

FEB 23 2011

THE STUDENT VOICE OF MU SINCE 1953

# THE MANEATER

## Forums to draw public opinion on UM president search

*A forum to gather public opinion on the search will come to MU on March 14.*

By Allison Prang

Published Feb. 22, 2011

In search of the next UM System president, the committee tasked with hiring the next university head executive will host seven forums across Missouri to hear the public's opinion on qualities it wants in the next president. The university announced the forums Monday through a news release.

This president will serve as the 23rd in the history of the UM System.

"Like the 22 university presidents who have come before, our next leader must be an advocate for public higher education who can work with various constituencies and our four campuses to continue to advance the state and the citizens we serve," said Warren Erdman, Presidential Search Committee and Board of Curators chairman, in the release.

Erdman said, as a member of the search committee, he is eager to hear Missourians' thoughts on what they'll be looking for in the next UM System president.

One of the seven forums will be held from 3 to 4:30 p.m. March 14 in room 208 of the Reynolds Alumni Center at MU. The forums will be recorded and posted to [the UM System presidential search website](#) following each event and are free and open to the public.

Aside from MU, forums will also be held at UM-St. Louis, UM-Kansas City, Missouri Western State University, Missouri University of Science and Technology, the Discovery Center Auditorium in Springfield and at the Delta Center in Portageville.

According to the 2011 presidential search timeline, the public forums will be discussed, and presidential qualifications will be approved at the Board of Curators meeting March 21 and 22. In late March, they plan to advertise the availability of the position. Search committee meetings are going to be scheduled once the candidates originate in April and May.

According to the UM System website, qualifications for the search firm committee include the extent of members' "off-limit" candidates, its ability to search candidates with different resources and its availability, among other things.



## Expanded MU lab to give research a jolt

By Janese Silvey

University of Missouri administrators today broke ground on a second facility where a computer engineering professor plans to expand research aimed to help U.S. troops and improve life on the home front.

It's the second roughly 6,000-square-foot lab College of Engineering Professor Randy Curry has helped fund in the past three years. In 2008, the existing Center for Physical and Power Electronics lab was built off Carrie Francke Drive, but Curry said he quickly ran out of space there.

Before the noon groundbreaking ceremony, Curry took reporters on a brief tour of the lab space he has outgrown. Although the building is not much more than a warehouse, it lets his team of 28 faculty and staff members and students work with some of the most sophisticated equipment in the country. That gives students a chance to work with technology on par with or even better than what they'll find in the industry.

There are a number of projects going on at the center. Over the past several years, Curry has developed a way to use short bursts of electricity, or pulse power, to allow troops to disarm improvised explosive devices from a safe distance. He also has found a way to lessen the impact of shock waves from explosions, and he has been developing high-voltage switches "that can be very compact and fit onboard mobile platforms," he said.

Inside one chamber in the lab, Curry and his team are developing a new type of antenna that could someday replace large-scale cell phone towers.

The existing lab simply isn't large enough to house other projects Curry has in mind. He won't delve too deeply into details of his work, citing both classified and proprietary information, but in general he said the new facility will house projects relating to alternative energies and lasers. He expects MU to lead the way when it comes to finding new compact ways to store energy, which could lead to more practical use of wind turbines and electric cars.

"We've got some new, exciting projects on the horizon," Curry said. "Some I can't go into."

The new building, which will extend off the east side of the existing center, is expected to be built in about three months. The roughly \$600,000 project will be paid for by the College of Engineering and Curry's research money, said Jan Wiese-Fales, a spokeswoman for the department.

Curry is one of the most well-funded researchers on the MU campus. Since early 2008, he has snagged more than \$9 million from federal agencies, mainly through the Department of Defense and the Department of Energy. He has contracts with all branches of the military and also is securing patents that have civilian applications.

Ultimately, the expansion of Curry's work should mean more spinoff companies and high-tech jobs in Missouri, said Marty Walker, director of administrative services for the College of Engineering. "The main question is, 'Will all of these projects make society better?'" Walker said. "The answer is 'yes.'"

Reach Janese Silvey at 573-815-1705 or e-mail [jsilvey@columbiatribune.com](mailto:jsilvey@columbiatribune.com).

## COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

# MU College of Engineering breaks ground for new research facility

By Matthew Busch

February 22, 2011 | 6:11 p.m. CST

**COLUMBIA – MU’s College of Engineering broke ground Tuesday near Reactor Field for a new addition to its pulse power research facility.**

The reason: a need for more space.

An MU engineering team contracted to work on energy capacitors by the Department of Defense has been housed in the Center for Physical and Power Electronics nearby.

“We filled this one up,” said Randy Curry, director of the research team. “We have four cargo containers of equipment, and we’re getting a fifth one.”

Curry said the team will move into the new addition within four months. The center is one of three nationwide conducting research into the field of pulse power — a form of electromagnetic energy — and ways to store that energy. This cutting-edge research requires heavy and bulky equipment, said Marty Walker, director of administrative services for the College of Engineering.

