



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

November 20, 2017

Why attend MU?

By HANK J WATERS III

Earlier this month the University of Missouri Department of Black Studies held a meeting on campus to show how much progress has been made on issues identified by the student protest group Concerned Student 1950 in November 2015 and after.

A major factor back then was the charge MU leadership ignored student concerns, highlighted by lack of response from then-President Tim Wolfe at the football Homecoming parade. Events quickly escalated, leading to Wolfe's resignation and the removal of Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin. MU football players threatened a boycott and were promptly supported by then-Coach Gary Pinkel.

A wide reaction followed, including this from presidential candidate Donald Trump: "I think it's disgusting. I think the two people who resigned are weak, ineffective people. I think when they resigned they set something in motion that is going to be a disaster for a long period of time." Since then university enrollment is down and new university leadership has bolstered support for inclusion and diversity activities.

As noted here earlier, these events have mixed implications. MU was the first major campus to experience that season's wave of student protests, casting the institution as the poster place for how to react and manage such challenging events. The university's broad constituency includes many off-campus citizens who agreed with Trump. They expected university administrators to simply "kick ass" and run the student protestors and sympathetic faculty out of town. While this attitude reflected a real strain of anger and immediate pushback among some parents of potential enrollees, it also led to effective new university leadership and reasons for some to cheer rather than jeer.

A student named Clodwige Maginord decided to come to Missouri after the protests. She was born in Haiti and plans to seek a post-graduate degree. At the Black Studies meeting she said, "I think for anyone who would like to be part of an institution that has history and have people who are willing to stand for the truth, you should be here."

Doctoral student Johanna Milord said the events of 2015 drew her to MU. She said the issues raised here received no discussion on the campus where she attended. She learned at a

psychology conference from MU student and faculty presenters "... at MU, faculty and students work together on issues."

After the initial noise of protest and counter-protest, what matters most on this or any other campus is the atmosphere these two outsiders identify. Campus officials must maintain order and stay in charge of university facilities and programs, but they must also show open interest in student concerns. A demonstrated policy of kicking ass is no way to run a university. Decisive control can and must be maintained along with compassion and respect for essential issues of free speech.

It may be tempting for a certain cadre to favor the Donald Trump approach to campus management, but as UM President Mun Choi, MU Chancellor Alexander Cartwright and other arriving leaders on campus are demonstrating, there is a better way. Students Maginord and Milord get it because they are able to see how University of Missouri leaders are developing an atmosphere of positive interaction on campus.

A large diversified campus like MU was most vulnerable. The 2015 protests exposed a natural problem in relationships between officials, faculty and students that is much better addressed early rather than later. The campus suffers from having been at the van of the trouble but also can benefit by promptly developing smarter, more enlightened leadership. The protest brought a manageable degree of exigency that allows Choi & Co. to make needed changes. They are off and running in the right direction and deserve popular support.

MU is becoming a model for good management and the entire system will benefit.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

[Shots fired during armed robbery at MU frat, police say](#)

By Jeremy Kohler St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Nov 19, 2017

COLUMBIA, Mo. • Police were responding late Saturday to a report of an armed home invasion at a fraternity at the University of Missouri.

Columbia Police said in a news release that three suspects entered the Delta Kappa Epsilon Greek Annex, at 912 S. Providence Road, through an unlocked door. Two occupants were home.

The suspects brandished at least one firearm. One of the suspects forcefully struck one of the occupants, injuring him, police said.

The suspects stole items and fired several shots in the home before fleeing, the police said. No one was hit by gunfire.

Anyone with information about the incident was asked to contact Columbia Police Department at (573) 874-7652, or CrimeStoppers, anonymously, at (573) 875-8477.

T COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE

Shots fired in University of Missouri fraternity's annex

By THE TRIBUNE'S STAFF

Columbia police said three men entered a University of Missouri fraternity house annex just before 10 p.m. Saturday, firing multiple gunshots but hitting no one.

At least one of the men was carrying a gun when the assailants entered the Delta Kappa Epsilon Greek Annex, 912 S. Providence Road, through an unlocked door, police said. Two people were inside the house at the time, and one of the robbers hit one of the victims, injuring him, police said in a news release. The assailants took property from the house and fired multiple shots before leaving, police said. No one was hit by gunfire, and police said they do not know the amount of property damage caused during the attack.

