



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

March 15, 2017



[Mizzou Giving Day aims to raise funds for all parts of MU](#)

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/mizzou-giving-day-aims-to-raise-funds-for-all-parts-of-mu>

COLUMBIA - Following the lead of other large universities, the University of Missouri is holding its first "giving day," starting on Wednesday at noon.

"It's sort of a trend. We see a lot of our peer institutions around the country that have giving days," said Todd McCubbin, the Mizzou Alumni Association executive director.

[Mizzou Giving Day](#) will be a 24-hour event aimed at getting alumni, students, faculty members and other university supporters to make a donation to the university, no matter how big or small. People can make donations online.

McCubbin said, although there are a lot of conversation about budget cuts at MU, the giving day was not spurred by those funding cuts.

"It's one of those things where we knew that our alumni support Mizzou through thick and thin, there's no doubt about that," McCubbin said. "Certainly that's been in the news quite a bit and we understand that, but giving day, the campaign is really funds that are a margin of excellence for Mizzou and so that's what we're trying to raise funds for."

According to a press release, Mizzou Giving Day is a part of a larger campaign called "Mizzou: Our Time to Lead." The university has a total \$1.3 billion fundraising goal.

Donors will have the opportunity to choose where exactly their donation goes. They can donate to specific scholarship funds, departments, athletics programs, research, traditions and other areas at MU.

"That's one of the cool things about giving day. It's not about necessarily how much you give. It's just about participation," McCubbin said. "There's, you know, thousands of different funds on our campus that people can support and really it's just a matter of finding out what you want to do and making a gift to that to participating in giving day."

According to the Mizzou Giving Day website, some donors have contributed to "challenges" as part of the donation drive. The five departments and programs that receive the highest dollar

amount in donations and the five departments and programs that have the most donors will receive a bonus donation from the "challenge donors." There will also be five social media challenges throughout the day.

McCubbin said people should donate because their money will be an investment in the university.

"I know our alumni and friends want Mizzou to be excellent. They want it to continue to be a world class university. And so one way, one way to step up and help that is to make a private gift. Invest in our university," McCubbin said.

Mizzou Giving Day will end at noon on Thursday.

*PLEASE NOTE: Certain
Columbia Tribune clips
are posted in print before
being published online.
This is the print version of
the story.*

MISSOURI IN BRIEF

**GIVING DAY
MU to conduct 24-hour
donation campaign**

The University of Missouri will conduct a 24-hour campaign to encourage giving that includes competition among schools and a contest for social media participation.

Called Mizzou Giving Day, the event begins at noon today and continues until noon Thursday, MU said in a news release. Challenge gifts already in hand will reward the five schools with the largest fundraising totals with extra money and five social media challenge winners will be able to direct \$900 to the school, college or program of their choice.

"In the current economic climate, private support for Mizzou has never been more important," Todd McCubbin, executive director of the Mizzou Alumni Association, said in the release. "The last 15 months have seen unprecedented change at MU and valuable discussion about our purpose and potential."

The university is asking alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends of MU to participate online at givingday.missouri.edu or by calling 866-267-7568.

Generated from
News Bureau
press release

Top MU official says Missourians have reasons to be proud of flagship university

Posted on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 1:35 pm

Rural Missouri Newspaper: Bowling Green, Missouri in Pike County, Missouri

University of Missouri Vice Provost of Undergraduate Studies Jim Spain delivered the keynote address of this year's Pike County Extension Council Banquet, which was held recently at the Curryville Presbyterian Church.

Spain, who has been a member of the faculty at MU for decades, began his remarks by addressing the protest and unrest that led to the resignations of former UM System President Tim Wolfe and MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin.

“It hurt me as bad as anybody to see what unfolded the year before last,” Spain said. “All I can do tonight and all that we will continue to do is to say that we know we let you down. We did not do the job that we have been entrusted to do for generations, which is to educate and ensure the safety of all of our students.”

Spain said that despite the chaos of the recent past, there are many things that Missourians should be proud of about MU.

“What we do is to prepare our state's people to not just get a job, but to serve their communities,” Spain said. “Students come to MU because of our academic programs and they leave ready to take on the world.”

