



**MU News Bureau**

*Daily Clips Packet*

June 23, 2017

## Teens Who Believe They Are ‘Too Fat’ More Likely to Smoke, Drink

By: Rachel Grumman Bender

Generated from News Bureau press release: [Perceptions about Body Image Linked to Increased Alcohol, Tobacco Use for Teens](#)

[Teenagers](#) who have a negative body image are more likely to smoke and drink alcohol, according to a [study](#) published in the *Journal of Child and Adolescent Substance Abuse*.

For the study, the researchers used data from a national survey of American adolescents to find out whether or not there were associations between how teens perceived their size, weight, and attractiveness, and their levels of alcohol and tobacco use. The study found that there is, in fact, a significant connection between perceived size and attractiveness and substance use. Adolescent girls who viewed their body size as being “too fat” were more likely to use alcohol and tobacco, according to [EurekAlert](#).

**Surprisingly, the study revealed that even adolescent girls who believe they are very attractive are *also* more likely to drink. Although more research is needed to uncover why that is, lead study author [Virginia Ramseyer Winter](#), an assistant professor at the University of Missouri’s School of Social Work, tells Yahoo Beauty: “In our article, we suggest that when girls are more attractive, they are more likely to be popular, which may place them in situations in which drinking is prevalent.”**

But teen girls weren’t the only ones whose substance use was influenced by their [body image](#): Boys who perceived themselves as being “too skinny” were more likely to smoke, according to the study, while adolescent boys who thought of themselves as fat were more likely to binge-drink.

As far as why poor body image leads to smoking and alcohol use in teens, Winter says it’s a complex question and that researchers don’t fully understand the answers yet. “However, it appears that the answers vary by [gender](#) and depend on the substance-use behavior in question,” she notes. “Regarding gender, we must consider the difference in our culture’s ideal body type between boys and girls. Girls are expected to be thin but curvy and fit, whereas boys should be slender and muscular.”

She continues: “Research suggests that girls who view their body negatively may use tobacco to lose or maintain their weight, whereas boys who view their body positively may use tobacco to

maintain their social position. Additional research is warranted to untangle these complex relationships.”

Winter says there are several factors that influence a teenager’s body image today. “These include parents, peers, the media, and now [social media](#),” she says. “Youth are bombarded with images of the ideal body type, a body type that is impossible for most to achieve. In addition, altered images in the media and social media are the norm, meaning that even models in the images around us often do not live up to ideal body types promoted in our culture. Additionally, it is commonplace to use filters on pictures, such as [selfies](#) in social media; thus, even pictures of friends are altered.”

The good news is that parents can take steps to help improve their teens’ body image. “Parents have a great opportunity to influence their children’s body image from a very young age,” Winter points out. “One of the most important things parents can do is to create a [body-positive environment](#) at home. Such an environment excludes diet culture, promotes health at every size, and shifts focus away from appearance. For example, from birth, baby girls are constantly told how beautiful they are. This alone is not a problem, but when our compliments only focus on appearance, we perpetuate the idea that one’s appearance determines their value.”

She continues: “Shifting our focus toward our children’s abilities and values allows children to develop in an environment where they learn to appreciate their bodies for the things their bodies allow them to do, such as play basketball or solve puzzles, rather than how their bodies look. By embracing body positivity, parents have the opportunity to significantly influence their children’s body image, thereby improving their health and well-being.”



## [Teenagers binge-drink because they hate their bodies - not because they're being rebellious - new study suggests](#)

By: STEPHEN MATTHEWS

Generated from News Bureau press release: [Perceptions about Body Image Linked to Increased Alcohol, Tobacco Use for Teens](#)

Teenagers drink alcohol because they hate their bodies - not because they're being rebellious, a new study suggests.

Being unhappy with their appearance leads both boys and girls – who are known to be vulnerable to fat-shaming - to boozing and smoking. However, the opposite was also true, experts said. Girls who deemed themselves to be attractive were more likely to hit the bottle young.

The research bolsters growing evidence that shows how youngsters perceive their appearance can damage their overall health. While the scientists behind the study say it could have severe implications giving the known dangers of alcohol and tobacco.

**University of Missouri researchers, led by body image expert Virginia Ramseyer Winter, used data from a nationwide survey to make the conclusion.** The team discovered perceived size and attractiveness were significantly related to substance use. Adolescent girls who perceived their body size to be too fat were more likely to use alcohol and tobacco. Boys who thought they were too skinny were more likely to smoke, and boys who considered themselves fat were more likely to binge drink.

Ramseyer Winter said: 'While poor body image disproportionately affects females, our findings indicate that body image also impacts young males. For example, it's possible that boys who identified their bodies as too thin use tobacco to maintain body size, putting their health at risk.'

'We know alcohol and tobacco can have detrimental health effects, especially for teenagers. Understanding the relationship means that interventions and policies aimed at improving body image among teenage populations might improve overall health.'