Police did not include details about the victim's injuries in the news release.



Police investigate home invasion robbery at MU fraternity's annex

By JACOB CAVAIANI

COLUMBIA - **A suspect struck a victim, and suspects fired multiple rounds, brandished at least one firearm and took property from the Delta Kappa Epsilon annex Saturday night, police said.**

Three suspects entered through an unlocked door when two victims were inside, Columbia police said in a news release.

Police responded to the Delta Kappa Epsilon annex, 912 S. Providence Road, at 9:51 p.m.

A suspect "forcefully struck" a victim and the victim was injured, police said.

The three suspects were wearing dark colored clothing.

Anyone with information was asked to call CPD at 573-874-7652 or CrimeStoppers at 573-875-8477 to remain anonymous.



Armed home invasion robbery in MU Greek Town leaves one injured

By BARRY MANGOLD

COLUMBIA, Mo. - Columbia Police are investigating an armed home invasion at 912 S. Providence Road, the Delta Kappa Epsilon Greek Annex. One victim suffered a head injury and lost property.

Police confirm that two residents were in the home when three suspects entered. At least one of the three were armed. One resident was hit in the head with a blunt object, possibly a gun. The other resident was upstairs and wasn't hurt.

Gun shots were fired inside the home, but no one was hit by a bullet, according to police.

The suspects took the one victim's wallet along with other personal items, officers on scene told ABC 17 News.

The suspects are described as "black males last seen wearing dark colored clothing," according to a Columbia Police Department news release.

Police said they will continue to investigate by reviewing security footage, and persons of interest.



Shots fired during armed robbery inside Mizzou fraternity

By KRCG WEB STAFF

COLUMBIA — Columbia Police responded to the 900 block South Providence Road around 10 p.m. Saturday for a home invasion.

The residence was the home annex to Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity.

The initial investigation revealed three suspects entered the residence through an unlocked door with at least one firearm.

One of the two people inside the home was struck by one of the suspects. The victim sustained injuries from the blow, according to a CPD release.

The suspects stole property from the fraternity and fired multiple shots inside the home.

There were no reported injuries from the gunfire and the amount of property damage is unknown at this time.

The investigation is on-going and there are currently no suspects in custody.



Fire extinguished at Dalton Research Center at Mizzou

Watch video at: <http://www.abc17news.com/news/fire-extinguished-at-dalton-research-center-at-mizzou/658236679>

COLUMBIA, Mo. - **UPDATE:** The scene was cleared before 8:30 p.m.

ORIGINAL: Dalton Cardiovascular Research Center was evacuated for a fire Friday evening.

Emergency crews were called around 5:30 p.m. to 1500 Research Park Drive at the University of Missouri for reports of a smoke odor.

When crews arrived, they found a haze on the second and third floors of the building.

Firefighters with the Columbia Fire Dept. were able to find the fire in the attic crawlspace in the roof.

They then cut into the space and were able to extinguish the fire.

As of 8 p.m., they were monitoring the building and had called a fire marshal to investigate.



[Fire burns roof at research center on MU campus](#)

By MACKENZIE HUCK

COLUMBIA - [The Dalton Cardiovascular Research Center off Providence Road caught fire Friday night.](#)

A division chief said crews found flames in an attic space under the roof. They were able to get it completely put out.

A witness on the scene said this was the second time this week that alarms have gone off in the building. She said she smelled smoke Friday morning, but had not when the alarms went off earlier this week.

At one point Friday evening people were let into the building to get their keys, but seconds later the fire chief said they needed to come back out.

One fireman said there was a haze of smoke in the building. He said crews spent much of their time focusing on the second and third floor.

No word yet on the cause of the fire.

Trustee: Hospital partnership could attract insurers

By BRITTANY RUESS

Among the many questions about a possible partnership between University of Missouri Health Care and Boone Hospital Center is how such an arrangement would affect coverage for Boone County residents relying on Affordable Care Act insurance exchange plans.

Cigna is the only insurer offering plans in Boone County through the ACA exchange next year, and those plans do not include MU Health as an in-network provider. Anthem is not offering plans here for 2018, but was the only insurer offering exchange plans in Boone County. Those plans didn't cover care at Boone Hospital Center, which is operated by St. Louis-based BJC HealthCare, in their network.

