



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

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MISSOURIAN

UPDATE: Campus safety summit tackles emergency response training

By PAIGE COX

UM System President Mun Choi and MU Vice Chancellor for Operations Gary Ward held a Safety and Security Summit Wednesday to evaluate responses to campus emergencies.

The featured speakers were Police Chief Kevin Foust and Vice President Mike Mulhare from Virginia Tech University, and Police Chief Linda Stump and Deputy Police Chief Darren Baxley from the University of Florida.

Foust and Mulhare explained their protocols and response to the April 2007 Virginia Tech shooting and a murder of a Virginia Tech police officer in 2011.

Stump and Baxley presented protocols and response to a visit from a controversial speaker. In October, the University of Florida hosted white nationalist Richard Spencer as a campus speaker.

About 60 academic, safety and communications leaders were also at the summit. Attendees represented the UM System's campuses in Columbia, Kansas City, Rolla and St. Louis as well as MU Health Care.

The attendees used ideas from the speakers to evaluate the UM System campuses' protocols for responding to emergencies.

MU currently sends text messages and [tweets](#) through MU Alert and updates its website with information. UM System spokesman Christian Basi said new plans would include more text messages with information. Basi also said there is a new systemwide training module in development.

The summit wasn't connected to an October incident in which [students expressed frustration with MU Alert](#) during a search for a woman with a handgun on campus, Basi said.

Following that incident, [Ward announced a long-term action plan](#) to improve its emergency responses. The plan includes meeting with campus groups to gather more feedback to determine what other steps should be taken, developing a policy on how to handle class attendance during

emergencies and evaluating and improving training for faculty, staff and students, which will include information on planning for an emergency and what campus security measures exist.

MU Alert's text message system was first tested in 2010, according to previous Missouriian reporting. The alert system has been used eight times in 2017, according to website archives. In 2016, the system was used 18 times.

"Although our campuses are very safe, as we know all too well, threats to campus safety can happen anywhere, anytime," Choi said in a news release. "It is imperative that we are leveraging our strengths and identifying our weaknesses."

Choi hopes to continue the summit each year, according to the release.



[UM system leaders discuss requiring safety training](#)

By BARRY MANGOLD

Watch video at: <http://www.abc17news.com/news/um-system-leaders-discuss-requiring-safety-training/665201486>

COLUMBIA, Mo. - University of Missouri System and MU officials gathered Wednesday at a "Safety and Security Summit" to discuss emergency protocol on campus.

In October, the MU Alert system sent multiple messages alerting those on campus of an emergency situation involving a woman with a gun. For more on that event, click [here](#).

The university identified "knowledge gaps" of the current MU Alert system during that event, and is currently discussing the idea of requiring students to take a safety training. Currently a safety training is offered by the university, but it is not required.



University of Missouri increasing enrollment, shifting focus

Watch the story:

<http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=1805b48a-cfb9-4d1c-ad7f-94c953af5810>

MISSOURIAN

To relate to students, MUPD has tried to be humorous on Twitter. It hasn't always worked

By CONNOR HOFFMAN

On campus, the MU Police Department's job is to serve and protect. On Twitter, however, the department has recently been trying to carry out that job in an unconventional way.

Sometimes, with mixed results.

Over the past few months, the department has used Twitter with a much different approach to communicate with the MU community. It has been getting information out by tweeting jokes and [GIFs](#) to reach MU students. Some have appreciated the humor, while it has been lost on others.

MU sophomore Derrek Hardy believes that the department adding GIFs and jokes in its tweets can be effective to remind students of campus safety. For example: “No, taking off your clothes and urinating in a parking lot on gameday is NOT legal.”

“Everyone loves a good tweet with a GIF,” Hardy said. “So tailoring their tweets with helpful reminders for students using GIFs and jokes can be more effective for today’s college students.”

On Nov. 1, the department tweeted, “Tell us how we’re doing!! We strive to be the best Police Department we can be!”

One Twitter user responded to the tweet and said, “chill on your tweets.”

Another said, “Like the tweets! Valid info or advice with a splash of outrageousness! Someone has a great sense of humor! Keep it up.”

Lieutenant Buddy Anliker, who oversees the Twitter account, said the department started its use of social media with Twitter and Facebook about two years ago.

He said the department uses the accounts to get out their message, which is mostly related to crime prevention and educational purposes.

“We want to connect with our community, which is a majority of students, faculty and staff and then the city of Columbia,” Anliker said. “Twitter is the communication with the students so that’s what they are going to follow.”