#### **What else did they find?**

In addition to body size, the researchers looked at the connection between perceived attractiveness and substance use. Girls who thought they were not at all good looking were more likely to smoke, the study published in the Journal of Child and Adolescent Substance Abuse found. But those who thought they were very good looking were more likely to binge drink.

Ramseyer Winter suggested this is because attractiveness may be associated with popularity, which is related to increased alcohol use.

#### **Body-shaming**

She said body-shaming at school needs to be addressed so that youngsters aren't encouraged to turn to alcohol. Body shaming language can affect teenagers who have both positive and negative perceptions of themselves, she added.

It comes after a University College London study found least happy schoolchildren are twice as likely to take up alcohol and cigarettes. But those who are content with their family, friendships and life have 25 per cent lower odds of trying them before the age of 16, they said last month.

## **University of Missouri application figures reveal depth of enrollment problems**

By Rudi Keller

**Almost 5,000 fewer students applied to the University of Missouri's Columbia campus for the coming year, the Board of Curators were told Thursday as administrators revealed figures behind enrollment problems for the first time.**

Pelema Morrice, vice provost for enrollment management, gave a presentation on the current issues and how MU is trying to rebound from what is expected to be the lowest total campus enrollment since 2008. In the past, the university was growing so fast it didn't have to seek out students, Morrice said.

"For the last 10 years, our mantra and our primary method of success was growing the first-year freshman class," Morrice said.

In the spring of 2015, the university received 21,988 applications. MU accepted 17,180 and 6,194 enrolled in the fall, figures presented by Morrice showed. After campus protests brought waves of publicity to the university, applications fell slightly in 2016, to 21,107, while fall enrollment of first-time freshmen dropped dramatically to 4,772.

This year, applications were 16,151. Of that number, MU accepted 12,587 students and just more than 4,000 are expected to enroll as freshman in August.

The campus has created a Strategic Enrollment Management Committee to review how to boost numbers in future years. The programs include greater recruitment out of state, more recruiting in rural areas of the state and enhanced programs to retain students.

Along with figures on the decline in student applications, Morrice gave figures on where students who did not choose MU went to college. The largest group went to Missouri State University in Springfield, followed by the University of Illinois and the University of Iowa.

He asked the curators not to blame the decline on the admissions staff.

"This is the same admissions office that brought us a great deal of success over the decade," Morrice said. "They are not the reason we have the downturn in the number of applicants and not the reason we have the downturn in yield."

The loss of enrollment is one of the major forces pushing the university to cut budgets and lay off employees. The curators on Thursday approved a budget for the year beginning July 1 that cuts payroll for academics and operations by \$56 million, ratifying budget decisions unveiled June 2 by President Mun Choi.

The overall budget of \$3.1 billion is \$128 million more than the budget approved in June 2016. The total covers all university operations and was inflated by anticipated increases at MU Health Care and auxiliary operations such as athletics.

“We expect auxiliary operations to be self-sustaining,” Vice President for Finance Ryan Rapp said. “They also have to provide a return to the academic mission, otherwise why would you be doing them?”

Overall, the cuts total more than \$100 million, with \$47 million tied to revenue losses and another \$54.1 million reallocated to unavoidable cost increases and program investments.

“We will have to have bold action to find solutions to our long-term challenges,” Rapp said.

The cuts include \$1.3 million in salary and benefit costs out of the system administration’s \$38 million personnel budget for the current year. Choi told the curators he was not waiting to make cuts to administration but that selection of academic programs to pare back or eliminate will take longer.

Some decisions have already been made, such as eliminating the degree in agriculture and science journalism.

“We did that pretty quickly based on metrics,” Choi said. “And we saw all the concerns, the legitimate concerns, raised by alumni.”

Future decisions will include contacting alumni and others with a stake in degree programs for input, Choi said.

“Once that is done, we need to act quickly,” he said.

The board also approved a request for state funding in the next budgeting cycle, asking for a 5 percent increase in state support and \$8 million to fully fund several initiatives that have been cut by Gov. Eric Greitens. The board put a request for capital improvements funds off until July and created a committee to consider how the university presents its priorities for funding.

Curators were skeptical of both the likelihood of an increase from the state and whether lawmakers will provide any money for building projects. A resolution authorizing \$48 million in bonds for a new UMKC Downtown Campus for the Arts is waiting on Greitens’ desk for action.

State revenue growth for the current fiscal year is lagging behind estimates and the result for the coming year is a smaller base, requiring faster growth to maintain current spending.

Curator David Steelman in Rolla asked Rapp if the request “takes into account the state’s fiscal situation?”

“We very much would like to see this funding come to fruition,” Rapp replied. “We also know we are going to have to find other ways to raise revenue. We are not presenting this today as a slam dunk.”



## [MU curators worry about \\$30 million project falling through](#)

Watch story: <http://www.komu.com/news/mu-curators-worry-about-30-million-project-falling-through>

By Kyrah Davis

COLUMBIA – **MU curators are concerned about finances for plant facility growth.**

The UM Board of Curators met on Thursday to discuss the \$30 million project. The board approved funds for it in October 2016. But now they are worried the system may not be financially stable enough to move forward since there is no fund raising.