The Boone Hospital Center Board of Trustees' negotiations with MU Health Care make it unclear whether patients with exchange plans will be able to access either hospital once a deal is finalized. The trustees started searching for new management options in spring 2016 after a longstanding relationship with BJC.

The trustees and BJC must notify one another whether they wish to continue, dissolve or modify the current lease by the end of December 2018. The lease lasts until the end of 2020.

Randy Morrow, a Boone Hospital Center trustee and former chief operating officer of the hospital, said in a partnership agreement, the trustees and MU Health can't directly guarantee patients with ACA plans will have in-network coverage at either hospital and that assurance would have to come through negotiations with insurance companies.

But the partnership could be attractive to insurers, he said.

"If we can provide a community and academic setting," with Boone Hospital Center and University Hospital, "it gives a tremendous choice to patients," Morrow said. "Insurers look at that."

In a partnership, the hospitals would both be able to provide high-end, specialty care, but also allow a "free flow of patients" between the hospitals, which would help insurers sell their products to individuals in the exchange and employers alike, he said. Insurance plans that allow

patients to access both hospitals in-network are going to be more attractive to individuals and employers than plans that exclude one of the hospitals, Morrow said.

This situation could occur if the hospitals had two different rate structures while operating in one system, but that, too, is up in the air, Morrow said. Different levels of care at the hospitals could prompt different rate structures, but whether that comes to fruition is unknown at this point.

It's an aspect of partnership negotiations that still needs to be worked out, he said. But an MU Health-Boone Hospital partnership would likely be stronger if it had a single rate structure, he said.

The trustees and MU Health in their potential agreement won't be able to guarantee every managed care plan will be accepted at the hospitals, Morrow said.

"I think we can all have a good faith effort to make that work," he said.

A larger hospital system with a combined bed count between MU Health and Boone Hospital likely wouldn't give the hospitals extra leverage when negotiating with insurance companies because insurance companies have become large and consolidated, Morrow said. The quality of care at both hospitals, though, would help give them an advantage at the negotiating table.

"That's more important than bed size," he said.

Andrew Wheeler, vice president of federal finance with the Missouri Hospital Association, said hospitals' leverage at the negotiating table declines as insurance companies get bigger.

But generally speaking, hospitals with a large market share in their area that provide high-quality and low-cost care can be at an advantage when negotiating contracts with insurance companies, he said.

"If they're high quality, it gives them a lot of leverage to where their patients want to use them," Wheeler said. "If there's a large market share or they're the only hospital in the area, then basically that ensures the insurer needs to have contracts with them to provide network adequacy. And if they're a low-cost provider, that leaves them room for rate increases, which are usually beneficial."

The unpredictability of the ACA in the future also plays a major part in the discussion for MU Health and the trustees. By the time Boone Hospital's lease with BJC is expired, the federal health care marketplace could be very different, if it still exists at all.

Though many factors play into why insurers and hospitals don't come to an agreement, Wheeler said reimbursement rates and contract length are common factors.

"If anyone of those things are seen as a non-starter, that's where you see people walk away from negotiations," he said.

Spokeswoman Mary Jenkins said MU Health has been working with Cigna to be included in its Cigna Connect plan. A Cigna spokesman did not respond to request for comment.



Thinking Out Loud: Studies in American Democracy

By TREVOR HARRIS

Listen to the story: <http://kbia.org/post/thinking-out-loud-studies-american-democracy>

Jay Sexton is a professor of history at the University of Missouri and the Kinder Center chair of Constitutional Democracy. The historian visited with KBIA's Darren Hellwege about the ways history is taught, Sexton's upcoming study abroad trip to Oxford University, and his forthcoming book on the past, present and future of American democracy.

This interview originally aired on November 14, 2017.

