

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

New President Tim Wolfe talks about joining UM System

By Zach Murdock

February 21, 2012 | 1:40 p.m. CST

COLUMBIA – More than 100 people lined the walls of Stotler Lounge in Memorial Union North late Monday afternoon to meet the new University of Missouri System president, Tim Wolfe, his wife, Molly, and their 17-year-old twins, Madison and Tyler.

For more than two hours, the Wolfes and MU Chancellor Brady Deaton and his wife, Anne Deaton, shook hands and chatted with faculty, student leaders, and campus and system administrators.

The reception wrapped up a day that included a campus tour for the twins. In the morning, Wolfe had joined a teleconference meeting of the UM System Board of Curators, at which the group unanimously voted to increase tuition to UM campuses. As the event wound down and the final few guests filed out, Tyler laughed and shook his legs loose while Madison, who was wearing platform high heels, took a seat for the first time in hours. Dad and mom stood nearby.

"It's a slow day," Tim Wolfe said with a smile.

First impressions

Announced as the next UM System president on Dec. 13, Wolfe, 53, has spent the past two months settling in to the four-campus system. Recently, he has been sitting down for one-on-one interviews, setting the table for what he hopes will be the final post of his career. The delay between his announcement and the Feb. 15 start date is the best piece of advice former interim president and general counsel Steve Owens gave him, Wolfe said. Spending time learning about what occurs and the complexity of the system has been crucial.

"He's my sounding board on all things that I think about, and I'd really like to bounce things off him," Wolfe said. "He gives me a perspective from the time that he was interim president, his perspective as the general counsel and his perspective in his 30 years of business in the

law firm in Kansas City." During his visits to the four UM campuses in Kansas City, St. Louis, Rolla and Columbia, Wolfe said he consistently saw passion and interest in the mission of the system. But that passion is internal, and he fears that Missourians unconnected to the system don't yet understand its true value.

"Making people aware of what we do and giving individuals a reason to care about what's occurring at the system level, that will get them involved," he said. "If we do the job right, (it) will lead to them caring about it, getting involved and also potentially investing in us." Wolfe said one of his hopes is to give students the opportunities he had at MU.

"If I can give one more student, through whatever I do in my leadership position, if I gave one more student the opportunity that I had, then I feel good about what I do," he said.

On leadership

Wolfe said he hopes the system presidency is a long and final role in his career. Throughout his career, he said, he was never one to take a job just because he wanted the next job after that.

"I was just focused on the particular job at hand, and then when I reached a point in time with that job, then I could think about the next one," he said. Wolfe has called his leadership style "inclusive, collaborative and engaged." He believes the top-down managerial, bureaucratic approach to leadership won't work for the system.

"And by the way, it's not a good fit for me — I don't like that style of leadership anyway," he said. Instead, he sees his role as a facilitator, "to get bright people around the table that are interested in this particular opportunity. Out of that conversation typically comes an ingenious idea that individually probably would not have been thought of but collectively came out of it."

Wolfe said his experiences in the past 30 years have taught him that a people-intensive organization is just that: "Without people, we're really nothing. Without faculty, without students, we're nothing. We're a bunch of buildings that are going to be empty."

When to fold 'em

By now, Wolfe's ties to Columbia are established: As a quarterback, he led Rock Bridge High's football team to its first state championship, and he earned a bachelor's degree in business from MU in 1980. In business, he has served in leadership positions, including 20 years as an

executive at IBM and, most recently, as president of Novell Americas, a software company in Waltham, Mass. He said the toughest leadership lesson he's learned is to know when to fold. When you don't have the skills or the people to deliver a service or try to sell a product that's not in demand, no matter how hard you work, you won't be successful, he said.

"So the leadership lesson learned is when you go into a situation, you have to evaluate the cards that you're dealt and play that hand to the best that you can," Wolfe said. "Sometimes you're dealt a losing hand, and instead of trying to stay in the game and bluff your way through, where you end up spending more money and wasting people's time, you just need to fold." But that's not the case with the UM System. In fact, the system is stacking the deck, Wolfe said.

"If we're playing a game that has six cards, I've got six aces — and we really do have six aces in our hand when you think about what we've done from a growth and a quality and a service delivered (standpoint)," he said. "We've got six aces, and if we're playing a game, well, I'll probably get thrown out because we have six aces, but we have a really, really strong hand. This is a system team that has delivered results, and there's lots of things to brag about. And it's much easier to play the game with this hand than if you're playing a game and in your hand you've got all twos."