Curator Darryl Chatman said, "The danger is we use this to advertise and get great faculty here," he said. "And we get here and can't come through with the project."

Vice President for Finance Ryan Rapp said he understands the financial issues but thinks the project is worth following through on.

“It’ll really force us to think about priorities. But I also think we have to be willing to make investments,” he said.

Rapp said plant and life sciences are areas the UM System excels in.

The funding is coming from designated reserves.

“By using those reserves that means we have to make hard decisions in other areas because we can’t afford to do all things.” Rapp said.

Chatman said the board should solidify extra funding for the project just in case.

“Even though we voted on something years ago and then we hit a financial crisis in following years, it’s not like that money is still going to be committed,” he said. “We may have to, at some point in time, reallocate funds for other priorities just to keep the university running.”

Curator Jeff Layman said there needs to be a balance.

“I’m all for investing this money,” Layman said. “I just think it’s critical to put that capital where we want to go strategically.”

Rapp said UM President Mun Choi will discuss possible fund raising opportunities for the project. Construction was scheduled to begin this fall.

## ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

### Fond memories of dorm life? Mizzou to rent empty rooms for football games

By Ashley Jost

**COLUMBIA, Mo. • Starting this fall, families and fans can rent rooms in University of Missouri-Columbia residence halls for football games and other campus events.**

The initiative is among those introduced Thursday by Mizzou leaders to the Board of Curators at their Columbia meeting as a means to offset the financial stress of declining freshman enrollment.

A website went live Wednesday night that allows people to book a two-room, four-bed suite for \$120 per night. There’s an added cost for parking, according to the website.

Free high-speed wireless access is included, along with economy bed linens and towels.

Renting rooms for football games in particular has been discussed for months. After a few years of declining freshman enrollment, with a large projected dip this coming fall, Mizzou leaders have taken seven residence halls offline and decided to explore avenues such as rentals to make up money lost on that space.

Residence hall rooms will be available for rent on weekends starting this fall. Reservations must be made 48 hours in advance of the stay.

A Mizzou spokesman said leaders are still discussing whether alcohol will be allowed in the rental rooms.

Three of the seven vacant residence halls have been identified as ones to be used for conference and guest housing, including Center, Excellence and Discovery halls.

Those renting a room will have access, just like anyone who walks onto campus, to buy meals in campus cafeterias.

Earlier this month, University of Missouri system President Mun Choi proposed more strictly enforcing the policy requiring freshmen to live in campus housing. He estimated that could generate \$750,000 a year.

Mizzou chief operating officer Gary Ward on Thursday shared a longer-term plan to bolster the number of students living in residential halls to reach capacity by 2021 or 2022.

If the plan works, the dorm room rental program could end after a year or two.

Ward said moves such as easing the requirement for upperclassmen to have a meal plan and opening the door to transfer students to live on campus, they expect to fill the dorms progressively in the next few years.

## Recruitment goals

In other recruitment efforts, Pelema Morrice, Mizzou's vice provost for enrollment, shared with the curators plans to bring more National Merit Scholars and finalists to campus.

Missouri had more than 300 National Merit Scholar finalists this past academic year. Mizzou enrolled fewer than two dozen.

Morrice said Mizzou has struggled to compete with schools like the University of Alabama and the University of Oklahoma, which actively recruit those high-performing students and cover tuition costs.

"That's expensive," curator chairman and St. Louis attorney Maurice Graham said about the recruitment effort.

But he added, "Other universities compete for those good students, so we are going to get much more aggressive competing for these high-ranking students both in Missouri and out of Missouri."

Morrice also identified scholarship programs that would cover 100 percent of demonstrated need for honors students who are eligible for federal need-based financial aid, known as Pell grants.

This past year, Mizzou enrolled about 5,600 Pell-eligible students, according to a campus spokesman.

### Need for a plan

The curators approved a plan to seek a 5 percent increase in appropriations from the Missouri Legislature in the 2018 session.

Interim chief financial officer Ryan Rapp stressed that the university system faces lingering budget cuts to meet the \$100 million goal that system leaders required of the campuses this spring.

Leaders are weighing cuts that could consolidate and even do away with some academic programs. The timeline for completion varies by campus.

Rapp also stressed the need for the system to adopt a five-year financial plan, rather than the year-by-year effort universities have struggled with in times of state appropriation uncertainty.

After a lengthy discussion Thursday, the curators tabled a motion that would have requested funding for one capital project on each campus.

Mizzou would seek \$150 million for a new translational medicine building that leaders argue would significantly help the research institution's standing against its competitors.

The University of Missouri-St. Louis would ask for \$6.2 million to update some buildings and potentially demolish others.

Most curators questioned the likelihood of capital funding passing the Legislature. The discussion was tabled until July so that university leaders could explore whether smaller amounts would be more likely to win approval.

## Mizzou to rent out unoccupied dorm rooms amid falling enrollment, budget cuts

By Matt Campbell

Now anyone can have that college dorm experience for just \$120 a night.

