



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

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New enrollment, retention, work placement focus of MU committee

By LUCAS GEISLER

A University of Missouri committee wants to increase new student enrollment to 6,000 and place 95 percent of graduates in a job within six months of finishing school.

Those are two of the five draft goals the Strategic Enrollment Management committee presented at a town hall earlier this week. The committee is now taking feedback from the public on those goals, and hopes to finalize them by Dec. 4.

The committee, which includes vice provost of enrollment Pelema Morrice, hopes to have the ways the school can accomplish the goals by the end of the school year. The list includes five goals, all to be achieved by 2023:

- increase the number of degree and certificate completions to 10,000
- place 95 percent of graduates in a job within six months of completing school
- increase new student enrollment, including freshmen and transfer students, to 6,000
- improve first-year student retention rates to 93 percent
- improve four-year undergraduate graduation rate by 20 percent

MU has credited part of their budget crunch to lower enrollment of new students than in years past. The Fall 2017 semester saw 5,136 new students enrolled, down from the 7,298 students of the Fall 2015 semester.

The degree and certificate completions refer to the number of those earned by students at the school. MU awarded 9,150 of them last school year.

Chancellor Alexander Cartwright introduced new scholarships and fee waivers for low-income students this semester as a way to boost enrollment and make the school more affordable.

You can view the numbers and goals the committee released [here](#), as well as a link to send feedback on the draft goals.



[MU School of Nursing starts new online nursing program](#)

By WESLEY WEGLAREK

COLUMBIA - It will now be easier and less expensive for those with an associate's degree in nursing to earn their bachelor's and master's degrees in the field.

The MU School of Nursing, in conjunction with Mizzou Online, is now offering a 3-4 year [online nursing program](#) to address the shortage of nurses and nurse educators in Missouri.

"The reason why this program option is so important is because currently there's a nursing shortage and also a nursing faculty shortage," said Robin Harris, the Interim Associate Dean for Academic affairs. "We need to have educators prepared to take in more students, to provide the state of Missouri and the nation with the nurses that we need to take of ourselves, our loved ones and our community as a whole."

The nursing shortage is partly due to the age of nurses. Registered nurses and nursing faculty have an average age of 50.

"The baby boomer population is growing so as they retire and as we get older, we tend to have more healthcare needs and so when you have this large population who's going to need more healthcare, we need to fill that gap," Harris said.

Typically, nurses with associate's degrees are practicing, full-time nurses, so the online nursing program is convenient for those busy nurses wanting to further their careers.

"The goal is to take someone who has an associate's degree in nursing who is a registered nurse," Harris said. "We're trying to catapult them from that associate degree to a master's degree. So

instead of having some stops and gaps in your education, we're trying to provide a faster track for nurses."

"The program allows a nurse who has an associate's degree to earn both their bachelor's and master's degree in a faster timeline," said Stacy Snow, Director of Marketing at Mizzou Online, "so it reduces their student debt and the amount of time they have to spend in school."

Anyone in the country with an associate's degree in nursing can enroll in the program. There is a [scholarship available](#) to students in Missouri. If a student receives the scholarship, they are required to become a nurse educator for 3 years in Missouri.

T COLUMBIA DAILY
TRIBUNE

MU to offer expanded online nursing program

A new online program will allow registered nurses to complete their bachelor's or master's degree at the University of Missouri, providing better educated nurses for patient care and more nurses with the qualifications to teach.

A news release from the Sinclair School of Nursing stated that applications will be accepted through April 1 for classes starting in June. The program is being supported by a grant from the state Board of Nursing and the Missouri Department of Higher Education and includes money to offer scholarships for full- and part-time students in the first year of the program.

Participants in the program can complete their master's degree within three to four years, the release stated.

The program is designed to help prevent a looming nursing shortage, the release stated. Half of all registered nurses are 50 years old or older and the average age of nursing faculty in Missouri is 52, the release stated.

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COURIER~POST

New Mizzou online nursing program set to address shortage of nurses, educators

Streamlined pathway at MU designed to prepare registered nurses to teach

The University of Missouri is opening a new online program to help address the shortage of nurses and nurse educators in Missouri. The Sinclair School of Nursing has developed an accelerated curriculum that allows RNs to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing online in three to four years.