This isn't tough

But doesn't the budget situation, with falling state appropriations and growing operating costs, give the system a tough hand to play?

"It's tough in your definition; it's not tough in my definition," Wolfe said. "Because tough in my definition — I go back to my experiences where I was a leader and every dollar that came in the door we were spending a dollar and a quarter, and we were probably six months to eight months from bankruptcy. That's a tough situation." Wolfe said that he doesn't plan on folding anytime soon but that the system does need to prioritize to continue to grow.

"Part of that process is the prioritization of what we do," he said. "Sometimes things fall to the bottom of the priority list, and sometimes those are cards that we don't want to play anymore. But that's not to say we're folding our hand, we're just not playing that card. We don't need to." But it's not the budget that drives the system's priorities. Instead, he said, it's the strategic plan and vision that should dictate where resources go.

"Unfortunately, too many people make the mistake that their financial plan or their budget drives their actions or drives their priorities — that's opposite," he said. "What should happen is that your strategy and vision drives your financial plan."

And that's just what the system is doing, he said.

"Over the past years, the University of Missouri System has risen to those challenges and made more good decisions than bad decisions," he said. "I'm convinced that that great leadership that made those wise decisions in the past will continue to make wise decisions going forward."

Husband and father

This week, the rest of the Wolfe family is in Columbia. On Monday, Madison and Tyler took tours of MU before the reception with their parents at Memorial Union. On Saturday, the family will travel to Lawrence, Kan., for what might be the final matchup of the 104-year-old rivalry between Kansas and Missouri. But despite Molly Wolfe's ties to KU, her alma mater, there's no question who they'll cheer for — or what colors they'll wear — at Allen Fieldhouse.

"In black and gold. Make no mistake, black and gold," Tim Wolfe said. "We're not confused."

One family member didn't make the trip to Columbia this week, though. Milo, the Wolfe's 13-year-old Labrador stayed home in Massachusetts this time but will make the trip to Missouri when the twins and Molly stay at Providence Point this summer.

"This dog is just absolutely brilliant," he said, lighting up. "Every time I see Milo, she's happy to see me and I'm happy to see her. She can take a bad day and make it good just when you walk in the door." That kind of consistent companionship is something everybody needs in life, he said.

Milo's advancing age means that someday the family might decide to get another dog. Wolfe agreed with the joke that if that happens, the family might use a process similar to the one used in hiring him.

"Actually, we ought to think about that, the search process," he said, smiling. "We'd have to define a search committee, make sure the search committee represents our constituents, develop the qualifications — that's an idea, I hadn't thought of that. I wonder what kind of dog we'd get out of that process."

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH



Some Columbia merchants cry foul over party zone

Associated Press | Posted: Tuesday, February 21, 2012 3:50 pm | [\(2\) Comments](#)

Plans for a Tiger Town tailgate zone to enliven football weekends as Missouri joins the SEC have some supporters of Columbia businesses crying foul.

The Columbia Daily Tribune reports that some downtown businesses opened Tuesday to find fliers taped on their windows and doors criticizing the proposed football fan zone.

Tiger Town boosters want the city to close some downtown streets, license food and beer vendors and let fans carry open containers of alcohol near the University of Missouri campus on fall weekends. The campaign comes as Missouri prepares to join the football-mad Southeastern Conference this fall.

The anonymous fliers were customized to include individual business names. They urged opponents to call Tiger Town organizer Greg Steinhoff, a Columbia resident and former head of the state economic development agency.

Anonymous anti-Tiger Town posters found on downtown storefront windows

By Karee Hackel

February 21, 2012 | 5:21 p.m. CST

COLUMBIA — Downtown business owners found 8.5" x 14" posters urging the defense of downtown business strategically adhered to their establishments' front doors on Tuesday morning.

With bold, black type, the anonymous posters were individually tailored to each business depending on whether it sold food, beverage, clothing or other items such as cameras and flowers. The posters warned against the arrival of the proposed downtown area for fan tailgating and game day festivities, Tiger Town.

"This is not something we take lightly," said Greg Steinhoff, one of the organizers for Tiger Town. "It's surprising that someone would go to that extent. We have always been very receptive to everyone's input."