**The University of Missouri will rent out empty rooms this fall for home football weekends and other events at the Columbia campus.** The move was announced Thursday at the university Board of Curators meeting.

The rooms are “walking distance from Memorial Stadium,” promises the Residential Life webpage.

A “guest housing” page created this week offers furnished, two-bedroom suites with four single beds for \$120 per night. Parking is extra.

“Free high-speed wireless access, and economy bed linens and towels are included,” the website says.

The offer comes in the context of falling enrollment and budget cuts. Freshman enrollment dropped 23 percent in 2016 and, as of early May, it was down another 16 percent. Earlier this month, UM System President Mun Choi announced \$101 million in budget cuts at Mizzou’s four campuses, resulting in the loss of 474 jobs.

“We have taken seven residence halls off-line temporarily due to the drop in enrollment,” Christian Basi, director of the university News Bureau, said Thursday. “Because of that we have been looking for additional uses for those residence halls instead of letting them sit there. Even if they are off-line, they cost to operate.”

The university will use 12 residence halls for student housing this fall. Of the seven off-line halls, Excellence and Discovery Halls will be offered for weekend rental. Basi said the university plans other uses for the remaining five.

Basi said he is not aware of any other schools offering dorm rentals. He said it was far too early to gauge the level of interest.

The Twitter-verse noticed the unusual dorms-for-rent offer.

“I remember in college them running out of dorm spaces for students,” posted one person. “How do you have extra to rent...?”

“Renting a dorm room in Columbia has to be better than some of those hotels,” posted another.

“The newer dorm rooms are not anything like the dorm rooms when I was at Mizzou,” said another person.

Mizzou is nearing the end of a \$300 million, 18-year Residential Life Master Plan approved in 2001, according to The Columbia Missourian.

Staff writer Lily Oppenheimer contributed to this report.

# T COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE

## [MU to rent residence hall rooms on football weekends](#)

By Rudi Keller

**The University of Missouri will rent dorm rooms to football weekend visitors this fall as it seeks to recoup some of the \$5 million it will spend to keep seven residence halls idle.**

Dropping enrollment means only about 4,000 incoming freshmen are expected to enroll in August, down from 6,419 in the fall of 2015. The university has closed seven residence halls with 1,461 beds.

During the UM Board of Curators meeting Thursday, MU Vice Chancellor for Operations Gary Ward said a website is available for people to reserve two-bedroom, four-bed suites for \$120 a night. Parking is extra.

The university has other ideas for using the dorms, including guest housing during conferences and the Aug. 21 total solar eclipse and opening earlier in August so students can move in before the school year starts. The cost of keeping an idle building includes utilities and maintenance personnel for landscaping and other needs.

Overnight guests will pay taxes on their rooms although whether it will be equal to current room taxes was unclear. Ward said he doesn't expect area hotels to complain about competition.

“My understanding, and this would have to be verified with them, is the hotels are full anyway, so we won’t be competing on game days,” Ward said in an interview. “We could be competing with out-of-town hotels.”

Steve Bales, president of the Columbia Hospitality Association, could not be reached for comment on the plan. Amy Schneider, director of the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau, said she had heard about the plan but had not heard the details. The bureau is funded wholly from room taxes paid by Columbia hotels.

“I will probably have hotels contact me and talk to me,” she said. “I’ll need to contact Gary Ward to get more info and talk to city hall and see what they know about it, to see what can and can’t be done.”

Ward revealed the plan for renting dorm rooms as he updated the curators on the master plan for buildings on the Columbia campus. The university wants to consolidate space and determine whether it should demolish or completely renovate buildings where maintenance needs are greater than 40 percent of the replacement cost, he said.

The university has been allowing maintenance needs to grow, Ward said. The current backlog is \$748 million, an amount that is increasing by \$35 million per year, he said. A survey of campus education and general use buildings identified 41 buildings with more than 2 million square feet of space that are above the 40 percent threshold.

Part of the plan is to convert Schurz Hall, the largest unused dorm with 530 beds, to education use, he said. That would shift the \$1.67 million cost of keeping the building in good shape while it is unused from residential life to the budget supported by tuition and state revenue.

Respect Hall, with rooms for 147 beds, will be used by the Human Environmental Science Extension, and Responsibility, with rooms for 184 beds, will be assigned to MU Health Care, Ward said.

The plans for converting each building must be approved by the curators, Ward said.

As the university grew from about 23,000 students in the early 2000s to 35,448 in 2015, MU spent heavily to build new dorms and renovate old residence halls. Even with the construction the university had more students than it had beds and did not enforce the requirement that freshmen live on campus, Ward said.

Now, even with the idled beds, there are about 1,000 more beds available in residence halls than incoming freshmen. The university is going to start marketing campus housing to sophomores, transfer students and others. And to combat marketing from private student housing, MU will emphasize benefits that include housing students with common interests in adjoining rooms and results that include higher retention and graduation rates for students who live on campus.

“We have never marketed to returning students, we have always marketed to the freshman class,” Ward said.

