

Advisory committee selected to coordinate University of Missouri Press integration

By [Stephanie Ebbs](#)

September 27, 2012 | 9:40 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — A committee has been selected to integrate the University of Missouri Press with the academic and research missions of MU, which recently took control of the press.

Creation of the committee, called the Press Advisory Committee, was announced in an Aug. 28 [press release from MU News Bureau](#).

The list of committee members was distributed at an MU Faculty Council meeting Thursday by Deputy Provost Ken Dean. He said that members will receive letters officially appointing them to the committee and that meetings will begin soon.

The committee is made up of members of the Faculty Council, other governing bodies, representatives from other campuses in the University of Missouri System and people who have worked with the press.

Members of the committee are:

- Craig Roberts, MU professor of plant sciences.
- Rebecca Johnson, MU nursing professor.
- Gary Ebersole, chairman of the University of Missouri-Kansas City Department of History.
- Michael Murray, professor of broadcast journalism at the University of Missouri-St Louis.
- Mark Fitch, associate professor of civil engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology.
- Steve Moehrle, chairman of the Intercampus Faculty Council and an associate professor of accounting at UMSL.

- Wilma King, director of the black studies program at MU and member of a standing Press Committee separate from the advisory committee.
- Becky Stafford, chairwoman of the MU Staff Advisory Council.
- Kristofferson Culmer, president of the MU Graduate Professional Council.
- Mel George, UM System president emeritus.
- Geoff Giglierano, executive director of the Missouri Humanities Council.
- Jane Lago, former managing editor of the press.
- John Fennell, associate professor of journalism at MU.
- Gary Kremer, director of The State Historical Society of Missouri, who is listed as an editor on several history titles published between 1991 and 2004.
- Susan Flader, professor emerita of history at MU, who wrote "Exploring Missouri's Legacy: State Parks and Historical Sites," published by the press in 1992.
- Mary Barile, associate director of the MU Office of Grant Writing and Publications, whose book "The Santa Fe Trail in Missouri" was published in 2010.

There also are five ad hoc members:

- Jim Cogswell, MU director of libraries
- Michael O'Brien, dean of the MU College of Arts and Sciences.
- Dean Mills, dean of the MU School of Journalism.
- Richard Wallace, MU chancellor emeritus.
- Deborah Noble-Triplett, UM System assistant vice president.

The plan is for the committee to work with a group already in place to help the press transition. This group includes Wallace, Triplett, UM President Tim Wolfe and MU Chancellor Brady Deaton.

Supervising editor is Elizabeth Brixey.

The Washington Post

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AP Associated Press

Presidential debates a chance for that single moment that defines character _ for good or ill

WASHINGTON — In presidential politics, everybody's searching for "the moment." The campaigns don't know when or how it will come, but they watch for something — awkward words, an embarrassing image — that can break through and become the defining symbol of the other guy's flaws.

Now all eyes will be on the three presidential debates, especially the all-important first one Wednesday night, a perfect incubator for such a moment.

The unpredictable nature of the debates is part of what attracts tens of millions of live-TV viewers. A big blunder or "gotcha" quip is sure to be remembered. And President Barack Obama and challenger Mitt Romney will be fielding questions for 4½ hours in all, a long time to stay on message.

"If we have any moment in terms of seeing the true, the real, the unscripted candidate, it's likely to happen on the debate stage," said Mitchell McKinney, a University of Missouri associate professor who studies the presidential match-ups.

It's the all-too-human slips that live on. Think of Al Gore sighing loudly and often, a bored-looking George H.W. Bush checking his watch, or Richard Nixon appearing clammy and tired next to a tanned and rested John F. Kennedy in the first televised debate in 1960.

"Whether it's sighing or looking at your watch, people will remember that. And they'll have a lot of help because the press is going to replay it and replay it and it's going to show up on

‘Saturday Night Live,’” said Tad Devine, who was a senior adviser to Gore’s campaign. “It becomes part of their daily conversation, and it takes hold.”

The killer moments are the ones that seem to verify what voters already suspect, Devine said, usually after weeks or months of priming by the opposing camp.

Romney and Obama know the risk firsthand.

During the GOP primary debates, Romney played into worries that his wealth distances him from ordinary people by offering to back his words with a friendly wager — a \$10,000 bet.