Spain pointed to the work of MU students at the school's medical school and nuclear reactor for leading the effort in researching the use of nucleotides in the treatment of bone cancer.

“That is something we can all be proud of,” Spain said. “That is the only place these kinds of nucleotides come from in the U.S. That is happening at your University of Missouri. Be proud of that.”



Sen. Rowden calls state budget "deeply troubled"

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/sen-rowden-calls-state-budget-deeply-troubled->

COLUMBIA - Sen. Caleb Rowden discussed Missouri's budget and economic growth at the Show-Me Institute's 2017 Missouri Legislative Update on Tuesday.

According to Rowden, the state's budget is "deeply troubled right now."

Rowden said he wants to find long-term solutions to grow the economy. He said this would address issues with Missouri's budget and higher education.

“If you can figure out a way to grow the economy year over year in a very significant way, it fixes a lot of those issues,” Rowden said.

Rowden said the unbalanced budget is a big result of Medicaid, which he referred to as a significant problem and out of control.

“We’re going to spend 10 billion dollars of a 28 billion dollar budget on Medicaid this year,” Rowden said. “As long as Medicaid is growing at the level that it is, higher education is going to continue to suffer and K through 12 education is going to continue to suffer.”

Rowden said states should be able to decide Medicaid issues for themselves. He said Republicans and Democrats should come together to have a conversation about it.

Homer Page, former chair of the Boone County Democratic Headquarters, said the budget's chaos is not because of Medicaid but because of "complete irresponsibility" on the Republican Party.

"Basically, what the Republican Party has done is given tax loopholes and tax cuts to the wealthiest people and pushed the real cost of government down on the lower income people," Page said. "They are well on the way to ruining Missouri."

The University of Missouri was another topic of conversation at the policy forum. Rowden said he supports UM System President Mun Choi's efforts to keep Mizzou a research-centered institution.

"Mizzou's gonna have to understand what they're good at and be better at it than anybody else," he said.

Rowden said this will positively impact Missouri's economic development.

Page agrees that investment in the university's scientific research will advance growth, but said Republicans need to put action plans into place to make this a reality."

"In order for that to really be effective, we've got to invest in it," he said. "I'd like to see Rowden put his money where his mouth is."

Rowden said the purpose of the policy forum was to explore the most effective ways of growing Missouri's economy.

"I think that's the goal of the legislature in general, just to figure out 'How do we bust through this ceiling we've seen with 1 or 2 percent growth?'" Rowden said. "I think that can have a really substantive and generational sort of impact on the state."



Sen. Rowden says Missouri state legislators think too small

COLUMBIA, Mo. - Missouri State Senator Caleb Rowden discussed issues ranging from economic growth to the new University of Missouri system president Dr. Choi at the Show-Me Institute's 2017 legislative update forum Tuesday.

Rowden and Bob Roper, retired president and CEO of Central Trust Company, first discussed the issues the university has been going through, such as the state audit of the system and the budget crisis.

Rowden said the state auditor did the job she needed to do, and that the new system president handled the situation well, especially for starting just two days after the audit came out.

Rowden and Roper talked about why some issues are harder to pass than others, and why it seems like legislators don't talk about bigger issues that might take longer to be put in place.

"In a term-limited environment, it is much easier for us to do things...small incremental things around the edges that look good on our next push piece to help get re-elected. It is much, much more difficult, and there is literally no incentive," Rowden said, in reference to talking about big-ticket issues.

He continued to say the only incentive for some legislators is to want to make the state better in the long run.

Rowden also talked about budget issues involving road maintenance. He said voters will most likely see either tolls on I-70 or higher gas taxes on a ballot in the future. He said that budget isn't getting enough revenue to maintain roads and bridges, which in turn could hinder travel through the state for new businesses.

MISSOURIAN

Under-26 provision of Affordable Care Act likely to survive

ALLYSON VASILOPULOS, Mar 13, 2017

Generated from News Bureau expert pitch: Popular Provisions of Affordable Care Act in Danger if ‘Fundamental Bargain’ is Broken, MU Expert Says

COLUMBIA — College students and their parents who feared the loss of the under-26 provision with the possible repeal of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act — Obamacare — might not need to worry.

