



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

February 9, 2017



For better skin grafts, take just one layer

Generated from MU Health release: [New Skin-graft System a Better Fix for Chronic Wounds](#)

Research shows that a skin-graft harvesting system aids chronic wound recovery and reduces care costs by accelerating the healing process.

More than six million cases of chronic wounds cost \$20 billion each year in the United States. Diabetic ulcers, pressure sores, surgical site wounds, and traumatic injuries to high-risk patients account for most wounds that won't heal.

“Chronic wounds occur when healing fails to progress normally and persists for more than 30 days,” says Jeffrey Litt, assistant professor of surgery at the University of Missouri School of Medicine.

“Current treatments such as moist dressings, frequent irrigations, and wound cleaning are not always enough to ensure that healing occurs in high-risk patients. Although a skin graft can be used to close a wound that refuses to heal, the surgical technique usually is painful, time-consuming, and leaves significant donor site wounds.”

Split-thickness skin grafting currently is the gold standard for treating traumatic and burn injury-related skin loss.

The surgical procedure involves removing the top two layers of skin from a healthy donor site, and transplanting the tissue to an injured area. However, split-thickness grafting must be performed in an operating room and the technique is limited by the availability of donor skin. Additionally, donor sites usually are large, painful, and also can become chronic wounds.

For the new study, researchers used a recently developed autograft harvesting system to care for 13 patients with various types of chronic wounds. The new technology, which Litt's team did not develop, was used to harvest only the top layer of skin for much smaller, consistently sized donor grafts.

The minimally invasive approach, performed in an outpatient clinic setting, also resulted in much less donor site damage and little to no pain. Following the patients' care, clinical outcomes and costs were evaluated.

“Eight of the 13 high-risk patients treated with the autograft system experienced much faster healing of their chronic wounds,” Litt says. “Four of these patients fully healed in less than one month. Additionally, the comparatively rapid closure of the open wounds also reduced health care costs by an average of \$1,153 per patient and \$650 to the burn and wound program.”

The accelerated healing also resulted in no wound recurrence—a complication associated with at-risk patient populations.

“We have been using this minimally invasive autograft technology for more than a year, and it is well tolerated by our patients and easy to use by our team,” Litt says. “Given that, and the health care cost savings, we feel that this new approach to wound care is beneficial to everyone, and we will continue to evaluate outcomes.”

The study appears in the *Cureus Journal of Medical Science*.

MISSOURIAN

[Settlement reached in lawsuit in death of Columbia firefighter](#)

TYLER WORNELL, 18 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — After nearly three years, a settlement was reached in a wrongful death lawsuit brought by the family of Columbia firefighter Bruce Britt against the University of Missouri.

Britt died in February 2014 when a balcony at MU-owned University Village apartments collapsed, trapping him under the rubble. His wife, Leigh Britt, sued the University in April 2014, alleging that her husband's death was the result of negligence by the university.

The university offered to settle the case in order to "avoid the delay, expense and uncertainty of a trial," according to a motion for settlement filed in the 13th Circuit Court on Feb. 1. The university denied liability in Britt's death.

The exact amount of the settlement remained confidential, but a portion of the settlement money will be used to buy an annuity for future payments to Britt's daughter, Stormy. Leigh Britt has since remarried, and her last name is now Kottwitz.

A hearing for approval of the settlement is scheduled for 9 a.m. Tuesday.

Investigations into Britt's death concluded that the balconies at University Village were structurally unsound, and a [2008 MU housing plan report recommended](#) the apartments be demolished by 2011. MU hired an engineering firm to inspect all university-owned or leased facilities just two days after Britt's death. University Village apartments were demolished in July 2014.

An independent investigation, conducted by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, [blamed communication problems for Britt's death](#). The report also cited a lack of "situational awareness" by the fire department and lack of pre-planning between the university and first responders.



Settlement reached in lawsuit over Columbia firefighter's death

By Alan Burdziak

Almost three years after a Columbia Fire Department lieutenant was killed while on duty, the University of Missouri Board of Curators and the man's widow and daughter have agreed to settle a wrongful death lawsuit.