The group behind the posters emailed the Missouriian at 3:26 a.m. describing the reason for the display of these posters.

"I represent a large group of downtown businesses who are furious and devastated that Tiger Town organizers want to have several blocks of food and alcohol vendors in Tiger Town on each game day weekend this fall," the anonymous email said. "Some of us are extremely frightened that we will go out of business because of Tiger Town."

When contacted by the Missouriian to discuss the posters, the email sender chose to remain anonymous and not issue any further comment.

The poster featured on the front door of Shakespeare's Pizza said, "Shakespeare's Pizza: Would you like vendors to sell pizza in front of your shop on your most important weekends of the year? Welcome to Tiger Town."

"Hiding behind anonymity with the thoughts expressed in the poster is a bit unnecessary and perhaps juvenile," said Kurt Mirtsching, manager of Shakespeare's Pizza. "If someone has an

Fliers warn businesses against Tiger Town plan

Ryan Henriksen | Buy this photo



A flier on the door of Tropical Liqueurs on Broadway was posted by opponents of the plan to create a downtown fan zone on University of Missouri football game days.

By JACOB BARKER

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Someone isn't happy about the idea of Tiger Town closing streets and hosting food and beer vendors on University of Missouri football Saturdays, and whoever it is stayed up all night posting fliers downtown to let people know.

Dozens of fliers were posted on downtown businesses last night suggesting that Tiger Town, the name of a proposed downtown game-day hangout, will hurt sales for established businesses. The fliers, still taped to many business doors this morning, ask bars whether they want vendors to sell beer in front of their stores and restaurants whether they want food sold in front of their shops. Retailers and tattoo parlors even got their own customized signs. The fliers ended with the tag line: "Stick up for downtown businesses" and listed Tiger Town organizer Greg Steinhoff's cellphone number.

The stunt comes as Tiger Town organizers work to craft a plan to establish a game-day destination by the time MU's inaugural season in the Southeastern Conference begins in the fall. Boosters expect thousands of SEC fans to flock to Columbia on game days, and they want to capitalize on the anticipated influx of visitors.

Some bar owners, though, have raised concerns about the plan, which envisions a street closure area around Locust Street between Fifth and Ninth streets. Beer and food tents could be brought into the area, and organizers are working to allow open containers throughout downtown.

At a Downtown Community Improvement District meeting last week, board member Mike McClung said many bar and restaurant owners had expressed concerns to him about the plan because it could draw away business on their biggest days of the year.

McClung, an owner of Déjà Vu Comedy Club and Quinton's Bar & Deli, also pointed out that the committee organizing the event has only one restaurant owner and suggested more representation from downtown businesses.

"The downtown business owners that I've talked to want to be part of the event and don't want to be excluded from it," McClung said this morning, adding he didn't know who was responsible for the fliers.

Steinhoff said he has met with bar owners for hours to hear their concerns, and anyone who wants to talk about the idea with him just needs to contact him, including the person who made the fliers. He stressed the plan is still being formulated.

"There's a lot of decisions that haven't been made that people are jumping to conclusions on," he said. "Our goal is to keep the big picture in mind that we've got thousands of people coming to Columbia, and we can capitalize on that."

Steinhoff said he understands the anxiety from bar owners, especially after they raised similar concerns over Richard King's Ninth Street closures for Summerfest. The Tiger Town board will add McClung to increase its representation, he said. "Anybody who's been involved with the process knows we did this downtown to benefit downtown," he said.

CID Director Carrie Gartner said Tiger Town organizers were told of business owners' concerns after last week's meeting. She isn't sure who put up the fliers either and said the concerns are part of an ongoing "discussion" about downtown street closures.

"I view this as the same discussion that's been going on for the last year in terms of street closures," she said. "It's just it's a different event."



UM System leaders raise possibility of layoffs

By JANESE SILVEY

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

For the past three years, the University of Missouri has held vacant positions open, cut travel budgets and, in some buildings on campus, cut off hot-water supplies in hopes of saving money.

But there's still a funding shortfall, and administrators say if that doesn't change, programs will be eliminated and workers will be laid off.

The UM System is facing a \$47 million deficit, partly because Gov. Jay Nixon is proposing a \$30 million cut in state funding to the four-campus system. Curators increased tuition and fees yesterday, but not enough to patch the hole.

It's too early to say what's on the chopping block. UM President Tim Wolfe declined to cite specifics other than to say student success is considered the top priority.