According to local health care specialists and recent proposals in Congress, that part of the act is likely to remain. The GOP's latest bill was introduced March 6. It allows dependents to stay on their parents' plan until the age of 26.

The provision, which allows young adults to remain on their parents' health insurance until the age of 26, faced an uncertain future with President Donald Trump's first executive order, made Jan. 20. The order called for federal agencies to minimize the costs associated with former President Barack Obama's mandate.

Republican Congressional representatives have vowed to repeal or replace — or both — the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act per Trump's executive order.

MU graduate student Shelby Gordon, 24, is covered by her parents' plan. She said if that provision of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act were repealed, she didn't know how she would be able to afford health insurance. With a weekly 60 hours of clinical and classwork required for her degree, she said it would be nearly impossible to find a job that provides decent health coverage.

Gordon said she was worried about some of her classmates who have taken time off between their undergraduate and graduate degrees.

"I'm going to be graduated before I turn 26, so I'll have a job and have benefits, but if I were to have taken a year off or so, I would have had to find some other way to pay for insurance, and I have no idea how I would go about that," Gordon said. "I'd probably just be without it, honestly."

A [white paper](#) released on Feb. 16 offered another replacement for the Affordable Care Act, although its plans for the under-26 provision were unclear. The [106-page leaked GOP replacement discussion draft](#), dated Feb. 10, didn't offer much clarification.

An advancement of last year's [Better Way proposal](#) by Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., this option purported to provide expanded health care choices, lower costs and greater control on the patient's part.

In one section of the white paper, it ensures "dependents up to age 26 can stay on their parents' insurance." Yet, later in provision 36C, the paper states that a refundable tax credit would be available to aid one's purchase in the individual insurance market.

Sam Halabi, an MU associate professor of law who researched the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act while he was a fellow at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University, said that those are two very different things.

"(It) probably says a lot about how much confusion and uncertainty there is in Congress about the issue," he said.

Despite the confusion, Halabi said that because the provision has been popular and hasn't been a particular target of criticism, he doesn't see it being repealed any time soon.

"It's just hard for me to believe that the GOP would have an interest in seeking the repeal of that provision because the reality is that most people in that age category, especially if their parents have insurance to cover them, are kind of low risk in any case," Halabi said. "They're not expensive to treat."

According to 2013 statistics from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 44,000 young adults in Missouri retained coverage through their parents' plans until age 26.

If this portion of the Affordable Care Act is repealed, young adults in Missouri who were covered by their parents' insurance and are no longer eligible would have no choice but to go into the individual market, said Thomas McAuliffe, director of health policy for the Missouri Foundation for Health. This can get expensive.

The average monthly premium per person in the individual market for Missouri is \$195.11, according to the [Kaiser Family Foundation's website](#).

McAuliffe said insurance prices could go up for many people who purchase insurance through the marketplace. This is because with repeal of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, insurance companies will go back to selling insurance based on health status rather than volume. Transparency in insurance prices and benefits will decrease without the existence of a marketplace. Additionally, with the possibility of more people becoming uninsured or underinsured, costs of medical treatment for the uninsured will shift to those who have insurance.

"The No. 1 concern we know from our polling over the past 10 years is the affordability of insurance," McAuliffe said. "If you decide to go cheap, you might go into debt."

Prior to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, many health insurance plans that allowed coverage of dependents put the age limit at 18 or 19, according to each state's law. If the under-26 provision is repealed, it is likely health insurance plans would revert to state law baselines once again, Halabi said.

"It's very unlikely that the whole law gets repealed," Halabi said. "And until there's something like a consensus, it will actually be politically difficult for the Secretary, the Treasury, the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Labor to roll back provisions that they might in fact be able to roll back."

Halabi said with the Senate elections in 2018, he doesn't think representatives will move quickly to repeal the Affordable Care Act for fear that it will make them unpopular. [A recent Quinnipiac University Poll](#) supports this, reporting that 51 percent of voters would like to see parts of the law repealed, 30 percent don't want any of it repealed, and 16 percent would like all of the Affordable Care Act repealed.

