

OCT 20 2011



## MU's growth is tops in Big 12, AAU

By Janese Silvey

Columbia Daily Tribune Wednesday, October 19, 2011

### **The University of Missouri's undergraduate population is the fastest-growing among Association of American Universities and Big 12 campuses.**

Between 2002 and 2010, MU experienced a 32 percent increase in undergraduate enrollment, compared with AAU runner-up University of California-San Diego, which grew 24 percent. In the Big 12, Texas Tech ranked No. 2 with a roughly 13 percent increase during that time period, said Ann Korschgen, MU's vice provost of enrollment management.

The nine-year snapshot reflects the time from the year MU's Division of Enrollment Management was created through the last year for which all enrollment counts are available.

MU records its official enrollment in October, which is earlier than most schools, Korschgen said. The official 2011 count, which includes graduate and online students, is 33,805, up 4.3 percent from last year's 32,415.

MU's media team sent out news of the campus' popularity yesterday, two days before the UM System Board of Curators is expected to discuss a change in conference alignment. MU has been eyeing a shift from the Big 12 to the Southeastern Conference, which is known for its competitive sports programs but not necessarily for academics. The SEC reportedly is interested in MU, in part, because of its membership in the prestigious AAU. Right now, the SEC has two AAU schools, adding a third next year with Texas A&M.

MU spokeswoman Mary Jo Banken said the timing is coincidental.

"We always release the numbers after the official count," she said. When enrollment staff told the news bureau about the comparisons, "we thought that was important and impressive."

Korschgen credited the growth pattern to several factors.

"No doubt that students are influenced by the quality of our programs, our reputation and the beauty of campus," she said. "And truly we have a phenomenal recruitment team that makes students aware of Mizzou in the first place."

The growth is mostly coming from out-of-state students; changing demographics in Missouri have led to fewer high school graduates. MU has a recruiting presence in Chicago, Dallas, Denver and Minneapolis.

“Our in-state recruiting efforts continue as always, but we have added a lot of out-of-state activities,” Chuck May, associate director of admissions, said in a statement. “We are mailing to more students in more places, calling and contacting more students directly and attending more out-of-state college fairs and high schools.”

Alumni also are helping, he said. This fall, for example, members from the Houston alumni chapter have represented MU at eight college fairs and are expecting to attend six more in the next month.

Korschgen isn't sure how important MU's athletic reputation is when students are deciding where to go to school or whether national sports coverage, including last year's visit by ESPN's “College GameDay,” helped recruitment. “I'm sure it didn't hurt,” she said.

It's too soon to know what impact, if any, a conference change would have on enrollment, she said.

The increase in student numbers hasn't hurt academic quality. The mean ACT score for the 2011 freshman class is 25.7, up from 25.6 last year. Retention is up, too, with 85 percent of last year's freshmen returning as sophomores this year, a percentage above last year's retention rate.

# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

## Mizzou doctor named to Institute of Medicine

BY BLYTHE BERNHARD • [bbernhard@post-dispatch.com](mailto:bbernhard@post-dispatch.com) > 314-340-8129 | Posted: Wednesday, October 19, 2011 12:52 pm

**Dr. Michael LeFevre, vice chairman of family medicine at the University of Missouri-Columbia, has joined the national Institute of Medicine.**

LeFevre is the only new member from Missouri in this year's crop of 65 doctors elected to the institute. There are a total of 1,870 members in the independent organization that researches and provides medical advice to doctors, patients and politicians.

Other local doctors inducted to the institute in recent years include Jeffrey Gordon, David Holtzman, Michael Rutledge DeBaun and Ralph Dacey of Washington University.

LeFevre also serves as a vice chairman of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, a volunteer panel of health care experts who make recommendations to the government. LeFevre most recently defended the panel's decision to recommend against universal screenings for prostate cancer.

LeFevre completed his undergraduate and medical studies at MU and joined the faculty in 1984.

## Curators reveal no action yet on MU/SEC

By Mike DeArmond - Posted on 19 October 2011

**Warren Erdman, the chairman of the University of Missouri Board of Curators, told The Star on Wednesday night that as far as Missouri and conference realignment: "I will probably have nothing to say on that until Friday."**

Erdman paused, then added: "If there is anything to say then."

Erdman called to order a Board of Curators meeting on the continuing process of identifying a permanent University of Missouri systems president to replace interim president Steve Owens, held in a second-floor meeting room at The Raphael Hotel in Kansas City.

Missouri chancellor Brady Deaton, upon noticing a reporter from The Star, said hello but Deaton was not in the board meeting when it began in open session.

Just before moving that meeting become a closed executive session, Erdman rather affably suggested a small cache of media should go home and spend the evening with family.

"To my friends in the media," Erdman said, "I just want to let you all know that there won't be any news tonight. I welcome you to hang around if you want to.

"We're doing very routine business of the search committee tonight.

"There is no business involving conference realignment and there will be no action taken tonight and there will be nothing to announce."

Only Wayne Goode, a curator from St. Louis, was not in the meeting when Erdman closed it. Goode, however, was said to be in the hotel and planning to take part in the meeting.

The curators – in their function as the search committee for the new president – have another meeting at The Raphael on Thursday.

By 12:30 p.m. Thursday, meetings are scheduled to be moved to the Student Union at UMKC. It is there that another closed executive session - scheduled for 3:45 p.m. Thursday – will be held at which Missouri and the possibility it could leave the Big 12 Conference for the Southeastern Conference is expected to be discussed.

No press conference is yet scheduled following the end of that session. However, a press conference is on the agenda for Friday morning.

# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

## MU's decision on SEC looms

BY VAHE GREGORIAN • [vgregorian@post-dispatch.com](mailto:vgregorian@post-dispatch.com) > 314-340-8199 | Posted:  
Thursday, October 20, 2011 12:10 am

**When the University of Missouri Board of Curators convenes today and Friday in Kansas City, it almost certainly will be deliberating and probably voting about whether MU should pursue membership in the perennially powerful Southeastern Conference or stay put in a Big 12 of indeterminate long-term prospects.**

The Board's actions probably will be done after feedback from Mizzou chancellor Brady Deaton. And it's not just Mizzou's future that's in the balance.

Not since climatologist Iben Browning predicted a major earthquake in New Madrid in 1990 has the state of Missouri stood as the potential epicenter of such far-flung proportions.

If MU ultimately opts to apply for membership in the SEC, a move it logically would make only with behind-the-scenes assurances in the affirmative, it instantly transforms the SEC and the Big 12, which would seek to add at least one more school and possibly three.

One or more of those could come from the beleaguered Big East, which in turn could try to make even more sweeping moves to expand, or repopulate, as the case may be.

And on the ripples would flow, with no clear line of demarcation.

If Mizzou does stay, it would at least momentarily stabilize the trembling landscape. But whether it would stabilize Mizzou's future is the crux of the matter in this intercollegiate version of risk assessment:

Is the apparent peace and progress of the moment in the Big 12 to be counted on this time, or just another lull before an inevitable eruption?

That question goes beyond the measures put to votes in recent weeks, votes from which MU abstained as it sought to keep its options open, to a core issue.

Can MU count on Texas and ESPN to not keep trying to pull fast ones at every turn, as they have with the Longhorn Network before being forced to back down?

Will Oklahoma president David Boren again spontaneously feel the need to thump his chest about OU's options, and then seek to explore them, just as things are settling down?

All precedent suggests there is no logical way to consistently count on those two most influential Big 12 members to look out for the greater good unless they are forced to without attractive alternatives.

The SEC, meanwhile, appears to offer just the opposite, a league whose members seem to fall in behind its trusted commissioner, Mike Slive, a league that will stand the test of time and figures to be better rewarded in future television contracts than others for its greatest asset: dominant football.

The conference has produced the last five national champions and the two teams atop the BCS standings now, both a point of attraction and concern for MU.

The Tigers would be in the bottom third of the conference in terms of budget and facilities and, it might follow, in the standings.

It's tantamount to treason to some MU fans to even suggest that would be a concern.

But if MU officials don't have a plan for how to enhance fundraising for adding seats and amenities to Faurot Field or ways in mind to raise the recruiting budget dramatically — among many other increased investments it would need to compete — such a move could prove regrettable.

All of this and more is for the curators to process and reconcile, and to some degree they already have by empowering Deaton two weeks ago to explore options. "Options" was singular: the SEC.

Two days later, Mizzou abstained from voting on adding Texas Christian as a Big 12 member and on a measure that would kick in equal revenue sharing for television and cable rights with a severe punishment for any school that leaves in the next six years, perhaps longer.

It's been believed since early last week that MU was on a 10-day to two-week time frame to take the next step, and the curators meetings fall just under that.

The New York Times this week quoted a source with direct knowledge of the situation as saying MU's decision to apply for membership in the SEC is "inevitable and imminent."

Two closed sessions are scheduled, one at 3:45 p.m. today and another at 10 a.m. Friday.

While it's widely thought that one or both will involve discussion about realignment, university officials are giving no such signals.

"I have no official information that athletic conference realignment will be discussed this week, nor do I have any information concerning a possible announcement or of the time frame for any announcement," said Mary Jo Banken, executive director of the MU news bureau. "If and when any such announcement would be made, our office would release the official information."

Multiple sources have indicated for weeks that if MU moves in that direction, it would follow the template used by Texas A&M.

A&M moved in stages, first announcing it would explore options, then seeking a clarification of the process to be followed if it chooses to leave, and so forth.

Legal complications and concerns held up A&M's move, which took about six weeks from start to finish. The SEC still remains concerned about such wrangling, but no stop signs have emerged to thwart MU's candidacy, either.

Perhaps conveniently for announcement purposes, if all moves that way, Mizzou plays at Texas A&M next week.



## Missouri curators meeting amid talk about SEC bid

Published 04:20 a.m., Thursday, October 20, 2011

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Missouri's Board of Curators is meeting amid speculation the university is close to declaring it will leave the Big 12 and seek membership in the Southeastern Conference.

The topic is not on the curators' agenda for the meeting Thursday and Friday on the University of Missouri-Kansas City campus. But earlier this month, they voted unanimously to give Missouri Chancellor Brady Deaton authority to explore leaving the Big 12.

Missouri had hoped to join the Big Ten, but last year, the conference chose Nebraska instead. Missouri officials are considering a move to the SEC in hopes of getting greater television revenues.

The Big 12 has also lost Colorado, which joined the Pac-12, and will lose Texas A&M to the SEC next year. But TCU is joining the Big 12.



## **UM curators to talk mostly in closed sessions**

Columbia Daily Tribune Wednesday, October 19, 2011

**University of Missouri curators will spend most of their three-day gathering in Kansas City this week behind closed doors.**

The Board of Curators is meeting at 7 tonight at the Raphael Hotel to discuss the ongoing search for a new UM System president. That's where they'll continue to meet in closed session tomorrow morning before heading to the UM-Kansas City campus for the open meeting.

Tomorrow's public session is scheduled to span three hours in the multipurpose room of the campus' student union. Board committees are expected to approve changes to employee benefits packages for new hires, discuss a proposed new athletic training degree at MU and review regular internal audits.