A hearing for approval of a settlement in the case is scheduled for 9 a.m. Tuesday in front of circuit Judge Jodie Asel. Leigh Britt, whose surname is now Kottwitz, sued the curators and other university officials after Lt. Bruce Britt died the morning of Feb. 22, 2014 when the balcony he was on at a university-owned apartment complex collapsed.

The confidential settlement was reached to “avoid expense, delay, and uncertainty of trial,” according to a joint motion for approval of the settlement.

“There are substantial disputes between the plaintiffs and the curators concerning whether the curators were negligent and whether any negligence on the curators’ part caused injury to or the death of the decedent or damages to the plaintiffs, and the nature and extent of the damages allegedly suffered by plaintiffs,” the motion said.

Bruce Britt was killed when he responded to a call that was dispatched as a roof collapse at University Village, 601 S. Providence Road. A concrete walkway he was on collapsed, trapping him under debris and suffocating him, according to a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health report that was released a year after his death. The report cited a lack of information, planning and awareness combined with deterioration of the walkway as the primary factors in Britt’s fatal fall.

In response to his death, the university had all of its buildings at its Columbia campus inspected and tore down the apartment building.

A receptionist for Amanda Allen Miller, one of the attorneys representing the curators, said Miller was “not at liberty” to discuss the settlement. Kottwitz and UM System spokesman John Fougere declined to comment. An attorney for Kottwitz, Megen Hoffman, did not respond to a message seeking comment.

The curators are the only defendants left in the suit after MU Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Cathy Scroggs, MU Residential Life Facilities and Planning Associate Director Harriett Green-Sappington, Residential Life Director Frankie Minor and Residential Life Superintendent Stan Freeman were dismissed Jan. 31.

A portion of the settlement will be used to buy an annuity that will be set up for future payments for Britt's and Kottwitz's young daughter, Stormy. Britt also had three other children, but because his parental rights were terminated when their stepfather adopted them, they were unable to sue.



Settlement reached in lawsuit over Columbia firefighter's death

Watch story: <http://www.abc17news.com/news/settlement-reached-in-lawsuit-over-columbia-firefighters-death/319824006>

By: Sara Maslar-Donar

COLUMBIA, Mo. - A settlement has been reached in a lawsuit filed after a firefighter died in a walkway collapse at a University of Missouri-run apartment complex.

Residents had called 911 after hearing and seeing cracks in the walls and foundation of the buildings. Lt. Bruce Britt was working on behalf of the Columbia Fire Department to evacuate those residents from the apartment complex when the walkway collapsed and killed him.

The wrongful death lawsuit was filed on behalf of the widow and a daughter of Britt back in 2014.

His widow said the university didn't properly maintain the University Village Apartments, which has since been torn down.

The University of Missouri curators were named in the suit, along with MU Chancellor of Student Affairs Cathy Scroggs and three Residential Life employees. Scroggs and the Res Life employees have been dismissed.

Court documents indicate the curators denied liability in the case but settled to "avoid expense, delay, and uncertainty of trial."

The amount in the settlement is confidential right now and a judge will have to decide whether to approve the settlement at a hearing next Tuesday.

After Britt's death and the collapse of the building, the university released inspection documents indicate that in 2008, a St. Louis architectural firm recommended the building be demolished because it was in such disrepair.

University Village Apartments was finally torn down in the summer of 2014 after inspections the weekend after the collapse.



Settlement reached in death of firefighter Bruce Britt, killed in collapse

By Annie Hammock

Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=050feaa3-8e8c-43d1-8860-711dd9043655>

COLUMBIA - Three years after Lt. Bruce Britt was killed in a walkway collapse at University Village Apartments, the firefighter's widow and the University of Missouri have reached a settlement for an undisclosed amount in a wrongful death suit.

Britt died Feb. 22, 2014, while working the scene of a structural collapse at the university-owned complex. An eyewitness reported Britt was walking on a partially-collapsed, second story balcony when it fell in on him.

His widow, Leigh Britt, filed suit claiming the university curators "acted recklessly and with wanton negligence when it failed to properly maintain and/or construct the Apartments and failed to correct the dangerous conditions on its property, which reckless and wanton negligence caused Defendant's death."