“We need more nurses and the educators to prepare them,” said Judith Fitzgerald Miller, Dean of the Sinclair School of Nursing at MU. “Nursing schools around the country lack the faculty to keep up with the demand for degrees as it is, and that is only going to grow for the foreseeable future,” she said.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that, by 2020, America will need an additional 1.2 million registered nurses to meet the country's health care demands.

The shortage of nurses and instructors is due, in part, to age. Registered nurses and nursing faculty both have an average age of 50. As nurse educators retire, nursing schools are turning away qualified applicants because they lack instructors.

“Our goal is to grow our own faculty — not just for Mizzou, but for all nursing programs in Missouri,” Miller said.

The program is supported by a grant from the Missouri State Board of Nursing and the Missouri Department of Higher Education. The grant also provides scholarships for full-time and part-time students in the first year of the new program.

“This scholarship, which is only available to students who start in 2018, is the perfect opportunity for nurses who want to share their experience and love of nursing in the classroom,” said Gina Oliver, faculty member in the School of Nursing.

Scholarship recipients will have to agree to teach in Missouri nursing programs for three years after graduation.

“The shortage of nurses in Missouri is at an all-time high,” said Heidi Lucas, director of the Missouri Nurses Association. “But to graduate more nurses, our colleges and universities have to have more capacity. When programs like this produce nurse educators, nursing programs can hire more instructors. In turn, the state can educate more future nurses.”

Mizzou's new online RN-MSN curriculum eliminates redundant course for those in the special pathway. Students can opt out of four required undergraduate-level courses and take six graduate-level courses with similar topics instead. In addition, credit for two courses will apply to both undergraduate and graduate course work.

Applicants will be admitted to the existing online BSN program and will apply to MU Graduate Studies in the last semester of their undergraduate course work. Those with minimum grade point averages of 3.0 will be admitted to the master's program. Nurses will have earned their BSN and MS in three to four years.

MU is currently accepting applications for the summer 2018 semester that begins in June. Application deadline for both the program and the scholarship is April 1, 2018. For more information about the accelerated online nurse educator track, visit online.missouri.edu/RN-MSN .

T COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE

MU student's attorney argues that shooting death was suicide

By CAITLIN CAMPBELL

A man charged with felony tampering after his roommate's shooting death had his bond terms relaxed after his attorney argued the death was a suicide, not a homicide.

Boone County Circuit Court Judge Kimberly Shaw allowed DeAndre Winters, 20, to leave the courthouse Wednesday without a GPS monitor around his ankle after his attorney asked for lighter bond conditions. **Winters was charged with felony tampering with evidence after police said he moved the handgun that killed his roommate, fellow University of Missouri student Richard Ward III. Another student, Darren Carter, 22, is also charged with the crime.**

Felony tampering occurs if an individual disturbs a crime scene, impeding the investigation of another felony offense.

Winters' attorney, Josh Oxenhandler, told Shaw that Ward died by suicide, and he believes that is the conclusion police will likely reach. Winters is a film student at the University of Missouri in good standing, Oxenhandler said, and a GPS monitor is unnecessary because he is not at risk of leaving Columbia before his case has wrapped up.

"This case hasn't escalated to charges of anything other than" tampering, Oxenhandler said.

Suicide is not a crime, and the scene of a suicide is not typically considered a crime scene.

Ward died Oct. 8 after suffering a single gunshot wound to the head; those who knew him say the gunshot was self inflicted. The Columbia Police Department has avoided labeling the case a homicide investigation. A department spokeswoman said detectives are waiting for a report from the Boone County Medical Examiner before declaring an official cause of death.

The custodian of records with the medical examiner's office did not acknowledge or respond to an open records request submitted by the Tribune last week seeking information about the report.

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Jessica Caldera said she "agrees the charge is what it is, but" Winters' "actions made it harder to figure out what happened in the death," and whether it was actually a murder. She noted that Winters and Carter removed the handgun that killed Winters from the home before police arrived. Caldera did not provide a recommendation to the court about whether to reduce Winters' bond conditions.

Shaw scheduled another hearing in the case for Jan. 10. Carter is due in court in two weeks for a status review of the case. His attorney, Bill Tackett, declined to comment on the case Wednesday.



Harvest Is Done, But Deciding What To Do About Dicamba Isn't

By: Kristofer Husted

Listen to the story: <http://kmuw.org/post/harvest-done-deciding-what-do-about-dicamba-isn-t>

In the hopes of not repeating a problematic year for soybean crops, farmers across the U.S. are deciding how best to protect their crops and their livelihood next year from drift damage caused by the weed killer dicamba.