Between 200 and 245 positions are at stake, with possibly a third of those coming in the form of layoffs. For the MU campus, that will likely amount to fewer than 60 positions, Chancellor Brady Deaton said. Some of those cuts will come from natural turnover, but Deaton also expects positions to be cut from programs not considered high priorities.

"We have to look at our strategic needs, ensuring that we're fulfilling our mission in the classroom and, as much as possible, our research and outreach missions," he said. Lower-priority areas "are going to be the first to feel it, if it comes to that, which I hope it doesn't."

It's not the first time administrators have equated state funding cuts to lost jobs. Earlier this month, UM General Counsel Steve Owens — serving as interim president at the time — told lawmakers that Nixon's original cut of \$50 million translates into 800 jobs.

The possibility puts workers on edge, Deaton said. But he vowed that human resources will work with affected employees to find positions elsewhere, possibly in other departments on campus.

"Definitely do not start panicking," he said. "We don't want to see anyone lose their job. Look at what we've done in the past when we faced these kinds of decisions. We were able to make adjustments and find a range of opportunities for faculty and staff. Staff is not going to be caught by surprise."

The funding shortfall is part of a proposed UM System budget that increases the salary pool by 3 percent, allowing campuses to give merit-based raises. That's a priority, Wolfe said.

"It's important that we continue to address this challenge we've got of paying our people at market rates," he said.

MU salaries rank below peer institutions'. Deaton estimates faculty members could make between \$10,000 and \$20,000 more at peer universities.

"The goal is to remain as competitive as we can be," Deaton said. "We will develop a framework of salaries appropriate for a major research university like we are to ensure we stay competitive for top faculty and staff. Those merit considerations are very important."

BUSINESS JOURNAL

MU holds in-state tuition hike at 3 percent

Kansas City Business Journal

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2012, 7:51am CST

University of Missouri System administrators have capped in-state tuition increases at 3 percent but raised out-of-state tuition by twice that much.

The increases, which take effect this summer, will increase the average cost to attend the University of Missouri-Kansas City to \$8,926, with classes costing \$231 a credit hour for in-state students, according to the St. Louis-Post Dispatch.

Out-of-state undergraduate students will see their tuition raised 7.5 percent.

A nationwide settlement with mortgage lenders helped the state reduce projected funding losses.

University of Missouri leaders raise possibility of layoffs

Kansas City Business Journal

Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2012, 7:14am CST

A funding shortfall is opening the door for possible layoffs within the University of Missouri System, the Columbia Daily Tribune reports.

The system is facing a \$47 million deficit, due in part to a proposed \$30 million cut in state funding.

Curators increased tuition and fees Monday, but that won't cover the deficit, and as many as 245 positions are at stake throughout the four-campus system.

For the past three years, MU has held vacant positions open, cut travel budgets and cut hot water to some buildings to reduce expenses.

THE MANEATER

THE STUDENT VOICE OF MU SINCE 1953

Editorial: Tuition increase unfortunate but necessary

The UM System Board of Curators unanimously voted to increase in-state tuition 3 percent and out-of-state tuition 7.5 percent to cover inflation.

Let's say this up front: Yes, a tuition increase, to put it frankly, sucks. However, in these economic times, with our university facing a \$47.1 million budget gap, and funding cuts for higher education by 7.8 percent, the tuition increases are a necessity.

Tuition increases are a way for MU to generate funding, and though they're not the most popular option, they are a viable option, especially when tuition increases could be much worse. Compared to other state schools, MU is generally affordable. According to the news release, for the past five years, UM System annual tuition increases have averaged 2.7 percent, compared with an average of 6.2 percent in surrounding states. We're also \$1,194 below the average tuition of other Southeastern Conference schools, according to a UM System presentation.

Let us just reiterate the fact we don't like the tuition increase, but we understand it. There is one issue, however.

MU has raised its efforts to increase recruitment of out-of-state students and the benefits that come with them — such as an expanded and improved national reputation, more diverse ideas and backgrounds and money in the form of tuition payments. Yet the tuition increase could drive away out-of-state students, which will eliminate those listed benefits. The out-of-state tuition increase is approximately \$1,600 per year, and when compiled with the costs of living arrangements and transportation, that is a lot of money. The decision to pursue increased out-of-state enrollment and the decision to increase tuition are made by separate entities, one being MU officials and the other being system-wide officials. In this case, the interests of both conflict.

