



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

May 19, 2017

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Mizzou hires dean for agriculture school

This story was generated by an MU News Bureau press release: [MU Interim Chancellor and Provost Appoints Vice Chancellor and Dean for Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources](#)

By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 16 hrs ago

A year after a longtime dean retired, the University of Missouri-Columbia has hired a replacement to lead one of its largest colleges.

Christopher Daubert, a professor and department chair at North Carolina State University, joins Mizzou as the new dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources on Aug. 1.

Daubert leads the department of food, bioprocessing and nutrition sciences at North Carolina's land-grant university.

“With a career spanning more than 20 years, Professor Daubert is a dedicated administrator and teacher focused on the land-grant philosophy, agriculture and food research, and innovative economic development initiatives,” interim Mizzou chancellor Garnett Stokes said in a statement. “His experience will enable him to lead MU’s students, faculty and staff, and represent Mizzou effectively with CAFNR’s constituent base including members of Missouri’s broad agricultural community.”

Daubert has [worked at North Carolina State since 1997](#). He earned his bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University and his doctorate from Michigan State University.

He succeeds Tom Payne, who led the college as dean since 1999. Payne announced his retirement last year at the same time two other deans stepped down.

Two other dean positions are still vacant - the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Veterinary Medicine, whose [dean announced he was stepping down Wednesday](#).

Daubert's annual salary is \$280,000, according to a Mizzou spokesman.

University of Missouri names new ag school dean

This story was generated by an MU News Bureau press release: [MU Interim Chancellor and Provost Appoints Vice Chancellor and Dean for Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources](#)

By Rudi Keller

Christopher Daubert, selected Thursday as the new dean of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, co-authored a research paper a few years ago with an almost indecipherable title.

It was called “Relationships between nonlinear viscoelastic behavior and rheological, sensory, and oral processing behavior of commercial cheeses,” published in 2013 in the Journal of Texture Studies.

Translated, it means he studied whether cheese tastes and feels the way it should in your mouth.

“We are the scientists who make sure we are delivering consumer satisfaction every time you take a bite out of your snack,” Daubert said in an interview from Raleigh, N.C., where he is head of the Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences at North Carolina State University.

Daubert will take over MU’s 147-year-old agriculture college on Aug. 1. He was named to the job, replacing Thomas Payne, by interim Chancellor and Provost Garnett Stokes. Payne retired in December after 17 years as dean.

A news release from MU highlighted Daubert’s work on economic development, crediting him with an initiative intended to attract food processing companies to North Carolina to support farmers and provide jobs.

“With a career spanning more than 20 years, Professor Daubert is a dedicated administrator and teacher focused on the land-grant philosophy, agriculture and food research and innovative economic development initiatives,” Stokes said.

Daubert, 48, graduated in 1991 from Penn State University with a degree in agricultural engineering and received a doctorate in agricultural engineering and food science from Michigan State University in 1996. He joined the faculty at North Carolina State in 1997. He has held his current position since 2010, including two years as interim department head.

“CAFNR has a terrific reputation,” Daubert said, explaining why he sought the job. “One of the things that really impressed me about the college was the top talent. It has many excellent programs and strong partnerships throughout Missouri dedicated to serving our land grant heritage.”

Daubert has authored nearly 100 peer-reviewed publications and books. He has mentored more than 20 graduate students and post-doctoral researchers, the MU news release stated, and holds two patents connected to his research.

For several years, there has been tension in Missouri agriculture, with major commodity groups and agribusinesses on one side and advocates for smaller, more traditional methods on the other. Daubert said he needs time to study the issues before he can speak about them.

“I have been to Columbia twice, three times in my lifetime and there are many issues that I still have yet to come up to speed on,” he said. “I will find out about those important issues facing Missouri agriculture. I think it is a difficult question for me as someone moving into a new state to have an answer to right now.”

Daubert arrives at a time when MU is undergoing tremendous change. Declining enrollment and cuts to state support will require budget cuts as well as layoffs in some areas.

Daubert is the fifth new dean hired in the past 18 months, including one, Lyryssa Barnett Lidsky, who will become dean of the School of Law on July 1. Other recent hires include J. Sanford Rikoon, dean of the College of Human Environmental Sciences, Ajay Vinzé, dean of the Trulaske College of Business and Kathryn Chval, dean of the College of Education.