Listen for new episodes of Thinking Out Loud most Tuesday evenings at 6:30 on KBIA.

the **maneater**

\$3 million scanner and isolation unit opens at MU veterinary hospital

By **STEPHI SMITH and MORGAN SMITH**

Generated from News Bureau Press Release: <http://munews.missouri.edu/news-releases/2017/1115-fighting-disease-and-world-hunger-new-petct-scanner-opens-at-the-university-of-missouri/>

The College of Veterinary Medicine held the grand opening of a new imaging center featuring a positron emission tomography scanner and a computed tomography scanner, as well as a radiation isolation unit at the MU Equine Hospital on Wednesday.

The PET/CT system will help to improve the accuracy and speed of treating cancer, cardiovascular disorders and Lou Gehrig's disease, or ALS, in animals, associate oncology professor Dr. Jeffrey Bryan said. He said animals can leave the recovery area in as few as five days after being scanned.

“[The imaging center] is going to be useful for cancer and other chronic diseases,” Bryan said. “It is already useful for the brain and spinal cord as well as cancer and bone physiology. Almost any system you can name we can build tracers and we can image how they function.”

The system will provide new opportunities for plant science research, such as evaluating nutrient transport and root structure interactions in order to assist plants in growing under harsher weather conditions.

“So whether you're a dog lover in St. Louis or you're a farmer out in the middle of Missouri, this machine and this center has a lot to offer the state,” Bryan said. “This institution and this university I think has the unique tools to put that together and make real change for the world.”

Use of the scanner will also further understanding of how diseases, including ALS, work and spread in other organisms, Bryan said.

“We're hoping to show that this agent can help us track the course of disease very accurately so we can translate that to humans as well,” he said.

Bryan said he expects about 15 years of use to come from the new machine. Based on the college's current yearly number of nuclear medicine cases, Bryan said he expects the new machine to image or treat approximately 4,500 animals over the next 10 years.

The veterinary hospital also opened its radiation isolation unit, designed to keep animals exposed to radiation separate from the rest of the hospital. The unit has separate rooms for cats and dogs and allows them space to move around comfortably, Bryan said.

The location of the isolation unit and scanner are important as well. Dr. Jimmy Lattimer, associate professor of veterinary medicine and surgery, said that the isolation unit and scanner used to be on opposite ends of the hospital and animals would have to be transported after being injected with an isotope and again after being scanned.

He said this need for transport was a “less-than-ideal situation” and hopes to see the treatment of animals with chronic diseases improve with the unit now just one room over from the scanner.

The scanner currently has a weight limit of about 450 pounds, or as much as a small pony, Bryan said. It’s mostly being used for smaller domestic animals, like cats and dogs.

Bryan said the veterinary hospital requested the scanner and isolation unit about two and a half years ago. The campus invested a little over \$3 million for the whole project, which was organized in part by the MU Research Reactor Center. Funding allocations included hiring new faculty members, delivering the scanner and setting up the isolation unit.

The PET/CT scanner itself cost about \$1.8 million, but the college was able to purchase it at a discount due to a research contract with the company that produces the scanner, Toshiba Corporation.

Lattimer said he envisions progress using the scanner and isolation unit and that MU is one of the few veterinary schools to have this kind of facility and advanced imaging equipment.

“I think this is a big step forward,” he said.

MISSOURIAN

Governor's plans don't slow growing prescription drug monitoring network

By: Allison Pecorn

It might have looked like Holly Rehder’s fight was over.

The Republican state representative from Sikeston had been advocating for a statewide drug monitoring program for years, and had once again seen the effort shot down in this year’s legislative session.

But then Gov. Eric Greitens made a surprise announcement that he was taking matters into his own hands and issuing an executive order to implement a statewide system. Rehder said she was pleased the governor was addressing the issue.

But soon afterward, Rehder was back at work, encouraging counties to join an ever-growing patchwork system of local drug monitoring programs that began forming in the state since 2016, as an effort to do what lawmakers would not. The county system mirrors legislation Rehder has offered for years. She said that if the state is to combat the opioid crisis with full force, both systems will be needed.

Though there has been little reported on the progress of Greitens' order, advocates for the county system have continued to push for more counties and cities to join the county program. That's because, according to individuals who work on county drug monitoring programs, the county system will continue to run even after the governor's statewide program launches.

"They're two very different programs," Rehder said. "They will work well together. But definitely different lanes."

Officials who work on the county system say the governor's program intends to work in cooperation with theirs, though no one from the governor's office or the Department of Health and Senior Services could be reached for comment.

