna Connect plans.

A Cigna spokesman did not respond directly on the relationship between the insurer and MU Health Care. He said in an emailed statement that the company’s plans are “designed to provide customers with access to the best combination of affordability, quality, and overall value.”

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield — the only insurer in Boone to offer ACA plans in 2017 — [announced in September](#) it would no longer offer marketplace plans in several Missouri counties, including Boone. Although MU Health Care is not a provider included in [Cigna Connect’s network](#), it is still a provider for Anthem Pathway, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield’s health care exchange plan. The insurer offers Anthem Pathway in the counties surrounding Boone.

Scott Miniea, a program manager at the Columbia-based Primaris Foundation, said having only one insurer offering plans through the exchange is not entirely uncommon.

“With only one provider being Cigna — which is true for most of the state of Missouri, meaning having one provider only — then the choices can be limited, but that doesn’t necessarily mean they’re bad choices,” Miniea said. “It is limiting for some individuals when their provider is not a part of the plan.”

Jenkins said it is “too soon to tell” if not being part of Cigna Connect’s network will affect how many patients come to MU Health Care hospitals and clinics.



# MU Health doesn't accept only ACA health insurance in Boone County

By JASMYN WILLIS

Watch video at: <http://www.komu.com/news/mu-health-doesn-t-accept-only-aca-health-insurance-in-boone-county>

COLUMBIA -Open enrollment is underway for the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare. And while Boone County has an insurance provider, it's a bit more complicated when it comes to in-network coverage.

**Cigna is the only insurance provider for the county, but MU Health Care -- one of the largest health care providers in the area -- isn't an in-network provider for Cigna Connect.**

MU Health Care said, "We have been working with Cigna Connect and expressed our desire to be included in that network. Cigna must agree to allow MU Health Care to be an in-network provider for Cigna Connect, and to do that, we would have to reach mutual agreement on the terms of participation."

Primaris Foundation program manager Scott Minea helps people in mid-Missouri get enrolled in health insurance.

"Although Boone County is a lot of it, we cover six counties," Minea said. "But for Boone County, Cigna is one insurance provider that offers five plans in the marketplace and the surrounding counties it's Anthem."

In Boone county there are five options through Cigna Connect.

"Within the plan there are different options with different levels of coverage," Minea said.

Minea said this isn't uncommon but insurance providers change with in-network providers from year to year.

"It's more that way this year, but every year is different," Minea said. "It's really hard to compare one enrollment period to another and in some counties in the state we have more plans than that, more providers."

Minea said it's better that people know this before they enroll in coverage.

"It's not that uncommon for that kind of thing to happen," Minea said. "It's unfortunate of course, but the good thing is with the open enrollment period knowing this going in."

The enrollment period is open until December 15th and coverage begins on January 1st.

"We have all of our assisters who do insurance counseling, who can help individuals work through and navigate the changes they have to do, seeking out a new provider, a new doctor in the other network," Minea said. We can talk through what all of that means."

No matter where you live in Missouri you can go to the [Cover Missouri website](#) to find an someone to help you with getting enrolled in insurance.

# MISSOURIAN

## Eleven faculty and alumni honored at MU awards ceremony on Friday

BY NWADI OKO

**Generated from News Bureau direct pitch.**

**The Mizzou Alumni Association honored 11 faculty and alumni at the 50th annual Faculty-Alumni Awards Ceremony on Friday, according to an MU news release.**

The distinguished service award, distinguished faculty award and nine faculty awards were presented. The faculty and alumni honored are:

- Richard G. Miller, who will receive the 62nd annual Distinguished Service Award. Miller volunteers and supports programs in mathematics, nursing, business, writing and athletics. Miller was instrumental in forming the University of Missouri Flagship Council, according to the news release.
- Timothy J. Lewis, who will receive the 58th annual Distinguished Faculty Award. Lewis has improved the outcomes among at-risk children and adolescents with disabilities through research and workshops. He works with the U.S. Department of Education and has trained a generation of educators to evaluate and meet the needs of students.

The nine recipients receiving the Faculty-Alumni Awards are:

- Jean Becker, who is an alumna and was the chief of staff for President George H.W. Bush.
- Kenneth D. Dean, who is an alumnus and the dean emeritus of law.

- Justin B. Dyer, who is a professor of political science and the director of the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy.
- R. Wilson Freyermuth, who is a faculty member and the John D. Lawson Professor of Law and the curators' distinguished teaching professor.
- Samuel Austin Hamacher, who is an alumnus and the retired president of the Harbour Group.
- Deborah L. Huelsbergen, who is a faculty member and the curators' distinguished teaching professor of art-graphic design.
- Kattesh V. Katti, who is the distinguished curators professor of radiology and physics. Katti is also the Margaret Proctor Mulligan Distinguished Professor of Medical Research, and director of the Institute of Green Nanotechnology.
- Velma McBride Murry, who is an alumna, the Los Autrey Betts Endowed Chair for Education and Human Development and the Joe B. Wyatt university distinguished professor at Vanderbilt University.
- Randy D. Oberdiek, who is an alumnus and a partner and the regional accounting and auditing director at the CPA firm, BKD.