The Department of Defense is funding half of the \$600,000 cost of the additional facility as a dual project, which means the research results will have both military and commercial uses, said Susan Wampler, the College of Engineering's director for external relations. Research at the facility will be probing into energy storing devices, or capacitors. The devices are capable of storing 30 times more energy than those currently on the market.

“We can shrink the size of capacitors and build them into wind turbines, build them into electric cars,” Walker said. “The offshoot of that is that someday, every neighborhood could have its own wind turbine.”

Other research projects will deal with lasers, alternative energy and algae, Curry said, but declined to explain further. “We’re unique, and we’d like to keep it that way,” he said.

## COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

# Interim UM System President Steve Owens discusses his new role

By Victoria Guida

February 22, 2011 | 7:35 p.m. CST

**COLUMBIA – The president of the University of Missouri System is the face of four universities.**

**For now, Steve Owens is that face.**

**As interim UM president, his tenure won't be long, but he says he's happy to help out.**

"I love this place," said Owens, the UM general counsel who was asked to serve after President Gary Forsee took temporary leave in December.

"I'm a third-generation Mizzou grad, and my son will be the fourth," he said. "And I am just very much invested in making sure that the University of Missouri continues to be a top-notch institution."

When Forsee told the Board of Curators on Jan. 7 that he was resigning to care for his wife, who was recovering from cancer surgery, Owens was appointed interim president.

Although he says he has no intention of staying on permanently, Owens, 55, inherited a set of challenges facing the university the day he stepped into his new office.

With his quiet smile and soft-spoken voice, he offers an air of humility, but he is not without confidence. For an interview, he sits at the head of the table in his office, leans back with a foot on his knee and responds to questions in a measured, straightforward manner.

**"Not out of the woods enough yet"**

He exhibited the same candor Wednesday in his testimony before the Missouri House Appropriations Committee on Education to make a case for more state support. His

arguments included the importance of research conducted by faculty and economic benefits the state receives from the university.

The system faces a \$42 million funding deficit for fiscal year 2012, and Owens said it is important to identify certain values and principles to protect while still trying to close the gap. He called it the most challenging issue he might face as president.

"I think we'll probably in all likelihood have to defer some maintenance and needed repairs again, and we may have to take some personnel actions, such as continuing not to fill currently open positions," he said.

As the conversation turned to the hiring freeze, he leaned forward and paused thoughtfully.

"We're just not out of the woods enough yet to lift it," Owens said. "We're going to have to continue to be very cost-conscious in our hiring."

Owens said the hiring freeze would continue in some fashion, as the current freeze, a soft freeze or a "thawing freeze." He also said the system will likely extend the belt-tightening measures that cut \$61.5 million in operating costs last year.

"We don't look at the money angle first. We look at the needs first," the president said. "Then having identified those needs, we'll put a cost to them and try to prioritize them and see what is feasible."

During these tough economic times, the university also imposed a salary freeze for faculty and staff. For the fiscal year 2012 budget, the UM administration is considering a 2 percent merit-based average salary increase.

"Do I see that happening? Yes. I will fight very hard for that because it's extremely important to our faculty and staff," Owens said. "First, because they deserve it. And secondly, it's just a good management tool. You need to start building in some small increases to base salaries."

The UM System needs to maintain the quality of its faculty and staff, he said, "so it's an extremely important aspect of the overall budget to me."

UM administrators have also addressed the retirement benefits for its employees, seeking revisions that are both cost-effective and fair.

"The first and foremost thing that I will look at in terms of any new plan for new employees is that it is adequately protective of the existing plan for existing employees and existing retirees," the president said.

"They've either paid their dues or are in the process of paying their dues, and they are entitled to, I believe, the benefits that they've anticipated."

He added that any plan would need to be able to attract and retain employees, which is especially important with growing student enrollment.

UM has added 17,000 students in the last 10 years, he said, and there is a limit to how large it can grow because of funding issues. He said Missouri University of Science & Technology in Rolla can handle the least amount of growth, while the University of Missouri-Kansas City has a little more room.

"I think we're approaching (our enrollment limit) at different rates on different campuses," he said. "A key question for us is, at what point do we become concerned that decreased funding and increased enrollment will start to decrease the quality of education?"

### **Promoting discussion**

He said, with a smile, that the new president will need a sense of humor, as well as leadership skills, interpersonal skills, and an understanding of Missouri and Missourians.

"I don't know that prior association with the state of Missouri or the University of Missouri is a requirement, but it would be a good asset if they have that," he said.

He also said a president should engage in "merit-based decision-making."

"You create a structure in an environment where you weigh all the alternatives," Owens said.

"You hash them out with the people who have some input — people who will be affected by the decisions. And you head down a path toward the right result based on the merits of the idea as opposed to, maybe, strong personalities or other types of influences."

Owens said he tries to engage in this kind of decision-making.