Dean searches are underway for the College of Arts and Science and the College of Veterinary Medicine. The Truman School of Public Affairs dean search was called off in April and the school will become a unit of Arts and Science.

Daubert will move to Columbia with his wife, Katie Daubert, and two sons, Maxwell, 14, and Hayden, 12. The search has him energized, he said.

“It has been a true whirlwind,” Daubert said. “This has been one of the best experiences I have had to date. I just feel like this is where I am supposed to be.”

MISSOURIAN

NC State professor named vice chancellor and dean of MU's CAFNR

SOO RIN KIM, 19 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — Christopher Daubert, professor and department head of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences at North Carolina State University, has been appointed vice chancellor and dean of MU's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, effective Aug. 1.

The appointment was announced Thursday.

"With a career spanning more than 20 years, Professor Daubert is a dedicated administrator and teacher focused on the land-grant philosophy, agriculture and food research, and innovative economic development initiatives," said MU Interim Chancellor and Provost Garnett Stokes, who appointed Daubert.

"I believe that CAFNR is essential for the state of Missouri," Daubert said in a phone interview Thursday afternoon. "Agriculture, as you know, is the No. 1 industry for the state of Missouri, and a strong CAFNR is critical to educate the future leaders and for our researchers and extension specialists to provide important information to the ag and natural resources industry to help make Missouri a national leader."

Daubert said he would like to focus on:

- building top-shelf facilities and infrastructure for CAFNR
- ensuring accessibility to great programs within the college
- recruiting top talent
- promoting strong mentoring and leadership within the college.

He said he aimed to be strategic in the effort by wisely investing in areas of importance for CAFNR.

CAFNR appointed a search committee for a new dean in November, a month before the retirement of Tom Payne, who had served as CAFNR's dean for 17 years. Payne announced his retirement in May 2016.

The professional search firm Baker and Associates assisted in the search process.

Marshall Stewart, Vice Chancellor of Extension and Engagement at MU, who worked with Daubert at NC State for eight years and served on the search committee, described him as a great leader with great integrity, committed to serving people.

"He brings an authentic leadership that I think will resonate well with Missourians on and off campus," Stewart said. "He's deeply committed to the land-grant university mission, and I think he'll also be a very strong proponent of AAU (Association of American Universities) recognition as an institution."

Daubert has served as a faculty member at NC State since 1997 in the Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences and the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering. He also led an economic development initiative aimed at transforming North Carolina into a regional food processing designation to support the food and agriculture industry and create new jobs, according to an MU news release.

As CAFNR's chief academic, administrative and budgetary officer responsible for strategic planning and budgets, faculty and staff hiring and development activities, Daubert will report to the provost. He will also be the primary spokesperson for the college.

"The MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources has strong people, programs and partnerships serving our land grant heritage, making CAFNR such an attractive destination and opportunity for leadership," Daubert said.

Daubert received his bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering from Penn State University in 1991 and a doctorate in agricultural engineering and food science from Michigan State University in 1996.

Daubert will replace Marc Linit, who [has been serving as interim vice chancellor and dean](#) since January.

Last year was a rocky one for CAFNR after disclosures that Carla Rathmann, a former employee of CAFNR's Southwest Research Center in Mount Vernon, Missouri, had embezzled about \$781,000 from the university. Rathmann [was sentenced to four years in prison](#) in November, and CAFNR [took steps to improve financial processes and oversight](#).



[MU Names New Head Of Agriculture College](#)

This story was generated by an MU News Bureau press release: [MU Interim Chancellor and Provost Appoints Vice Chancellor and Dean for Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources](#)

The University of Missouri announced Thursday the appointment of a new dean and vice chancellor of its agriculture college.

Christopher Daubert is set to take the reigns of MU's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, or CAFNR, on August 1. Previously, Daubert served as a professor and the department head of Food, Bioprocessing and Sciences at North Carolina State University.

MU Interim Chancellor and Provost Garnett Stokes said in a statement that Daubert is a dedicated administrator and teacher with a focus on "land-grant philosophy, agriculture and food research, and innovative economic development initiatives."

In his new role, Daubert will be responsible for budgets, hiring staff and faculty among other administrative duties. He will report to the provost.

In a statement Daubert said it was clear during his interviews that CAFNR has a lot of support from MU alumni to commodity groups and legislators. He said everyone is eager to help move CAFNR forward.

