



Retiring MU budget director lauded for honesty, integrity

By Janese Silvey

A top University of Missouri administrator is retiring at the end of this year, leaving a legacy of honesty and integrity behind, colleagues say.

Tim Rooney, MU's budget director since 2002, "is absolutely one of the best people I've worked with," said Ken Dean, deputy provost. "He's knowledgeable; he's honest; he's fair."

Cathy Scroggs, vice chancellor of student affairs, said he is best known for his loyalty. "He is a true Tiger. ... He's committed to this place."

Rooney, who turns 62 next month, stopped short of calling himself a workaholic but said it has been tough to leave work behind. He plans to remedy that after his Dec. 31 retirement. "I need to make up for some lost time," he said. "I think I've shortchanged my wife and family on vacation time."

Rooney has worked in various roles on campus since 1972. As budget director, he has steered MU through years of dwindling state revenues.

"One of the reasons we have been relatively stable in our financial situation and haven't faced problems other universities have faced is, in part, the really good budget management," Dean said.

Rooney said he has tried to keep students in mind when crunching the numbers. "I like to think I have always been a champion of supporting the student experience here," he said.

Rooney has developed tools to make the budget process transparent, including an interactive scorecard that shows various budget scenarios.

For general audiences, he uses a tree analogy to show how tuition and tax dollars are the root system that supports self-funded branches such as athletics, the hospital and other auxiliary services.

"I think his ingenious ability to work with the entire chancellor's staff in the budget process and to communicate clearly the dimensions of a very complex budget will be his legacy," Chancellor

Brady Deaton said. "He has done a phenomenal job under very difficult circumstances over the last several years."

The Chronicle of Higher Education

The Struggle to Save the University of Missouri Press

August 15, 2012, 4:50 pm

By Frank Donoghue

When I last wrote about the proposed closure of the University of Missouri Press on June 4, the story had recently broken and I had little, and as it turns out incomplete,

information. My central point in that post was simply that the closing of a flagship university's press, were it actually to happen, would mark a paradigm shift in American universities. However skeptical one might be about academic scholarship as the best way of disseminating knowledge, that *is* our current system; most importantly, it is the centerpiece of our current reward system, the means by which we assess candidates for tenure and promotion. And the fact is that university presses publish that scholarship: the fewer university presses, the more challenging the tenure system becomes. Additionally, the presses of land-grant universities, such as Missouri's, have come to assume the role of repositories of the legacies of their states, in the form of the collected works of the states' important authors. Should universities decide, in these straitened economic times, that university presses are too costly, it's difficult to imagine what institutions would take over that role.

Hence my conclusion that the proposed closure of the University of Missouri's press was a move of profound significance. When I first wrote about it, I could find little evidence of protest—I should have waited. The opposition to the closure is now loud and clear. An NPR interview with Bruce Joshua Miller, a publisher's representative who has long worked with the press, provides context for both the proposed closure and for the momentum of the resistance. He's interviewed by correspondent Lynn Neary:

LYNN NEARY: It was a miserable Memorial Day weekend for Bruce Joshua Miller. The publishers' representative who has worked with the University of Missouri Press for 20 years had just learned that the small publishing house had lost its \$400,000 subsidy from the university and would have to shut down. He was trying to figure out what he could do to support the press.

BRUCE JOSHUA MILLER: So I started a Facebook page and had a few people liked it. And, you know, it had 12 people, and I was excited because I had 28 people, and it just started to kind of mushroom from there.

That was Memorial Day. Yesterday I became the 2,679th person to "like" Save the University of Missouri Press Facebook page. The protest doesn't stop with the Facebook page. University

president Tim Wolfe, whose background is exclusively corporate, has come under fire from other directions as well. The editors of the collected works of Langston Hughes, published by the press, wrote an open letter to Wolfe protesting the the closure, and as many as 29 authors of books published by the press have demanded the return of their publication rights, which would presumably fall into limbo were the press to close.

I think it's accurate to say that Wolfe and the university administration has walked back its position to close the press absolutely—in light of the intensity of the opposition—but their solution, a hybrid university press of sorts, is imperfect to say the least. More on that next time.

The Chronicle of Higher Education

U. of Missouri Investigates Alleged Plagiarism by Medical Researchers

August 15, 2012, 1:07 pm

The University of Missouri at Columbia is investigating allegations that two doctors at its school of medicine plagiarized parts of an article published in a cardiology journal, according to the *Columbia Missourian*. *The American Journal of the Medical Sciences* last week retracted a paper published in its February issue that was written by three researchers, two of whom are affiliated with the university. The retraction notice said the paper had plagiarized significant portions of an article that appeared six years earlier in the journal *Heart*. The two Missouri researchers will remain on the faculty while the university's investigation continues.



MU feels squeeze on move-in day

By Janese Silvey

The calendar gives us another month, but Columbia residents know summer is already over: University of Missouri students are moving in this week.