"He's very deliberate," said John Carnahan, an outgoing UM curator who has known Owens for almost 40 years. "If you notice, he carries around a legal pad, and he will use it to outline his thoughts."

Mark Foster, Owens' former law partner at Stinson, Morrison, Hecker in Kansas City, said Owens is multifaceted.

"He can be very intense," he said. "He's a very hard worker, but he has a great sense of humor, which is sometimes dry."

Carnahan said Owens has a very even temper, which helps him facilitate compromise.

"I've never seen him get outraged, harsh, or mad at anybody," Carnahan said. "He will speak his piece -- he stands up for what he believes in -- but the goal is to get you to agree and resolve."

Carnahan laughed and said he didn't want "to paint Steve as an angel."

"When he was playing competitive tennis, he would never, ever quit," he said. "I'll just leave it at that. If you played tennis with him, it wasn't social tennis."

### **The road to the UM System**

Carnahan and Owens are both from Springfield, where they attended Glendale High School. Owens was student body president and played football and tennis. He went on to play tennis at MU.

Owens is still a fan of MU sports, and said he predicts the men's basketball team will "go all the way" in this year's NCAA Tournament.

"I guess I'm an optimist," he said. "It's an exciting time of year."

He also expressed confidence that the football team will perform well even without quarterback Blaine Gabbert, who chose to enter the NFL draft instead of returning for a final year. Owens frequently attends games as an alumnus.

After graduating from MU, Owens attended law school at Wake Forest University. In his first job, he clerked for federal Judge William Collinson in 1980. His future wife, Cindy Arnaud, also worked in Springfield.

"We actually ended up renting apartments in the same complex," he said.

The two married in 1982 and have three sons together, one of them an MU student.

In 1981, Owens went to Kansas City to work for Stinson, Mag, & Fizzell, now known as Stinson, Morrison, Hecker. Throughout his legal career, he has focused mainly on business-oriented litigation, in addition to environmental and sports law.

Foster, who hired Owens, said his former partner had come highly recommended by Judge Collinson. The two worked together until Owens left to work as general counsel for the UM System.

"It was a very difficult decision because I really loved the law firm that I was with. I'd been there 26 years at that point. I liked the people — they were great lawyers and great people. I loved my clients. I loved my practice," Owens said.

"But this opportunity came along and I've always felt that, after faith, education is the great equalizer in the world. So the opportunity to work in higher education in general — and my alma mater in particular — was just too good an opportunity to pass up."

### **Preparing for another transition**

Now, after three years as general counsel, Owens has been thrust into the interim presidency, but he plans to stay only until a new president is selected. At that point, he will return to his previous job for the UM System.

He does not give the impression that he wants to stay in the spotlight for very long.

"I enjoy this job as president. It's interesting and it's challenging. I'm having fun with it," Owens said. "It's really just a matter of personal preference. I'm educated as a lawyer. I'm trained as a lawyer. And so my personal preference is to be general counsel as opposed to president."

He maintains a close relationship with Gary Forsee and said he thinks the former president was a "good role model" for leadership qualities and decision-making.

"He tried not to let extraneous influences affect the right decision," Owens said.

Carnahan was a curator when Owens was selected as Forsee's temporary replacement. He said Owens had a "long background" with the university; even before becoming general counsel, he had done legal work on its behalf, and that made him a good choice.

"He knew Gary Forsee extremely well — they'd been working together for close to three years — and he knew the game plan," Carnahan said. "So he could step right in and make sure

things that were in process got completed ... He was just there at the right place and the right time."

Carnahan also said there was a high-level management team in place, which allowed for a smooth transition.

"We all miss President Forsee very, very much, but Steve has been able to step in and, as far as I know, everything is moving on exactly according to what Gary's plans were last year," Carnahan said.

Owens said he is going to be interim president for only a short time, so he won't be able to affect UM dramatically. But he said he would like to continue working on the major initiatives that are already underway.

"I'm just going to try to hand the university to the next president in the best shape that's possible," he said.

Carnahan said Owens is "as good as it gets."

"One of the reasons that we tried to encourage him to apply for general counsel is that everyone knew of the quality of his work," he said.

Foster, Owens' former law partner, agreed that the university is in good hands.

"He has all the skill sets you'll want," Foster said. "He's a person I have the utmost trust in, and I'm a loyal Missouri alum myself."

THE STUDENT VOICE OF MU SINCE 1955

# THE MANEATER

Letter to the Editor:

## Contextualizing racist acts shows that we are all victims

By Marlo Goldstein Hode, LL.M in Dispute Resolution, School of Law, Doctoral Student,  
Department of Communication, mbgnb9@mail.mizzou.edu

Published Feb. 22, 2011

I want to believe that most members of the MU community felt outrage, disgust and/or sadness when they heard about the racist graffiti incident, just one year after the trauma of the cotton ball incident. However, I suspect that there were at least some who felt indifference.