In the 2008 Democratic primaries, Obama reinforced criticism that he’s arrogant and aloof. As Hillary Rodham Clinton good-naturedly tried to deflect a question about her likability, Obama cut in. “You’re likable enough, Hillary,” he said dismissively. He didn’t even look up.

A defining moment can sprout anywhere, of course.

For John McCain, it was a Florida campaign rally on Sept. 15, 2008. As Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy, the nation’s financial system teetered on the brink and stocks tanked, McCain insisted that “the fundamentals of our economy are strong.” The Obama campaign jumped on that phrase to portray McCain as oblivious — and it stuck.

A question from a college student about funding for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan tripped up John Kerry in 2004. “I actually did vote for the \$87 billion before I voted against it,” Kerry declared. President George W. Bush’s campaign had what it needed: the perfect shorthand for Kerry as a flip-flopper.

This year’s campaigns already have spent months looking for that one devastating blow. So far the top contender is Romney’s secretly recorded dismissal of “47 percent of Americans” who don’t pay taxes and depend on government aid. And then there’s Obama’s “you didn’t build that” remark about business owners.

“He has to turn the 47 percent and make sure people understand the reasoning behind that argument, how that’s the result of the president’s policies,” he said. Romney can emphasize the increasing number of people relying on food stamps, unemployment checks and other aid, suggests O’Donnell, who no longer works for the campaign

The big moments don’t have to be bad, after all.

It was Republican strategist Lee Atwater who promoted the idea of a moment that defines a candidate’s character. He saw a positive one when Vice President George H.W. Bush stood up to CBS anchorman Dan Rather in a live interview about the Iran-Contra scandal. The aggressive performance quashed criticism that Bush was wimpy.

In his 1980 challenge to President Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan pulled off two famous debate lines that helped win a landslide. “There you go again,” he quipped when Carter accused him of

planning Medicare cuts. And he asked America a question that still echoes today: "Are you better off now than you were four years ago?"

Reagan's shaky performance in the first debate of 1984 raised questions about the 73-year-old president's fitness for another term. Next round, when asked about the age issue, Reagan silenced doubters by declaring with a twinkle that he would not "exploit for political purposes my opponent's youth and inexperience."

At that moment, "the campaign was over," the Democratic nominee, Walter Mondale, later told PBS journalist Jim Lehrer.

Debates rarely yield such total triumphs, however. And they're seldom an election's single deciding factor, scholars such as McKinney say.

President Gerald Ford's insistence in 1976 that "there is no Soviet domination of Eastern Europe" undermined confidence in his ability as a Cold War leader. Texas Gov. Rick Perry wiped out his chance at this year's Republican nomination by forgetting the third of three federal agencies he wanted to eliminate. All he could say was, "Oops."

Although it doesn't happen often, McKinney said, "There is a chance to blow it."



MU Opens New Research Center

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) - **The University of Missouri has opened a facility for developing experimental treatments and performing clinical trials to test new drugs.**

The university says in a release that its new Clinical Research Center officially opened Thursday. The center is part of a \$5 million, multistage renovation project in a building connecting the university's School of Medicine and University Hospital.

The center includes an advanced inpatient clinical trials unit, five inpatient beds, an outpatient room, a kitchen and an exercise facility.

Dr. Jamal Ibdah, senior associate dean for research at the medical school, says the center will give patients access to new treatments before they are widely available.

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Leah Freeze, right, and Jason Roland tour a lab in University of Missouri Health Care's new Clinical Research Center, which was unveiled at a news conference Thursday morning. The center is located along a fifth-floor corridor between MU's School of Medicine and University Hospital and serves as a bridge between the two.

By [Janese Silvey](#)

University of Missouri Health Care today opened a center that will allow researchers to study new pharmaceuticals and medical therapies and let hospital patients benefit from those trials.

The Clinical Research Center is located along a fifth-floor corridor between MU's School of Medicine and University Hospital.

"It's literally the interface between the medical school research happening and the hospital where patients are," said Jamal Ibdah, director of MU's Institute for Clinical and Translational Science

and senior associate dean for research at the medical school. "It's a true bridge from discovery to health."