AP Associated Press *San Francisco Chronicle*



THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

University of Missouri names new dean of agriculture college

This story was generated by an MU News Bureau press release: [MU Interim Chancellor and Provost Appoints Vice Chancellor and Dean for Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources](#)

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — The University of Missouri has named a North Carolina State University official as the next dean of its College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Missouri announced Thursday that Christopher Daubert will become dean on Aug. 1. He will replace Thomas Payne, who retired.

Daubert has been head of the Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences at North Carolina State since 2010.

The Columbia Daily Tribune reports Daubert is the fifth new dean hired by the university in 18 months. Deans also were hired for the School of Law, the College of Human Environmental Sciences, the College of Business and the College of Education.

Dean searches are underway for the College of Arts and Science and the College of Veterinary Medicine.



Are there better ways to certify emotional support animals?

This story was generated by an MU News Bureau press release: [Study Reveals Recommendations for Certifying Emotional Support Animals](#)

A new survey examines how mental health professionals determine whether it's appropriate to certify an emotional support animal. The resulting recommendations could help mental health practitioners make better judgments when certifying ESAs and steer policy-making related to housing and travel.

Service animals help owners navigate daily tasks and often have years of training to help them serve disability-related functions. However, there is little consensus when it comes to the certification of "emotional support animals." These animals usually have little or no specific training, which poses a challenge for mental health professionals who are asked to certify them.

"ESAs are legally different from service animals, such as guide dogs," says Cassie Boness, a graduate student in clinical psychology at the University of Missouri.

"An ESA usually provides companionship, relieves loneliness, and sometimes helps with anxiety or depression. Although emotional support animals can be pets, they're not considered pets under the law and sometimes special accommodations must be afforded to individuals who have ESAs. Because of this requirement, owners seek out ways to get their pets certified without thinking about the ramifications of their actions."

Federal and state laws regulating ESAs often are convoluted and ever-changing. For example, landlords who normally prohibit pets must allow ESAs and waive any fees or pet deposits—and airlines are required to allow ESAs to accompany their owners in the main cabins of aircraft.

As a result, it can be implied that some patients who claim they need ESAs are doing so to "buck the system," causing a dilemma for mental health professionals who often have the task of certifying the animals, Boness says.

For the study, researchers surveyed 87 mental health professionals, 31 percent of whom have made ESA recommendations. Survey participants were required to read ESA policies, including the Department of Transportation's requirements for airline travel. Participants then answered questions about the certifying process.

The survey demonstrated that both clinical and forensic practitioners are making ESA recommendations—both groups believe certifying ESAs is appropriate for treating patients. However, clinicians should not certify ESAs—and doing so can even trigger ethical and legal challenges.

Based on their findings, the researchers made the following recommendations:

- Requests for ESAs should be met with the same thoroughness that is found in any disability evaluation.
- Professional guidelines outlining the types of assessments, who conducts them, and how they are conducted are needed.
- Local, statewide, and national policymakers should consult with mental health professionals as they vet and evaluate future legislation.

A clinical practitioner's primary goal is treatment; often, personal relationships with their clients can lead to biased assessments and a willingness to certify ESAs," says Jeffrey Younggren, a forensic psychologist and clinical professor.

"Forensic psychologists, such as those who give expert testimony on mental capacity in court, often use comprehensive methods to assess patients. These mental health professionals generally don't have relationships with those they are assessing, are much more objective, and are likely to certify ESAs correctly."

The journal *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice* has accepted the study for publication.



[BPA may do long-lasting damage to painted turtles, people](#)

Generated from News Bureau press release: [Exposure to BPA Potentially Induces Permanent Reprogramming of Painted Turtles' Brains](#)

Now a study that started with... turtles. A researcher with the Bond Life Sciences Center conducted a study that suggests that water poses a risk for turtles.. and... all of us.

"Essentially if the turtles are getting exposed to it the water, so are we," that's what Dr. Cheryl Rosenfeld said about contamination from BPA products.

Bisphenol A is a chemical found in many plastics that becomes a contaminate to drinking water. She and other researchers studied how developmental exposure to BPA could affect brain development in painted turtles. "Those who were exposed to Bisphenol A acted more like females than males in that sense that they had exhibited enhanced spatial navigational abilities."