Yes, it is offensive; it shouldn't happen, but what can we do? Is it really that big a deal?

Yesterday, I attended the Difficult Dialogues session about hate crimes held at the law school. I want to share some insights from that informative session that highlights why this crime is "a big deal."

### Broader Context

Chief Diversity Officer Roger Worthington opened the session with some statistics from the Southern Poverty Law Center. The bottom line was that racially motivated hate crimes happen every day across the country, even at our precious institutions of higher learning. This reminds us that what happens on our campus does not occur in isolation. Our cotton ball incident and the graffiti are part of something bigger that impacts the entire country.

### Historical Context

Professor Frank Bowman gave a brief history of slavery in Missouri and Boone County. For those of us (like me) who didn't know, it was quite a shock to learn that the names we see every day in the place where we learn - Rollins, Switzler, Hickman - were the names of prominent slave owners. In other words, the history of racism is woven into the fabric of our daily lives and many of us don't even know it. History and present day are inextricably linked; what happens today is connected to everything that has come before us.

### We Are All Victims

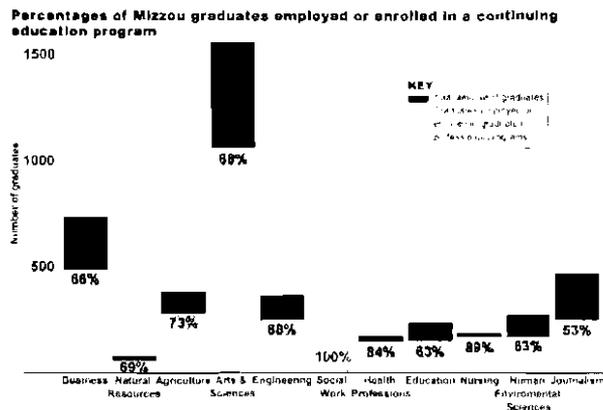
Professor David Mitchell reminded us that though the students who live in the residence hall are the most direct victims, we need to recognize the full extent of those impacted by this act. Think about the parents of those students who thought they were sending their children to a safe learning environment. Parents are those people who would rather give their lives than see any harm come to their children. How must they feel? Think about all of the other minority students who heard the message of hateful unwelcome, yet must show up to class and work. And what about those of us who are not minorities, those of us who are allies in the fight against hate? Aren't we also victimized when someone in our community cuts at the very core of our ideals?

### **Victims of Indifference**

I want to close my comments by addressing those who believe that these acts have nothing to do with them. You, too, are victims. By failing to recognize yourself as part of something bigger and interconnected, you become victims of a simplistic worldview in which what does not affect you directly does not matter. No matter how hard you study, such narrow thinking will only lead you down narrow paths.

## Half of Recent Missouri School of Journalism Grads Can't Find Jobs (Updated)

Posted on [February 17, 2011](#) by [Lindsey Wolf](#)



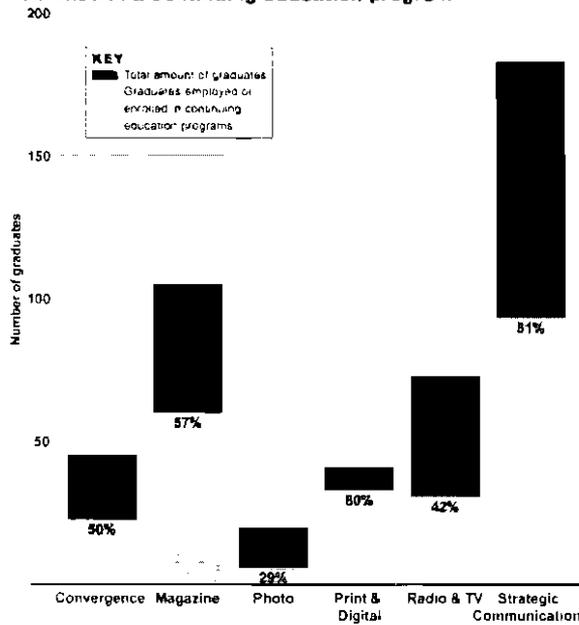
Did you want a job after graduating from the University of Missouri School of Journalism? Yeah, we did too. Sadly, we have some news that doesn't bode well for us. The journalism school has the lowest post-graduation placement rate of *any* academic college at the University of Missouri. And you thought [the starting salaries for J-Schoolers were bad!](#)

In Fall 2009 and Spring and Summer 2010, 4,507 people graduated from the University of Missouri. Of the 2,777 MU graduates who replied to the Vice Provost's Destination Study, 68 percent of them are now employed or enrolled in a continuing education program (you can see the full results of MU's Destination Study [here](#)). The school with the highest placement rate is Mizzou's (much smaller) School of Social Work with *100 percent* of graduates now in jobs or in graduate programs. Sadly, the school with the lowest placement rate is our very own journalism school, at a mere 53 percent.

We already reported where [J-School graduates ended up around the country](#), but we didn't know until now if they actually had jobs out there.