But, according to Richard Reuben, a law professor at the University of Missouri, if the state wanted to have full control of a drug monitoring program and end the local efforts, the state would probably get its way.

The St. Louis County prescription drug monitoring system began in 2016 after multiple failed legislative attempts at passing a statewide drug monitoring system. The program allows registered prescribers to see what prescriptions their patients have received before issuing a prescription.

Springfield-Greene County is one of 48 jurisdictions that are currently a part of the county drug monitoring system.

“Its designed for physicians and prescribers and pharmacists to evaluate their clients and their patients to hopefully identify people who are struggling with potential opioid addiction,” said Clay Goddard, Director of the Springfield-Greene County Health Department. “And to prevent such addictions from happening in the first place.”

The governor’s program is different. His executive order proposes that the state contract with a pharmacy benefit manager to collect data from pharmaceutical companies. The state Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs would then use that data to target possible instances of opioid abuse. The governor’s system leaves prescribers out of the equation, and does not create a system by which physicians can monitor their patients.

The governor’s program is a law enforcement tool, not a prescriber tool. It’s a program unlike any Rehder has ever seen.

“I very much appreciate the governor having an out-of-the-box plan because we couldn’t get this done statewide,” Rehder said. “But to me it’s extremely different (from the county system).”

During the 2017 legislative session, Rehder and other advocates for the county system expressed concern that a statewide drug monitoring system could actually weaken the state’s overall opioid monitoring by cutting off the county system.

The St. Louis County drug monitoring system website includes language that states there will be a “transition plan if the (county-by-county) PDMP is to be superseded by a state PDMP. If a state-level PDMP is enacted, the PDMP will continue to operate until the state-level system is functional and proves it meets the needs of St. Louis County.”

But both Goddard and Eric Stann, a community relations specialist for the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services, said they intend to keep the county system fully operational alongside the governor’s statewide program.

“The city of Columbia and Boone County have an established system that will continue to operate,” Stann said. “We don’t see the new efforts impacting our program at all.”

Reuben said the reason both systems can coexist is likely because the programs serve two different purposes.

If the status of the overlapping systems were ever brought to court, Reuben said the decision would come down to whether the two systems could operate without interfering with one another.

A court “will look for direct conflict,” Reuben said, “whether there’s an actual direct and unavoidable conflict.”

Goddard said he’s spoken with the director of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and that the department plans to work with the county system. But Reuben said that if the state wanted to regulate the entire field of drug monitoring, a court would likely side with the state.

“If the state intended to occupy the field of drug monitoring programs, then the difference in purposes wouldn’t make any difference,” Reuben said.

Yunfeng Shi, an associate professor at Penn State University, was part of a team that conducted a study on the effectiveness of prescription drug monitoring program. His take: The state should be moving toward a data-sharing method that models the county system.

“Even if this new system is effective,” Shi said, “the current data sharing among providers certainly has to be there for this to work.”

Though the executive order has been made, the legislature could still take up a different statewide drug monitoring system during the 2018 legislative session. Rehder said she has spoken to Greitens about traditional drug monitoring methods, but did not speak to the governor about his plan before he announced his executive order.

Rehder said she's still thinking about whether to file another version of her bill that would extend the county system statewide, but regardless, she's confident that the system will continue to grow.

"Regardless if we don't get a statewide passed, I truly feel that we will have the county-by-county one complete by May," Rehder said. "I think either way we will have a state-covered PDMP in just the next six months."



[Report: Opioid Deaths May Top Traffic Fatalities in Missouri](#)

Deaths from opioid overdose could exceed traffic fatalities in Missouri this year, for the first time ever.

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Deaths from opioid overdose could exceed traffic fatalities in [Missouri](#) this year, for the first time ever.

The Columbia Daily Tribune reports that the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has recorded 733 opioid overdose deaths through Aug. 31, compared to 591 traffic deaths recorded by the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

For all of last year, the state had 908 opioid overdose deaths and 947 traffic fatalities.

Opioid overdose deaths have become so alarming that President Donald Trump declared a public health emergency. In Missouri, nine summits are taking place across the state to help first responders and others deal with the epidemic.