Curators plan to go back into executive session at 3:45 p.m. and wrap up public business Friday by 10 a.m., then return to a closed session. Reasons for the executive sessions include confidential talks with the system's legal counsel, litigation, property, personnel issues and confidential communication with auditors, according to the meeting notice.

## UM Curators likely to discuss next step in conference realignment

By Harry Plumer

October 19, 2011 | 8:19 p.m. CDT

**COLUMBIA -- For the second time in less than a month, all conference realignment eyes are on the UM System Board of Curators.**

The board is expected to discuss the next step in Missouri's conference alignment process as part of its regularly scheduled meetings Thursday and Friday at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

The board is scheduled to go into executive session twice, once at 3:45 p.m. Thursday and again at 10 a.m. Friday. The board will also hold what it's calling a "routine press conference" with its Chairman Warren Erdman and Interim UM System President Steve Owens before Friday's executive session, which concludes the meeting.

While the board has authorized MU Chancellor Brady Deaton the power to explore options regarding Missouri's conference alignment, the board must approve any final decisions. Deaton is expected to deliver an update on the process at some point during the meeting.

The New York Times reported late Monday that Missouri's move to the SEC is "inevitable and imminent." The report cited unnamed school officials. There has been no official indication from Missouri, the SEC or the Big 12 that that's the case.

During a teleconference on Oct. 11, Interim Big 12 Commissioner Chuck Neinas indicated that he had been in contact with SEC Commissioner Mike Slive during this process.

"I've talked to Mike, yes. It was just very cordial. I've known Mike for years," Neinas said during the teleconference. "We just talked about things in general. I said, basically if you're going to extend an invitation to Missouri, please let me know. ... He didn't indicate one way or the other."

If it were to join the SEC, Missouri would have to follow a similar process to that of Texas A&M when it made the same move. The first step would be to officially notify the Big 12 of its

withdrawal from the conference — a sort of "two weeks notice" that protects MU from certain legal consequences. Then, the SEC presidents would have to vote to accept Missouri into their conference.

Texas A&M sent its letter of withdrawal to the Big 12 on Aug. 31, and the SEC vote came just six days later on Sept. 6. However, Texas A&M's acceptance into the league was contingent upon all Big 12 schools waiving their rights to sue the SEC. That delayed the official announcement until Sept. 25.

Neinas also said on Oct. 11 that he expects Missouri to play in the Big 12 next season regardless of its decision about the future.

"If Missouri was going to change horses, it wouldn't be for 2012 anyway," Neinas said.

The Big 12 has not given Missouri a hard deadline to make a decision on the six-year grant of rights, which essentially prevents a school from leaving a conference without financially crippling itself, other than the end of the academic year in May.

"We will give Missouri time to evaluate its situation and have an opportunity to look at the Big 12 Conference and perhaps get a better understanding as to where we're going," Neinas said. "Each institution has to go through a procedure or protocol (to grant rights), I think that what I'm saying is that if Missouri needs further time to study the situation, we'll allow them to do so."

Neither Deaton nor Missouri Athletic Director Mike Alden have spoken to the media about realignment since the board's meeting on Oct. 4. There has been no indication as to whether Alden will be present at this week's meeting.

The SEC presidents held a regularly scheduled teleconference on Oct. 10, where they "discussed a wide range of issues dealing with the changing landscape of intercollegiate athletics," according to an SEC statement. No action was taken regarding expansion.

COMMENTARY

## **Both MU and Big 12 could have done more to prevent departure**

By SAM MELLINGER

What should be the last bit of bad news for a while is expected soon. Maybe even this week. By every indication, Missouri is going to the Southeastern Conference. It's all over but the paperwork, and the failure would stand as perhaps the Big 12's biggest.

**If it happens, the whole thing will be received by most Mizzou fans like a league championship — although the rest of the Big 12 might point out MU only won regular-season titles in soccer and softball — and this is all silly because there are no winners here.**

Put simply: MU would make a mistake by leaving the Big 12, and the league would do the same by not making that clearer.

What stinks even worse is that Kansas City, which has been nothing but good to the Big 12 and every school in it, is in position to be dumped on again if the conference men's basketball tournament is no longer played at the Sprint Center.

Missouri might leave the conference in which it belongs, and for what? So the SEC can have a 14th football team to schedule after adding Texas A&M to gain access to that state's high school players.

The Big 12 might watch another pillar institution go, and why? Because the league alienated too many members and was too slow to address legitimate concerns.

Mizzou won't be better off in this, either. Left behind would be valued and lucrative rivalries, its best geographic fit and best access to BCS bowl glory. The bragging point about being invited to the SEC would wear off with time.

Of course, MU would make more money in the SEC, and that would be more relevant if it would benefit the athletes instead of requiring a greater sacrifice of time and hassle.

MU is letting the emotion of the moment dictate what should be a long-term decision. The Big 12 is letting relatively minor details push away a fourth school in less than two years — one-

third of a once-powerful league — and force the eventual embracing of third-tier athletic programs such as Louisville.

This could've been so different. So much better. Missouri wanted assurances that the league was either unwilling or unable to give. Both sides should've done better.

MU wanted at least a 10-year grant-of-broadcast-rights that would've effectively guaranteed the league's existence. Instead, others pushed a six-year agreement that fit conveniently into the sweet spot that only Texas and Oklahoma could afford to break. And even that was never officially agreed upon.

MU football coach Gary Pinkel was the most outspoken voice of reason when Texas and ESPN wanted to put high school games on the Longhorn Network. The conference never officially ruled on that, instead letting Texas pull back in exchange for pushing a shorter grant-of-rights.

Too much of this is Mizzou being fueled by a belief in Columbia that the league is out to get them (being passed over by Kansas for the Orange Bowl is still a touchy subject).