Within the journalism school, there's a big difference in job placement rates, even though [the starting salaries were pretty bad across the board](#). As you can see below, Print & Digital News has the highest placement rate with 80 percent. The lowest is [Photojournalism](#), with a 29 percent placement rate. "Placement" can mean several things: getting a job in your field, getting a job out of your field or continuing your education.

**Percentages of journalism graduates employed or enrolled in a continuing education program**



But as Photojournalism senior Patrick Fallon pointed out, more Photojournalism students are doing freelance work, which they might not consider a “job” according to the University’s definition. This 29 percent number for Photo-J could be an artificially deflated figure, based on a poorly-worded question.

Another possible explanation for why so few J-Schoolers can find jobs: [people like this](#).

Stay tuned as we do the reporting to find out *why* the journalism school has such a lackluster placement rate and why there is such a discrepancy in placement rates among the emphasis areas.

FYI: Eighteen percent of J-Schoolers who responded to the survey indicated they were enrolled in “continuing education.” Forty-seven percent of respondents were “seeking employment,” and 33 percent were employed. Because of rounding, those figures do not add up exactly to 100 percent.

**UPDATE:** The Missouri School of Journalism says its placement rate is closer to 90 percent. [See the full story here](#).

**J School Buzz** (student blog)

## **J-School Says More Than Half of Recent Grads Find Jobs, Thank You Very Much**

Posted on [February 21, 2011](#) by [David Teeghman](#)



The Missouri School of Journalism places just 53 percent of its graduates into jobs or continuing education programs within six months of graduation, according to the MU Destination Study we reported on last week.

But looking at placement rates over a longer period of time shows a more optimistic picture for J-School graduates, as we learned in a conversation with Associate Dean Brian Brooks.

Compared to other academic colleges that were in MU's Destination Study, the University of Missouri School of Journalism is consistently at or near the bottom in terms of placement rate, year after year. But in an interview, Brooks contended the destination study doesn't show the whole picture.

"I will grant you that our grads take longer than other Missouri grads to find jobs," he said to open our conversation. That's when he showed me a list of almost every J-Schooler who graduated in 2008 and where they are now. It turns out that about 90 percent of them are in jobs related to journalism (whew!).

That's quite a discrepancy from the 53 percent placement rate that came out of the University of Missouri's study, so how to explain it?

For its destination study, Mizzou sends a survey in the mail to the last known address for each graduate. A fair number of graduates choose to ignore the mailer, but most fill it out and return it to the university. To find its 90 percent placement figure, the J-School went a different route and conducted a comprehensive census of the 2008 graduating class. It tracked down almost every

single graduate to find out what they were doing. As Brooks explained, much of that effort entailed him spending late nights and weekends tracking former students on LinkedIn and Facebook.

Brooks thought this 90 percent figure was enough to discredit the 53 percent placement rate Mizzou found for the Missouri School of Journalism, and which we reported. It's not. MU's Destination Study reports the placement rates of all Mizzou graduates from every college at the same time, which is six months after graduation. The university has found in several years of destination studies that the journalism school has one of the lowest placement rates on campus six months after graduation. The J-School's 90 percent placement rate is based on talking to J-School graduates *three years* after graduation, a much greater amount of time for graduates to find a job or graduate school.

The Missouri School of Journalism draws more out-of-state students (about 60 percent) than any other academic college at the University of Missouri. Brooks believes those out-of-state students are harder to track than ones headed back to St. Louis or Joplin. The problem with that argument is that every J-Schooler is required to fill out a form at graduation that includes their next home address. We know their next stop right after graduation, so it can't be that hard to find them.

Brooks believed that comparing the journalism school to the other academic colleges at Mizzou was "like comparing apples to oranges." He said that many journalism graduates don't even begin looking for jobs until after graduation, based on his own anecdotal experience.

My personal experience has been very different. Most J-Schoolers I know started looking for jobs months ago, but aren't very optimistic in securing a job before graduation (add your own experience to the comments section: are people waiting until May or June to start looking for jobs, or have they already begun the job search?).

The journalism school has had a problem with MU's Destination Study for a number of years, according to Brooks. The faculty has long held that it underrepresents the number of J-School graduates who find jobs in journalism. Until this year though, they had not conducted a counter survey to prove their point. The only reason the journalism school took a census of the 2008 graduating class now is because the accreditation committee from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication asked for it.

That's just bad PR. For a school with a highly reputable StratComm program with so many PR experts, you'd think that they would know to release their own more positive information as a counterpunch to Mizzou's Destination Study. But they didn't. As a result, the Missouri School of Journalism effectively had a national PR crisis on its hands when we reported the results of MU's study. Our story got picked up on Romenesko, was shared on Facebook and Twitter more than 300 times, resulting in more than 4,000 page views so far, and yet the J-School still has nothing to say publicly about the story. Their only outlet for releasing this 90 percent placement rate publicly is...us. And we didn't even get to keep the list of 2008 graduates they found, to double-check their findings!

