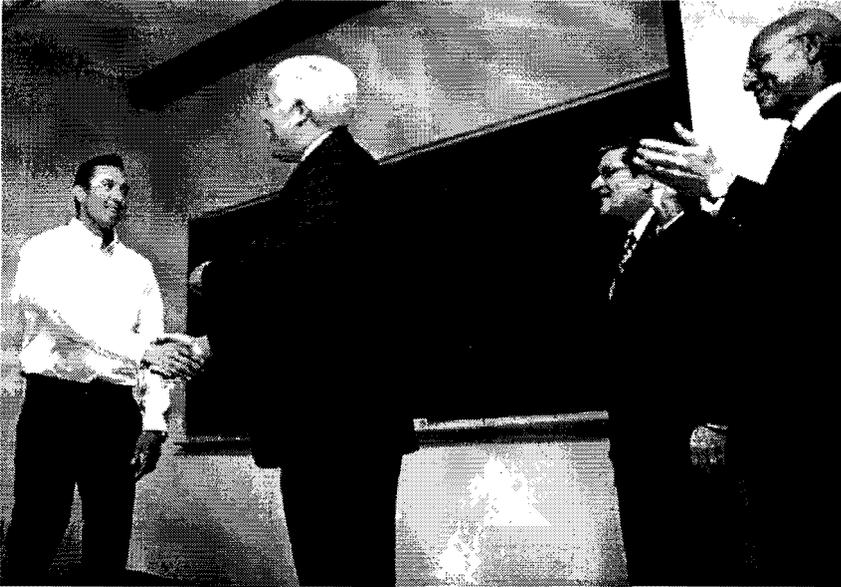


MU nutrition and exercise physiology professor receives Kemper Fellowship

By [Bobby Watson](#)

April 4, 2012 | 2:43 p.m. CDT



Commerce Bank Regional Chairman Jim Schatz congratulates associate professor Stephen Ball of the College of Human Environmental Sciences for receiving the first William T. Kemper Fellowship of 2012 on Wednesday. MU awards five Kemper Fellowships to outstanding educators every year since the fund was started by the Kemper family in 1991. | [Bobby Watson](#)

COLUMBIA — When MU Deputy Chancellor Mike Middleton entered the lecture with a cadre of TV cameras and photographers, Associate Professor Stephen Ball thought he was in trouble.

Quite the opposite.

Middleton interrupted Ball during his lecture on physiology of exercise to award Ball with the William T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence on Wednesday morning, the first of five to be awarded for 2012.

"Did you guys know this was happening?" Ball asked his students.

Commerce Bank Regional Chairman Jim Schatz, as trustee of the fellowship award, presented Ball with the monetary prize.

"While my thanks are very important to you, I'm sure, I am also very pleased to present you with an award of \$10,000," Schatz said.

The Kemper Fellowship is awarded five times each year to outstanding educators at MU along with a \$10,000 check in recognition of the teachers' work. The family of William T. Kemper, who graduated from MU in 1926, established the fellowship in 1991 with a \$500,000 gift.

Ball has taught undergraduate courses in exercise and fitness in the College of Human Environmental Sciences since 2002. Ball is also a specialist in fitness for MU Extension, which provides outreach to Missouri residents.

"He travels across the state of Missouri, imparting his knowledge to citizens on a regular basis, improving the health and knowledge of all of us in Missouri," Middleton said. "The University of Missouri is very proud of Professor Ball, and we think he is most deserving of the award."

He also trains other Missouri educators on how to promote physical activity with programs such as "Jump Into Action" and "Smart Moves," according to a release from the MU News Bureau.

Ball said he thought he would just be filling in for Jill Kanaley's physiology of fitness class.

"I thought I was just filling in for Dr. Kanaley. I am as surprised as you are. Thank you very much. I am very honored and surprised," Ball said. "You're only as good as the people around you. I see Dr. (Chris) Hardin came in today, and he has given me tremendous support over the years. All the way down to my TAs.

"Alright, back to work," Ball announced to giggles of mixed enthusiasm from students as Middleton and Schatz left the classroom.

The university has yet to announce the recipients of the remaining four Kemper Fellowship awards for 2012.



First Kemper award goes to fitness expert

Wednesday, April 4, 2012

An associate professor in the University of Missouri's College of Human Environmental Sciences was the first this school year to receive a Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence award.

Deputy Chancellor Mike Middleton surprised Stephen Ball with the award this morning. The award comes with a \$10,000 check.

Ball, who received his bachelor's and master's degrees from MU and a doctorate from Arizona State University, has been in the department of nutrition and exercise physiology for 10 years. Students praise him for his passion and interactive teaching style, an MU news release said.