The chemical has been blamed for 3.6 million acres of damaged soybeans in 2017 alone, according to University of Missouri weed specialist Kevin Bradley. With that in mind,

many in the industry expect more farmers to purchase Xtend soybean seeds, Monsanto's dicamba-resistant product, for the 2018 growing season.

“If they're aware that someone close to them is going to spray dicamba, sometimes their choice to buy Xtend soybeans is just for that reason in itself — just so they can reduce the chances of getting any kind of injury as a result of it,” according to one Missouri farmer who was a victim of dicamba drift.

He spoke with Harvest Public Media on condition of anonymity because he also sells seeds, and is worried that talking about dicamba will have repercussions for his business and his relationship with chemical and seed companies like BASF and Monsanto.

“I know there's been touchy subjects over the years, but this is probably one that certainly sticks out in my mind just because we've had drift issues for years on other products, but I haven't seen it get to the volume that we're hearing about today,” he says.

In 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency approved dicamba, a synthetic solution, for farmers wrestling with weeds, like Palmer amaranth and waterhemp, that are growing resistant to traditional pesticides. When sprayed, dicamba can drift from fields where the soybean plants have been genetically modified to withstand dicamba onto neighboring fields or orchards where the crops haven't been genetically engineered to survive that pesticide.

Since its approval, more than 2,700 official investigations in 25 states have been launched into drift damage. In Missouri alone, there were 375 drift complaints this year, with 310 of those possibly dealing with dicamba. Last year, the state saw 97 drift complaints; 27 possibly involved dicamba.

In response to this year's crop damage, the EPA put forth stricter limitations on when and how farmers can spray dicamba.

Weed scientists at universities across the country say the chemical wasn't properly vetted and was pushed to market too quickly. But Monsanto says the product is tremendously successful and user error is to blame for drift damage.

“I’ve been around forever and I’ve never seen an issue like this where if there was a problem it would be shut down immediately,” Lyndon Brush, a crop consultant in Missouri, says.

He adds that many farmers are waiting to see whether states add extra restrictions.

Arkansas, which has seen the most damage, temporarily banned dicamba usage during the summer (as did Missouri). Missouri has set a cutoff date for the BASF version of dicamba, and Arkansas is looking at instituting a cutoff date for spraying it next year — a restriction that Monsanto is challenging. And Arkansas’ plant board also voted Nov. 8 to ban the use of the weed killer entirely, though the state legislature has final say.

“They need to do something because they cannot continue to have the number of claims that they are having because of one product,” Brush says.

Regardless of what states do, more farmers will plant Xtend seeds, Bradley says.

“Some of it is going to go up just because there are people that have been injured two years in a row or one year and just say I can’t live through that again,” Bradley says.

Even Monsanto expects to fill half of the U.S. soybean seed demand for 2018 — 40 million acres of dicamba-tolerant crops, double what was planted this year. That could lead to more dicamba being sprayed, but it won’t necessarily mean more drift damage, Bradley says, at least for soybeans.

Other crops, like peaches, could be vulnerable.

“The soybeans may start fading into the background because there are more and more people adopting the technology,” he says. “So there is not going to be as many cases, but that doesn’t speak to the trees or the vegetables or any of the other things.”

What happens to those crops could be key to how the EPA proceeds with dicamba after the 2018 growing season, when the chemical is up for reevaluation.

Half of American adults are health-care illiterate

By: Ariel Scotti

Generated from MU Health press release

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that about half of the adults in the U.S. have inadequate skills when it comes to understanding their health care options and now, a new report details how greater knowledge can lead to healthier lives.

"The relationship between health literacy and health outcomes is very important," lead author of the report, Stan Hudson, told the University of Missouri School of Medicine. "We found that low health literacy is a contributing factor for readmission for chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and cancer."

The study, called "Improving Health and the Bottom Line: The Case for Health Literacy" showed how greater individual health literacy can achieve the "Quadruple Aim" or the four main goals of care — improving community health, reducing health costs, enhancing the quality of care and improving patient and provider experiences.