"It would be politically unpopular for them to look like they were taking away people's coverage if something wasn't on the horizon," Halabi said. "I would be surprised if there's anything that's large-scale that occurs in the first year."



MU hosts panel on how to combat religious intolerance

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/mu-hosts-panel-on-how-to-combat-religious-intolerance>

COLUMBIA - MU's Religious Studies Department hosted a "town hall" forum at the University of Missouri Law School on Tuesday at 6 pm. The town hall was originally intended to be at Arts and Science but was moved due to the size of the audience.

Professors in the religious studies department put the event together after seeing a rise in anti-Semitism and Islamophobia on campus. They wanted to create a space for solidarity and support for students.

Ammer Ahmed, a member of Mizzou's Muslim Student Organization, was a panelist at the town hall. He said he attributes part of this rise in religious intolerance to President Donald Trump's election.

"We were all scared, I was scared to be honest," Ahmed said. "It's very hard to be discriminated against so explicitly and outright. You'd be a fool not to be scared by that."

The panelists each talked about their personal experiences with discrimination and how best to tackle religious intolerance. Ahmed recounted a recent incident where his sister, who wears a headscarf, called him crying from her car in Kansas City. He said she was driving on the highway when a man pulled up next to her, began yelling at her from his car, and threw a plastic water bottle at her window.

"For the sisters, they go through a much different experience," Ahmed said. "It's very blatant they are Muslim from their hijab. So it takes a lot of courage to wear it."

Each of the panelists touched on the fear students faced as a result of acts of discrimination. This past month, two students were arrested for anti-Semitic harassment. Panelist Jeanne Snodgrass, Executive Director of MU's Hillel, said more conversation about anti-Semitism has been needed recently.

"I think there has been an increase in anti-Semitism, in general, on college campuses and all over," Snodgrass said. "We've seen this nationally with bomb threats to Jewish community centers, with vandalism to Jewish cemeteries, one of which was in St. Louis, just a little bit ago."

The panel included a diverse mix of Jewish and Muslim community members. Snodgrass said minority religions like Judaism and Islam had a history of coming together to support each other against discrimination.

"There has been a long standing understanding between Muslims and Jews in the United States because both are minority populations," Snodgrass said. "There has been a lot of work together in a lot of different communities all over this country."

After panelists gave their opening remarks, the moderator opened the forum up for questions and comments by the audience.



Sexual assault reported on Champions Dr. and Mick Deaver Dr.

Watch the story: <http://www.abc17news.com/news/crime/sexual-assault-reported-on-champions-dr-and-mick-deaver-dr/395491185>

COLUMBIA, Mo. - MUPD is investigating a reported sexual assault that happened today at 6:00 a.m. near Champions Drive and Mick Deaver Drive.

The victim and the suspect allegedly know each other, and have been identified by MUPD. Both the victim and the suspect are not MU students.

The reported sexual assault was given to MUPD from the Title XI Office at 1:30 p.m. today.

This information is provided to the community in an effort to keep the community informed of crimes on campus. According to the release, MUPD encourages all victims of crime to report the incident so they may receive assistance, counseling and help with the incident in addition to apprehending the suspect and providing accurate crime statistics to the community.

Anyone with any information is requested to contact MUPD at 573-882-7201.

T COLUMBIA DAILY
TRIBUNE

MU police investigating sexual assault

University of Missouri police are investigating a sexual assault that happened early Tuesday near Champions and Mick Deaver drives, according to the MU Alert System.

The victim and suspect know each other and are not MU students. Both have been identified and no arrests have been made. The MU Office of Civil Rights and Title IX notified MU police about the assault at 1:30 p.m.

Maj. Brian Weimer said detectives are looking into the report and the investigation is ongoing. He did not have any other details. Anyone with information is asked to call MU police at 573-882-7201.

the maneater

Student entrepreneurs find support in Entrepreneurship Alliance

By Olivia Garrett, March 14, 2017

Junior Bea Doheny's astronomy-themed bracelets have been worn by astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson and promoted by astronaut Scott Kelly on social media. She has sold over 3,000 bracelets and currently employs three fellow MU students.

