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ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

University of Missouri Press is closing

By **JANESE SILVEY**

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The press, which publishes about 30 books a year, will begin to be phased out in July, although a more specific timeline has not been determined.

Ten employees will be affected. Clair Willcox, editor in chief, declined to comment but did note that neither he nor any of the staff knew about the change before a midmorning meeting.

In a statement, Wolfe said even though the state kept funding to the university flat this year, administrators "take seriously our role to be good stewards of public funds, to use those funds to achieve our strategic priorities and re-evaluate those activities that are not central to our core mission."

William Peden, a member of MU's English department faculty, started UM Press in 1958. It has published roughly 2,000 books in its history, UM spokeswoman Jennifer Hollingshead said. Many are academic works, but UM Press titles also include former U.S. Sen. Jean Carnahan's "Don't Let the Fire Go Out!" in 2004 and a recent release, "On Soldiers and Statesmen" by John S.D. Eisenhower, son of President Dwight Eisenhower.

In 2009, the system cut seven UM Press positions, but it still has not been able to operate without a deficit, Hollingshead said. The UM System gives the press a \$400,000 yearly subsidy.

A committee of administrators at MU is exploring new models that could support scholarly communication in new ways that take advantage of changing technology, Provost Brian Foster said.

"Technological changes have turned media up on their head, and that's turning scholarly communication on its head," he said. "It's more than publishing a book; it's a much broader change."

Communication, he said, is "central to successful research, but given how the system is in such fundamental change, we just don't know where it's going."

University of Missouri Press to close in 2013 fiscal year

By Stephanie Proffer

May 24, 2012 | 8:35 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — After publishing more than 2,000 books in the past 54 years, the University of Missouri Press will soon be closing. UM System President Tim Wolfe said in a statement Thursday morning that the publishing house will be phased out beginning in the 2013 fiscal year because of its growing deficit.

The UM system provides an annual subsidy of \$400,000; this subsidy will end June 30. No timeline has been established for the phasing-out process, Jennifer Hollingshead, director of marketing and public relations for the UM system, said.

"For the last decade or so, we've worked really hard to develop a more viable model for the press," said Steve Graham, senior associate vice president for academic affairs. University Press has made several attempts to overcome the deficit for the past decade, including fundraising and cutting jobs. The operation employs 10 individuals, who were notified of the closing Thursday morning. These employees will be provided with transition assistance and applicable benefits, according to the news release.

The publishing house prints approximately 30 works per year, but less than 10 percent of those come from UM faculty members, Hollingshead said. These works will now be printed at other similar presses around the country.

Hollingshead said closing the press will allow the UM system to better align resources with university priorities. The six priorities Wolfe laid out in April are "focused strategic planning; attracting and retaining the best people; innovative instruction; operational excellence; expanded research and economic development; and effective communication of our value and importance," the release said.

MU is exploring new models for scholarly communication as technological changes have turned media around, MU spokesman Christian Basi said. Technology "is forcing changes in scholarly communication as well," Basi said.



How to stay happy at work (and home)

By Laurie Tarkan
Health @ Work
Published May 24, 2012

The happiness we experience from positive events in our lives—a new job, a new partner or buying a new house—tends to diminish over time, making the search for new sources of happiness never ending.

The process is known in psychiatry lingo as "hedonic adaptation"—we gradually adjust to positive changes, so much so that we don't feel their positive effects on us for long.

Hedonic adaptation is what leads many people to get bored or unhappy with their jobs, their partners, their cars and other things in their lives that once brought them pleasure. It also leads people to seek out new sources of happiness, perhaps never fully appreciating the ones they had.

But new research, published in *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, points to ways to hold onto your newfound happiness for longer.

In the study, researchers from the University of Missouri and the University of California at Riverside surveyed nearly 500 people about their happiness. Six weeks later participants described a recent positive change in their lives that had brought them happiness. Six weeks after that, the researchers evaluated whether that positive change still made them happy. For most people, it didn't, though for a few it did. The psychologists then applied (and confirmed) their happiness model for predicting whose happiness boost had lasted. Here are the main points of their happiness model:

Recognize your quest for more and better. In the study, for example, "The majority got used to the change that had made them happy in the first place," said Kennon Sheldon, professor of psychological sciences at the University of Missouri. "They stopped being happy because they kept wanting more and raising their standards," he added.

Appreciate what you have. Some people were able to appreciate what they had rather than looking at what they didn't have—sort of looking at the glass half full rather than half empty. These were the ones who were happier in the long term.