Hopefully, things will get better because of our last story. Signs indicate they already have. “We’re playing catch-up,” Brooks said on how the school is now conducting a census of the 2009 graduating class. From now on, Brooks said, the school plans to conduct a census of each graduating class to find its own placement rate, *and publicize it*.

J-School Buzz is going to stick with the story of the journalism school’s placement rate, and report on it as the story develops. It’s our job to suss out the J-School’s ugly spots and ask *why*. Why is the journalism school’s placement rate one of the lowest on campus year after year? Why is no one in charge of the J-School’s Career Services two months after the last person in charge quit? Why is the University of Missouri School of Journalism so large when the industry it serves is contracting?

These are the uncomfortable questions we as an independent publication will continue to ask and find answers to. We owe that to you. We owe it to ourselves as fellow J-Schoolers, who truly believe this is the best journalism school in the country and only want to see it get better.

# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

## Students save on college costs with high school courses

By Scott Cousins | Posted: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 12:00 am

### MU mention page 2

As the cost of higher education continues to increase, college-level classes in high school are helping many parents and students save money.

Local schools offer a variety of programs that allow high school students to either earn college credit, or waive requirements.

"It's a lot cheaper than regular tuition. I want to keep college costs down so I don't have a lot of loans when I graduate," said Trey Garland, a senior at Granite City High School.

He is taking dual-credit courses offered by St. Louis University's 1818 Advanced College Credit Program. Community colleges like Southwestern Illinois College and Lewis and Clark Community College offer similar programs throughout the Metro East.

Other options include:

- Advanced placement, or AP, where students can take tests in more than 30 subjects ranging from Chinese Language and Culture to biology.
- Articulation agreements where students passing a test receive credit toward specific vocational or career programs.

The programs are very popular in many Metro East schools. Offerings at local high schools vary.

"It's safe to say approximately half of our seniors have dual credit or AP courses," said Columbia High School Principal Mark Stuart.

"It's a huge advantage to the kids in terms of their progress toward college graduation," said Gayle Rogan, director of SLU's 1818 program. It has about 5,000 participants in more than 300 classes throughout the St. Louis region, including a dozen Metro East schools.

Jerica Patek, 17, a senior at Triad High School planning to attend Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, plans to earn six credit hours through SLU.

"It's important because college is really expensive, and every little bit counts," she said.

Anne Tepen, 20, an SLU junior, graduated in 2009 from Gibault Catholic High School in Waterloo with 24 credit hours and started college as a sophomore.

"I wanted to get prepared for college, and they were definitely challenging. I thought they would be a good fit," she said.

SLU's program costs \$65 per credit hour, while the community college programs are free.

One thing parents and students have to be concerned about is transferring credits. Most schools will accept at least some AP or dual course credits, but may limit the number, or have other restrictions.

It is up to parents and students to make sure the credits transfer, said Gayle Rogan, director of SLU's 1818 program.

"We have students tell us that they chose one college over another because a particular college accepted their dual credit hours and their second choice did not," Rogan added.

McKendree University in Lebanon accepts SLU and SWIC dual credit, and AP tests. But Josie Blasdel, director of undergraduate admissions, said some classes can only count as general studies and not toward college majors.

For Garland, the Granite City High School student, making sure the credits transferred was very important.

**"We went to the University of Texas, University of Illinois, and University of Missouri-Columbia," said his father, Greg Garland. "All three universities would accept those classes."**

**Eventually, Trey Garland chose the University of Missouri.**

**"As a parent, I would highly recommend the program," his father said. "Not only is it going to save you money, it's going to open doors in the future."**



February 22, 2011

## Local academics weigh in on Libyan unrest

By Roger McKinney [news@joplinglobe.com](mailto:news@joplinglobe.com)

Area academics are watching closely what happens next in Libya.

Will longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi be the next to fall in the face of youthful, pro-democracy protests? Or will he crush the protests and smother the movement that has spread like a contagion around the Arab world?

In a defiant speech Tuesday, Gadhafi said he would fight to his "last drop of blood."

**"That's what it may come down to," said Kate Floros, an assistant professor of political science at the University of Missouri in Columbia.**

Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology and international studies at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, said he takes Gadhafi at his word. Gubera is a fellow with the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations. He teaches a course called The Arab World.

Gubera said he thinks Gadhafi will remain in power.

"I think we're going to see more of this," Gubera said of government attacks on protesters. "I think we may see a lot of bloodletting. I think the revolution will kind of lose its steam for a while."

For more on this story, pick up a copy of Wednesday's Joplin Globe or register for our E-Edition at [joplinglobe.com](http://joplinglobe.com).

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# THE MANEATER

## MU Libraries emphasize digital archives

*About half of the libraries' literature is available online.*

By Caitlin Swieca

Published Feb. 22, 2011

MU Libraries have placed an increased emphasis on acquiring digital resources, following a nationwide trend of utilizing the Internet as a key research tool.