"The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services estimates health expenditures will cost the \$3.5 trillion in 2017," Hudson told the university. "We know from previous research that limited health literacy increases costs not only for the U.S. health system, but also for patients and providers. Based on cost analysis of that research, we estimate sufficient health literacy could save \$105 to \$175 billion each year."

The study polled health literacy professionals about educational programs currently in place, focusing specifically on community health and how health literacy affected patient-doctor experiences.

"From an ethical standpoint, it also plays a vital role in equitable care," Hudson said. "Health literacy helps ensure the best quality of care for everyone."

"Improving health literacy will involve working with providers to communicate more effectively," the study's co-author Karen Edison said. We also need to empower patients and their families through educational and outreach strategies. Ultimately, we need to create opportunities for patients to understand their care as they navigate the health care system."

MISSOURIAN

Educators discuss strategies for managing youth activism

By GRANT SHARPLES

When it comes to student activism, high school teachers should support students while also helping them understand all sides of an issue, educators said.

The Bridge, an inclusive center within MU's College of Education, hosted a discussion on the role of the First Amendment in youth activism, walkouts and how to respond in Townsend Hall on Wednesday evening.

Five students in the College of Education led the discussion with a panel of three educators at the university and high school level, who talked about student activism and their personal experiences.

Tony Gragnani, the principal of Hickman High School, emphasized the importance of giving students a voice and taking them seriously. Educators must teach students how to be critical consumers of information and form their own opinions, he said.

As a former social studies teacher, he said he aimed to inform his students about activism and civil disobedience. Students need to know what it means to participate in a democracy, he said.

As for Amalia Dache-Gerbino, an assistant professor in the College of Education, Ferguson influenced her engagement with activism. After a police officer shot and killed 18-year-old Michael Brown in 2014 near St. Louis, Dache-Gerbino witnessed the negative framing of Ferguson in the media and wanted to promote the community as an asset, she said.

“Activism is also teaching,” Dache-Gerbino said.

She discussed her background in critical theory, which she said helps her perceive students as teachers to learn from. In terms of youth activism, Dache-Gerbino said she believes it is essential to support students and validate their knowledge.

However, activism can be wrong, she said, if the students are not fully informed.

To address this, Gragnani said he pushes his students to understand all perspectives of a situation and know their message.

“Support, but don’t manipulate,” he said.

Educators should hold students accountable when dealing with activism, but also teach them.

When dealing with students who wanted to protest without consulting administrators, Greg Simmons, a teacher at Battle High School, encouraged them to think about the consequences before going “zero to 100.”

“If you end up crying wolf all the time, at some point people stop listening to you,” Simmons said.

Students need to assess the school climate, the meaning of the protest and who will participate, he said. People in Columbia want to see students politically engaged, rather than sitting on the sidelines.

“In the classroom is where we should be talking about what’s happening in the world,” Dache-Gerbino said.

MISSOURIAN

Robert Greene film nominated for Sundance Film Festival

By MEGAN SCHALTEGGER

Award-winning filmmaker and MU professor Robert Greene is returning to the acclaimed Sundance Film Festival with another nominated film.

On Wednesday, Greene’s latest project, “Bisbee ‘17,” was announced as a feature in the festival’s U.S. documentary competition. The film explores the 100-year-old mass deportation of immigrant minors in a town on the Arizona-Mexico border. Credited as both screenwriter and director, Greene used locals to reenact the town’s painful past in the documentary.

Greene is the filmmaker-in-chief for the Jonathan B. Murray Center for Documentary Journalism, a center within the Missouri School of Journalism.

“It’s great to be heading back to Sundance, especially because I’m doing it at the Murray Center for Documentary Journalism, the School of Journalism and the film studies department, which has been crucial to the process since day one on this film,” Greene said in an interview.

This nomination follows his 2016 Screenwriting Award win at Sundance for “Kate Plays Christine.” In 2014, Greene was named one of the 10 Filmmakers to Watch by The Independent and received a Gotham Awards nomination for “Actress.”

As well as editing more than a dozen features, Greene has written for Sight & Sound and Filmmaker Magazine. Greene’s first book, “Present Tense: Notes on American Nonfiction Cinema”, 1998-2013, was released in 2015.

Screenings for the 2018 Sundance Film Festival will take place in Park City, Salt Lake City and at the Sundance Mountain Resort in Utah from Jan. 18–28, 2018.