But the account [has also joked](#) about increasing foot patrols at the Mizzou Rec when a hot tub reopened:

Anliker said that about three or four months ago, a new officer — whom he declined to name — came to him and said that he wanted to get involved in the department’s use of social media.

That’s when the department started to tweet more often, Anliker said.

He said that since the new officer started contributing, the account gained more followers and some of its tweets were retweeted and liked more.

The MUPD Twitter account has seen an uptick in followers over the past few months. In January of 2016, the account had about 1,600 followers. It now has a little over 3,000, according to stored pages of the account on the Internet Archive.

Anliker said that the new officer’s knowledge of social media helped the account become so popular.

“His insight was really valuable, so we appreciated the work,” he said.

MU senior Kelsey Luebbert said that police can sometimes be the enemy of the typical college student, but with the new account, they have become more approachable.

“A lot of times cops are the enemies of college students, especially the underage ones,” she said. “But through the (account) they are really relatable to us.”

While the department’s tweets are meant to be funny, sometimes clarification is needed.

Earlier this month, the department tweeted, “It’s still just the 2nd week of November.. if you’re driving around with reindeer stuff we’re impounding the car.” They immediately responded to the tweet saying, “again..... a JOKE for all those who don’t know....”

This isn’t the only time that the department had to respond saying a tweet was a joke. [Earlier this month](#), when MU men’s basketball hosted Wagner on Nov. 13, the department tweeted that the game was going to be a “homicide.”The department declined to identify the person who sent that tweet.

The department, as well as the official MU Twitter page, responded to the tweet saying that it was a joke.

The tweet was deleted soon after, as well as the clarifying tweet saying that it was, “not a real homicide.”

“We did not intend to offend anybody, so immediately it was taken down,” Anliker said.

Jacob Bogage, an MU alumnus, responded to the “homicide” tweet by saying some students do not trust the department. He declined to comment.

“This is a police department with SERIOUS trust issues on campus,” he tweeted. “Students do not think these officers are there to keep them safe. They’re viewed as misbehaved antagonists.”

Luebbert said she is aware that some students do not trust MU police. She believes the new way they are using Twitter could lead to students trusting them more.

“I didn’t ever not trust them to begin with,” she said, “but it does make me feel like they are more approachable.”

Anliker, the lieutenant who oversees the account, said he was surprised by Bogage’s comment.

“For the most part, I think that we have a good relationship with the students,” Anliker said.

He said that MU will be training all university entities on social media use. Since the “homicide” tweet, the account’s activity has declined, with no GIFs or jokes. But Anliker said the department will learn from its mistakes. “We are going to continue looking at our options, looking how we can get better at it,” Anliker said.

MISSOURIAN

Court grants bond reduction for tampering in MU student's shooting death

By CONNOR HOFFMAN

Deandre Tyrone Winters, a 20-year-old charged with one count of tampering with physical evidence, received a lighter bond condition Wednesday in connection with [his roommate Richard W. Ward's shooting death in October](#).

Judge Kimberly Shaw, of the 13th Circuit, allowed him to take off the GPS ankle monitor he was wearing on Wednesday, Defense Attorney Josh Oxenhandler said.

Winters is an MU sophomore majoring in film studies. Ward, his roommate, died Oct. 8 as a result of a single gunshot wound the day before at Rolling Rock Townhomes . Ward was an MU student from Chicago studying psychology, [according to previous Missourian reporting](#).

Oxenhandler argued in court that Ward’s death was likely a suicide, according to the Columbia Daily Tribune. He said Winters has good academic standing and the GPS monitor he was wearing was unnecessary because he had no intent to leave the city before the case finished.

The offense of tampering with physical evidence is a misdemeanor unless the person impairs or obstructs the prosecution or defense of a felony, according to a Missouri statute.

According to a probable cause statement, Winters initially called Columbia police at 11:49 p.m. on Oct. 7 and said Ward did not shoot himself. Responding officers did not locate a firearm on the scene.

Later, Winters changed his story and said Ward shot himself, according to the probable cause statement. He said prior to the 911 call, he called Darren Devon Carter, also an MU sophomore, to the scene, and instructed him to remove the gun from the house. Winters said Carter also took a backpack containing a Mason jar .

Carter's girlfriend said she saw Winters hand Carter a Mason jar, and that she knew both of them kept marijuana in those jars, according to the statement.

The police arrested Winters and Carter at around 1 a.m. on Oct. 8. Carter was also charged with tampering with physical evidence. Oxenhandler said on Thursday that he would not comment on pending litigation. Winter's next court proceeding is scheduled on Jan. 10, 2018.