"I honestly thought it was going to be a little hobby I would do when I launched everything and it just really blasted off," Doheny said. "It's crazy to see all of the places that it's been and the people that have reached out to me and sent me emails on how much they love their bracelets."

Doheny's business, Astronobeads, began with a Google search and an email to Greg Bier, the director of the Entrepreneurship Alliance program at MU. Doheny pitched her idea of solar-system inspired jewelry to Bier, and he invited her to take a class he was teaching.

"To get involved with the Entrepreneurship Alliance, the students have to take Management 4720: Experiential Entrepreneurship," Bier said. "So, they might take that class as a freshman or sophomore, but they'll be involved with the Entrepreneurship Alliance the rest of their college career and even beyond their college career."

For Doheny, the EA helped set her up with a mentor, provided \$1,000 in seed funding and even helped her gain access to office space in the Student Center where she builds her bracelets.

"With Astronobeads, we invested a couple hundred dollars, and here we are 10 months later and Bea has made over \$50,000 in sales and shipped products to over 30 different countries," Bier said. "That was a good investment."

But not every EA student receives seed money or the same level of support that Doheny did. To access the full resources of the program, a student first needs to ask for it.

“If a student can give us a budget and convince us that it is money well spent, that they’ve got some skin in the game, we’ll make that investment,” Bier said.

EA students who do receive seed funding through the program do not have to share any profits or equity with the university. The seed money comes from the Don and Trudy Steen Entrepreneurship Venture Fund, which involves a \$1,000,000 pledge to support the program.

“In good faith, if you are successful and you’re the next Mark Zuckerberg, please remember that you graduated from Mizzou, but there’s no strings,” Bier said. “We don’t want a student to get tied down in all of those details. We just want a student to be successful.”

For students who might need more resources than what the program can provide, beginning in spring 2018, the EA will bring certified angel investors to campus and host an event similar to the television show Shark Tank, Bier said.

“So, a student might pitch and, just like the TV show, walk away with nothing,” Bier said. “Another student may pitch and all of our alum investors are interested in that idea and they will have to negotiate the terms of what that investment looks like. The university is not going to get in the middle of that investment between our angels, our alums and that student.”

Unlike other programs on campus, the EA does not advertise or actively recruit new students.

“We kind of expect entrepreneurs to take some initiative and to find out what is going on in the entrepreneurial ecosystem on campus or around Columbia,” Bier said. “We’re not looking for a student that just wants to take a class on entrepreneurship and learn the different sections of the business model canvas, or how to write a business plan. We’re looking for a student that is willing to put themselves out there and actually pursue their idea.”

Students also learn about the program through word-of-mouth.

“Anytime someone brings up the EA who isn’t familiar with it, I say: ‘You need to take it. It’s the best class at Mizzou,’” Doheny said. “I always encourage people to look into it if it fits with their schedule. It’s just really been such a neat way to meet a whole bunch of cool people and gain a different outlook.”

Before last fall, the management class was only available to 25 students a semester. But because of student demand, a second session was added. Along with traditional classroom activities, students travel to pitch competitions and conferences, attend acting retreats, brave zipline and high ropes courses, and welcome guest speakers.

Former student Kelsey Meyer has been a recurring guest speaker for the class since she graduated in 2011, when she was a member of the program’s predecessor, the Flegel Academy for Aspiring Entrepreneurs. *Story [continues](#).*



Families of children with disabilities hope proposed insurance bill will help

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/families-of-children-with-disabilities-hope-proposed-insurance-bill-will-help>

COLUMBIA - From speech to occupational, behavioral and physical therapy and more, families who have members with developmental disabilities often spend multiple days each week in some type of therapy, and the costs add up.

Some insurance policies only cover up to 20 therapy sessions a year, while others refuse to cover any therapies for developmental disabilities.

This means that after 20 session in total, families are responsible for coming up with the remainder of the money to cover therapy costs on their own.

But some Missouri families are fed up and supporting a [House bill](#) that would make the insurance companies more responsible for their bills.