Our university being a constituent of the Board of Curators, MU officials should increase communication with the board to bridge the separation, make MU's interests known and avoid future conflicts or setbacks.

Since the decision is irreversible at this point, out-of-state students do need to be aware they can become in-state students within a year through a relatively easy process. As long as our tuition increases are used to sustain and improve our university, we'll bear the price. For the future, though, tuition increases should not become a trend; otherwise, MU will see the consequences of decreased enrollment due to price and not admission standards. If it is necessary for the system's tuition to increase, officials need to ensure MU has a voice to preserve the interests of the university and its students.



TRIB TALK

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Jim Robertson, managing editor

"The University of Missouri curators must be living in a fantasy world expecting to raise tuition 7.5 percent because in the real world none of us has been getting cost-of-living raises for years. Very few of us have even been getting 1 to 3 percent raises in the past years. So where do they think all of these people are going to come up with the money? They've got to pull their heads out of this fantasy world they live in and try to do something better for the students because they're continually, every single year, raising the tuition up, and none of us have seen this income raised in our homes. So where do they think this money's coming from? Are they trying to control the population on campus by keeping those of us hardworking people from being able to afford to send our children to the university? Apparently that's what's happening."

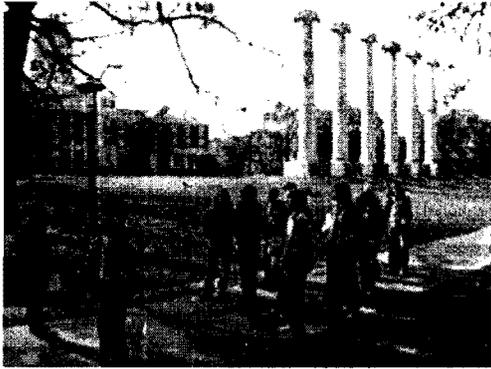
"The curators are talking about giving the faculty a raise, but you know they don't say a word about us retirees. The retirees have not had a raise for years, and I feel like the university ought to think about us; after all, most of us gave 25 or more years of their lives and worked at the university, and I believe they ought to think about us once in a while."



Colleges deferring more students

By Gary Stern, The (Westchester, N.Y.) Journal News

Updated 19h 5m ago



2007 photo by Dan Gill, AP

Prospective students follow a student tour guide around the Francis Quad at the University of Missouri. With more seniors applying for "early action" from colleges, more are being deferred.

NO MENTION IN STORY

For several weeks now, many high school seniors have been shuffling through the purgatory of the college admissions process.

They are neither accepted nor rejected. They are the deferred.

With growing numbers of seniors applying for "early action" from colleges — an abbreviated application process in the fall that promises a decision by January — more and more applicants are being deferred.

It is a mysterious state, unfamiliar to many families going through the process for the first time, that leaves applicants with several basic questions:

- What's the likelihood of getting into the school that deferred them?
- What, if anything, can they do to increase their chances of getting in?

- Should they look elsewhere during the regular application process?

Deferred applicants generally are not told how close they were to getting accepted or why they missed the early cut.

"The number of deferrals keeps increasing and the message to the kids is so unclear," said Elizabeth Jensen, a longtime guidance counselor at Ardsley High School in Ardsley, N.Y. "You're really being thrown back into the regular applicant pool, and there isn't much you can do. I would tell a student to re-evaluate their list of schools and not hold out false hope."

Ryan Rosenberg, 17, a top student at Ardsley High School, applied for early action at Georgetown University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Chapel Hill accepted him. Georgetown, one of his top choices, deferred him.

He's since written to Georgetown, updating whatever he's done since filing his application.

"You can't really draw many conclusions from being deferred," he said. "I'll be treated like someone who applied through regular admission."

But he's still relieved that he got into Chapel Hill before he hears back from other colleges in the spring.

"I can have a stress free second half of the year," he said.

Deferral is becoming commonplace because so many more students are seeking to nab an early spot at in-demand colleges.

Some apply for an early decision from their favorite school, committing to attend that school if they get accepted and can work out the financing.

But many more opt for early action, which is just like the regular application process, but sooner and faster.

Nationally, 72% of colleges with early action options reported increased applications for fall 2010, with only 38% reporting increases in acceptances, according to the most recent annual report of the National Association of College Admission Counseling.