The university said it could not have predicted the walkway collapse at University Village Apartments. But email and other documents released by MU show there were concerns dating back several years.

An engineering firm hired by the university, Trabue, Hansen & Hinshaw, Inc., said "concrete shear failure" caused the collapse. The firm said some other areas of the complex showed "complete section loss of steel and concrete deck."

New court documents show Leigh Britt has "dismissed with prejudice" claims against individual members of the university's Board of Curators. The initial lawsuit sought "in excess of \$25,000" in damages.

The document says, "There are substantial disputes between the plaintiffs and The Curators concerning whether The Curators were negligent and whether any negligence on The Curator's part caused injury to or the death of the Decedent or damages to the plaintiffs."

The settlement is meant to avoid the "expense, delay and uncertainty of trial," the document says.

A judge will rule on whether to accept the settlement Feb. 13.



ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Settlement Reached in Lawsuit over Firefighter's Death

A settlement has been reached in a lawsuit filed after a firefighter died in a walkway collapse at a University of Missouri-run apartment complex.

The Columbia Daily Tribune reports a judge will consider whether to approve the settlement Tuesday during a hearing in Boone County Circuit Court. The amount of the settlement was not disclosed.

The wrongful death lawsuit was filed on behalf of the widow and a daughter of Lt. Bruce Britt, who died in February 2014 while evacuating residents from the apartment complex.

His widow said the university didn't properly maintain the University Village Apartments, which has since been torn down.

A joint motion seeking approval of the settlement said it was reached to "avoid expense, delay, and uncertainty of trial."



University seeks out developers to rebuild child care center

Watch story: <http://www.abc17news.com/news/university-seeks-out-developers-to-rebuild-child-care-center/320458116>

By Deborah Kendrick

University of Missouri is still seeking a private developer to help operate and build a child care facility where the former University Village once stood.

In 2014 the University say they reached out to many private developers but still haven't heard back from anyone to this date.

University Spokesman Christian Basi told ABC 17 News that the proposal will still remain open.

Former MU Chancellor Loftin proposed the idea back in 2014. The university would lease land for a child care facility at essentially no cost to a private developer. By providing the land, Loftin expected the operator of the facility to offer discounted rates to MU students, faculty and staff.

University Village was demolished in early 2014 after inspection documents ABC 17 News got showed an architectural firm recommended the building be demolished because it was in such disrepair back in 2008.

Lt. Bruce Britt, with the Columbia Fire Department died while responding to a report of a collapsed roof at the school- owned apartment complex back on February 22, 2014.

Graduate students occupied the building that was demolished. The absence of the building still has impacts to graduate students.

Graduate student, Rachel Bauer has been a student at MU since 2011 told ABC 17 News that not having the extra housing on students has been a struggle.

"It left a little bit of a void of affordable housing that is close to campus. A void that we are still looking to fill in many different ways," Bauer said.

Bauer also emphasized the need to have a child care facility as soon as possible.

"Not all of the child care facilities are affordable for graduate students or accessible in the way that the student parent center was," Bauer said.

The University says they are still in need of family housing but have not found a solution yet.



[Curators consider funding architect stadium improvement plans](#)

Watch story: <http://krcgtv.com/news/local/curators-consider-funding-architect-stadium-improvement-plans>

by Mark Slavit

COLUMBIA — University of Missouri Curators considered the approval of an architect to design improvements to Faurot Field's south end zone.

The 4-story project included luxury suites and general admission seating.

University of Missouri Curators were likely to approve the use of more than \$4 million in private gifts for architectural plans during their meeting on Thursday.

The Curators relied on private donations as Governor Eric Greitens threatened to make massive cuts to the University of Missouri System.

UM Spokesman John Fougere said, "Given the situation that we are in right now, the Board feels it is very important to give the athletic department more time to fundraise and get closer, as far as donations go, to the actual overall cost of the entire project."

Donors gave Mizzou Athletics about \$50 million to pay for roughly half of the improvement project.

With Curator approval, Kansas City architectural firm Populous, Incorporated would design the south side stadium improvements.

Populous architects designed similar football facilities at Oklahoma, Colorado and Kansas State.