Rep. Chuck Basye, R-Rocheport and Sen. Caleb Rowden, R-Columbia, are the bill's sponsors.

“I don’t have an immediate family with a disability. But long ago, I learned to put myself in other people’s shoes. I learned to empathize. That is why it was so important for me to back this,” Basye said.

Boone County Family Resources provides some services to families in Boone County.

It assesses families' needs and then provides financial help of up to \$7,500 per year per family

Robyn Kaufman, the executive director of the program, said she thinks that the legislation is important and would be very helpful to families.

“These therapy session, no matter what they are, help these children. We do what we can to assist these families, but more insurance coverage would definitely help them as well,” Kauffman said.

There are restrictions to the program's resources.

One major restriction is that students have to be enrolled in Columbia Public Schools.

This eliminates some of the families from getting resources because their children can't function in public school settings.

One Columbia mother, Molly Myers has a son born without the middle part of his brain. He suffers from Partial Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum. She's had to deal with the public school mandate a couple of times.

“There were two years we didn't qualify for the \$7,500 because public school just wasn't working for us,” Myers said.

Her son also attends a preschool on the University of Missouri's campus.

That preschool is geared toward children with disabilities, but falls into the Boone County Family Resources' restrictions. Insurance also doesn't cover it, so her family pays \$765 for fall and spring semesters. Summer is half priced.

Another family, who has a son born with a genetic disorder, showed KOMU 8 News just what an out-of-pocket bill looks like.

“After we have run out of insurance visits and all our BCFR funds have been exhausted, we pay about \$50 every time he must go to a speech therapy session,” Robyn Schelp said.

Kelly Stephens, a therapist who works on MU's campus in the MU School of Health Professions, and works with several of these children, said therapy is important because it helps them in the long run.

“Children who get therapy before they are three years old have a better chance of not needing it when they are older. It helps with behavior and social skills. Some of these children have siblings and these therapies can help them better adapt to their environments,” Stephens said.

Janessa Gaughan has a 4-year-old daughter that was diagnosed with autism in September of 2016, and her family is in the beginning stages of figuring out what her daughter's process is going to look like. She is currently a stay-at-home mom and hopes the bills don't become so outrageous that she has to find a job outside the home.

Ashley Perkins has a son that was born with a heart defect. He has had an open-heart surgery and will have another in the coming months. She has to balance everyday life and taking care of her son.

Jacque Sample has spearheaded the effort to support the legislation. She has a son on the autism spectrum. Her son is 13, and struggles with behavioral issues. She also has another son who does not have disabilities, and, as a mother, she works to give both of her children enough of her time and attention.

The proposed bill has been assigned to the Senate Health and Pensions committee.

The organizers are still waiting for a House assignment.

Three other representatives have also co-sponsored the bill: Rep.Sarah Unsicker, D-St.Louis, and Cheri Reisch, R-Columbia and Martha Stevens, D-Columbia.

You can access the [Boone County Family Resources annual report](#) to see how the program allocates its money each year.

Below are various bills received by families of children with developmental disabilities showing possible out-of-pocket costs.



Mizzou Uses Weather Radar to Gather Storm Information

Watch the story: <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=8358044d-fc26-4c6a-a1d0-9f437463ada5>

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

[SLU medical school put on probation by accreditation agency](#)

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 5 hrs ago

ST. LOUIS • Multiple gaps in curriculum and inadequate policies have placed St. Louis University's School of Medicine on probation by an accrediting agency.

The school remains accredited but has two years to fix about 20 action items identified as noncompliant during a recent reaccreditation process by the [Liaison Committee on Medical Education](#).

SLU is the only medical school in the United States currently on probation, though other schools, such as [Baylor and George Washington universities](#), have been on probation in recent years.

In a letter dated Feb. 21 to SLU President Fred Pestello, the accrediting group cited a “constellation of standards with which the school is out of compliance, which has compromised the quality of the medical education program.”

“If there is not sufficient progress toward compliance with the cited accreditation standards within 24 months, the LCME may choose to withdraw accreditation.”

SLU leaders are confident that won't happen.