The marketing will also tout the convenience of living on campus. To make it more attractive, the requirement that students purchase a meal plan for the year will be dropped, Ward said.

The goal is to increase the number of students living on campus by 3 percent per year until the residence halls, not including those currently idle, are full again, Ward said. If the growth goal is met, the residence halls will be full again in the 2021 school year, he said.

With some off-campus landlords offering to buy out student housing contracts, the university is considering its options.

Fully enforcing the on-campus housing requirement for freshmen is a last resort, Ward said.

“We are having a discussion about that now, about what do we do,” he said. “We have never done that before. What we really want to do is not go that direction. We really want to show the benefits.”

# MISSOURIAN

## MU to rent out vacant residence halls, tackle declining enrollment

By Gabriela Velasquez

**COLUMBIA — One way MU can make some money as it struggles with declining enrollment and lagging state support is to rent out empty residence halls to football fans, eclipse watchers and others who come to town to visit.**

That's an idea that Gary Ward, MU vice chancellor for operations, shared with the UM System Board of Curators during Day One of its two-day meeting on Thursday. Curators also received a glum report on the state of MU buildings, heard about plans to shore up enrollment at the flagship campus and approved a \$3.1 billion system budget for fiscal 2018. They voted to ask the state for nearly \$500 million in fiscal 2019 but postponed a vote on how much money they should ask the state to give the four-campus system next year.

### Repurposing residence halls

During a presentation of the MU master plan for 2017-18, Ward outlined these ideas for repurposing vacant residence halls as office buildings, education buildings and guest lodgings:

- McDavid Hall will house the Engineering 2 + 2 program.
- Respect Hall will house Human Environmental Science Extension.

- Discovery, Excellence and Center Halls will be used for conference/guest housing.
- Responsibility Hall will be leased to MU Health Care.
- Schurz Hall will be converted into a campus education and general use building.

Ward also told the curators that Residential Life will offer residence halls for guest housing during the Aug. 21 total solar eclipse, during Family Weekend Sept. 15-17 and during MU home football game weekends, as well as use them to house visiting students and athletes in them.

Residential Life at MU already has created a website where people can reserve residence hall rooms.

"Stay close to the action in sweet, suite style for home football game weekends this fall," it says. The website advertises two-bedroom four-bed suites for \$120 night and notes that they're within walking distance of Memorial Stadium.

There's plenty of room at the inn. Excellence, Center and Responsibility halls have a total of 518 rooms.

Residential Life this year decided to temporarily close those halls, as well as Respect, Schurz and McDavid halls in the coming academic year, and it has already shuttered Laws and Lathrop halls and plans to demolish them, according to previous Missourian reporting.

Not only are the rooms unnecessary given declining enrollment, but MU has said closing them would save money on utilities. It remains to be seen whether the rooms will prove popular enough to visitors to offset the cost of keeping the buildings open.

Ward also painted a dire picture of the condition of other buildings. MU's educational and general purpose buildings are in serious disrepair, he said. Nearly a third of MU's educational buildings score more than 0.40 on the Facility Condition Needs Index, which compares the cost of replacing a building to the cost of renovating it. Scoring 0.40 or above is terrible, Ward said.

Ward suggested that MU examine how efficiently it uses campus space and that it demolish buildings that score high on the index.

"When you have a budget crisis, it's no longer a great idea but a requirement," Ward said.

The board also discussed how to boost the number of students living on campus, including the possibility of no longer requiring those students to buy meal plans. Curator Darryl Chatman asked whether MU had considered requiring sophomores to live on campus, but Ward said incoming freshmen might consider that a detriment. Besides, they would not have the room, even with the repurposed residence halls.

Next year, MU will present recommendations for buildings to be demolished to the board.

## MU enrollment

Pelema Morrice, vice provost for enrollment management, updated the board on MU's efforts to combat declining enrollment. MU, he said, has never actually had a specific enrollment strategy to ensure growth. Rather, growth shaped its strategy.

Enrollment dropped for students of color across all spectrums as well as in MU's primary feeder markets: St. Louis, Kansas City and Columbia. With MU still being a primarily white institution, caucasian enrollment was its greatest loss.

Net tuition revenue per incoming student (which factors in financial aid and scholarships) is projected to be \$5,054, a minor increase over last year's \$4,996. The projected first-year class is 4,009, down 763 from last year's 4,772.

Morrice said MU would increase its recruiting in non-feeder areas such as California, Nashville and Houston, as well as ramp up its efforts in rural areas.

Next week, the Office of Admissions will announce new incentive packages for Missouri National Merit Scholars. MU is also developing a scholarship that will be offered to students who are eligible for Pell Grants who will pay full cost of tuition and fees.

MU will introduce a common application in August to draw in more applicants and, over the next three years, adjust its application deadlines. Common applications allow prospective students to apply to several colleges and universities by filling out a single form.

## Just the beginning

Ryan Rapp, chief financial officer for the UM System, presented a \$3.1 billion budget for fiscal 2018, which begins July 1. Of that, 36 percent is for operations, including employee salaries, wages and benefits of \$1.2 billion. System-wide, \$584.8 million in revenue will come from tuition and fees and \$415.2 million from state appropriations.