But the study has a larger significance, "there indeed are a fair amount of behavior problems attention deficient disorder, aggression and even potentially autism has been linked to early exposure to BPA," Rosenfeld said.

And, there isn't an easy fix to the problem. "You can say, you're purifying it, you're not because you cannot take BPA out of the water."

She also says BPA free items are misleading. "Those ones that are BPA free actually have what we call BPS or BPF and they don't tell you this."

Rosenfeld recommends consumers buy glass items instead of plastic. Karla Valcourt, KOMU 8 news, Columbia.

<http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=befeeaab-9164-4a17-8f04-d4ab4a2f5c30>



[Study: BPA causes genetic problems in painted turtles](#)

This story was generated by an MU News Bureau press release: [Exposure to BPA Potentially Induces Permanent Reprogramming of Painted Turtles' Brains](#)

The topics of plastic, turtles and sex are not often related, but a recent study out of the University of Missouri shows that the estrogen-mimicking chemical BPA – used in the making of certain plastics – seriously messes with sexual function in painted turtles, the most widespread native turtle in North America, because it impacts their brains genetically.

Specifically, the study looked at how BPA can make male turtles behave more like female ones, by impacting the way their brains function. To quote from the press release about the study: “Researchers examined whether BPA and ethinyl estradiol (EE), a hormone found in birth control pills, affect the global regulatory pathways of the brain. The same turtles from earlier behavioral testing were subjected to a gene expression analysis and 235 genes were identified as being altered in turtles exposed to BPA.”

Why this all matters? Turtles are known as an “indicator species” because they can be used as a barometer for the health of the entire ecosystem. By understanding the possible effects endocrine disrupting chemicals have on turtles, researchers might be able to understand the possible effects such compounds have on other species – including even us humans.



Household student debt on the rise

By: Evan Lachnit

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/household-student-debt-on-the-rise>

COLUMBIA - Student loan debt is higher than ever and student debt now accounts for nearly 11 cents of every dollar of debt for households.

That is according to the Quarterly Report on Household Debt and Credit from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The report shows the amount of student loan debt per household has tripled over the last 15 years.

1.34 trillion dollars of household debt comes from student loan debt. That is about 10 and a half percent of the total 12.73 billion dollars of household debt.

Overall, household debt surpassed the levels seen during the economic recession in 2008 in this latest report.

Joe Haslag, who is an economic professor and Kenneth Lay Chair for economics at MU, says despite the rising levels of student debt, going to college is still worth the expense.

Haslag says when you compare students who forgo four or so years of income to go to college to students who work right away out of high school, historical averages show students who went to college get a return on their investment.

"The extra income earned by a college graduate converted into what it is worth today is about 600,000 dollars at least," Haslag said. "So if it costs a couple hundred thousand dollars to go to a university even, it would seem like it well it is worth it."

Haslag said the student loan market does not work like most markets do. He also said he does not think the risk is properly included in the price of interest rates for student loans.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York report said delinquency rates for student loan debt "are likely to understate effective delinquency rates because about half of these loans are currently in deferment, in grace periods or in forbearance and therefore temporarily not in the repayment cycle."

"There is evidence from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York study which suggest that even liberal arts majors are getting a pretty good rate of return on their college experience, on average," Haslag said.

He said based on the average returns seen, the real question is why more people do not go to college.

"Of course that would alter the supply of college educated grads and probably drive down the wages that are earned by college educated grads and that college premium would begin to shrink if everyone got a university degree," Haslag said. "But right now you could make the case it is well worth going to an university."

This comes as there is a proposed 2.1 percent increase in tuition for resident undergraduate students for all four UM campuses.

MISSOURIAN

GEORGE KENNEDY: Lots of noise, little action from the General Assembly

GEORGE KENNEDY, 19 hrs ago

Let's take a couple of minutes to celebrate the accomplishments of the 99th Missouri General Assembly, which finished its 2017 session a week ago.

We won't need much more time than that.

Our elected representatives passed a record-low number of bills. That is almost certainly a good thing, considering the import of most of those that were sent to Gov. Greitens.

Still, there is cause for celebration. That cause begins with the legislators' agreement to defy the governor and [fully fund the K-12 public school Foundation Formula for the first time](#). Even there, we have to note that they trimmed down the formula from its original scale. But this action stands out as by far the most significant victory for their constituents.

(We also have to note that in the Senate, where the full funding originated, most of the majority Republicans voted against it. All nine Democrats and just 10 of 24 Republicans voted Aye.)