Ibdah joined other administrators as well as Columbia Chamber of Commerce ambassadors this morning to open the center, a space five years in the making that is part of a \$5 million renovation project.

Before today, there was a clinical trial office on the seventh floor but no place where researchers could conduct all phases of clinical trials. Historically, clinical studies have taken place in a number of different locations, such as doctors' offices or community clinics.

"We really didn't have a dedicated space," said William Steinmann, director of the new center. "This is a state-of-the-art unit that has every area covered, from an outpatient exam room to rooms for overnight stays."

There also is a pharmaceutical room where researchers can mix and dispense medications securely, a consultation space where researchers can explain the tests to patients and families, and a patient advocate office.

The Clinical Research Center has an exercise room with research treadmills and a metabolic kitchen that can be used for nutrition studies or to prepare meals specifically for those participating in clinical trials.

Ibdah envisions researchers from across campus using the facility, including those studying exercise and nutrition, engineers developing new medical devices and those studying veterinary medicine who want to transition their work to humans.

"The center we are officially opening today is exactly the type of clinical infrastructure we require to translate discoveries made across campus into new products and services for patients," said Rob Duncan, MU's vice chancellor of research.

Duncan believes the facility will make MU more competitive when applying for grants. He also expects the work to translate into additional revenue for the university; the center includes a technology transfer office to help drug and other discoveries to be marketed quickly.

Having the center embedded within the hospital also will give local patients access to treatments before they are widely available, he said.

Another mission of the center is to train young investigators and generate more interest in medical research that can be applied to health care, Steinmann said. "The environment is especially designed to support translational scientists as well as training programs for faculty members and students who want to become more involved in bench-to-bedside research."

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New MU research center provides room for advanced care, testing

By Catherine Rolwes

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COLUMBIA — Big scissors were taken out Thursday to cut the yellow ribbon that officially **opened the new Clinical Research Center at MU.**

Jamal Ibdah, director of the MU Institute for Clinical and Translational Science and senior associate dean for research at the MU School of Medicine, opened the ceremony by welcoming attendees to the new center, located on the fifth floor between the medical school and University Hospital.

The new center is part of a \$5 million multi-stage renovation project and will help scientists and physicians work together for research, as well as make MU more competitive for grants. The research center will also give patients access to new treatments that are used solely at the center.

“Patients can now get the latest and greatest treatment and get it before anyone else,” said William Steinmann, medical director of the new center.

Ibdah said several research grants are already being submitted to use the facility, including a trial studying an obesity condition called “fatty liver disease.”

“Currently there is no drug treatment for this, and since this is a lifestyle disease we are implementing different types of exercise as well as different types of diet caloric restrictions to reduce the calories and see how that will impact the disease,” Ibdah said.

He said the center's staff will do a liver biopsy and monitor either exercise or calorie restriction for trial participants for six months. Then they will look at what the “impact” of the liver inflammation and liver fat is.

Clinical research has already been present in the hospital, but it never had its own space, so the hospital's staff could not conduct phase 1 trials — trials conducted on individuals for the

first time with a goal to find the correct dosage, determine how the body processes and excretes the drug and what side effects, if any, will occur.

Ibdah said the idea for this center happened back in 2007 with the establishment of the Institute for Clinical and Translational Science.

“It became clear that MU needs a clinical research center to facilitate the translation of scientific discoveries at MU to health,” Ibdah said. “It was also necessary to allow MU to compete for a large \$20 million clinical and translational science award from NIH (National Institutes of Health).”

The new center features an advanced inpatient Phase 1 clinical trials unit, five inpatient beds — each equipped with flat-screen televisions and leather massage chairs — three outpatient exam rooms, a metabolic kitchen and an exercise facility. Work areas for researchers consist of meeting rooms, a general laboratory and information technology facilities.

The center will also build training programs for medical students interested in becoming investigators and future research scientists.

“Students can see the action at the first level,” Steinmann said. “It’s one thing to show them in the classroom, but it’s another thing to show them in real life.”

Supervising editor is Katherine Reed.

Expansion of MU medical program hinges on tobacco tax vote

By Lizzie Johnson

September 27, 2012 | 1:55 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — A \$43 million price tag for construction and operating costs of expanding MU's clinical campuses is hinging on Proposition B for funding, according to information provided to the UM System Board of Curators.