At MU, the total budget is \$1.37 billion, which includes \$438.6 million in salaries, wages and benefits. Tuition and fees account for \$275.2 million in revenue, and state appropriates \$209.1 million.

Here's a more detailed look at the revenue breakdowns.

Budget	MU	UM System
<b>Net Tuition &amp; Fees</b>	\$270 mil.	\$547 mil.
<b>State Appropriations</b>	\$213 mil.	\$437 mil.
<b>Sales, Services</b>	\$491 mil.	\$1.5 bil.

**Gifts, Grants & Contracts** \$285 mil. \$443 mil.

**Other Income** \$90 mil. \$169 mil.

**TOTAL** \$1.3 bil. \$3.2 bil.

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MU and the other three campuses recently made cuts totaling about 12 percent of their budgets across the board. At MU, 429 positions were cut, including some that were already vacant and will not be filled.

"There's much work we have to do in FY 18 to improve our performance," Rapp said.

Because of the dip in state funding, the UM System is moving to rely less on state money and more on revenue generated from tuition and endowments from alumni.

"It's probably our most challenging to find, but it's also the most lucrative," Rapp said.

All four campuses will continue reviewing programs. Rapp said better processes will be put in place for eliminating them, keeping in mind the students who are in the midst of earning degrees. UM System President Mun Choi noted that there was a lot of alumni outrage when MU announced the sudden elimination of the agriculture journalism program.

"You saw all of the concerns that were raised by alums," Choi said.

### State funding

Curators also approved a request for state appropriations of \$471 million for fiscal 2019. That includes \$456.1 million in core funding and another \$14.9 million for other programs and legislative requirements.

The curators, however, found themselves at a standstill regarding how much money to ask for from the state for major building projects. Rapp presented several proposals from individual campuses, but curators wondered why they should bother asking for any money, given the slim chance the legislature would give them any.

For MU, Rapp proposed asking for \$150 million to finance redevelopment projects and to help pay for the Translational Precision Medicine Complex planned for land at Hospital Drive and College Avenue.

Curator Phillip Snowden suggested a more reasonable request might be \$40 million.

Choi and two of the board's newest curators, Chatman and Jeff Layman, questioned why they were even discussing requests for state money that they know they won't get. Rapp said the UM System does so every year.

Choi emphasized the projects' importance for maintaining MU's ranking with the American Association of Universities and said the board should explore how to raise money from alumni and potential investors and how to shift money within the budget to finance the projects. He also suggested research partnerships with federal agencies such as the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs as another source of income.

"We have to find, one way or the other, a way to make these projects happen," Choi said.

The board eventually decided to table discussion of that request and to appoint a committee to create a policy for how curators should prioritize capital projects.



## **Mizzou visitors can now rent rooms in residence halls**

By Sam Clancy

**The University of Missouri – Columbia will allow visitors to rent out rooms in residence halls when they come to visit the campus for football games or other campus events.**

According to a page on the Mizzou residential life website, visitors will be able to rent a furnished, two-bedroom suite with for single beds for \$120 per night. The rooms will not be in buildings that house current students.

High-speed wireless internet, economy bed linens and towels are included, but parking is available for an extra cost.

They are accepting reservation requests now.



## **MU to rent out some residence halls on weekends**

**COLUMBIA - The University of Missouri has announced a housing program that would allow guests to rent out rooms in several residence halls for weekends in the fall of 2017.**

Rooms are available for all weekends, giving visitors a place to stay for football game and Family Weekend. Housing is also available for people coming to Columbia for the total solar eclipse, which happens Aug. 21.

The rooms are two-bedroom furnished suites with four single beds for \$120 plus tax. Bed linens and towels are provided as well as wifi. Parking is available at an extra cost.

Reservations must be canceled up to 48 hours in advance.

The University announced the program amid a budget shortfall and a decrease in freshman enrollment which caused numerous residence halls to shut down.

Reservations can be made on the University's website.

## Student charge will be limited this fall

By Jake Chiarelli

*Update: A previous version of this story stated that the work group did not include student representatives. But according to MU spokeswoman Liz McCune, administrators have reached out to MSA leaders to get involvement in the work group. They will likely be discussing the change Monday.*

Students will no longer be able to charge some expenses to their accounts beginning Aug. 1. Administrators plan to make substantial changes to the student charge payment options that will restrict students from using it for some personal expenses.

Student charge purchases will no longer be available at Campus Dining Services locations or for services at MizzouRec. The Mizzou Store purchases will be restricted to books, school supplies and other academic materials. It will not include clothing, food, cosmetics or personal hygiene items.

“The change is intended to help students and their families pay for academic materials over the course of the semester without acquiring unnecessary debt,” MU spokeswoman Liz McCune said.