Maybe you think the Tigers should be blamed for being the first to go public last year, but they'd ask why they seem to be given more fault than the schools that actually left.

Realistically, much of this is just paranoia from MU, but it's only grown to this point because the league leadership — commissioners and administrators at member schools — didn't do enough to squash it.

When the Pac-12 rejected Oklahoma's flirtations, the Big 12 had a critical opportunity for unity, but it failed on that opportunity in spectacular and illustrative fashion.

Oklahoma president David Boren and Missouri chancellor Brady Deaton held dueling teleconferences that night, mixing messages and contradicting each other. When a group turns what should be a moment of smiles into one of head-shaking, the case for staying becomes flimsier.

Missouri could've worked harder here, too. Could've been more effective in pushing its interests. Deaton was chairman of the Big 12 board of directors, for instance, so it's not as though MU didn't have a voice.

The narrative that Mizzou would become Vanderbilt in the SEC is lazy and inaccurate, but there is no question that things would become difficult on just about every level.

Pinkel would have to recruit a different kind of player. A better player. Pinkel and his staff would need inroads on prospects in the deep South where their new competition has long-standing relationships, and compensate for the Texas talent being harder to sign in a league with one member in that state instead of four.

Even if MU invested the bigger SEC paychecks into renovations, it would be in that league's bottom half in spending and facilities.

MU would also make this more difficult on its fans and athletes, the two groups this is supposed to be all about. The closest SEC school is more than five hours from Columbia. Everything in that other league is a plane trip, and these are hard places to get to.

Once the novelty wears off, it would be harder for MU fans in most of the state to watch their team on the road. And starting immediately, it would be harder for the athletes to make time for practice, school and travel.

If the adults in charge of Mizzou push forward to the SEC, they will be forcing a crucial change during the most successful run in their football program's history.

And if the adults in charge of the Big 12 allow this to continue, they will be losing a fourth school and their second-biggest state while pushing further away from the Big Ten and Pac-12 and closer to the Mountain West or Conference USA.

Both sides should be smarter than to let this happen.

Too bad that sentence might soon be written in the past tense: both sides should have been smarter than to have let this happen.



## Open Column

# SEC is wrong for Missouri

Columbia Daily Tribune Wednesday, October 19, 2011

Sports editor: Moving Missouri to the Southeastern Conference would be a terrible mistake.

The storm buffeting the college football landscape has damaged the foundation of the Big 12 Conference; but the damage is reparable. With the departure of Colorado, Nebraska and Texas A&M, the conference faces the task of rebuilding its membership and its image as one of the premier leagues in the nation.

The resignation of Dan Beebe was imperative. Bringing Texas Christian University into the conference was logical, if tardy. The redistribution of television money is long overdue, but absolutely necessary to the survival of the Big 12. The Longhorn Network is a thorny issue, one that probably needs strict limitations from the conference offices. The University of Texas administration may have opened its eyes to the grief UT's greed has caused other members.

**There is now before Big 12 members a six-year plan that addresses the financial inequities that have alienated many members of the old Big Eight. Brady Deaton, chancellor of the University of Missouri, has been given permission to explore the possibilities for Missouri outside the Big 12.**

While many MU fans clamor for Mizzou to move on, the motives seem childish. They argue MU could be left in the lurch, that there is more money in the SEC, that they are tired of kissing Bevo's bovine behind. Jumping to the SEC is premature and ill-conceived. Had the opportunity to join the Big Ten become a reality, MU should have leaped at the chance. But Missouri is a Midwestern state, not a southern state. The regional and geographic nature of collegiate conferences over the past 100-plus years is part and parcel of the intercollegiate experience. Great rivalries abound in the Big 12, not the least of which is the Missouri-Kansas "Border War." Would it be possible to save that tradition? Probably not.

Do you think we would be welcomed back at Arrowhead Stadium or the Sprint Center? Do you think Tiger fans would travel to the Georgia Dome for the SEC basketball tournament? Probably not.

Leaving the Big 12 will have deleterious financial repercussions not just for Kansas City, but for the entire state. While MU fans don't "travel well," I've seen a lot of Black and Old Gold in KC over the past few years. Don't imagine I'll have the time or money to see what kind of presence we will have in Atlanta.

Patience, grasshoppers. The creation of four mega conferences is still not out of the realm of possibility, but it is not imminent. The Pac-12, after rebuffing the Texas (Tech)/Oklahoma (State) overtures, seems content to maintain its status quo, as does the Big Ten. The SEC doesn't seem particularly eager to add Missouri.

Mizzou should sign the six-year deal, remain in the Big 12 and work with all members to strengthen an already powerful entity. Build it back to a 12-team league and perhaps lay the footings to become the first legitimate 16-team league, with all members participating in all the major sports.

The Big East is moving to shore up its football presence by inviting Central Florida, SMU, Boise State, Air Force, Navy and Houston to join. The Big 12 should already have contacted SMU, Boise State, BYU and Houston. Add Memphis and Louisville and ... voila ... 16 teams.

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## **MU curators in KC, but no presidential pick yet**

By MARÁ ROSE WILLIAMS

**The committee searching for a new president to lead the University of Missouri four-campus system is meeting this week in Kansas City.**

Committee Chairman Warren Erdman said they are getting closer to making a selection but no announcement of a new president is pending.

“No possible way that will happen this week,” Erdman said. “But we have made great progress.”

The committee is to begin meeting this evening at the Raphael Hotel near the Plaza. The last time the committee gathered in Kansas City, in August, it was to interview candidates. Erdman, who also is chairman of the University Board of Curators, said the full board of curators plus the student representative will conduct additional interviews today. He declined to say how many.