Medical school dean Dr. Kevin Behrns, [who joined SLU Jan. 1](#), told the Post-Dispatch that he was ready to launch a remediation plan to address all of the issues brought to light by the accrediting group. He plans to involve students and faculty in a total evaluation of the medical school's operations and curriculum.

Deficiencies were found in about 20 percent of 93 measures judged by the accrediting body.

Behrns said the review, which comes around every eight years, happened in the middle of phasing in a new curriculum, “which probably created some gaps,” he said. Evaluators visited campus in October and made the decision to put SLU on probation mid-February.

SLU notified students, employees and alumni Tuesday morning of the probationary status and the remediation plan.

The deficiencies vary, but multiple items highlight concerns about the way the curriculum is managed. For example, the letter cites a failure to link the school’s learning objectives to students’ progress in “developing those competencies that the profession and the public expect of a physician.”

“If it says the student must know how to do a physical exam of the abdomen then the student needs to show us that,” Behrns said.

A few of the concerns also involve the school’s affiliation agreements, which aren’t specifically named. [SLU has a partnership with SSM Health](#), which in 2015 acquired St. Louis University Hospital. Top leaders from SSM are aware of the probation.

Specifically, the accrediting group says SLU and its affiliates “do not share responsibility for the learning environment.” There are no periodic evaluations to better understand how well the learning environment is helping students understand professional standards. Evaluators also criticized the fact that students in clinical settings may be supervised by physicians who are not medical school faculty members.

One needed fix is improving documentation, Behrns said. If a medical student is on rotation at an affiliate hospital such as St. Mary’s, and is stuck with a needle while trying to administer an IV, there needs to be documentation of the process or next steps that are to follow.

“That process is not hard wired; we need to have that hard wired,” Behrns said.

The medical school also needs to improve central oversight to identify potential gaps in education, Behrns said.

“Say our students don’t perform in a topic area very well on a national exam, we need to go back and look at that topic area,” he said.

Recruiting and retaining low-income and first-generation college students were other issues the school faces. Mizzou’s medical school [battled a similar issue](#) recently after diversity concerns were raised.

“We didn’t measure up,” Behrns said.

Both Behrns and Pestello underscored that the school was still accredited, so current and prospective students continued to be eligible to take the national board exams and apply for residency positions.

“We’re still accredited, and we will own the issues and fix them,” Behrns said, when asked about how this situation could affect the perception of SLU.

The accrediting group offers schools the opportunity to refute probationary status, but Behrns doesn’t plan to do that. Instead, he hopes that a few advisory committees and schoolwide input will put the school in a position to be taken off probation within a year.

“I have full and complete confidence that he will aggressively address every issue that’s been raised,” Pestello said of Behrns.

“The reason it’s a big deal is that we didn’t exercise the discipline we needed to exercise to make sure that we remain fully accredited,” Behrns said. “When you’re talking about medicine and taking care of patients, it’s all about the details.”

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education is co-funded by the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges. The organization reviews more than 150 medical schools in the U.S. and Canada, including four in Missouri: SLU, Washington University and both the Columbia and Kansas City campuses of the University of Missouri.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

St.LouisPublicRadio

COLUMBIA DAILY
TRIBUNE
—COLUMBIA, MISSOURI—

MARCH 14, 2017 9:02 PM

[Bald eagle found with damaged wing after tornado near Smithville Lake dies](#)

BY TORIANO PORTER

tporter@kcstar.com

A bald eagle found with a damaged wing from the recent tornado at Smithville Lake died Sunday because of the injuries.

Missouri Department of Conservation officials said the bird was turned over to wildlife rehabilitation experts at Excelsior Springs, and it was later taken to the University of Missouri Veterinary Health Center in Columbia, where it died.

A passer-by [found the eagle](#) Thursday on the roadside near Route F and Southwest King Road after an [EF2 tornado](#) that passed through the Smithville Lake area March 6 knocked down a bald eagle nest on private land.

The injured eagle suffered a badly fractured wing during the storm.

Smithville Lake usually has three or four active eagle nests, so eagles will still be in the area this spring, officials said.