Fast Company Co.Exist is a monthly print and digital magazine that focuses on technology, business and design, with more than 1.7 million unique visitors per month

Bosses: Keep Up With Your Employees' Progressive Values, Or They'll Leave

Generated from an MU News Bureau press release: [‘Values Gap’ in Workplace Can Lead Millennials to Look Elsewhere](#)

By Eillie Anzilotti 02.07.17

In the two weeks since President Donald Trump issued his executive order on immigration, banning travel from seven Muslim-majority countries, he's met with opposition from a surprising sector: the tech industry. In a radical change of tune since executives like Jeff Bezos and Sheryl Sandberg filed into Trump Tower to [meet with the president in December](#), 128 tech companies have now filed an amicus brief against the ban; the *Washington Post* reported that Apple CEO Tim Cook [said in a company-wide email](#) that the ban "is not a policy we support" and added that "Apple would not exist without immigration."

While many of these denunciations of Trump's order appear motivated by some higher corporate ethos, there's another factor at play here: pressure from employees. [Reuters reported](#) that employee and activist outcry was a crucial factor in Uber CEO Travis Kalanick's decision to quit Trump's business advisory council, and the repercussions of the ban—both personal and political—have issued a wake-up call to companies that the voices of their young, progressive workforces need to be reflected in company policies.

A new study has taken a step toward measuring the importance of business ethics to young employees (in a very different sector: the apparel and textile industry) and how it could affect retention and on-the-job satisfaction. When we think [about why people switch jobs](#), we tend to run through the usual list of suspects: more money, interpersonal conflicts, restlessness, mid- or quarter-life crises. But [a new study](#) has found that for young workers in the [textile and apparel industry](#), reasons for job-hopping are much more moral: if they feel a disconnect between their own values and the company's, especially when it comes to sustainability.

"Young people in the workplace now have been raised with this idea of the importance of sustainability and community," says Jung Ha-Brookshire, a professor of textile and apparel management at the University of Missouri, in an interview with *Co.Exist*. When entering the workforce, people will often seek out opportunities at companies that [tout a commitment to those values](#), only to find that ethos falls apart along the supply chain. "When that happens, there's a feeling of betrayal," Ha-Brookshire says.

Ha-Brookshire, along with Rachel LoMonaco-Benzing, a doctoral student at University of Missouri's College of Human Environmental Sciences, began interviewing employees involved with corporate supply chains at apparel and textile companies in January 2016. The research was exploratory in nature: Ha-Brookshire and LoMonaco-Benzing located and interviewed 10 people who had been in the industry anywhere from 3 to 20 years, with occupations ranging from retail to textile manufacturing to outdoor apparel production.

In the study, Ha-Brookshire and LoMonaco-Benzing wrote that "participants unanimously described a sense of distrust or a lack of confidence with T&A companies' claims of or attempts towards sustainability." A healthy dose of skepticism toward corporate ethical promises is common among consumers, or should be. Often, initiatives that appear to do good—[like one-to-one giving models](#)—are more about generating buzz for a company than they are about aiding real causes. "To date, much research on corporate sustainability has focused on consumers' willingness to buy and support sustainable products, which have recognized price, quality, service, and, when it comes to fashion products, style as critical factors towards adopting sustainable consumption practices," the authors noted in the study. In short, it's easy for consumers to buy "sustainable" products and feel good about their choice, without actually interrogating what goes on behind the scenes.

For employees, it's a different, and less studied, issue. "One of the workers we interviewed described sustainability in the textile industry as a 'moral dilemma,'" Ha-Brookshire says. In an industry where profit margins are tight, companies, regardless of ethical stance, will often default to the cheapest manufacturing options, despite the fact that they may not be the most sustainable or humane. Marie, a

product development engineer for a textile producer interviewed in the study, described her experience working with a company that she had been eager to support as a consumer because of their claims to sustainability:

"They have so many things to say, they want to do this and that. You know, good for the environment, good for the United States . . . And not a single one of these things ever plays out. They're just constantly looking for cheaper, cheaper, cheaper, which means that they're not buying things from the United States, they're not setting things up in the United States. They're touting these ideals, they're not actually doing any of these things."