Today is the official move-in day at MU, though students involved in extracurricular activities were allowed to arrive earlier. Roughly 7,000 students, mostly freshmen, live in campus housing. Enrollment numbers are in flux, and official counts won't be available until next week, but administrators expect another large freshman class.

It's the first time in several years that MU has not started a school year with the opening of a newly renovated residential hall. Mark Twain is still closed for renovations. That makes for lower-than-normal capacity, said Frankie Minor, director of Residential Life.

"It's an unusual situation," he said. "We predicted a large freshman class coming in, so we restricted the number of returning students we offered contracts to back in the spring semester."

Space was so limited that administrators were finalizing housing arrangements with students as late as Monday.

"It was tight, but we got everybody in," Minor said. "It was down to the last minute. ... There are a lot of students, but we're happy to have them. We're all geared up and ready to welcome them."

Students involved in freshman interest groups moved in yesterday, and parents praised the process for running more smoothly than they had expected.

Rooms were larger than families thought they would be, too. Freshmen Jordan Woodall and Tori Vaughan were able to fit most of their belongings into their third-floor room at Discovery Hall — surprising their dads, who were waiting in the hall in case stuff needed to be hauled back home.

The high school friends from Nixa, both interested in health-related professions, spent the summer buying coordinated bedspreads and room décor. Typically, MU advises against hometown buddies rooming together, but the two aren't worried.

"Everybody told us not to," Woodall said. "We like to prove people wrong."

Next door, Blaine Jones and her family were setting up shelves and unpacking the last of her belongings. Jones is the youngest of two children, and her mom had mixed feelings about dropping her daughter off at college.

"She's more independent than my other one, so I'm not going to have to worry," Kim Jones said. "I've been through it before. But we're going to be empty nesters."

Blaine Jones is pursuing a fisheries and wildlife degree in hopes of becoming a wildlife biologist. She has been coming to the MU campus from her Jerseyville, Ill., home for four years to participate in an athletic training camp for high school students.

"I love it," she said, "not only because everybody loves to talk and everyone is so friendly, but also the campus. It's not hard to find your way around."

A college football fan, Jones said she's especially excited for the start of the football season.

Vaughan said she's just looking forward to "growing up. I'm ready for a change."

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Associated Press

The★Star
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Columbia grocer from Iraq prepares for prison

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — A Columbia grocer convicted of violating federal sanctions against Iraq by sending money overseas is preparing to start a three-year prison sentence later this month.

Former University of Missouri nuclear scientist Shakir Hamoodi owns the World Harvest market. He pleaded guilty in 2009 to sending about \$200,000 to family, friends and charities in his native Iraq from 1991 to 2003.

A federal judge sentenced Hamoodi in May, but he was allowed to remain free until after the Islamic holiday of Ramadan.

Supporters want Hamoodi's federal sentence commuted but acknowledge the odds are long. They're holding a potluck supper Aug. 25 in Columbia to show support for the market, which will remain open and be operated by one of Hamoodi's sons.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Heat sweet for fruit growers in region

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MU MENTION P. 2

The peaches came early, then the apples, and now the grapes.

The hot, dry summer has decimated corn crops, threatened soybeans and put a good dent in vegetable production, but it has provided an early start for the region's fruit producers — and a good one.

"We want to be respectful of our neighbors growing corn and soybeans because this has been an awful year for them," said Charles Dressel, president of Mount Pleasant Winery in Branson, Mo. "But for anyone growing apples or peaches, or any type of vine fruit, the quality is just outstanding."

Drought conditions have tested vines throughout the region, but because the plants are deep-rooted, they have coped — and could even produce some of the best wines in years.

"A grapevine produces only so much natural sugar, natural acids and flavor compounds that make the grapes taste like grapes. The other ingredient is water," Dressel said. "There's not a lot of water this year, so what's happening is the grapes are absolutely concentrated with flavors."

The same concentration of flavors occurred with the peach crop, which came in two to three weeks earlier than normal, and with the apple harvest now already under way. "They're running a little smaller," said Agnes Kamp, owner of Kamp Peach Orchard in Golden Eagle, a town in Illinois' Calhoun County. "But they're tasting a lot sweeter."

While the sweet fruit has been an upside in an otherwise bad year for agriculture, growers are already concerned about next season. The trees set buds for next year's fruit now, and they're exhausted.

"We're kind of wondering if we'll get much of a crop next year," Kamp said. "They're working on setting buds right now, but it's been so hot, they haven't done that."

Chris Eckert, president of Eckert Orchards, is also concerned about how well the stressed trees will bud.

"We're worried, especially with the peaches, that there will be a lighter crop next year," he said.

He also said this year's small peaches proved costly.

"It takes more peaches to fill a box, so you end up with fewer boxes of peaches to sell," Eckert said.

Still, the peaches were exceptional.

"The drier the year, the more concentrated the flavors in the fruit," he said, adding that more sun means more sugar. That proved true for blackberries and strawberries, both of which yielded among the best harvests ever. The strawberry crop could have set records, had the April 28 hailstorm not damaged some of the crop, Eckert said.