The St. Louis area is particularly hard-hit. So far this year, 175 deaths have been recorded in St. Louis County and 125 in St. Louis city, 53 in Jefferson County and 46 in St. Charles County.

Other counties with high numbers of deaths include Jackson County with 58 and Greene County with 46.

"In St. Louis we have people dying of fentanyl. In rural Missouri, especially in southeast Missouri, it is the number of prescriptions being filled and the misuse and abuse of oral narcotics," Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Director Randall Williams said.

Since Jan. 1, 2016, Boone County Medical Examiner Chris Stacy said he has handled 43 intoxication-related deaths of all kinds, compared to 25 motor vehicle collision deaths.

The numbers could be worse. The Columbia Fire Department has responded to 309 overdose calls this year — an average of one each day. The department has administered the anti-overdose drug naloxone 17 times. The University of Missouri Hospital emergency room has administered it 38 times.

In one recent case, fire Lt. Michael Holz said a young man didn't have time to put the needle away before he was dead.

"The needle wasn't in his arm, it had obviously fallen out, but it killed him instantly," Holz said



Despite protests, Missouri approves using pigs for research

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA (AP) — **The University of Missouri said it would continue to use live pigs to train emergency room doctors despite protests.**

Last week, the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine organized a rally outside University Hospital to advocate ending the use of swine in physician training. The demonstration was organized after the university refused the group's call to abandon the practice.

The Columbia Daily Tribune reported the university's Animal Care and Use Committee earlier this month approved continuing the practice through November 2020.



[MU Extension's county councils now accepting nominations](#)

By CLAIRE KOPSKY

Watch video at: <http://www.komu.com/news/mu-extension-s-county-councils-now-accepting-nominations>

COLUMBIA - Each of Missouri's counties are slating new council members for their MU Extension County Council.

The councils comprises ten to twenty members over the age of 18 who live in the county.

MU Extension County Program Director for Boone County, Kent Shannon, said nominees should “have a passion about the University of Missouri, have a passion about the community as a whole and want to serve the citizens of the state by putting out educational resources to try and help folks in the community.”

Councils work in conjunction with the county commission and then the county commission appropriates some funding to the county Extension office.

The goal of the councils are to listen to community concerns, implement educational opportunities to address those issues and also raise concerns to Missouri lawmakers.

Extension programming has been active in Missouri since 1914. The councils began in 1955.

Roger Morrison, who is on the Boone County council, said he has enjoyed his service.

“I’ve learned much more about the agriculture across Boone County,” he said. “The depth and breadth of subject matter that’s involved is great.”

Morrison spoke about the Extension legislative day, which occurs every February.

“A number of extension council members will discuss items of business as well as make contacts for throughout the year,” he said. “We feel it is a beneficial conversation.”

Nominations for council members are being accepted by each county’s MU Extension office during the next few weeks. Boone County’s deadline is Dec. 1, but every county is different.

People in each county will have the opportunity to vote on the slated members for the 2018-2020 term through an online system in January.

the Atlantic

[The Making of an American Nazi](#)

How did Andrew Anglin go from being an antiracist vegan to the alt-right’s most vicious troll and propagandist—and how might he be stopped?

By: Luke O’Brien

ON DECEMBER 16, 2016, Tanya Gersh answered her phone and heard gunshots. Startled, she hung up. Gersh, a real-estate agent who lives in Whitefish, Montana, assumed it was a prank call. But the phone rang again. More gunshots. Again, she hung up. Another call. This time, she heard a man’s voice: “This is how we can keep the Holocaust alive,” he said. “We can bury you without touching you.”

When Gersh put down the phone, her hands were shaking. She was one of only about 100 Jews in Whitefish and the surrounding Flathead Valley, and she knew there were white nationalists and “sovereign citizens” in the area. But Gersh had lived in Whitefish for more than 20 years, since just after college, and had always considered the scenic ski town an idyllic place. She didn’t even have a key to her house—she’d never felt the need to lock her door. Now that sense of security was about to be shattered.

The calls marked the start of a months-long campaign of harassment orchestrated by Andrew Anglin, the publisher of the world’s biggest neo-Nazi website, The Daily Stormer. He claimed

that Gersh was trying to “extort” a property sale from Sherry Spencer, whose son, [Richard Spencer](#), was another prominent white nationalist and the face of the so-called alt-right movement.