# MISSOURIAN

## Hung jury causes mistrial in MU rape case

BY NWADI OKO AND NOAH MCGEE

**A mistrial was declared Friday in a case involving a former MU student charged with rape in 2016.**

Prosecutors requested setting a new trial after Jan. 15, but no date was agreed upon Friday. [Austin Joseph Campbell had been charged](#) with rape and burglary.

Jurors deliberated for nine hours Thursday and two hours Friday before informing Boone County Circuit Judge Jeff Harris that a unanimous decision could not be made.

Because the jurors could not agree, Harris declared a mistrial on both counts of first-degree rape and burglary.

Before that, Harris asked all 12 jurors if their positions were deadlocked and if further deliberation would not help reach a verdict. All answered yes to both questions.

Campbell was arrested on suspicion of first-degree rape and burglary on Jan. 20, 2016. A woman living in an MU residence hall reported he broke into her room and raped her about 3 a.m. Jan. 18, 2016, MU Police Department Maj. Brian Weimer said. MU police questioned Campbell, arrested him and took him to Boone County Jail.

Campbell was an MU freshman at the time. He is no longer a student at MU, spokesman Christian Basi said Friday.

Closing arguments for the trial, which began Monday, were held Thursday. The prosecuting and defense attorneys each gave their accounts of the incident.

With a mugshot of Campbell on every screen in the courtroom, assistant prosecuting attorney Jessica Caldera began her closing argument.

“He committed a crime of opportunity,” Caldera said. “My client was vulnerable, and the defendant took advantage of her while she was asleep.”

Caldera urged the jury to find Campbell guilty because the victim has been courageous and forced to live through the gruesome details of her rape.

The victim had a lot to drink that night and went to sleep because of how intoxicated she was, Caldera said. Friends checked up on her several times, Caldera said, and every time they checked, the victim was asleep.

Campbell came into her room, pulled down her leggings and started having sex with the victim while she was asleep, Caldera said.

“My client woke up to the defendant still on top of her and still inside her,” Caldera said. “He has had a year to concoct a story. Don’t believe it.”

Defense attorney Adam Dowling began his closing argument by telling the jury how important it is they take their job seriously.

“This is a case of he said, she said,” Dowling said.

The defendant heard about a party going on in the victim’s room, to which everyone on the floor was invited, Dowling said.

When the party was over and everyone, including Campbell, left, he noticed he’d left his water bottle and hat in the victim’s room, Dowling said.

He went to the room and the victim was awake, Dowling said. He left to get her some water, came back, gave her water and sat on the floor.

She invited him into bed with her because he was sitting awkwardly on the floor, Dowling said. They started kissing, touching and engaging in sexual foreplay, Dowling said. She was fully awake while doing all of these things, he said.

The sexual intercourse that followed was consensual, Dowling said.

## THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

### [The New Campus Censors](#)

**Students are leading the assault on free speech — and faculty members and administrators are enabling them**

By DAVID BROMWICH

Three or four years ago, in the early days of campus protests against unwelcome speakers, the censors sometimes said in their own defense: "This isn't about free speech." The disclaimer served to lighten the burden of apology for crowd behavior that most Americans distrust. As the protesters saw it, the speakers who got shouted down or who canceled engagements under a

threat of violence were opportunists of free speech. But this was apt to sound evasive. What honest intellectual forum ever subjected speakers to a test of motives?

In any case, the argument that "it isn't really about free speech" has largely been dropped by the censors. They are now likelier to say that there never was freedom of speech, anywhere, and that we shouldn't expect to find it in colleges. The primary duty of institutions of higher education is rather to create a space for qualified speech; and we should be aware that a wrongly chosen or unqualified speaker may stir up controversy and "stifle productive debate." That phrase comes from a campus letter circulated by a group of Wellesley College professors after a speech by Laura Kipnis. By this logic, productive debate is to be understood as quite a different thing from open debate. But who, then, is qualified to speak on campus?

"Productive" is a term from the business world, specifically the business of corporate group facilitation. Corporate facilitators and human-resource managers were channeled into the academy throughout the 1990s and 2000s — having practiced first at places as foreign to the college milieu as NBC or Nabisco — and their language and mentality have made deep inroads in higher education. Impassioned disagreement, according to facilitation doctrine, causes tension in the workplace, which in turn causes anxiety, which is bad for the bottom line. A fractious workplace may be riven by internal complaints and suffer diminished profits.