Thanks to the ease of online applications, students can apply for early action from a bunch of schools, and many do.

"It used to be that early action was an indication of a student's real interest in your school," said Sandra Starke, vice provost of enrollment management at the State University of New York's increasingly competitive Binghamton campus. "They wrote a separate essay for you, did separate paperwork for you. Fast forward and you have online applications. SUNY has a common application. Applying is so speedy and causes anxiety for everyone."

Binghamton got about 8,000 early action applications for next fall's entering class — up from about 3,000 a few years ago.

About half were accepted, a much higher rate than in the general pool.

Most who were not accepted were deferred.

"A deferred student may be an excellent student, what we're looking for, but it's a more competitive pool in the early stages," Starke said.

So what can a deferred applicant do to help his or her chances?

Keeping up senior-year grades is the key since all schools want those midyear grades from deferred applicants.

Students also can submit any new accomplishments, awards or updated test scores. And a letter reaffirming interest in the school is a good move.

"It depends on the school and the student," said Jeanne Holzmänn, associate director of admissions at Fordham University in the Bronx, N.Y. "If someone has been a straight A student but not meeting other requirements, we'll look for improvements there. If someone had slipped up grade-wise, we'll look for them to right that senior year."

Fordham got 11,309 early action applications for next fall, up about 9% from last year.

Holzmänn likes the idea of deferred applicants writing a personal statement about why they truly want to attend a particular school.

"For a student to say, 'These are the things about school X I'm most excited about and here is how I would contribute' can take some of the guesswork out for us," she said.

Man arrested on suspicion of trespassing in Ellis Library at MU

By Jaime Williams

February 21, 2012 | 5:50 p.m. CST

COLUMBIA — A homeless man, Earl Love, 38, was arrested Monday morning on suspicion of first-degree trespassing in Ellis Library, said MU Police Department public information officer Brian Weimer.

A trespassing warning for campus had previously been issued to Love.

Weimer said the department responded to a report that an individual was trapped in an elevator, and the department found a man stuck in a space below a handicap chairlift on the third floor.

He said the man had apparently found his way into the space and had been sleeping there, but could not get out.

The area was lined with newspapers, and an Ellis Library book about making money was also found in the space, MU Libraries spokeswoman Shannon Cary said.

Cary said security first noticed a smell of body odor coming from the area about 6:30 a.m. Monday while doing rounds. Security did not investigate the source of the odor because of time constraints. Security later responded to a patron who reported hearing a call for help coming from the area, Cary said. Officers arrested Love at 11:02 a.m., Weimer said.

Love said he tripped and fell into the chairlift space and the door shut behind him, Cary said. She said that this situation is unlikely because the chairlift doors are locked, and the door looked as if it had been forced open.

Cary said it is unknown exactly how long Love was there but that they have no reason to think he had been there more than a day or so.

"Libraries sometimes have homeless people in them, but it is unlikely he could have hidden for long," Cary said. "Even the smell was enough to draw attention to him."



Council discusses creating central city TIF district

By ANDREW DENNEY

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

MU MENTION PAGE 2

During its pre-council meeting last night, the Columbia City Council discussed the possibility of establishing a Tax Increment Financing district to encompass a large portion of the central city.

Tax Increment Financing, or TIF, provides tax incentives to developers by deferring a portion of local taxes on a development project for a certain number of years. Criteria stipulate that a project using TIF must not be possible without public help; it must be in a blighted, conservation or redevelopment district; it must fit with city plans; and its benefits to all taxing entities must outweigh the costs.

City Manager Mike Matthes said the benefits of establishing a TIF district are that taxes would not be increased, blight could be eliminated and eventually property values within the borders of the district and tax revenue could increase.

"It is one of the most effective tools available to redevelop land in Missouri," Matthes said.

Matthes said the downsides of TIF districts are that tax revenue doesn't increase quickly and projects that use the program could move forward slowly. Matthes said it also could be a challenge to draw the borders of a district as there is potential for redevelopment throughout the city.

Matthes said potential sites for which TIF could be used include the old Osco Drug building on Providence Road and stormwater improvements throughout the city.

First Ward Councilman Fred Schmidt said the establishment of the district could help develop empty lots in his ward and help fund improvements to the area's infrastructure.

"We do have a significant problem in Ward One with stormwater and dilapidated houses," Schmidt said.