Create new experiences. An important piece of appreciating what you have is finding new, positive ways of experiencing it. Most people in the study stopped having fresh positive experiences with their new partner or their new job, for example. That lowered their level of enjoyment they derived from it. Those who stayed happy tended to look for new experiences within the change. At work, that could mean looking for new projects or simply going to lunch with different people. With a partner, it could mean doing or learning something new together.

Don't find happiness in purchases. Though you can get a boost of happiness from a new purchase, it's usually very short lived, largely because most purchases don't keep on providing varied positive experiences.

Campus Chatter

Janese Silvey



MU Confucius Institute in state of confusion

By Janese Silvey

Posted May 24, 2012 at 11:40 a.m.

There's confusion surrounding Confucius Institutes this week, and University of Missouri officials are now waiting for the U.S. State Department to clarify their new rules.

The department released a memo on Friday saying those affiliated with university-based Confucius Institutes who hold J-1 visas need to leave the country by the end of next month.

The rules seem to indicate that visiting scholars and professors from China are not allowed to teach in K-12 classrooms and that Chinese language and other courses could not be taught outside of a regular college curriculum, which would mean community classes offered by the Confucius Institute would need to cease.

That's how I read them, anyway. Those associated with the MU Confucius Institute seemed to think the rules wouldn't apply to local programs. But MU spokesman Christian Basi said they, too, are waiting for clarification.

The Chronicle of Higher Education has had the most coverage of the memo, although so far it's still hazy as to how the rules would impact MU's Confucius Institute and whether that center would still be allowed to send instructors into Columbia Public Schools to teach Chinese language and culture. At least one local person has said she doesn't think it will have an impact because the instructors MU sends into schools are not paid by the school district.

I contacted the state department with specific questions and was given this statement:

The United States is committed to strong, sustained support for educational and cultural exchange, including the learning of critical languages. We strongly support people-to-people cooperation with China. Accredited U.S. universities and colleges partnered with Confucius Institutes meet the accreditation requirements to sponsor university level exchanges. The Department will issue shortly a revised guidance directive to clarify these issues.

The guidance directive issued by the Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs on May 17, 2012, is intended to ensure that foreign teachers come to the United States under the proper visa category. We do not seek to pose undue hardship on teaching schedules or limit educational and cultural exchange.

I'm told the revised guidelines will answer specific questions about the future of MU Confucius Institute programming.

MU opened its Confucius Institute with much fanfare last year. Proponents of the centers praise them as a way to promote cultural understanding. Critics worry about ulterior motives. According to Inside Higher Education, Li Changchun, a ranking Chinese official, has referred to Confucius Institutes as "an important part of China's overseas propaganda setup."

According to the Wall Street Journal, those in China aren't happy about the new rules. From the article: "Among those protesting the directive was Kong Qingdong, a firebrand Beijing University professor widely identified as a direct descendent of the great sage. 'Citing visas, the U.S. has set a deadline for Chinese Confucius Institute teachers to leave the country,' Mr. Kong wrote Thursday on the popular Twitter-like microblogging service Sina Weibo. 'Meanwhile, in China, everywhere you look you find Hollywood movies, Silicon Valley microchips and McDonald's French fries. From entertainment to technology to food products, the American cultural invasion is multipolar, omnidirectional and deep.' "

The revised and clarified guidelines are expected to be released this week. Stay tuned.

Mayor proposes FastCAT bus route catering to student population

By Tony Puricelli

May 24, 2012 | 11:47 a.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Mayor Bob McDavid announced a proposal for a new bus route Thursday that would cater to Columbia's student population.

The proposed FastCAT (Campus Access Transit) route would have 11 stops completing a circuit through MU and the downtown area. Three or four buses are recommended for the route, which would operate on a 30-minute loop, McDavid said.

The proposal has not yet been approved by the Columbia City Council. McDavid wants the **route to be in operation before MU students return in August for the fall semester.**

McDavid's goal is to reduce car traffic and gain student customers for Columbia's transit system. The finances for the current transit system are unsustainable, he said.

The route is part of the mayor's plan to centralize the transit system from Wabash Station to the MU campus, which he said is the economic and population center of Columbia.

The route spans from Walnut Street to the Virginia Avenue Parking Garage with stops at Shakespeare's Pizza, the MU Bookstore and the Greektown area adjacent to campus. McDavid said the total student population during the school year within one block of the route is 8,500.

Supervising editor is Jake Kreinberg.

NO MU MENTION



Mayor proposes new student-centered bus route

By Andrew Denney

Columbia Daily Tribune

Published May 24, 2012 at 12:02 p.m.

Mayor Bob McDavid today unveiled a proposal for a new student-centric bus route called FastCAT that would allow the city to have at least two buses running a continuous loop, picking up passengers from stops every 15 minutes.