To be fair, there was another real step ahead. That's "real" as in ["Real ID," the more secure state identification documents that we'll need in order to board airplanes next year](#). Finally, you'll be able to get an upgraded ID, unless you opt not to. Only 43 states had already acted.

It was nearly all downhill from there.

The overwhelming Republican majorities in both houses acted decisively to hurt workers both by weakening unions and by reversing the St. Louis attempt to raise the minimum wage in that city to a less-than-princely \$10 an hour from the miserly statewide level of \$7.70.

They also made it less likely that workplace discrimination can be punished.

And they continued their assault on our university, cutting state support yet again. That, of course, could have been even worse if they had followed the governor's recommendation of a deeper, punitive cut.

Other vital services suffered, too. Far from taking any steps to repair the state's crumbling rural roads and bridges, legislators actually cut funding.

Then there are the important things left undone.

With [opioid addiction epidemic in our state](#), no action was taken. The House passed on April 3 a bill creating a program for monitoring prescription drug abuse. The Senate again refused. Missouri now has the distinction of being the only state without such a program.

And what about ethics? Despite all the fine pre-session talk from legislators and governor about the need to “drain the swamp,” the alligators prevailed.

The House did pass a bill in the first two weeks that would have limited lobbyists’ gifts. The Senate wouldn’t act, owing at least in part to an intra-party dispute between Sen. Rob Schaaf of St. Joseph and Gov. Greitens. The senator wanted donors disclosed by nonprofits such as the one providing big bucks of secret origin to the governor. He threatened a filibuster. That organization, A New Missouri, Inc., responded by attacking the senator, publishing his cell phone number and urging calls of protest.

The governor, of course, disclaimed responsibility, as he has so far disclaimed responsibility for most aspects of governance and even for explaining himself to the people who elected him.

As you might expect, the Republican leadership was self-congratulatory at session’s end. The Senate president pro-tem called it “the greatest success of any majority in the history of the Senate.”

Gov. Greitens was just as proud of his own work, but less charitable toward the legislature. “Frankly, sometimes it looked like third grade,” he said.

That seems a little harsh toward third graders. After all, we don’t pay them \$35,915, plus \$112 for every day they attend class. And they do a lot less damage.



89.3 FM
KANSAS CITY PUBLIC MEDIA

MU Researcher Explores Cancer Treatments Inspired By Traditional Indian Medicine

By Alex Smith

Inside a yoga studio in midtown Kansas City, Ayurvedic medicine practitioner Sarah Kucera does a consultation for a client.

In some ways, the consultation isn't that different from a regular doctor's checkup. Kucera asks about the patient's health history, diet and exercise regimen while typing notes on a laptop.

But there are differences. The Ayurvedic remedies that Kucera prescribes are mostly plant-based – things like herbs and oils which are thought to be beneficial to various parts of the body.

Ayurveda isn't typically used to treat critical illness or injury. Kucera explains that it focuses more on prevention and wellness.

"Ayurveda potentially could be treating the source of the problem whereas within Western medicine, we're often just treating the problem itself. Or the symptoms rather than the cause," Kucera says.

Kucera's remedies might be familiar to Kattesh Katti. **He's a University of Missouri professor of radiology and physics who got Ayurvedic treatments as a child.**

"When I was growing up in India, it was there in my DNA, literally, because I've been fed with those medications," Katti says. "It's all there in my body."

Even though his family used Ayurvedic medicine, they were skeptical when he began his current work. Katti is interested in how Ayurvedic knowledge and materials might be applied to cancer treatment.

"Several of them – they very carefully – they commented, 'Kattesh, are you sure that you want to get into this medical modality?'" Katti says.

Ayurvedic medicine has shown promise in treating some conditions like inflammation and rheumatoid arthritis. But evidence and testing on its use for many other illnesses is lacking or fairly limited.

Katti isn't trying to destroy tumors with herbs. Instead, he's exploring how plant-based materials could enhance existing cancer treatments or make cancer treatments safer for patients.

"Drugs that we use for treating different diseases – particularly cancer – they are pretty toxic," Katti says. "That's why they are so effective in killing cancer cells. But the bad news is that they kill normal cells and cancer cells almost indiscriminately."