Back in August he said the pool of presidential hopefuls had been reduced from well over 100 to 40 but nominations were still coming in. Erdman said this morning, “We have not received any new names now for quite some time.”

The committee and curators have declined to release any names.

The committee is meeting in a closed session at 7 p.m. and then again tomorrow morning. . That meeting is to be followed by a Board of Curators meeting at 12:30 at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Student Union.

The presidential selection process allows for the search committee members to come to some consensus on a group of finalists to be evaluated by a 20-member advisory panel of faculty, students, staff, administrators, alums and members of the community. That panel then makes a report to the Board of Curators which chooses the next president.

The search for a new president began after Gary Forsee stepped down in January to care for his wife, who is ill.

In the interim, presidential duties are being handled by Stephen J. Owens, previously the system’s general council under Forsee, a former Sprint chief executive officer.

## Decrease in high school graduates plays out differently across Missouri

By Simina Mistreanu

October 19, 2011 | 6:46 p.m. CDT

**COLUMBIA – MU has been preparing for it. Columbia Public Schools is insulated from it. But across Missouri and across the country, the number of high school graduates is in steady decline.**

A survey released in 2008 by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education predicted that the high school senior class of 2009-10 would be the largest ever in Missouri, reaching 70,000 students. After that, the survey predicted, the number of high school graduates would decrease by as much as 5 percent per year until 2015.

The main reason for the decrease is that the children of baby boomers are old enough to be out of high school and, in many cases, of higher education, said Tracy Greever-Rice, associate director of community and economic development at the Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis at MU.

The trend is showing up across the United States. In some places, including much of Missouri, it is especially noticeable.

"Missouri is a relatively older state, and our population is growing less quickly as other parts of the country," Greever-Rice said. "So because we're a little older and we're a little slower in growth, we're going to see more of a drop-off than some states that are younger and growing more faster."

### **MU prepared by expanding its recruitment**

MU started preparing for the decrease in the number of high school graduates seven or eight years ago, said Ann Korschgen, vice provost for enrollment management. Back then, the university started analyzing demographic data from Missouri and neighboring states to get a sense of the decrease.

The first decision was to increase recruitment efforts in the state by establishing full-time admissions representatives in Kansas City and St. Louis.

Then, full-time recruiters were sent to Chicago and Dallas.

Fast forward to the fall of 2011. This year, MU had a record high number of enrolled freshmen. Even though the number of in-state freshmen decreased by 166, to 4,243 students, there was an increase of 174 in the number of out-of-state students, to 1,925. Grand total: eight more students than 2010.

Starting this year, MU assigned a full-time recruiter to cover Minneapolis, Denver and Oklahoma.

Recruiting out-of-state is a little more work than in state, Jawann Pollard, a Chicago regional representative, said.

"Because the University of Missouri is the flagship institution of the state of Missouri, there's a little bit less explanation I have to do in St. Louis and Kansas City about what is Mizzou, what kind of programs we offer," Pollard said.

He worked as an MU recruiter in St. Louis and Kansas City the past two years but this year moved to Chicago to work as one of two full-time MU recruitment reps there. He handles the south side of Chicago, the southern suburbs and south into the rest of Illinois.

Pollard tries to reach students through high school visits and fairs, attends college planning workshops, explains the university's programs and even helps students fill out applications to MU.

How does he convince them? Some MU programs sell themselves, Pollard said. For others, there's more explaining to do. But there's another reason why students come to Missouri: The price is right.

Although tuition is higher for nonresidents — at MU, they pay up to \$517 more per credit — students can become Missouri residents fairly easily. And even if they end up paying out-of-state tuition, total university costs often remain lower than what they would have paid at an Illinois university, Pollard said.

If MU had not put extra effort in out-of-state recruiting, numbers would have looked different. From the fall of 2002 to the fall of 2010, the number of nonresident students at MU grew from 4,690 to 8,303, accounting for a 77 percent increase.

As Korschgen put it, "If we had not recruited out-of-state students, we would have far fewer students attending MU than we currently have."

### **Columbia schools far less affected**

Principal Mark Maus said Rock Bridge High School is not seeing a decrease in the number of graduates. The current senior class there has about 570 students, about the same as last year's senior class. The junior class is even larger. And the sophomore class is the largest ever at Rock Bridge, with 630 students.

Maus said he expects a decrease in the number of graduates at Rock Bridge when the district's current sixth-graders reach 12th grade, but it will not be a part of this trend. And by then, the decrease in the number of high school graduates in Missouri will have begun to reverse.

"In Columbia, we've been fairly resilient to a lot of national trends," said Tracey Conrad, principal at Hickman High School. "Although we certainly felt the impact of the economy, I think we're somewhat even isolated because we don't replicate a lot of the more national trends to the extent that maybe some other communities experience."

Enrollment in Columbia Public Schools increased by 512 students this fall, to 18,070 students.

The increase of students in Columbia schools are the result of more families moving to the city, Maus and Conrad said. The city has several "drawing points," Conrad said, among them the university system, the hospitals and other industries that draw educated people.

Columbia is also a destination for a slightly different category: People in need of social aid.

"I grew up in a town of 4,000; we didn't have a food bank," Maus said. "So if a family was really down on their luck because their father and mother lost their job or extenuating circumstances that they can't control, they're probably better off going somewhere where food is more readily accessible, where they can find cheaper living."

### **Fewer opportunities hurt rural areas**

The state's rural areas that people leave to find resources in Columbia and other Missouri cities are the areas that will be most affected by the declining number of students. A Missouri

map drawn by the Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis shows student density, with each black dot standing for 10 students. The black dots are crammed mainly into four areas: St. Louis, Kansas City, central Missouri — which includes Columbia — and southwest Missouri — which includes Springfield and Branson.