Over the course of their interview process, Ha-Brookfield and LoMonaco-Benzing heard the same sentiment repeated by each person; they plan to roll out a longer and more comprehensive survey to capture more industry-wide perspectives later this year.

While clothing companies like Everlane and Patagonia have forged bonds with consumers on the basis of sound ethical practices and sustainability—Everlane donated its [Black Friday profits](#) to factory workers, and Patagonia will start [refurbishing and reselling used clothes](#)—it's important to remember that not everything stamped with a marker of sustainability means it truly is so.

But Ha-Brookfield and LoMonaco-Benzing's work is not meant as just an indictment of the industry. Rather, they hope that the study will encourage the textile and apparel companies to work to align their practices with what employees expect of them, and by doing so, truly earn their consumers' trust.



[Greitens' budget plan won't fund MU Medical School](#)

Gov. Eric Greitens' budget proposal for the state's 2018 fiscal year won't fund the new expansions for the University of Missouri Medical School in Columbia and Springfield.

The information came on the heels of the governor's January announcement to withhold \$4 million of the MU Cooperative Medicine Program's \$10 million appropriation for the current fiscal year, the Columbia Missourian reported.

The Columbia facility and the new Springfield Clinical Campus, which opened in June, could face tight operating budgets and increased difficulty hiring faculty if state funding is halted, said Weldon Webb, the university's associate dean for Springfield Clinical Campus Implementation.

Webb said the medical school's expansions will proceed as planned for now and that the funding loss won't affect construction of the university's Patient-Centered Care Learning Center. The \$42.5 million facility is expected to be complete this summer and is expected to have classrooms, an anatomy lab, a simulation center, patient-based learning labs and educational services.

Springfield Chamber of Commerce President Matt Morrow said getting funding into the budget for the next fiscal year is priority. "What I hope that we as a community are able to do is have productive conversations with the governor and the legislature," he said.

He said giving students the opportunity to fill Missouri's physician shortage, especially in rural areas, will help grow the economy. The university is expected to admit 32 additional medical students each year because of the expansion, with the hopes that all 64 third- and fourth-year students will do clinical training in Springfield. Currently, the Springfield campus only has nine third-year students.



[Spending cuts may lead to fewer health care workers for Springfield area](#)

Watch story: <http://www.kspr.com/content/news/Spending-cuts-may-lead-to-fewer-health-care-workers-for-Springfield-area-413225733.html>

By Matt Buhrman

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (KSPR) -- Medical students at state funded schools in Missouri could run into money problems next year.

Budget cuts are expected to hit state schools and that includes Springfield's Clinical Campus.

"Right now we're really struggling with the number of applicants," said Megan Short of the Missouri Career Center. "Health care is definitely one of our huge fields that we're really focused on."

Looking to hire doctors and nurses in Springfield.

"It's not even just in Springfield, but Missouri and across the nation," said Short.

Megan Short is the Communications Coordinator for the Missouri Career Center in Springfield, and says college programs are key to filling that void.

"We have been trying to get creative on how we can really increase that pipeline," said Short. "So hearing from employers they will take as many as we can give them, we just have to find ways to make sure we're producing enough and that we can have those class sizes."

Governor Eric Greitens' current budget proposal cuts money from the University of Missouri's medical program. Statewide, schools like the Clinical Campus in Springfield will likely be operating with less next fiscal year. It's too early to tell what that will cost Springfield.

"We don't really foresee it getting any better with the shortage because a lot of boomers are going to need additional medical care," said Celeste Cramer of CoxHealth. "And they are a lot of our providers. So they will retire and become the patients. To try and backfill those holes while taking care of that additional population is going to be a challenge."

The MU Clinical Campus is a public-private partnership, working with both Mercy and CoxHealth Systems. Celeste Cramer is director of recruitment and retention with CoxHealth, and says there's a longtime shortage of doctors and nurses in the state.

"We really have to think outside of the box when it comes to recruitment," said Cramer. "It's not just the standard post a job, and people will come. We try and grow talent locally but also recruit in the other areas of the state."

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

FEBRUARY 8, 2017 4:33 PM

[Bacon without the pig inches closer to your breakfast](#)

BY SCOTT CANON

scanon@kcstar.com

What if you could take the pig out of the bacon?