McDavid said at this morning's announcement, held at City Hall, that he would like to see FastCAT operating in time for the fall semester. He said the city has been working on an agreement with Jon and Nathan Odle, the developers of a 100-unit student apartment complex under construction at College Avenue and Walnut Street, in which the developers would pay \$62.50 per bed each semester in exchange for service.

"There may be criticism that we're focusing too much on students," McDavid said. "There's going to be controversy that this is favorable to" the Odles.

But, he said, if the new routes can bring in more revenue, those serving other parts of the city could benefit as well. In addition, students living at the Odle properties might be less likely to use personal vehicles. He said although the route would focus on students living downtown, it would be accessible to all residents.

The Odles also have offered \$10,000 for marketing the service, McDavid said, and Columbia Public Works Director John Glascock has said the buses on the route will be GPS-enabled to allow riders to track when they arrive and depart.

The number of residents who will soon move into the new apartment complexes has prompted concerns from neighbors and city planners. The Columbia Planning and Zoning Commission on May 10 recommended the denial of a rezoning request for the land on which the Odles plan to build another 120-unit complex. McDavid said that in exchange for the Odles' support for the bus system, he would support their rezoning request when it comes before the Columbia City Council for a final vote June 4.

The 100-unit complex at College and Walnut is set to open in August, and the Odles want to have the second, 120-unit section open by Aug. 1, 2014.

McDavid said FastCAT would be loosely based on the city's current downtown orbiter route, which is provided free for riders and costs the city \$200,000 from parking utility funds. A preliminary map

shows buses on the route would travel as far north as Walnut Street and south to Kentucky Boulevard, and to Ripley Street to the east and Sixth Street to the west. It would cut through the center of the University of Missouri campus.

Public Works transportation manager Ken Koopmans said the city has buses to provide for the route after it purchased new vehicles with a \$2 million State of Good Repair Grant award from the Federal Transit Administration.

McDavid said FastCAT's route would not include the current transit hub at Wabash Station; instead, it would focus on more congested areas downtown.

"Wabash Station is a beautiful facility," McDavid said. "It is not the center of economic activity in Columbia. It is not the center of human activity."

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High schools plan weeknight graduations for 2013

By Janese Silvey

Columbia Daily Tribune
Thursday, May 24, 2012

Columbia's public high schools are planning to hold graduation ceremonies on weeknights next year because of conflicts with the University of Missouri's commencement.

MU's graduation weekend is May 17-19 next year, a week later than normal, occupying the Saturday when Columbia Public Schools normally would have scheduled high school graduations. Both entities use the Hearnes Center and Mizzou Arena for graduations.

The following weekend is not an option because security crews the district relies on for graduations will be tied up at the Memorial Day weekend Salute to Veterans Air Show, said Wanda Brown, assistant superintendent for secondary education. And the weekend before MU graduation is "way too early" for high school seniors who would still be wrapping up tests and classes, she said.

Brown said Saturday, June 1, would be too late because school will be out. "Graduation would be anticlimactic for them," she said.

The district has held graduations in June before, including in 2010, when it was June 5. But various factors made school end later those years, spokeswoman Michelle Baumstark said, including different start dates for the second semester and the use of snow days. Douglass High School's graduation is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, May 22, 2013; Hickman's will be Thursday, May 23; and Rock Bridge's ceremony will be Friday, May 24.

Chris Temporal, whose oldest daughter graduates from Hickman next year, thinks holding graduations the previous Saturday or one of the following two Saturdays would make for a more special occasion. Having graduation on a Saturday allows seniors to enjoy the ceremony, family parties and the annual all-night graduation party all in one day.

On a weeknight, "grandparents won't be able to make it," Temporal said. "Aunts and uncles won't be able to make it. People can't just take off work and get here. A lot of families won't be able to truly show their child how fantastic and wonderful" it is to graduate from high school. "A big deal is made out of you, the senior, for that one day."

MU's graduation comes late next year because the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday falls later in January than it has in the past few years. Some years, that comes early enough that there are two weeks left in the month. That's not the case next year when MLK Jr. Day is Jan. 21. MU begins its spring semester the next day, pushing the entire academic calendar back a week.

Nicole Monnier, chairwoman of MU Faculty Council's Academic Affairs committee, said neither students nor faculty like the late start, but there's little wiggle room: The UM System Collected Rules and Regulations set the start date.

The same situation will occur in 2014, when MU graduations will be held the weekend Columbia schools normally would have theirs. MU's 2014-15 academic calendar has not been set.

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