Northern Missouri and parts of the state's southeast have far fewer black dots. These dots represent the students who attend small, rural schools in areas where the population is older and the economy is mostly dependent on agriculture.

"In some rural parts of Missouri, we have K-12 school districts with enrollments as low as a few hundred children, trying to provide for all the needs across the developmental spectrum," Greever-Rice said. "And it's really hard in a complicated world to do that."

And it will get harder. As school populations shrink, budgets — which are calculated based on the number of hours attended multiplied by the number of students — decrease as well. With budget cuts, there are fewer resources for sustaining educational programs, tutoring and extra assistance.

Maus put it bluntly: "Fewer opportunities."

"Decreased enrollment results in less money, less money causes program and teacher reductions. As a result, class sizes increase, services decrease and the quality of education is potentially jeopardized," said Patrick Williams, superintendent of the Kirksville R-III School District.

The school district Williams supervises in northern Missouri was not affected by the decrease in the number of students. Enrollment numbers went up a little, from about 2,400 students last year to about 2,500 this year. Williams attributes that to the fact that Kirksville, with a population of 17,500, has an education-oriented community, which tends to increase slightly because of education and health facilities.

But a lot of the areas around Kirksville have been losing residents because of fewer job opportunities, Williams said. Unless they are located near metro areas, near rivers or highways, there is not much to keep people from leaving.

**Urban areas also troubled**

Rural areas in northern Missouri aren't the only places that might struggle because of population loss. St. Louis and Kansas City metropolitan areas are affected by the same problem, but for different reasons.

The Kansas City School District lost its accreditation in September, after achieving only three out of 14 standards on the state's annual performance report. The loss of accreditation follows a stormy period, which included the district closing 28 out of its 61 schools in January 2010. More students are expected to leave the district after the recent loss of accreditation.

And the Kansas City district is not a singular case. Accreditation problems in St. Louis City and Kansas City have caused students to switch to private or suburban schools in recent years, both Maus and Conrad said, so a further decrease in the number of students is not good news to troubled urban districts.

If areas such as northern and southeastern Missouri and St. Louis have generally been losing population over the past 10 years, several counties in the southwestern part of the state have been increasing their populations by up to 42 percent since 2000.

"A lot of migration into Missouri can be attributed to a growing retirement population," Greever-Rice said. "These people don't tend to bring kids with them; their kids are grown. So our overall population is growing, and our child population is growing, too, but not as fast."

People retiring in southwest Missouri create job opportunities but generally in the low wage, service category, which doesn't necessarily translate into higher incomes for the local workforce, Greever-Rice added. Just like other areas in the middle part of the United States, she said, Missouri still has to answer the question: "What is it attractive for seniors here, besides open space?"

### **Economy helps college enrollment**

At a national level, the number of high school graduates had been climbing for the past 15 years, until it reached a record 2.9 million students in 2010, according to the Western Interstate Commission of Higher Education.

The subsequent decline has affected mainly the Northeast and Midwest — and less so the South and Southwest. Differences are due to birth rates and domestic migration, said Brian Prescott, the commission's director of policy research, in the policy analysis and research unit.

Overall, university enrollments in the country will continue to grow, especially at broad-access institutions such as community colleges.

"That is largely because post-secondary enrollments are counter-cyclical — all other things equal, they tend to climb when the economy is struggling because college has lower opportunity costs when employment prospects are bleaker," Prescott said.

The good news about having fewer high school graduates? Admission to high-end universities could become less competitive.

But Prescott said he is not convinced that will happen, as colleges have adopted innovations that boost applications. For instance, he said, students can now easily apply to more schools with tools like the Common Application.

"Plus, there has never been a time in history when a family-sustaining wage is so inextricably intertwined with a post-secondary education," he said.

Prescott said that the most important of the projection's implications concern the finding that "virtually all the growth anywhere in the country is among Hispanic graduates."

"Institutions are going to be matriculating students from underrepresented populations at much higher rates," he said. "In order for them to be successful — and by extension for our society to be successful and prosperous — post-secondary institutions are going to have to find ways to serve those students better than we have historically."



## **Thieves target cars parked near stadium**

Columbia Daily Tribune Wednesday, October 19, 2011

**Five vehicles parked near Stadium Boulevard in advance of last weekend's University of Missouri football game were broken into, including vehicles belonging to football players.**

Two of the vehicles belonged to football players, Columbia police Officer Latisha Stroer said. The incident occurred around 4 p.m. in the area of Stadium between Providence Road and Carrie Francke Drive. Windows were smashed, and items stolen from inside the vehicles were found nearby, she said.

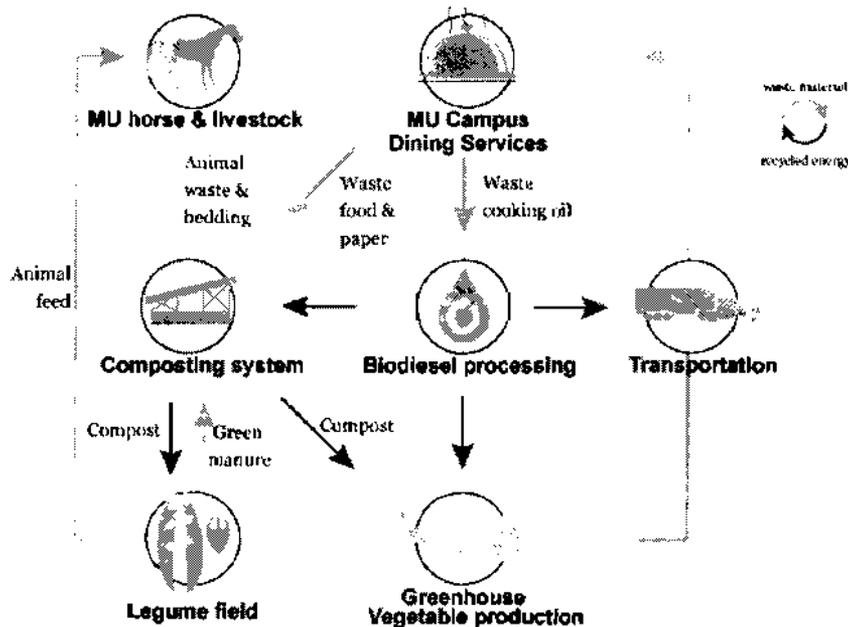
Police did not suspect the vehicles were targeted because they belonged to football players. No arrest has been made.

# COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

## Composting facility at Bradford Research Farm soon to be finished

By Yiqian Zhang

October 19, 2011 | 6:21 p.m. CDT



MU Bradford Research and Education Center provides this model of alternative waste management. Food waste from Campus Dining Services will be collected and taken to Bradford Research Center and mixed with animal manure and bedding to balance nitrogen and carbon requirements. It is then composted to create the optimum soil mixture for growing produce. Also, biodiesel produced at the center using waste cooking oil will power the trucks, tractors and equipment used for vegetable production as well as transportation of the same produce back to Campus Dining Services. | Siyu Hu

COLUMBIA — Apple cores, half-eaten sandwiches and meat scraps from last night's steak might end up on the dinner table again.

**Tim Reinbott, the superintendent of MU's Bradford Research Farm, will start turning food waste from MU dining halls into compost. The compost will be used to grow vegetables at the farm that will eventually be sold back to MU for its dining program.**

The key piece in the plan is a composting facility that has been under construction at the farm, 4968 Rangeline Road, since July, Reinbott said.

When completed in November, the process of breaking food scraps into fertilizer will begin.

The food waste will be transported daily from the dining halls and mixed with manure and bedding material from MU Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Reinbott said.

“You mix it up in the right ratio, then you have the right microbes, and they start to break it down,” he said.

As the microbes work on the substance, heat is generated, killing the bacteria. In time, when the temperature drops, there will be a fully composted material, he said.

The compost facility is aerated to speed up the process, Reinbott said. Adding air stimulates the microorganisms in the mix, which helps generate the heat needed to kill the harmful bacteria.

“The pile method, that’s going to take six months. This is going to be within a month, a very quick turnover,” Reinbott said.

The facility at the farm is 2,400 square feet divided into four stalls with 5-foot cement walls. At the current stage, the building does not have a roof and looks like a horse stable in an open field.

When the food waste is delivered, it is dumped into the stalls. Fist-sized holes in the back wall allow for the tubes to aerate the piles that ultimately become the fertilizer for the farm's gardens.

The plan was Reinbott’s brainchild, said Eric Cartwright, executive chef for Campus Dining Services. In fact, Reinbott has been working on the plan for about two years, but he lacked the funding to build a composting facility until last spring.

In spring 2010, MU received a \$35,000 grant from the Mid-Missouri Solid Waste Management District to pay for the construction. In July, Campus Dining Services added another \$35,000, Reinbott said.

“(Campus Dining Services) is very progressive and interested in doing something with this compost,” he said.

With that money, the project moved forward.

The dining services, meanwhile, are trying to work out the logistics of food waste collection, pickup and transport.

“It’s exciting,” Cartwright said. “We’ve done various studies on how much waste we can capture. It’s tons, multiple tons.”

Rollins Hall currently has a pulper that reduces the volume of food waste and compresses it into a tuna fish-like paste, Cartwright said. However, there has been no use for all that food waste on a large scale.

Currently, dining services pays to have its waste taken to the city landfill. Turning the waste into compost for recycling is a big cost-saver, Cartwright said.

Dining services hopes to offset the cost of building the facility in about three years.

“We can recover those costs, and we can contribute to making a product that’s usable by the farm, that’s usable in research,” Cartwright said.

This project will help dining services reduce waste as well, he said.

Another benefit to this program is carbon footprint reduction, Reinbott said. He stands next to a pit at the research farm where shallow corn roots were exposed.

“In Iowa, you have corn that spreads much deeper,” he said. “But in Missouri, the soil has lost so much carbon.”

Using waste to grow food helps capture the carbon in the atmosphere and puts it back into the soil.

Reinbott said this is the first time a university has created a project that completes the entire food cycle.

“Nobody’s put it all together, with the whole cycle,” he said. “And that’s what’s important. Taking food waste and growing food.”

Moreover, this provides a good research opportunity for both undergraduate and graduate students, Reinbott said.

Bethany Stone, associate professor of biological sciences at MU, toured the farm with her class earlier this month. She said some of her students want to be involved in the program.

“As a faculty member, it is fantastic to see Bradford Farms practicing what we in the classrooms have been teaching,” she said. “Next semester it is going to be easier to talk to the students about reducing our carbon footprint. I will be able to provide this cutting-edge example of how this is being done on our campus.”

Reinbott said he might have students do projects such as comparing the time it takes food waste to break down by the aerated method as opposed to the old-school pile method. He wants the students to experiment various methods and get engaged as much as possible.

“Turning waste into food,” Reinbott said, smiling. “It’s a science and an art, too.”

# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

## Country doctors fill a huge need

BY BLYTHE BERNHARD [bbernhard@post-dispatch.com](mailto:bbernhard@post-dispatch.com) 314-340-8129 | Posted:  
Thursday, October 20, 2011 12:00 am

**MONTGOMERY CITY, MO. • Most of the country's doctors don't want to be country doctors. Only 3 percent of medical school students say they want to practice in rural areas, according to research from the University of Missouri-Columbia.**

That's a problem for Missourians, because 30 rural counties in the state qualify for federal designation as health professions shortage areas. More than 40 counties have no hospital. Eight counties have just one medical doctor, according to the state board of healing arts.

About 15 years ago, the university's medical school started its Rural Track Pipeline Program to encourage young doctors to set up practices in small towns.

Potential rural doctors are recruited to the program out of high school and can be guaranteed admission to the medical school without taking the usual entrance exams. The students are typically from rural areas and have expressed interest in returning to work in a small community.

"You want physicians that you train to stay in the state," said Kathleen Quinn, director of the pipeline program at MU.

Quinn said she often hears misconceptions about rural doctors — that they don't have modern equipment, they make less money or they must be bored.

"Having a physician in a rural area is a huge economic boost," Quinn said.

The program recently gained notice in the journal of the Association of American Medical Colleges, where Quinn and her colleagues wrote about the program's progress. There have been 453 medical students in the rural track program, and close to 60 percent end up working in rural areas.

The basic idea behind the program is that exposing future doctors to rural medicine can spark an interest in the field. The rural scholars are mentored by rural physicians as undergraduates and complete community service hours in underserved areas. In medical school, students are given room and board to work in a rural area in the summer after their first year. In subsequent years, they spend three of seven rotations in a rural area and complete an elective in rural medicine. Fourth-year medical students receive a \$2,000 scholarship for completing the program.

Dr. Michael Rothermich, who graduated from MU medical school in 2000, said he often felt lost growing up in St. Louis and prefers living in a small town.

"I never could learn how to get anywhere, so if there's only one stoplight in a town, it's a lot easier to figure out where to go," he said.

In his third year of medical school, Rothermich completed three rotations in Poplar Bluff, Mo., and enjoyed the autonomy of rural medicine. Practicing in the country, "I don't have layers and layers of administration," he said.

Rothermich found his one-stoplight town in Montgomery City, a 30-minute straight-shot commute on Highway 19 from his home in Hermann, Mo. The doctor lives 100 yards from the Hermann Area District Hospital, where he can check on his admitted patients on his way home or in the middle of the night.

The rural life allows Rothermich to balance work and family — his wife, Sarah, and kids Alex, 8 and Lauren, 5. They live in a 4,800-square-foot house with two acres on a bluff overlooking Hermann.

Rothermich doesn't need to advertise or compete for patients, whom he sees from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Everything happens a little bit ... I don't want to say slower, because we're very busy, but it seems a lot less stressful," he said.

Rural doctors usually perform additional duties as community leaders. Rothermich helps with disaster planning in Montgomery County. He treats juvenile offenders at the Montgomery City Youth Center. When his clinic waiting room needed more space, he tore down walls and put up drywall himself.

When Rothermich talks to family practitioners in big cities, he hears them complain that too often they're treating coughs and colds. Rothermich sees it all — the farmer who cut into his calf with a chain saw, the man bitten by his pet piranha and another who had a piece of metal lodged in his cornea.

Rothermich also said he enjoys the opportunity to practice preventive medicine, where "I can add more quality years of life working on smoking cessation than the cardiologist does putting stents in."

Sometimes that health education means telling a mother that her child doesn't need antibiotics for the sniffles, and explaining why. One woman in his office started crying, so grateful that a doctor took the time to interpret her medical test results until she understood.

The practice operates on a sliding-scale system where people with little or no insurance can afford to pay out of pocket. If a patient calls for an appointment before 11 a.m., they are seen the same day.

The clinic staff listen to a police scanner for weather updates and a heads-up on accidents, fires or medical emergencies. When they hear an address, they know exactly who needs help.

"There's so much more need here," Rothermich said. "In rural medicine, if you're present, they're so thrilled you're here."

# THE ST. LOUIS AMERICAN

## Wash U receives \$3M for diabetes research center

Posted: Thursday, October 20, 2011 12:00 am

### MU mention page 2

Washington University in St. Louis has received a five-year, \$3 million grant to establish a new center to develop better ways to prevent and treat type 2 diabetes in high-risk patients.

The center's funding comes from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Washington University was one of seven institutions awarded funding to establish this type of diabetes research center.

"The Center for Diabetes Translation Research is a unique opportunity to make sure cutting-edge science has an impact on real-world settings," said Debra Haire-Joshu, professor of public health at the Brown School and the School of Medicine and director of the new center.

"This grant will enable us to support research that addresses the root causes of diabetes and disparities."

Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes, according to the American Diabetes Association. Millions of Americans have been diagnosed with high blood sugar - a hallmark of the disease - and many more are at risk of the disease because they are older, overweight or have a family history of the disease.

High blood sugar, if left untreated, can lead to complications such as eye, nerve, kidney and heart damage.

American Indians and Alaska Natives have the highest diabetes prevalence rates of all racial and ethnic groups in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. American Indians and Alaska Natives are twice as likely as white adults to suffer from type 2 diabetes.

The center has four cores. The health communication and health literacy core will evaluate the best ways to communicate information to improve diabetes prevention and care. A second core will focus on how to translate research discoveries into better treatments and prevention. Another

core will improve design of diabetes studies, and the fourth core will support investigators working with American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

**The research center will serve as a resource for investigators at Saint Louis University, the University of Missouri School of Journalism and the National Congress of American Indians.**

"Our goal is to significantly improve the prevention and care of diabetes in populations at increased risk of this devastating disease," Haire-Joshu says.