According to McCune, Cashiers at Mizzou Market and other CDS locations will be working to inform students of the change. **Summer Welcome leaders have also been instructed to tell incoming freshman and their parents about the changes, though no official statement has yet been sent to current MU students.**

The university, instead, will be promoting the use of E.Z. charge. The service is a prepaid charging option that allows funds to be applied to an account that students can access with their Mizzou TigerCard ID. Student charge will still be available at other locations across campus until the work group identifies further options that they decide need to be limited. The \$1,250 cap on student charge will not change, according to McCune.

Unlike student charge, students can only use TigerCard if funds have already been added to their account.

Student representatives were not adequately involved in the recent decision to scale back student charge options, according to Missouri Students Association president Nathan Willett. He and MSA Vice President Payton Englert will be meeting with administrators on Monday to discuss the rollback.

McCune said a work group with representatives from the Office of Student Affairs, Finance and the Cashier's Office will meet to discuss future changes. As of now, the group does not include student representatives.

The group will be looking at all other uses of student charge — about 150 across campus — and recommending additional changes to student charge services that may be made for the spring 2018 semester.

“The potential change is something that university leaders have been talking to students and student leaders about for years,” McCune said.

According to UM System President Mun Choi, concerns arose with students who student charged non-essential items and were unable to pay off debts before re-enrolling.

“We ... want those students to be able to come back the following semester and not fall into the hole because they charged things that were unnecessary to their academic progress,” McCune said.

At an announcement at the Mizzou Store Wednesday, Choi highlighted university efforts to provide open source educational resources like online textbooks, which McCune said will be available with student charge.

# Missourinet

## University of Missouri launches plan to help save students textbook money

By Alisa Nelson

**You won't see as many traditional textbooks at University of Missouri campuses.** System President Mun Choi has launched a system-wide plan to use Open Educational Resources (OER), or class materials that are free for students, and AutoAccess, which is a program that makes textbooks and class materials available online at a lower cost than traditional learning resources.

A working group of faculty, staff and students will be formed this summer to develop a system-wide strategy to increase awareness of affordable and open resources and incentivize the transition to those resources.

“Some students don’t purchase required textbooks because it’s too expensive; it ends up hurting their academic success,” says Nathan Willett, president of the Missouri Students Association. “Any time we can make textbooks or course materials more affordable, it’s a win for students, and the university is still able to provide the same high-quality education.”

Currently, some campuses are already using online resources to reduce the costs of textbooks for students. The working group will review that progress and see how the resources can be shared throughout the system.

“The issue of textbook prices is part of a larger national conversation that is happening in universities throughout the country,” says Scott Curtis, learning and research librarian at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Libraries. “As a library at a major research institution, we provide thousands of educational resources to our students, faculty and staff every day, which enhances the educational opportunities available to students. This affordable and open educational resources initiative is a collaborative effort among our faculty, staff, students and librarians across every University of Missouri campus.”

The average textbook savings for university students varies. Choi says the initiative will help offset an estimated \$200 tuition increase per student during the coming academic year.



## [UM system President Choi recommends rescinding Bill Cosby's degree](#)

COLUMBIA, Mo. - On Wednesday, University of Missouri President Mun Choi said he wants Mizzou to rescind an honorary degree given to Bill Cosby nearly 20 years ago.

A memo sent to curators cited a 2005 deposition where Cosby admitted to giving Quaaludes to women to have sex with them.

The memo also stated Cosby's sexual assault allegations are incompatible with the honorary doctorate he received in 1999. The school's faculty council recommended to take that degree back in 2015.

Twenty to 25 other universities have taken honorary degrees from Cosby since the allegations surfaced.

Last Saturday, a mistrial was declared in Cosby's trial after the jury failed to reach a verdict in the case.

The Board of Curators is expected to vote Friday on Choi's recommendation.

# MISSOURIAN

## **MU scientists create technology to keep busy bees buzzing**

By Katherine Herrick

**Generated from News Bureau press release: [Bee Buzzes Could Help Determine How to Save their Decreasing Population](#)**

COLUMBIA — New technology is allowing scientists to use acoustics to track bee activity, giving bumblebees a chance to show off their buzzing vibrato.

**MU biology professor Candace Galen is on the team that developed the acoustic listening system that can monitor the amount of bee activity in a particular area, which is helpful for keeping track of bee populations over time.**

The system requires a small microphone to record the pitch or frequency of a bee's buzzing as it whizzes by. The microphones are attached to data storage devices such as an iPad or USB drive.

“We call them USBee sticks,” Galen said.

Galen said the system is cheaper than hiring observers to count bees and track their activity. One device can pick up sound from roughly 9 to 16 feet away, which is more sensitive than the average human ear. The system is also much more time efficient because the devices can record buzzing for about 96 hours before needing a recharge.

“If I had a lot of money to spend on my field team, I could hire a lot of observers and send each of those observers out to different locations, but that’s not nearly as efficient as having the little USB drives do this for us,” Galen said.

Bees of different sizes, shape or tongue length buzz at different frequencies, so the research team has been able to discern whether different types of bees are found in the same area as well. That can be important for farmers because different crops rely on different bee pollination methods.