To discuss the implications of the digitization of resources, MU will host "The Future of Archives in a Digital Age," a symposium Feb. 24 and 25.

The library both digitizes collections it already has and purchases new material that originates online, such as online journals and databases. The process of digitization is funded partly through grants.

Students and scholars have gravitated toward online resources because of their convenience.

"People can use them from their residence halls or home and don't have to come in to the library," Ann Riley said, who is the Assistant Director for Technical Services. "We want to provide what people will use and what's most cost-effective, which means buying digital resources."

The focus on online resources at MU is reflective of a nationwide trend.

"There's been an increase in online resources and a decrease in books, which is true for probably all academic libraries," MU Libraries spokesperson Shannon Cary said.

The transition to online periodical literature has been speedier than the transition to e-books.

"About half of our periodical literature now is only available online," Riley said. "We can't even buy paper if we wanted it for many things now."

MU also sponsors MOspace, an online collection of publications and dissertations written by faculty and grad students in the MU system.

Online resources are seen as a complement to a still-growing collection of physical books.

“We won’t ever abandon our commitment to paper, tangible books, because those are very much core to what we do,” Riley said.

Online databases are not comprehensive or may not have reliable search functions.

“It is not yet a matter of the digital replacing print or manuscript,” English professor Devoney Looser said. “Even where digital resources exist, they make things both easier and more difficult.”

The library focuses on digitizing materials that are unique, fragile or heavily used. The Sanborn fire insurance maps, a collection of 6,800 maps of Missouri towns from 1883 to 1923, have been particularly popular.

“A lot of genealogists, local historians, and city planners use them,” Special Collections Director Michael Holland said.

MU professors have integrated digital resources into their class curriculum.

“The assignments I give to students have changed,” Looser said. “As a class, we can now look closely at a phrase in one text and then investigate how that same phrase was being used in dozens of other texts published during the period.”

The upcoming symposium, part of the Mizzou Advantage initiative, will bring in prominent research scholars to discuss the future of digital resources.

“We’re hoping the long-term effect of the symposium is to create a community of librarians, faculty and archivists that will discuss and try to integrate digital materials into research, libraries and teaching that goes on at the MU campus,” Holland said.

Looser hopes that collaboration will help move the digital humanities forward.

“It’s important that we attract more faculty, students and staff to collaborate on these innovative, team-based projects,” Looser said.



**Economic scare tactics ignore logic**

## **Ending income tax would benefit state.**

BY JOE HASLAG

The scare is on. Some wild economic predictions have been put forward by Amy Blouin, director of the Missouri Budget Project, and James Moody, former state budget director, regarding the legislative proposal to eliminate Missouri's income tax and replace it with a higher sales tax rate.

One egregious mistake they both make is the failure to understand economic growth. Since the work of Nobel laureate economist Robert Solow in the 1950s, and more recent research advances from Washington University economist Rodolfo Manuelli and Larry Jones in the 1990s, economists have understood the impact income taxes have on the payments made to workers, business owners, shareholders, and lenders. This work presents a consistent and compelling result: People will realize higher after-tax returns when income tax rates are lowered. As after-tax returns increase, they will be employed more intensively as factors of production, and economic growth rates will rise.

Blouin and Moody repeatedly downplay this, but based on what? They demonstrate no economics expertise. Neither cites even one vetted economic article to support the claims. The reason: They cannot find such an article in economics literature. Their rhetoric is akin to claiming the sun will rise in the west. Anybody can claim it, but science stands firmly against that claim. Blouin and Moody go further, predicting implementing a revenue structure based on sales taxes will cripple the Missouri economy, but by what economic expertise? Such claims are made to scare people who are not experts.

To further illustrate their economic mistakes and half-baked analysis, note they ignore the benefit to Missourians that comes with expanding after-tax income. Missourians will see their take-home pay rise. Blouin and Moody got half of their analysis right, noting an increase in the sales tax rate and a broadened sales tax base will affect consumer spending. This effect on consumer spending is the cost of faster economic growth. These two points must be considered jointly. If we focus only on the near-term costs, we miss the gains of faster growth unleashed by the change in the tax structure.

Like any project, the costs are borne up front, and the rewards are realized later. This analogy holds for any number of investments — things such as plant expansion, education and kitchen remodels. In each case, there is an initial sunk cost. Rational people can decide whether the rewards are worth that cost. In Missouri's case, faster growth means the economic pie gets

bigger. These are the kinds of attractive qualities that make a state's economy the envy of other states.

Moody predicts retailers would cross the border if Missouri's higher sales tax rate were implemented. He is half right, and 50 percent is a failing grade. It is true a few retailers might make the decision that it is in their best interest to locate differently based on a regime that taxes purchases at a higher rate. The other half of the story is also important. Because income taxes would be simultaneously eliminated, there would be an incentive for many other out-of-state businesses to relocate here. Missouri's economy likely would experience a change in its industry composition if the income tax were replaced with a higher sales tax. It is wrong, however, to ignore the growth benefits that go with eliminating the income tax. Some stores might cross the state line, but Missouri shoppers will be richer.