Sixth Ward Councilwoman Barbara Hoppe asked Matthes whether the blight designation applied to a large swath of the city to apply for the state's Enhanced Enterprise Zone, which was approved by the council at its Feb. 6 meeting. Matthes said with TIF projects, individual parcels must be declared blighted instead of census tracts, which is required for an Enhanced Enterprise Zone.

In June, the Downtown Columbia Leadership Council issued a letter to the council endorsing the creation of a TIF district in the central city and asking that it move forward with a study on creating a TIF district. A council memo estimates the cost of preparing an analysis, blight study and a redevelopment plan could cost between \$50,000 and \$75,000.

TIF was approved in 2009 for renovations to the Tiger Hotel and a mixed-use building at Tenth and Locust streets. The developer at Tenth and Locust changed plans and built — without the help of TIF — Brookside Downtown student apartments. Dave Parmley, the developer of a proposed Doubletree hotel at the site of the Regency Hotel downtown, also has been approved for TIF. That project is expected to be completed in early 2013.

Also last night, the council received a report on the progress of a proposal to fund bus service to south Columbia student apartment complexes with financial contributions from the complexes. **The city has said the Black and Gold routes, which bring students from the complexes to the University of Missouri campus, could be eliminated without an infusion of new revenue.**

The city asked for about \$62 per bed from each of the complexes to maintain service. According to the report, Grindstone Canyon, Gateway at Columbia, Campus View Apartments and Rolling Rock Townhomes have accepted the city's proposal. Copper Beech Townhomes, Campus Lodge Apartments, The Pointe at Rock Quarry and Log Hill Run have rejected the proposal. The Reserve, The Cottages and The Grove have not decided if they will accept the proposal.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU Extension to screen Eliot Battle documentary

By Allie Hinga

February 22, 2012 | 6:00 a.m. CST

COLUMBIA — On the wall of Eliot Battle's house is a framed family tree.

It is filled with the names and images of generations of Battle's and his wife's families.

The tree is captioned with the words "We Stand on the Shoulders of Giants."

Battle said his and his wife's achievements — which include playing a role in the desegregation of Columbia's schools and community — come from being part of a family who wouldn't sit back and be told what they could do.

"Our accomplishments and achievements were not accidental," he said.

On Saturday, MU Extension will screen a documentary, "Battle: Change from Within," about Battle's legacy and his role in desegregation.

Battle said he hasn't seen the documentary yet, but he's been told he will enjoy it. While he is featured in the documentary and provided images that will be in it, he said much of the film's production involved working with community members.

"It's going to be as much of a surprise to me as it will be to the audience that's going to be there," he said.

Michael Hicks, film and television producer for MU Extension, wrote and edited the documentary. He said it focuses on three major events in Battle's life that best exemplify how he dealt with problems he faced.

"Not only did I want to document what had happened, I wanted to try to gain that core element of Eliot's personality and what made him successful," Hicks said.

The first event he focused on was Battle's decision to send his children to Grant Elementary School after racial integration began in Columbia.

Although Battle's children were not the first to be integrated in Columbia, his two oldest daughters were the first black students to attend Grant.

Battle said the decision paid off and opened the door for other black students as integration continued.

"Once you find out that things work, it's much simpler," he said.

The second element details Battle's work as the first black faculty member at Hickman High School.

When the Columbia Public Schools made the integration of high school students mandatory, Battle transferred from the all-black Douglass school to Hickman High School. In 1960, he began serving as a guidance counselor at Hickman. He had worked as an assistant principal and guidance counselor at Douglass.

Battle and Jim Ritter, former superintendent of Columbia Public Schools, shared an office when they were both guidance counselors at Hickman.

Ritter said Battle worked effectively with all students, regardless of race.

Battle said even though there were difficulties in the transition, on the whole it went smoothly, and people were ready for the change.

The third aspect of the film discusses Battle's move to housing outside of traditionally black neighborhoods. In 1963, he and his family moved to a home on Crown Point.

Battle describes his experiences with integration in Columbia Public Schools and housing as painful, but also gratifying.

"Somebody had to do it, and I was pleased that I was part of that period," he said.

Battle, who received an honorary doctorate from MU's Graduate School, said he felt he and his wife, Muriel, have helped to show people that race isn't a factor in a person's accomplishments. He felt he helped eliminate people's fears in the community.

STORY CONTINUES.....