Ball also is an MU Extension state fitness specialist who provides outreach to residents and trains teachers to help youths become more active.

"Rarely do we see a teacher so capable and dedicated to the task in so many varied instructional venues," his dean, Stephen Jorgensen, said in a statement.

Next week, MU administrators, along with Commerce Bank Chairman Jim Schatz, will award four additional Kemper fellowships. The bank manages the trust fund, which is named after William Kemper, a 1926 MU graduate.



Senate panel's budget spares higher education cuts

By Rudi Keller

JEFFERSON CITY — State colleges and universities will be spared budget cuts in the coming year, the Senate Appropriations Committee decided this morning.

It also appeared that a program that provides health care for about 2,800 blind Missourians, cut in the House to find money for higher education, also is likely to be spared cuts.

After the committee recessed, Chairman Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia, said the action locks in the budget plan approved in the Missouri House that rejected Gov. Jay Nixon's call for a \$66 million cut to higher education budgets.

"This is enormous," Schaefer said. "We just took the most devastating cut to higher education it has ever seen, and it is over."

Restoring the blind health care funding is a top priority for Nixon. If Schaefer wants the higher education allocations to survive Nixon's veto pen, funding the blind health care would be a place to start.

The committee this morning began going over the \$24 billion spending plan for the year beginning July 1. The committee agreed to keep a \$5 million increase in state basic aid to public education and made additional general revenue available by limiting a proposed pay raise for state workers to those making \$45,000 or less.

Overall, Schaefer told the committee he expects to present the Senate with a budget that spends \$40 million less in general revenue than the House proposal.

The University of Missouri, in addition to receiving the \$397.9 million allocated by the House, would receive \$182,000 to perform economic modeling for state job creation programs. That work is now done in the Department of Economic Development.

Nixon had recommended that the university receive \$367.2 million, or about \$26 million less than he allowed the school to receive from this year's appropriation.

Schaefer said he and House Budget Committee Chairman Ryan Silvey, R-Kansas City, had "agreed public education would be a top priority, and we are demonstrating that in our actions on this budget."

As he returned to his office from the committee meeting, Schaefer was greeted by Gretchen Maune of Columbia, who was there to ask him to restore a House cut to health care services for the blind. Maune represents the Missouri Council for the Blind and was in the Capitol as part of a lobbying day on behalf of the disabled.

"Before I could say what I was doing, he said he's working on it," Maune said, pleased that the cut is facing opposition in the Senate. "That is definitely a big assurance for me."

The House budget plan found money for higher education by eliminating a \$28 million program that provides health care for about 2,800 blind Missourians. The House restored \$2 million, and Nixon has proposed using \$17.8 million from a federal grant program as well.

During the hearing, more conservative Republicans were rebuffed on proposed cuts. Sen. Rob Schaaf, R-St. Joseph, wanted to remove \$100,000 used to buy lunches for participants in Special Olympics events. "Here we are with a \$500 million hole, and we are paying for lunch," Schaaf said, referring to the amount of belt-tightening measures needed to make the budget balance.

And Sen. Jim Lembke, R-St. Louis, questioned the need for a \$95,000 allocation for the Midwest Higher Education Compact, which provides bulk purchasing and other services to 130 Missouri colleges and universities.

"Do they know we are cutting health care for blind?" Lembke asked.

"Who said we are cutting health care for the blind?" Schaefer responded.

Reach Rudi Keller at 573-815-1709 or e-mail rkeller@columbiatribune.com.

Missouri Senate budget plan would maintain funding for public universities

NO MU Mention

By The Associated Press

April 4, 2012 | 11:51 a.m. CDT

JEFFERSON CITY — Education would be spared from cuts but fewer state employees would get pay raises under a budget plan put forth by a Missouri Senate committee.

The Senate Appropriations Committee agreed Wednesday to follow the House's lead by holding funding flat for public universities — shunning Gov. Jay Nixon's recommendation for cuts. The Senate committee plan would provide a \$5 million increase to community colleges to train an estimated 500 additional students.

The Senate committee also agreed with the House to add about \$5 million to Missouri's \$3 billion basic aid program to public school districts.

The Senate panel endorsed a 2 percent pay raise for state employees making less than \$45,000 annually. The House plan had set the salary cutoff at \$70,000 for the pay raise.



National journalism group plans move to MU campus

By Janese Silvey

The American Society of News Editors plans to move its headquarters from Reston, Va., to the Reynolds Journalism Institute on the University of Missouri campus.