Do not be afraid. See through these wild claims, and make up your mind based on the evidence. Tennessee is not crippled by relying on sales taxes and eschewing the state income tax. You might not want to bear the costs associated with the proposed switch. I can understand that. In my view, it is worth it because it will result in faster economic growth — more specifically, faster income growth for Missouri's citizens and faster growth in state revenues. Weigh the costs against the benefits and decide, but do not let the fear mongers scare you.

Joe Haslag holds the Kenneth Lay Chair in Economics at the University of Missouri-Columbia and is executive vice president of the Show-Me Institute.

## COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

# Bill seeks funding to counter Missouri nursing shortage

## NO MU Mention

By Michael Davis

February 22, 2011 | 6:37 p.m. CST

JEFFERSON CITY — The House Committee on Higher Education heard testimony Tuesday that a shortage of nurses in Missouri could be helped with grant funding outlined in a bill before the committee.

House Bill 223 would allocate \$1 million over three years to hire new faculty and train more nurses at state universities.

“The jobs for these nurses are there; it’s the issue of educating them to take those jobs that is of still substantial difficulty for state institutions,” said Mike Nietzel, higher education adviser to Gov. Jay Nixon. The state funding would be part of Nixon’s Caring for Missourians program, administered with the cooperation of the State Board of Nursing and the Department of Higher Education.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Wayne Wallingford, R-Cape Girardeau, said during the hearing that one reason a nursing shortage exists is the lack of nursing school faculty at state universities, which forces programs to turn away a large number of applicants.

The funding would come from licensing fees that Missouri’s registered nurses pay to the state every two years, said Lori Scheidt, executive director of the Missouri State Board of Nursing. Those universities interested in receiving grants must apply and have their applications examined by the Board of Nursing and the Department of Higher Education. Nietzel said the best applications would make the strongest cases for how more faculty would increase enrollment and graduation.

The bill would repeal an outdated incentive grant program that dealt with non-traditional nursing students. The committee had planned to take the bill into executive session, but it delayed that process until next Tuesday.

# THE MANEATER

## College of Business fully implements internship requirement

*The school's Professional Development Program has three phases to prepare students.*

By Jimmy Hibschi

Published Feb. 22, 2011

With freshmen, sophomores and juniors in the Trulaske College of Business' Professional Development Program, the school's push to require students to take part in an internship has reached full implementation, coordinator Rebecca Wolfe said.

PDP is a program within the college designed to better equip students with the strengths they need to thrive in real-world business environments. It was initiated with the fall 2008 semester's freshmen class, and every business student must participate.

The program is divided into three phases, with professional development occurring in each of a student's years at MU.

Beginning freshman year, all students attend professional development activities, such as resume writing and interview skills workshops. For each event attended, the student earns a certain number of "PDP points." Along with coursework, these points are the requirement to move onto the upper level of the college and to graduate.

Once admitted to the upper level, students are enrolled in Management 3500, a class Wolfe calls atypical because of its expansive subject range, dealing with real-world competency development and job search strategies.

After passing this course, students enter the final stage of PDP: BA 4500. For this class, students are required to work an internship. Wolfe suggests students pursue any internship possibilities that might arise.

The college does not plan the internships, but rather, the student is expected to find one on his or her own.

"It's ultimately the student's responsibility to secure the spot," Wolfe said. "We're not placing students, because we want them to have the opportunity to choose what they want to do and give the employer the freedom to choose who works for them."

Still, the college does provide an outlet for students to search for possible internships. Wolfe said it is developing partnerships with companies in Columbia, St. Louis, Kansas City, Mo., Chicago and Dallas, among others.

PDP is the fusion of ideas from the college's Recent Alumni Advisory Board, made up of alumni who graduated less than five years ago, and alum Bill Caldwell.

"Coming from rural Slater, Mo., I was ill-prepared to tackle my first job in the bustling city of Chicago in 1958, even with a marketing degree from Mizzou," Caldwell said in a news release. "With the need for better and more advanced education today, I believe this Professional Development Program will give Mizzou students a firm foothold in the business world."

Students enrolled in PDP have talked about its benefits.

"PDP makes me feel more confident about finding a job after college, because it teaches me how to be a great prospective hire," freshman Reagan Payne said. "With a degree from the Trulaske School of Business and the knowledge and skills gained from the PDP, I feel more confident entering the business world after Mizzou."

In the end, Wolfe said she hopes this program will help students find jobs when they graduate and become better prepared for the "real world."

"It's hard to say right now, because we don't have all of the data yet, but I think this program will really help with that," Wolfe said. "Right now, with all of our students coming through and doing internships, they're already developing all of those relationships with existing companies. In a perfect world, the internship would result in a full-time job offer in the end."