Note: story continues for several pages, with a later mention of Anglin’s connection to MU:

Anglin, meanwhile, gained infamy for his troll attacks. In 2015, he tormented the University of Missouri during student protests against racist incidents on campus. He used Twitter hashtags to seed fake news into the conversation, falsely reporting that members of the KKK had arrived to burn crosses on campus and were working with university police. He claimed that Klansmen had gunned down protesters and posted a random photo of a black man in a hospital bed. As his rumors spread, the campus freaked out.

Story continues: <https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2017/12/the-making-of-an-american-nazi/544119/>



[Will Greek Crackdown Change Anything?](#)

NO MU MENTION

Experts say suspending fraternities and sororities, as many colleges have done in recent weeks, does little to address underlying problems of Greek life.

By

[Jeremy Bauer-Wolf](#)

November 20, 2017

Andrew Coffey, a 20-year-old fraternity pledge at Florida State University, **died at an off-campus party** this month following a night of heavy drinking.

The circumstances were nearly identical at Texas State University just last week -- Matthew Ellis, 20, another pledge, died, with officials saying alcohol played a factor.

And at Ohio State University, **11 of the institution's 37 fraternities have come under investigation** since the beginning of the academic year -- mostly for alcohol and hazing violations, per a spokesman.

The responses to these incidents have dominated headlines because of their seemingly drastic nature -- a complete and sweeping prohibition of sororities and fraternities at three powerhouse state institutions with a major Greek presence (in the case of Ohio State, just its fraternities were suspended).

Yet similar bans have been tried before, and deaths associated with Greek organizations have never ceased.

Lesser punishments of varying degrees have also been attempted. Administrators have limited or removed alcohol from Greek events, or they've discontinued the pledging process. Often, the drinking and recruitment have continued but shifted underground.

Individual chapters have been shut down or barred from campuses, such as Beta Theta Pi at Penn State University after the high-profile death **this year of pledge Timothy Piazza**, whose fraternity brothers never sought medical attention for Piazza after he drank so much that he fell 15 feet down a flight of steps and bled internally for hours.

The University of West Florida last week suspended Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity for a minimum of five years after an investigation revealed hazing and alcohol-related misconduct, and issued a temporary ban on Zeta Phi Beta sorority, also for hazing. The student-led Interfraternity Council at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor voted recently, too, to suspend most fraternity pledging and parties after claims of sexual misconduct and hazing -- an unusual move in that it was taken by students and not administrators.

Sanctions historically, though, have accomplished little to nothing, experts and researchers into Greek life said in interviews.

Both institutions and the national heads of fraternities and sororities must truly start to control their chapters more, they said, which in some cases means clashing with the preferences of donors, the alumni

of the Greek system. It means more oversight -- responsible adult guides need to be installed in the chapters.

And it means investing in investigations and training for the people who conduct them.

“There’s been a never-ending stream of bad headlines,” said John Hechinger, a senior editor at Bloomberg News and author of *True Gentlemen: The Broken Pledge of America’s Fraternities*.

Greek organizations “are very concerned about this. Enrollment may be up, but every one of these deaths results in a criminal investigation, often a multimillion-dollar lawsuit, and it’s hard. It does put a huge amount of pressure on them.”

Suspending Greek activities entirely isn’t quite a new phenomenon. West Virginia University and Clemson University both did so in 2014 following pledge deaths.

A slew of higher education professional associations, among them NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education and the Association of Fraternity and Sorority Advisors, [released a statement](#) after the now infamous 2014 *Rolling Stone* piece (since retracted) about an alleged sexual assault at a University of Virginia fraternity house. That statement touched on such bans:

“Pausing the activities of student groups for a reasonable, defined period of time can be a useful mechanism in helping a reeling group evaluate and assess in a time of crisis, especially when that crisis may be related to the group’s activities, as may be the case with sexual violence, hazing and binge drinking,” the statement reads.

The suspension of Greek life activity only serves as a stopgap measure, said Jill Creighton, president of the Association of Student Conduct Administration. It’s not designed as a punishment, but as a way for the institution to address possible safety concerns by pushing “the pause button,” she said.