News is also good for the apple crop. The orchard allowed people to start picking their own Honeycrisp apples last weekend, which is about two weeks earlier than it did last year.

A frost this spring decimated the apple crop in eastern parts of the country but opened up more selling opportunities for growers here, said Michele Warmund, a professor of horticulture at the University of Missouri.

"Wholesale apples are in demand," she said.

Schweizer Orchards in St. Joseph, Mo., which sells apples wholesale, has seen an uptick in business from states such as North Carolina and is nearly a month ahead of a normal year in picking and packing the apples, said company Vice President Cory Schweizer.

"We can't keep up with the demand," Schweizer said Wednesday.

Like tree fruit growers, who have had to pick, crate, ship and sell their produce weeks earlier than normal, grape growers and winemakers are having to adjust to an accelerated time frame.

"It caught us a little off guard. We had to hurry up and get ready," said Dale Rollings, of Yellow Farmhouse Winery in Defiance. "We didn't think we'd be harvesting until the last week of August."

The early harvest comes after a rough start to the season, with some vineyards losing as much as 25 percent of their grapes to spring frost.

"We've had more of an effect from the frost this spring than from the drought," said Paul Hopen, vineyard manager at August Winery. "But it's looking exceptional — in quality and quantity."

The drought conditions also have meant extra work in the vineyards, setting up irrigation systems and netting to keep away thirsty birds.

But, overall, growers say the heat and dry conditions have made life a little easier. "It's been a very long time since we've seen a crop like this," Dressel said. "This is really exciting for us."



More teens have oral sex earlier than vaginal intercourse

MU MENTION PAGE 2

Two-thirds of teens and young adults have had oral sex — about as many as have had vaginal intercourse, suggests research by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The data speak to changing social mores and the need to educate teens about the risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease from oral sex, experts say.

The study is part of the government's effort to monitor those at risk for sexually transmitted diseases even though they aren't yet at risk for pregnancy if they're only having oral sex, says Casey Copen, a demographer with the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics.

The research shows that one in four teens is now having oral sex before vaginal sex — marking the "hierarchical reordering of oral sex in American culture," says Justin Garcia, an evolutionary biologist with the Kinsey Institute at Indiana University.

Many sex researchers had believed that oral sex was being used to defer vaginal sex, but that doesn't seem to be the case for most teens today, says Terri Fisher, a professor of psychology at Ohio State University.

The only demographic group that postponed vaginal sex until substantially after oral sex were young white girls of educated mothers — perhaps those whose mothers impressed upon them the need to avoid teenage pregnancy, researchers say.

Rates similar for boys, girls

Fisher says she also was struck by the fact that girls and boys gave and received oral sex equally and that sexual activity began at roughly the same age, with 44% of 15- to 17-year-old boys and 39% of girls of that age engaging in some kind of sexual activity with an opposite-sex partner.

"It certainly would suggest that the gender differences found previously no longer exist," Fisher says.

The CDC study is based on 6,346 interviews from 2007 to 2010, conducted anonymously via computer. Those interviewed ranged in age from 15 to 24.

The study also found some racial differences: Non-Hispanic blacks generally began vaginal sex earlier than whites, and whites were more likely to engage in oral sex before vaginal intercourse.

Other research suggests that more young people are deferring all types of sexual activity later than their parents and grandparents did.

A need for more education?

The new figures suggest that sex education programs need to directly address oral sex as well as vaginal intercourse, says Craig Roberts, an epidemiologist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's University Health Services department and a member of the American College Health Association.

There's no such thing as totally "safe sex," Roberts says, though oral sex reduces pregnancy risk to zero and HIV risk to almost nothing. But he notes that people who perform or receive oral sex are still at risk for other sexually transmitted diseases such as herpes, gonorrhea and chlamydia.

Condom use is unlikely during oral sex, he and others add.

The growing frequency of oral sex means parents also need to address it with their children, says Heather Eastman-Mueller, a sexuality educator at the University of Missouri.

Instead of worrying about "the" talk, though, she advises parents to consistently talk in age-appropriate ways about sexuality, morality and physical self-esteem.

"It should be a conversation you have all the time," Eastman-Mueller says.



ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Missouri professor says drought raises nitrate levels

COLUMBIA, MO (AP) - A University of Missouri veterinary professor says farmers need to be careful when feeding drought-damaged corn to their livestock.

Tom Evans is an associate professor of veterinary pathobiology at the university's College of Veterinary Medicine.

He says nitrate levels can accumulate in drought-stressed corn and pose a risk to animal health.

Many farmers across the Midwest are abandoning ruined corn crops and salvaging what they can to feed to their animals, especially cattle.

Evans says high nitrate levels also can build up in naturally growing plants and weeds that livestock might be forced to eat because of limited pasture or hay availability.

He suggests farmers test the nitrate levels of their crops and pastures before allowing their animals to eat any of the plants.