One of Katti's projects is a liver cancer treatment method involving gum arabic. That's sap from acacia trees that has a lot of uses in Ayurvedic medicine.

Katti hopes it can be used to enhance a tumor-destroying technique using tiny nanoparticles of gold that's been in development by other researchers for several years.

When inside cancer cells, these gold particles can essentially be zapped with a laser, which generates enough heat to destroy the cells from the inside out.

"It may be a slow process. It may be an explosion, depending on how many nanoparticles we may have per cell. The higher number of nanoparticles per cell, the more heat you generate per cell, and maybe some cells would be exploding," Katti says.

Katti theorizes that using gum arabic as a coating for gold nanoparticles may enhance the effectiveness of this cancer treatment method and reduce its toxicity.

"The human body is used to gum arabic for centuries, so the body doesn't think that having gum arabic in the body – the body has to fight against it," Katti says. "The body won't think like that."

In doing this work, Katti is bridging a big divide, and not just a cultural one.

Wendy Applequist, associate curator at the Missouri Botanical Garden in Saint Louis, studies plant-based folk medicines from around the world. She says much of Western medical research has been focused on isolating and studying single compounds. Plant-based medicines, by contrast, can be very complex.

"Very frequently, plants don't have just one active ingredient; they have numerous active ingredients," Applequist says. "So you can't pick out any one molecule, super concentrate it, put it in a pill and expect to have the same safety and efficacy. Frequently they work together synergistically, or inactive compounds increase the bioavailability of the active compounds."

Applequist says a split occurred in medicine in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and - especially in the United States – it has only recently begun to mend.

“A cultural divide opened up between the medical profession and people who still remembered traditional herbal approaches. And in just the past couple of decades, there’s really been more interest in drawing those together,” Applequist says.

Katti’s research is still in the very early stages of testing, but he’s hopeful he can bridge millennia of medicinal knowledge to someday reduce cancer’s grim toll.

“The last 5,000 years is all about formulations, is all about family secrets, is all about anecdotal evidence,” Katti says. “We are about to reinvent that modality but in ways that our formulations are scientifically verifiable.”

T COLUMBIA DAILY
TRIBUNE ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Op Ed: Hazing

NO MU MENTION

Alcohol or physical abuses in college fraternity initiation rituals are finally getting the treatment they deserve from prosecutors around the country — as criminal cases. Prosecutors on May 5 filed criminal charges against 18 Penn State students in the death of a 19-year-old sophomore who drank excessively and suffered severe internal injuries during a fraternity hazing.

Members of the fraternity watched him collapse and left him for hours on the floor, even walking over his body instead of calling for help. The victim died of traumatic brain injury and a ruptured spleen.

Closer to home, 22 fraternity members at Northern Illinois University were convicted of misdemeanors in a hazing-related death in 2015.

The criminal justice system’s harder line is long overdue. Colleges and universities have traditionally used campus security and private disciplinary hearings to keep such problems in-house and out of the headlines. That left students unaccountable for their crimes, put other students at risk and apparently provided minimal deterrent value in curbing outrageous behavior. Faculty-student disciplinary committees are not trained in criminal law and not competent to judge guilt or innocence.

The changing attitude during the past decade comes on the heels of congressional studies and reports from respected organizations about high incidences of sexual misconduct, psychological trauma and serious injuries accompanying fraternity hazing and drunken escapades. Attorneys have changed the landscape, too, willing to take on wealthy fraternities.

A generation or two ago, hazing was accepted as part of the fraternity and sorority experience. Authorities looked the other way at initiation rituals that involved excessive drinking, and resulting deaths or allegations of sexual assault were often labeled accidents or misunderstandings. Today, there are growing calls for the fraternity system to be disbanded altogether as universities question the net contribution they make to campus life.

Civil lawsuits that are open for public scrutiny reveal chilling details about fraternity activities. Those lawsuits are partly responsible for forcing administrators to stop relying on internal disciplinary procedures as a deterrent. Parents, too, are coming forward more often to demand justice for their children, unafraid of the consequences and willing to expose perpetrators as criminals. An excellent example was last week's decision by Washington University student Katy Hutson, with her parents' backing, to come forward in the student newspaper with rape allegations.

On the positive side, fraternities can create leaders, foster lifelong friendships and provide excellent networking opportunities. University of Kentucky professor of communications Alan DeSantis notes in his 2007 book about fraternities and sororities that 85 percent of U.S. Supreme Court justices since 1910 were fraternity members, and 18 of the nation's presidents belonged to frats.