BPA-Free products may not be a safer alternative

By: Sarah Trott

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/bpa-free-products-may-not-be-a-safer-alternative>

COLUMBIA - Plastics manufacturers started replacing BPA as an ingredient years ago after it was shown to be harmful. But a scientist at the University of Missouri says alternatives to BPA may not be any better.

BPA, or Bisphenol A is a chemical used to harden plastic and can be found almost anywhere - water bottles, receipts, canned goods, and plastic storage bags and containers.

The Food and Drug Administration banned the chemical from baby products in 2012 after evidence BPA can cause developmental brain and behavior issues.

Despite worry from consumers and researchers about chemical leaks to food and beverages, more than 15 billion pounds of BPA products are still produced globally, according to MU Biomedical Sciences professor and Bond Life Sciences Investigator Cheryl Rosenfeld.

Since then, many manufacturers now use similar substitute chemicals and boast “BPA-Free” labels. However, alternatives currently used, like bisphenol S and bisphenol F, are untested and could be more harmful, according to Rosenfeld.

She is working in collaboration with Dr. Victoria Vieira-Potter in nutrition and exercise physiology studies and the Bond Life Sciences Center to test the effects of these substitutes.

The research will expose mice to BPS and study brain behaviors like willingness to exercise in the offspring.

Rosenfeld said having no regulation of BPA or its substitutes is problematic. She said these chemicals can cause neurological disorders and hormone imbalances to offspring, particularly with boys.

“Autism spectrum disorders, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder...we don’t know the full causes of complex disorders like that, but the problem is that genetics alone don’t explain them,” Rosenfeld said. “We are seeing the greater the exposure of the mom to BPA, the more likely we are to see these disorders overwhelmingly in boys.”

Mothers and children aren’t the only ones at risk. Anyone who uses products with BPA or BPA substitutes is at risk of absorbing the chemicals. BPA products don’t naturally dissolve into the environment and could harm wildlife and oceans as well.

Although Rosenfeld said it’s impossible for people to control what they’re exposed to, she is optimistic the research could find ways to mitigate exposure.

“We are going to ask the bigger question, ‘What can we do about it? Is there something we can do to offset our exposure that will have beneficial effects on the offspring’,” she said.

Rosenfeld said safe alternatives are to avoid canned goods and replace cheap plastic with metal and glass containers.

Forbes[®]

[Michael Porter Jr. Injury Highlights The Problem With NBA/NCAA Basketball One-and-Done Rule](#)

By: Allen St. John

Two weeks ago, University of Missouri freshman forward Michael Porter, Jr. was one of the most intriguing college basketball players in America. He was a 6'10" scorer, who had been drawing comparisons to NBA superstars like Kevin Durant, playing out his all-but-mandatory college season before earning his millions in the NBA.

Now? He's a teenager recovering from back surgery, his one-and-done season now likely done after playing only two minutes in one game.

Porter is the latest cautionary example as future NBA stars make their mandatory campus stop on the way to the pros.

For college players, there aren't many options, at least for the moment. In 2006, the league instituted a minimum age restriction—you must be 19 to play in the league or a full calendar year past the date when your high school class would have graduated--that forces top pro prospects like Porter to enroll in school for at least a single year.

The system benefits NBA teams because they get players when they're older and there'll be fewer draft picks and salary dollars spent on promising 18-year-olds who don't pan out. It benefits colleges, because they can get top talent who'd otherwise be playing in the NBA.

But it doesn't necessarily benefit players, who are essentially forced to play in college for free while schools rake in huge revenues from television, merchandizing, and development tied to basketball excellence.

To see how that works, take the case of Harry Giles. Despite suffering a knee injury that caused him to miss most of his senior year in high school, Giles was the consensus number one pick in the early 2017 NBA Mock Drafts in the summer of 2016. But Giles, who enrolled at Duke, suffered another knee injury early on that derailed his college season. Over the course of nine months Giles went from being the likely top draft pick to the actual 20th pick in last year's draft.

And that drop cost him. According to the rookie pay scale, the number one pick gets \$5.8 million for his first season versus \$1.5 million for the player picked 20th, with similar disparities in subsequent years in his rookie contract. To put it another way, Giles' injury likely came with an eight figure cost.

The trickle down of the NBA's age restriction is so powerful that it's actually affecting high schoolers who are juggling their academic schedules in an attempt to get to the pros sooner. Through this process, known as reclassifying, students accelerate their high school studies with the explicit goal of graduating a year earlier and hitting the NBA as early as possible.

This summer, a high school junior Marvin Bagley, Jr. reclassified from the Class of 2018 to the Class of 2017. He's now enrolled at Duke and is considered the top pro prospect in college, a position solidified by Porter's injury.