We're getting there. Slowly, but maybe surely.

This week, the path toward animal-free meat grew slightly clearer in a paper published in the journal Nature.

The findings feed the notion that in several years you may feast on a real burger — not tofu or some portobello stand-in, but real flesh — made without livestock.

Animal rights groups speak giddily about the prospect. Environmentalists cheer on the developments, imagining a hot dog with a far smaller carbon footprint. The meat industry says, essentially, bring it on.

“Kudos ... to these innovative scientists,” said Janet Riley, a vice president of the American Meat Institute. “Imitation is the highest form of flattery.”

She also said important factors — particularly taste and cost — mean the livestock business isn’t quaking in its boots. So Missouri, seventh in U.S. pork production, and Kansas, third in American beef output, should feel no imminent economic threat.

Indeed, scientists still labor just to grow meat artificially. They’ve yet to tinker with its flavors, smells and mouth feel. Any product brought to market will have to battle an intuitive yuck factor along with the sort of concerns some consumers already foster about genetically modified crops.

Researchers agree the first ground-meat versions to come to market in the next five or 10 years will cost more than ordinary prime cuts — marketed to people who refuse to eat anything with a face either out of concern for animal treatment or the environment.

Over time, they hope, a new meat industry might invent ways to manufacture muscle tissue that’s actually cheaper than raising animals. After all, livestock waste so many calories growing bones, organs, hooves and beaks.

Today, for instance, it takes about 16 pounds of grain to produce one pound of meat. If you’re growing only muscle tissue, and maybe a little fat for flavor and moisture, a pound of raw material might net nearly a pound of meat. Someday.

“It’s probably going to be some years yet before cultured meat is available for consumers,” said Erin Kim, a spokeswoman for New Harvest. The research institute funds research into “cell agriculture” to make milk, meat, eggs, leather and such without animals. “More scientific advances are coming all the time.”

The article published this week by researchers, including one current and one former member of the University of Missouri faculty, showed two advances working with pig cells. Coupled with mounting scientific and production breakthroughs elsewhere, the techniques could ultimately bring Jetsons-style meat to market.

First, the scientists transformed adult tissue cells taken from livestock into a pluripotent state, meaning they can be tweaked to grow into muscle good for frying, grilling or baking. Seizing the destiny of

pluripotent cells also provides starter material that could theoretically reproduce endlessly in a way adult cells used in past lab-grown-meat experiments could not.

Second, the researchers showed how to nurture the tissue growth without animal serum, the liquid that blood cells and platelets float in. Animal serum has been used in the manufacturing of other lab-grown meats. But it's an impractical ingredient to harvest for commercial meat production. As a replacement, the scientists created a synthetic cocktail made of many of the same components found in serum but without having to draw them from a live animal.

Together, the findings add to the potential tools that might make meat without so much as a moo, oink or cluck.

“Ideally, we believe that our process can be much more efficient than (feed) consumption by cattle because we’re only producing the product that the consumer wants” — muscle, said Nicholas Genovese, the lead author of the paper.

He started some of the work with the help of a grant from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals as a post-doctoral researcher at MU. Now he’s employed at California-based Memphis Meats. The company hopes to start selling some form of animal-free ground meat in five years.

The company primed the promotion pump a year ago, releasing a video of a young woman tasting a tiny meatball made from lab-grown muscle and prepared gourmet style. The smaller-than-a-golfball meatball cost \$1,200.

But, says Memphis Meats spokesman David Kay, the cost has dropped dramatically in the year since the meatball was seared on camera. In “five years or so,” he said, the company will bring its first cultured meat product to market. It’ll be pricier than regular meat to start.

Eventually, the goal is a cheaper, more sustainable meal.

“We’re getting there,” he said.

In 2013, Mark Post, a professor of vascular physiology at Maastricht University in the Netherlands, invited journalists and foodies to an event in London where he bit into a \$325,000 burger he’d grown in the lab. It was part of his evangelizing for more research.

The road is still a difficult one. Paul Mozdziak, an expert in cell culture techniques at North Carolina State University, is working on growing turkey cells. He thinks that bird cells will be easier to manipulate and that he can do it without genetic tinkering that could run into both regulatory issues and consumer resistance.