Fraternity alumni who want to remain proud of their associations should work alongside administrators, prosecutors, lawyers and families to clean up the organizations. Repeatedly tragic results only reinforce fraternities' image as big contributors to the college boozing culture.

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Colleges Grapple With How to Help Students Still Left in Limbo by Trump's Travel Ban

NO MU MENTION

BY KARIN FISCHER May 18, 2017

President Trump announced his executive order barring travelers, including students, from a half-dozen predominantly Muslim countries shortly after he took office in late January.

But even in the dead of winter, officials at Ohio University were already thinking about summer. While students from the affected countries would be permitted, under the order, to complete their studies, if they went home to visit family and friends, they might not be able to return to the United States. So Ohio administrators began drawing up a plan to offer summer housing to students stranded by the travel ban.

The university is not alone. The academic year may be winding down, but colleges still find themselves grappling with fallout from the ban. Some, like Ohio, are providing housing, while others are scrambling to help international students, who are restricted from working off campus, find on-campus jobs or internships. Many have stepped up their summertime programming to serve unusually large populations of foreign students who have elected not to travel home between semesters.

Federal courts have temporarily blocked enactment of the executive order, as they hear cases challenging its constitutionality. Although citizens from the countries included in the ban — Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen — are once again legally allowed to enter the United States, many colleges have cautioned students from those nations about traveling abroad over the summer. The University at Buffalo, for one, sent an email earlier this month urging students to "think carefully" about foreign travel since the outcome and timing of the courts' decision is unknown, and a reinstatement of the ban could leave them stuck overseas.

"It is sad and unprecedented that we have to discourage our students from traveling outside the country," Stephen C. Dunnett, vice provost for international education, said in an email, "but this is the nature of the situation we find ourselves in."

Buffalo is not providing summer housing, Mr. Dunnett says, because most of those affected by the executive order are graduate students who already have off-campus housing and assistantships or scholarships that provide year-round support. And many students, at Buffalo and elsewhere, had probably not planned to travel over the summer anyway — the largest group of affected students, those from Iran, are typically issued only single-entry visas, meaning they

have to reapply for a visa if they leave the country. As a result, many Iranian students never return home during their studies.

Still, a number of colleges have stepped forward to provide emergency housing. Ithaca College, in Upstate New York, approved an exemption from its usual requirement that those staying on campus over the summer be enrolled in classes or be working for the college full time. Students from affected countries will have housing fees waived, while other international students can apply to stay for the summer or to return early. (The U.S. Department of State in March ordered stricter vetting of visa applicants from around the world, not just those from the countries included in the travel ban.)

Story [continues](#).



White House Would Slash Student Aid and NSF

NO MU MENTION

BY ANDREW KREIGHBAUM May 19, 2017

The White House's 2018 budget for education -- expected to be released next week as part of the administration's full spending proposals -- appears to double down on the eye-popping cuts to programs included in the Trump administration's "skinny budget" released in March. According to details leaked to [The Washington Post](#) this week, the forthcoming budget calls for eliminating the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, letting the Perkins Loan program expire and ending the subsidy that pays the interest on some undergraduate loans while borrowers are in college.

While the Department of Education's overall budget would take a huge 13.6 percent cut, the details leaked so far suggest that the administration plans to invest hundreds of millions in new school-choice initiatives across the country.

The preliminary budget in March included deep cuts to the National Institutes of Health and multiple other science programs, especially those focused on environmental research. But that document said nothing about the National Science Foundation. Third Way, a centrist think tank, on Thursday released [a leaked version](#) of the entire budget plan coming out next week. That document (which could be revised prior to release and/or face objections in Congress) says that President Trump will propose an 11 percent cut to the NSF. The largest part of the NSF (research) would see its budget cut by 11.1 percent while education programs supported by the NSF in both higher education and K-12 schools would be cut by 13.6 percent.

But the full budget document is already drawing reactions like the ones that greeted the release of the administration's [skinny, or preliminary, budget](#). Student advocates and congressional Democrats say the proposals would have devastating effects on access to college and student loan burdens. Republicans on Capitol Hill, meanwhile, say they their appropriations process won't be dictated by White House priorities. Few are treating the budget document as something that will conceivably pass Congress. *Story [continues](#).*