Academic morale in previous generations was rooted in a "clash of ideas" that was supposed to involve just such abrasions. Conflict was said to be essential to the purpose of education, one of the things that distinguished a campus from a factory floor or a public-relations office. That understanding, however, has been displaced to a significant degree. A campus is regarded today as a friendly "community," a "home" away from home, to cite words that appear with some regularity in college brochures. It is a place ruled by a spirit of comity and cordiality. Any word or gesture that implies disharmony is frowned on. The corporate-university presentation draws much of its incidental effectiveness from appearing to go hand-in-hand with democracy. No one in the campus community, it suggests, should ever be made to feel less comfortable than anyone else.

Comfort is a good thing, generally speaking, even if it tends to sedate rather than promote thinking. But there are other reasons for the emphasis on making students feel comfortable or at home or "safe." At a crossroads of disintegration and chaos in American politics, when our national leaders offer little semblance of reasoned debate, it may seem plausible to establish on campus a well-understood regime governing the manners of speech — a regime that should be as free as possible. Of course, the freedom to speak is not experienced equally by all persons, any more than the freedom to breathe or the freedom to live. But the right to speak your mind may come as close as we can get to a touchstone of equality. And in the past, the use of free speech by dissenters and oppressed minorities has yielded their surest opening to other rights.

The puzzle, for administrators who think along roughly those lines, is how to reconcile such freedom with the growing determination by universities to divide students into racial, religious, and cultural groups and encourage students to feel especially at home in those groups. There are visible and invisible constraints that come into play as soon as I say to myself (and am asked to indicate to others) that I speak as a Jew, a gay man, a Latina woman, or some other classified social specimen. I must take into account the "subject-position" I occupy and that of the person I

address. Universities have lately promoted this form of group consciousness by subsidizing of what are euphemistically called "affinity groups." But here, the forms of membership and self-respect fostered by the university run up against an older American pattern of feeling. In ordinary encounters with another person at an airport, a pub, or a town meeting, one speaks as a person. Students are asked instead to care minutely for the way their speech will be taken in view of their membership in a group.

Universities have traveled a different path from American society at large in other ways besides the discipline of speech. The dominant politics in the academy since the mid-'60s has been liberal, welfare-statist, dedicated to the expansion of the rights of minorities and to remedies of social injustice. Those emphases are by no means alien to the rest of the society, but America is also a country that elected Ronald Reagan for two terms, George W. Bush for two terms, and now Donald Trump. **Before the campus troubles of 2015 at the University of Missouri, Yale, Princeton, Amherst, Dartmouth, Oberlin, and a dozen other colleges, one would have been justified in saying that political discourse was freer on campus than anywhere else.**

"Disinvitation" appeared in retreat as a tactic. Right-wing speakers might be skeptically received, but there was no thought of silencing them, no pre-emptive threats or violent reaction. Left-wing speakers were heard more frequently and were more indulgently received, but it was not forbidden to ask them a sharp question without a prefatory assurance of solidarity.

**The pressure for censorship has much to do with the confidence of students that they will not be held to account.**

The attitude toward free discussion on the campus left began to change with the mass protests in Ferguson, Mo., and events in their aftermath: the church massacre in Charleston, S.C., the videotaped killings of black men by police officers, and the successive protests in Baton Rouge, St. Paul, New York City, Dallas, and elsewhere. Students went out to demonstrate and brought back to campus the spirit of resistance. With the election of Trump, the pace of the change accelerated. Any doubtful name or monument, any verbal or gestural or symbolic entity associated with the injustices of American society, past or present, came to be looked on with emotions of raw suspicion and horror, as if it embodied a kind of sepsis or pollution.

Though students took the lead, activist professors, too, were part of the momentum — a fact well documented in the shutdown at Middlebury College of an invited talk by Charles Murray. The nativist messaging of President Trump's adviser Stephen Bannon, and the broad adoption of the catch-all term "alt right," led by traceable steps to a suddenly expanded application of the term "white supremacist." Once confined to the Ku Klux Klan and their direct or doctrinal offspring, the epithet could now be leveled at a conservative sociologist like Murray or at the undergraduate who questioned the tactics of Black Lives Matter in a student-newspaper column at Wesleyan University.

Probably the largest influence in the move toward repression has been the rise of social media as a facilitator of protest. In the era of the landline telephone, it could take days or weeks to organize a march. Now Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and the rest can work up a sudden consensus and a plan of action that gets relayed to thousands between breakfast and dinner. The virtual sight of the crowd in online hashtag swarms inevitably adds to the impression that "we"

represent a unanimous and inclusive community, entirely composed of persons of decency and goodwill.

Yet the widely publicized incidents of racist violence, the rise of social media, and the election of Trump, taken together, cannot explain the moral authority that has lately been conferred on the reports of tears and traumas on campus. These quasi-medical confessions are also an emanation of the therapeutic culture, which has tactical value in the academic setting. An argument is refutable. A symptom is not.

*Story continues.*