Some revenue raised by Proposition B would go toward creating a clinical campus program in Springfield and constructing a medical education building at MU. The measures would increase MU's medical class size by nearly 30 percent, edging annual enrollment up from 96 students to 128.

The proposition, which is on the Nov. 6 ballot, would tax \$0.0365 per cigarette, 25 percent of the manufacturer's invoice price for roll-your-own tobacco and 15 percent for other tobacco products. Part of the revenue would go to public schools and universities.

Weldon Webb, associate dean of the MU School of Medicine, said the tax revenue would cover a majority of the cost of expanding class size and starting the new clinical campus.

"The project has always been dependent on funding," he said. "At this point in time, that determines the timeline. The main possibility at this moment is the tobacco tax funding, if it passes. If not, we will have to go back to legislative sessions in January and attempt to get funding there."

The clinical campus program is a partnership between MU and the CoxHealth and Mercy health systems in Springfield. Medical students in the program would spend two years in Springfield doing clinical work.

The increase in enrollment would address the shortage of physicians in Missouri, according to an economic impact study prepared by Thomas Johnson. According to the study, the plan would add 300 physicians in Missouri, create 3,500 jobs and add more than \$390 million to the state's economy.

*"Our country and Missouri, in particular, are facing a looming shortage of physicians," David Barbe, division president of Mercy Clinic Springfield, said. "Expanding the medical school class that places more physicians in Missouri than any other medical school in the state seems to be the best way to increase the number of physicians in the state."

Barbe said the program was important because of an aging population and the expansion of health insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act. He said the clinical campus program would be started once funds were attained.

"We have been waiting for the right time, the right situation and the right partnership to find a way to attain funding the capital needed," Barbe said. "It looks like the tobacco tax may do that."

Webb said he had no qualms about the source of the money.

"As Missouri's premier public medical school and the number one provider of physicians for our state, it makes sense to invest public funding in our plans to enhance health, education and the economy throughout Missouri," he said. "How public funding is provided is up to the voters and their elected officials."

Supervising editor is Elizabeth Brixey.



Campus day care opens to MU faculty offspring

By Janese Silvey

A center on the University of Missouri campus designed to provide day care for students' children is opening slots for faculty and staff members' families this fall, causing worry among some that it will crowd out students who need child care in the future.

The move is a response to changing demographics: This year, 22 students are using the Student Parent Center, down from 42 families last year, said Michelle Froese, spokeswoman for MU's Student and Auxiliary Services. "To maintain it, we do need to open slots for faculty and staff," she said. "We feel like having some faculty and staff slots that are 50 weeks and full-time commitments helps from a budgeting standpoint."

Employees only have the option of enrolling children full time, while students are allowed to enroll children on a part-time basis to align with course schedules and semesters.

As president of Mizzou Families Involved Together, or MizFit, Alana Flowers is concerned that the center will favor employee enrollments in the future because they're able pay more.

Plus, she said, faculty and staff already have other day-care options on or near campus that students typically can't afford, such as the MU Child Development Lab and Children's House Montessori.

Flowers worries that it will "force us to find other child care not even close to campus."

Julie Shea, who runs the program, referred questions to Froese, who insisted that the center will continue to serve student parents. There is "no danger of giving priority to faculty and staff," she said.

At \$45 a day for part-time enrollment, the center is already too costly for some students, said Emma Rohwer, who enrolled her daughter in the Student Parent Center when her daughter was an infant and Rohwer's husband was a graduate student. She believes a better way to maintain the program would be to solicit donations and create scholarships that would allow more student parents to enroll their children.

"My main concern is it seems like the pressure is to make the center profitable and not to serve the student parents," she said. "It doesn't seem to feel like they're working on the solution of problems" student parents have, "only solving the problem of getting the day care in the black."

The center is licensed for 44 children but has the ability to expand to 52 at its current location in University Village. At one point, the Student Parent Center accepted children up to age 5 but has reduced the age to 3 because of a lack of interest from families in enrolling older children, Froese said. She said the center is flexible and could change policies again if demands change.

One problem is that MU doesn't ask students who enroll in college whether they are parents, she said, so "it's hard to gauge needs."

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