The relocation will allow MU journalism faculty and students to collaborate on research and projects. Already, ASNE and RJI administrators are planning joint research, experimentation and training programs aimed at new methods of creating and delivering journalism.

"The future of the news industry will be fueled by innovation and engagement, and this pivotal partnership will help drive both," said Ken Paulson, president of ASNE and chief executive of the First Amendment Center.

ASNE began searching for a new home last year. ASNE Treasurer David Boardman, executive editor of The Seattle Times, led the search process. In a statement, he cited three elements that made Missouri the top choice: the school's commitment to serving the profession, its history of successful partnerships and its leadership in innovation, particularly through RJI.

Roger Gafke, interim executive director at RJI, said the partnership will provide the school with a better understanding of what's happening in media outlets, "getting into newsrooms and understanding their issues, giving us ways to experiment and test and develop new strategies for a new era of journalism."

The university will provide a variety of support services to ASNE in Columbia, as well as additional space in its National Press Building offices in Washington, D.C. The ASNE partnership starts immediately, and its move to RJI will occur over the next few months. The group will bring three or four employees, including administrators and assistants, to the second floor of RJI.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

American Society of News Editors to move headquarters to MU

By Winn Duvall

April 4, 2012 | 2:20 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA– Journalism leaders, educators and innovators will join forces following an announcement Tuesday of a new partnership between the American Society of News Editors and MU.

The American Society of News Editors had been looking for a new location for the group's headquarters for the past year. Three key elements drove the move to MU from Reston, Va., according to an ASNE news release: the university's commitment to serving the profession, its history of other successful partnerships and its leadership in innovation.

The desire for change was brought about by a multifaceted strategic plan to maintain the organization's position at the forefront of the journalism industry, according to the release.

"The future of the news industry will be fueled by innovation and engagement, and this pivotal partnership will help drive both," Ken Paulson, president of ASNE and CEO of the First Amendment Center in Nashville, Tenn., said in the release.

ASNE and MU are currently working together on the 2012 edition of the society's Newsroom Employment Census. The partnership will now work together to plan joint research, experimentation and training programs in an attempt to perfect the creation and delivery of journalism, according to the release.

The Donald W. Reynolds Journalism Institute will house the society's new headquarters. The university will also provide a variety of support services to ASNE in Columbia, such as help with planning events and running the society's annual awards programs, as well as access to MU's National Press Building offices in Washington, D.C. Additionally, employees of ASNE will become university employees, according to Roger Gafke, acting executive director of RJI.

"The moving of the staff will begin pretty soon," Gafke said, "but it will be a few months before all of the positions are moved here."



MU Law School Changes Curriculum Amidst Decreasing Enrolment

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (KMOX) — St. Louis University Law School is among the second wave of law schools that may be sued for inflating their graduate placement figures.

SLU said in an email, they have not seen the lawsuit and can't comment. Twenty law schools may be sued next month.

The University of Missouri Columbia Law School is not a target, but Dean Larry Dessem says they are changing their curriculum to better prepare law school graduates.

“Law students can now take classes in real estate and get experience working with legal services in the landlord tenant area,” said Dessem.

As far as inflated graduate placement numbers, Dessem says MU does what all law schools do, report their placement figures to the American Bar Association based on the bars broad definitions as to what constitutes a law school graduate placement.

“The ABA now has recognized the fact that those definitions may be someone problematic and they have changed,” explains Dessem. “The data that schools are now reporting does look at things, such as if a law degree is required for employment.”

No word on whether that change by the bar will diminish the relevance of the lawsuit.

MU mirrors the national trend with a 16 percent drop in law school admissions as the legal profession yields fewer jobs.

MU is not a target of the lawsuits.



MU offers help filing 2011 tax returns

COLUMBIA, Mo. -- Missourians who have yet to file their 2011 federal or state income tax returns can get some free advice from campus and community-based tax experts.

University of Missouri students in the personal financial planning department are holding tax prep sessions at the Columbia campus. The first was scheduled for Wednesday evening, with additional sessions April 11 and - for later filers - April 18.

Students will be on hand at from 4:30 to 8 p.m. in a computer lab at 147 Stanley Hall to help taxpayers file their returns free online.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

Tax preparation sessions at MU offer help filing tax returns

By The Associated Press

April 4, 2012 | 4:33 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Missourians who have yet to file their 2011 federal or state income tax returns can get some free advice from campus and community-based tax experts.

MU students in the personal financial planning department are holding tax preparation sessions at the Columbia campus. The first session was scheduled for Wednesday evening, with additional sessions April 11 and — for later filers — April 18.

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