Blueberries and tomatoes, for example, can grow larger if a bumblebee uses a “pollination buzz” on the flower. The buzz helps the bee collect pollen for its young, while assisting the flower in its reproduction. This type of buzz is different from the buzz a bee makes when flying between plants. The research team for the acoustic listening system focused on the buzz made when bees travel between flowers since some species, such as honeybees, do not use a pollination buzz.

The team, which also includes scientists from Webster University in St. Louis, Lincoln University in Jefferson City and Appalachian State University in North Carolina, conducted its research in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado in order to have a relatively controlled environment with little urban noise, traffic or farm equipment.

“The Rockies are what I see as a lab with a really good view,” Galen said.

The team focused on tracking bumblebees in clover patches. Clover doesn't require a buzz to be pollinated, so observing it allowed the researchers to minimize variables and keep the conditions as simple as possible.

“That’s nice because it makes the technology we have much more widely applicable,” Galen said.

The scientists published their study, "Flight of the bumble bee: Buzzes predict pollination services," in PLOS One on June 7.

Now that the team knows the system works under the simplest conditions, it's ready to handle more complex conditions, such as environments with a lot of noise traffic or multiple types of plants that require different pollination methods.

“Now we can go to farms,” Galen said.

The acoustic listening system hasn't been used on Boone County farms yet, but Galen has contacted farmers she wants to test it out.

Liz Graznak, owner of Happy Hollow Farm, said she has spoken with Galen about the project, but her farm does not use the listening system. Graznak said she thinks Galen's work is important for research, but she isn't quite at a point where she could use it for her farm.

Right now, Graznak said, she has no precise system to track bees on her farm, but she keeps an eye on the types of bees that are around because they are so important for pollinating crops.

"There would be a massive amount of food that we eat that we wouldn't have (without pollination)," Graznak said. "Any fruit you can think of is pollinated by a bee or some other insect or wasp."

Graznak said all fruits and nuts depend on pollination for fruit and vegetable production.

"We as humans are very dependent on (bees and other pollinators)," she said.

The acoustic listening system is unable to track the actual number of bees in a given area yet, but the scientists on the team haven't been bumbling around when it comes to practical application of the technology.

"Even though our technology won't tell people that species X has gone from 50 to 10 in this particular location, it can tell people where to look to find that information and make surveys more efficient," Galen said.

Right now, the system requires a visual observation along with the recording to be able to determine an actual bee population. That's because some bees can be more active than others and skew the data to make it appear there is a larger colony of bees than there really is. The system could be used to analyze bee activity over several years to spot declining populations.

"Which then could be a diagnostic or a warning sign that these are places where we need boots on the ground, people to go out and survey bees and see who's there and who isn't," Galen said.

North America and Europe have both suffered from declining bee populations since the 1970s due to "colony collapse disorder," according to the Missouri Department of Conservation. The agency says the disorder is related to "mites, viruses, pesticides and other factors."

Seventy-five percent of all food production relies on bees, according to the MDC website, so the loss of bees can really sting.

The other benefit to the acoustic listening system is that it prevents scientists from tracking bee populations by trap studies or destructive sampling methods that are more accurate than sweeps or walks through an area but that cost bees' lives. Galen said destructive sampling is more of an issue now that some types of bees are appearing on the endangered species list.

Galen said that if farmers use the technology and see a decline in bee activity over time, there are a few ways they can combat the issue and modify their farm to be "bee friendly." Planting more flowering plants or changing plowing methods to sustain ground nesting bee colonies throughout

the year can prevent the decline. Some bees burrow underground and are disturbed by plowing processes, so no-till crop methods can help prevent farmers from driving bees away.

In the future, the acoustic listening system may be adjusted to track more than just bee activity, but it is at a starting point with many possibilities for future studies.

“You have a fun toy, and what are you going to use it for?” Galen said. “What are all the games we can play with it?”

# Aol News.

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## Scientists study mysterious volcano-shaped pyramid

**Generated from a MU News Bureau expert pitch**

Scientists remain puzzled over a mysterious man-made structure in Peru that resembles a volcano, though there may be indications that it was used for activities related to solar eclipses.

According to a recently published study, the approximately 50-foot-high earthen mound—now called El Volcán due to its shape and uppermost crater—was discovered by researchers in the 1960s.

The structure was particularly notable, as the paper points out because "there are no volcanoes in the vicinity of El Volcán to serve as models, nor indeed are any other examples of volcano-shaped structures known from Peru or elsewhere."

**LiveScience notes that after retired University of Missouri professor Robert Benfer got a good view of the site, he decided to take a team to inspect it close up.** Their work involved digging a trench in El Volcán's cratered peak.

The team says in the study that they ended up finding a "collapsed stairwell that descends beneath, and thus pre-dates, a row of adobe bricks."

They also uncovered a hearth about six-feet down which "contained charcoal and shell along with a mud-packed floor."

Based on the evidence and an approximate radiocarbon date of AD 1563, researchers suspect the structure may be linked with ceremonies relating to solar eclipses—four of which happened in the preceding decades.

However, many questions still remain about the structure's design and purpose.