MU Engineering Students Providing Research for Columbia Climate Initiatives

Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=d6721412-d939-4d21-9c4f-40be876b32ab>

Mayor Brian Treece committed Columbia to the Paris climate agreement last June, asking Buffalo to spearhead a new emissions effort. "We wanted to turn inward and see who are the local experts who can help us." A group of **MU engineering students** is now researching energy efficiency ideas for the city. "If there's like electric powered cars, having charging stations in front of businesses might be advantageous for the city and also for the businesses." any ideas buffalo or the city chooses to include in the plan will be implemented in 2018.

themaneater

MU College of Engineering student chosen as first recipient of EWF fellowship

By ALLISON CHO

MU graduate student Rumana Aktar is the first recipient of the Executive Women's Forum fellowship, which is a full-tuition, five-year doctoral scholarship.

First announced in December 2016, the fellowship is a partnership between the College of Engineering and Executive Women's Forum to aid female doctoral students in computer science, particularly those of underrepresented backgrounds. Aktar said her selection to the fellowship came as a surprise.

"My professor had told me that I needed to meet with the dean for some kind of interview about the fellowship," Aktar said. "He accompanied me to talk with the dean of engineering, Dr. Elizabeth Loba. I thought I was going to an interview, so I prepared like people do before an interview. But when she actually opened the door, she welcomed me as the recipient. I didn't know I was already selected, so that was really surprising and really amazing."

EWF is a nationwide organization that encourages female leaders in information technology, particularly risk management, privacy and security. Loba contacted the organization and suggested creating a Ph.D. fellowship.

"I went to one of the EWF meetings and found out EWF was doing these types of fellowships with Carnegie Mellon students, but only at the master's level," Loba said. "I talked to [EWF] about doing [the fellowship] at the Ph.D. level because the way we're going to get more underrepresented populations and women in this field, and in engineering in general, is if we have more in academia to teach the next generation."

Aktar finished her master's degree in May 2017 at the MU College of Engineering and is currently a Ph.D. student. Originally from Bangladesh, her background in computer science stemmed from an early love for math. Prior to enrolling at the MU College of Engineering, she graduated from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology with a bachelor's degree in computer science and engineering.

"During my undergrad, I was exposed to different computer science techs, like image processing and artificial intelligence," Aktar said. "I wanted to continue my higher education, my Ph.D. and masters, in this area. I found Mizzou and [professor Kannappan Palaniappan], who is doing research in this area. I talked to him and he seemed very nice. Everything fit: his research, my interests; they all really aligned. That's why I picked Mizzou."

Her current work is focused on internet security and computer vision, which involves processing and analyzing images.

“Our lab focuses on computer vision research. Currently I am working toward activity recognition and multispectral tracking in aerial video which has potential applications in security, traffic safety, agriculture, biomedical data and more.” Aktar said in an email. “In addition to that we are trying to do multimedia security, for example, ensuring the authenticity of video source, secure video streaming among distributed network resources.”

Aktar said her application process began in April 2017 and concluded around mid-May. She was chosen out of a pool of about a dozen eligible candidates by a committee from the College of Engineering. Her selection was then forwarded to an EWF selection committee and the dean of engineering, Palaniappan said.

Palaniappan is a professor and interim department chair at the College of Engineering and has worked with Aktar since she joined his research team in January 2016. He encouraged her to apply for the fellowship.

“She was a new student in my group, and she was interested in image processing and computer vision, as well as its application in security and privacy,” Palaniappan said. “I thought she'd be a good fit for the scholarship, so I encouraged her to apply.”

Palaniappan recommended Aktar for the fellowship for several reasons, but he cited a personal statement written by Aktar for another scholarship as a prime example of why he chose her.

“In her statement, she said that she came from a very rural background, and she could see how much education makes a difference on young girls,” he said. “If given the opportunity, she wanted to be able to help women in a greater global context in other developing societies as well.”

Aktar added that the fellowship ensures her continuation into her Ph.D., a degree that usually requires a “good motivator.” She has high hopes for the program beyond the financial benefits, such as the networking opportunities, mentorships, leadership workshops and attending the annual EWF conference.

“Not only does it provide me with financial support, but it also provides mentorship support with an EWF person who is already has an upper-level career in IT,” Aktar said. “You get to know all these women leaders who are doing good work in IT, and it's a great opportunity and privilege to spend time with them, talk about their struggles and successes. I think it is going to shape my career in a really positive direction.”