“It’s to help the community understand the gravity of the concern and collectively work toward positive cultural changes,” Creighton said.

But Nick Altwies, founder of the Society Advocating Fraternal Excellence, a pro-Greek group, has a slightly more cynical view -- he thinks the move is more of a public relations strategy. Altwies was formerly the assistant executive director, director of programs and field secretary for the national Phi Gamma Delta office.

Because these suspensions are temporary, just years later colleges and universities likely go back to operating as “business as usual,” he said. Sometimes after a scandal fraternity chapters will weed out some of the members -- a national branch or administrators might only keep 20 out of 100 brothers and kick the rest out, Altwies said.

Nothing will change fundamentally, though, if the national offices won’t step in and assure a system is in place at all chapters that provides for mentors and supervision, Altwies said -- they have a responsibility to do so, he said.

“The chapters need a fatherly figure, perhaps alumni, to connect with students -- not control them -- much like a good coach does,” he said.

Some chapters have such a figure and are high functioning, and they’re not the ones making news, Altwies said.

National fraternities must also back alcohol-free policies, such as Sigma Phi Epsilon did at its more than 200 chapters, said Hechinger -- this would greatly help institutions in enforcing the rules.

Gentry McCreary, the chief executive officer of Dyad Strategies, which consults with colleges and universities to reshape their Greek life systems, said he was aware of at least four national fraternities that are discussing shifting their policies, either instituting alcohol bans or curtailing the pledging period. He declined to name the fraternities.

“These incidents are a catalyst for these changes,” he said.

The North-American Interfraternity Conference will pilot a new program come January -- an “enhanced health and safety policy” that mandates that hard alcohol be removed from fraternity houses.

The program also tries to better control crowd size at such events -- and the number of them that can have alcohol is limited.

“This pilot approach blends policy rooted in research, best practices in education, enhanced procedures to make events safer and consistent assessment to measure the effectiveness of these interventions,” Heather Kirk, an conference spokeswoman, wrote in an email.

Institutions benefit from the current Greek system, however, Hechinger said.

Colleges market their campus social experience, particularly state institutions looking to attract full-paying out-of-state customers, and are in a way endorsing the current practices, Hechinger said. Many donors also come from the Greek system, he said. Greek alumni are often in high-ranking positions in congresses and in legislatures.

“Really what needs to happen is that colleges and fraternities can’t look at the other way and then act all shocked when someone dies,” he said. “For every death there are multiple hospitalizations before that and sexual assaults and horrible behavior. They need to change the environment -- it’s a public health issue.”

In a statement to *Inside Higher Ed*, Carole Jones, chairwoman of the National Panhellenic Conference, a coalition of sororities from across the country, said the message to universities is that the sororities want to partner with them.

“Student safety is too important for us to do anything other than work together. We’ve always known that rules alone are not sufficient, so we must create cultures where students advocate for one another. We believe this can happen and we believe it can happen in ways that also respect the rights of students. To that end, we see our role as an organization that can convene leaders from across the industry -- from member organizations, from alumni and from the ranks of university leadership -- to identify where campuses are succeeding in creating the kind of cultures we aspire to build everywhere. This will be our focus in the coming months.”

Hechinger noted that recruitment within Greek life has suffered little despite the negative headlines, with a 50 percent increase in membership in the last decade.

Institutions have also never really tried to determine if their punishments are working, said McCreary.

He said his group offers surveys that can figure out the motivation behind hazing in fraternity and sorority chapters -- in some cases, it’s a bonding exercise to unite the members. In others, it’s simply an issue of “social dominance,” McCreary said.

If colleges simply hand down consequences without learning those motivating factors, they can’t actually change the culture of a chapter, he said.

Many institutions are also particularly poor at investigating low-level hazing and alcohol incidents. If someone dies, generally information comes to light quickly, but in the smaller-scale events, even the victim is more likely to lie, McCreary said.

While colleges have invested substantially in Title IX coordinators, those who administer the federal gender antidiscrimination law Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, McCreary said, they have not done so with those who investigate hazing.

He questioned whether the federal government needed to step in, as the Obama administration did with Title IX in 2011, when it enacted far more strict measures for colleges to investigate and adjudicate campus sexual assault.

“All in all,” he said, “we just need more responsible adults in the room.”