One key will be getting the serum replacements right, mixing salts, amino acids and yeast cultures. It'll be tricky, he said, to build miniature scaffolds, likely constructed from edible plant material, to grow on and become thick enough to mimic animal flesh.

“We need to re-create that architecture,” Mozdziak said. “Muscle is a very complicated business.”

Genovese's research began in an MU laboratory overseen by R. Michael Roberts, a professor of animal sciences and biochemistry. Roberts has done work for years on pluripotent cells and is one of the authors in the Nature article.

He's not terribly bullish on the prospects of man-made meat. “Why not just eat soybeans?” Roberts asks.

Still, he said the paper showed new efficiencies in growing meat in the lab. If cost-effective commercial production remains decades away, Roberts says, “it is plausible.”

PETA is funding research — including selling its share of a patent to Memphis Meats at a discount — out of sympathy to livestock. But organization president Ingrid Newkirk said manufactured meat could quickly prove cheaper than traditional agriculture.

Fantasies of the recent past, she said, feel increasingly like realities of a fast-approaching future.

“It was once a gleam in a professor's eye,” the PETA president said. “Now it's starting to happen.”

MISSOURIAN

[Third MMR vaccine offered free of charge to MU students](#)

KAITLIN WASHBURN, 17 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — In an effort to combat the recent outbreak of mumps at MU, the university will be offering a free measles, mumps and rubella vaccine to MU students next week.

The service is being coordinated by MU health officials and the Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services. Vaccines will be given by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, according to a Wednesday news release.

The MMR vaccine will be available to any student with a valid MU ID Wednesday, Feb. 15 through Friday, Feb. 17 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the second floor of Memorial Union North.

Since the beginning of the fall semester, 334 mumps cases have been reported to the MU Student Health Center, according to the [center's website](#).

This is the first time that this vaccine has been offered for free, University Spokesman Christian Basi said "We expect several hundred students to come."

Students are required to have received two MMR vaccines before coming to MU, but this is a third vaccine that can be taken as an "extra precaution," Basi said.

Students who have gotten the mumps, however, do not need this third vaccine, Basi said.

Mumps symptoms include swollen glands, a fever, a headache and fatigue. Students should call the health center at 573-882-7481 or their medical provider if they experience symptoms.



[Mumps-stricken Columbia campus plans vaccination clinic](#)

Associated Press, 19 hrs ago

COLUMBIA • The University of Missouri is planning a mass immunization clinic next week as it works to control a mumps outbreak that has grown to more than 320 confirmed and probable cases.

Spokesman Christian Basi says the hope is that 2,000 students will receive a free booster shot during the clinic Feb. 15-17. The state health agency is picking up the tab.

Students are required to receive two doses of the vaccine that protects against mumps, as well as measles and rubella. But in December, the school began urging students to obtain a third shot, saying it may offer more protection.

Mumps is a viral infection that causes swelling in the salivary glands and cheeks. The university is among several across the nation that has grappled with outbreaks.

The Chronicle of Higher Education

Even Before the Travel Ban, Signs of Weakening Interest From Students Abroad

NO MU MENTION

By Karin Fischer February 9, 2017

New data suggest the flow of foreign students was already ebbing even before the Trump administration imposed a travel ban on citizens of seven predominantly Muslim countries, sparking concern that anti-global attitudes could depress international recruitment.

A new report from the [Council of Graduate Schools](#) shows that the number of students from overseas enrolling in American graduate programs in the fall of 2016 grew by 5 percent, the same rate as in [the previous year](#).

Trump and Immigration

Coverage of how the president's executive order barring all refugees and citizens of seven Muslim countries from entering the United States affects higher education.

Applications from abroad, however, increased by an anemic 1 percent. Trend lines from the two largest sending countries are particularly troubling: First-time enrollments from China flatlined, while those from India tumbled 7 percent, following several years of double-digit growth. Together, the two countries account for [half of all international students](#), and nearly two-thirds of first-time international graduate students, on American campuses.

Interest in the most popular field, engineering, also fell, by 3 percent. One out of four foreign graduate students majors in engineering.

The findings come with several caveats. The report, of course, covers only graduate students, or about 37 percent of the [more than one million international students](#) in the United States. And those students were applying to, and even beginning their studies at, American colleges when few political prognosticators gave Donald J. Trump strong odds of winning the presidency. So, despite his sometimes nativist campaign rhetoric, it is unlikely that the billionaire businessman had a direct impact on 2016's enrollment totals.

Story [continues](#).



The 'Black Hole' of College Sports

Baylor University's former head football coach covered up his players' sexual violence and other troubling behaviors for years, new court documents allege. But the university is not alone in protecting athletes from punishment.

NO MU MENTION

By Jake New February 9, 2017

In 2009, a Pennsylvania State University football player was accused of sexual assault. The player was told to report to the university's Office of Student Conduct for an interview. As he sat down with student conduct officials, [according to a report released last year](#) by the US Department of Education, the player had one question:

“Does football know I’m here?”

The question was not unusual, according to the department’s report. While overshadowed by the scandal involving Jerry Sandusky, the former assistant football coach who was convicted in 2012 of 45 counts of child abuse, Penn State’s football program for years sought to shield football players from the university’s student conduct office. Former head coach Joe Paterno “repeatedly resisted” attempts to discipline his athletes through the typical campus process, university officials told the Education Department. The result was that some athletes thought they had a “license to break the rules.”

The scenario mirrors some of the incidents [detailed in a court document](#) -- filed last week by three of members of Baylor University’s Board of Regents -- that describes how Baylor’s former head football coach allegedly covered up sexual assaults and other misconduct by his players. Similar complaints were included in a lawsuit filed [against the University of Tennessee at Knoxville](#) last year, in which eight women alleged that athletes accused of sexual assault were given preferential treatment in the student conduct process.

Likewise, it evokes the 2012 allegations that [officials at Florida State University covered up](#) sexual assault complaints against its star quarterback. And the recent [allegations at the University of Richmond](#), where one student says the basketball player she accused of assault avoided punishment because “athletics was breathing down [the] neck” of student conduct officials. And [the similar allegations made in September](#) about a football player at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

“This is an issue across the country, and we’ve seen it for a long time,” said Brenda Tracy, a victims’ advocate and member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association’s Commission to Combat Campus Sexual Violence. “Athletics already exist in a silo, and football coaches and athletic directors have always preferred taking care of these sorts of things in-house.”

‘Special Rules for People With Special Talents’

Baylor’s board in May [asked the university’s president to resign](#) and fired the head football coach over allegations that they had continuously mishandled -- and covered up -- sexual assaults committed by Baylor football players and other students.

Pepper Hamilton, a law firm the university hired to investigate how it has handled allegations of sexual assault, presented a lengthy oral report to the board, which placed blame on the university’s president, athletics director and football coaching staff. The extent to which the head football coach, Art Briles, and his staff covered up complaints of sexual violence and other misconduct has not been entirely clear, as the university declined to release a detailed report about Pepper Hamilton’s investigation.

But last month, a student filed a lawsuit against the university alleging that at least 31 football players committed 52 rapes while Briles was coach. Last week, three Baylor regents filed their response to a defamation lawsuit brought against them by the university’s former director of football operations, Colin Shillinglaw. In that filing, the regents included a series of text

messages that they argue demonstrate how the “football program was a black hole into which reports of misconduct such as drug use, physical assault, domestic violence, brandishing of guns, indecent exposure and academic fraud disappeared.”

...

In July 2014, U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill, a Democrat from Missouri, [released a report suggesting](#) that more than 20 percent of institutions allow their athletic departments to oversee sexual assault cases. McCaskill called the finding “borderline outrageous.” And in a Senate hearing that week, Mark Emmert, the NCAA’s president, promised he would raise the issue with the association’s members.

Later that year, the NCAA released a handbook instructing colleges on how best to prevent and respond to sexual assaults involving athletes, and adopted a resolution telling athletic departments not to interfere with such investigations. The guidelines are not enforceable rules, however, and since the handbook’s release, several institutions have been accused of allowing their athletic departments to influence disciplinary decisions for athletes accused of sexual violence. *Story [continues](#).*