



MU News Bureau

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Missourinet

Mizzou's reduced housing rates could end the school's new hotel business

By ALISA NELSON

Mizzou is lowering some of its residence hall rates beginning in the fall 2018 semester. The school, which is experiencing shrinking student housing demand and enrollment, hopes the rate changes will inspire more students to live on campus.

If housing demand increases, football fans and those going to other school activities might have to kiss the campus dorm room rental experience goodbye.

School officials chose to close seven dorms for this fall's semester and instead turn the suites at Mizzou's Respect, Excellence and Discovery halls into overnight getaways for the general public. Guests pay \$120 a night for four twin beds. Michelle Froese, Assistant Director of the Dean of Students, tells Missourinet the lodging option has prompted plenty of interest in its infancy.

"We have been sold out for the home football weekends and our feedback from the people who have stayed is that they love it and we're happy that they do," says Froese. "But our priority is to house our students. Ideally, we would like to get out of the weekend conference business for football and have it full of students."

Froese says general public room rentals next year will depend on openings.

"While we enjoy having guests come to our campus, students are more connected when they live on campus when they're going to school," says Froese. "So, they are more successful. We'd rather have students be using the facilities than others, but we will continue guest and conference housing while there is availability."

More than 650 community-style, double rooms (1,300 beds) will drop 2.2% while rates for 232 double rooms (464 beds) in Hatch Hall are dropping 5%. All other housing rates will remain flat.

"It's not lowering every rate for every single room in a residence hall on campus, but we're looking at these two components that seem to be very popular," says Froese. "It's popularity and this is a balancing act. We're looking for ways that we can effectively reduce the costs and still maintain budget."

Fall 2018 dorm rates will start at \$714 a month, nearly \$350 less annually than the least expensive current plan.

Mizzou's affordability initiative for students also includes cheaper dining options and more flexibility with the plans.

"Students don't necessarily eat three meals a day. That's just not realistic. Having some flexibility to be able to have a less expensive plan with maybe fewer meals on it is very appealing to students and to their families," says Froese.

Dining rates will start at \$283 a month, which is about \$300 less annually than the lowest option currently available. Returning students living in residence halls will no longer be required to purchase a dining plan. If they choose to roll out of bed late and grab a pop tart or live off of Ramen, then so be it.

Missourinet

Mizzou researcher finds improved brain function for older adults who volunteer

By: Alisa Nelson

Generated from News Bureau press release: [For Older Adults, Volunteering Could Improve Brain Function](#)

Older adults worried about losing their mental functions could consider volunteering as a potential boost, according to a University of Missouri researcher. Christine Proulx, an associate professor in the Human Development and Family Science Department in the MU College of Human Environmental Sciences, has identified a link between volunteering and higher levels of cognitive functioning in older adults.

Looking at national data from the Health and Retirement Study that includes more than 11,000 adults aged 51 and over, Proulx found significant associations between cognitive function and volunteering among all participants, regardless of the amount of time volunteering. However, adults with lower levels of education and women seemed to benefit the most from volunteering.

“Prior research has shown that older adults with lower levels of education are at greater risk of cognitive decline,” Proulx says. “Engaging in volunteering might compensate for some of that risk.”

She says cognitive functions, such as memory, working memory and processing are essential for living an independent life. When volunteering an individual must follow directions, solve problems and be active, all of which engage the mind’s working memory and processing.



Critical Report on Greek System Ignored MU's Own Data on Freshmen Academic Performance

By CONNOR HOFFMAN & COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

In a report critical of Greek life last week, the Florida-based consulting firm Dyad Strategies recommended that freshmen no longer live in fraternity houses.

This was based partly on the claim that they perform worse academically than non-Greeks.

MU’s own data suggests otherwise.

Since at least 2013, the latest year available, the average GPAs of fraternities’ new member classes — which are mostly freshmen — were higher than the average GPA of all male freshmen on campus, according to MU data.

“(Greek) GPA is consistently and significantly above the all male average,” said John Dean, chair of the academic achievement committee for the Missouri Fraternity Alumni Consortium.

This past spring, the average MU freshman male GPA was 2.761. Of the 25 fraternities surveyed, 72 percent of the new member classes had GPAs higher than that, [according to the Office of Greek Life](#).

MU, which has [cracked down on fraternities in recent years](#), commissioned the report for \$22,000. The original report was released Oct. 26, but a modified version — without the

language about the academic performance of freshmen fraternity members — was posted to the MU website on Thursday.

The original report, [which didn't list any research to support the claim about freshmen fraternity members](#), stated: “There is ample research to suggest that freshman students who live in residence halls have the most positive academic and co-curricular outcomes. Freshman fraternity members at Mizzou do not perform well academically compared to their non-affiliated peers.”

The [last sentence was removed](#) in the modified report.

[The recommendation](#) that freshmen not live in fraternity houses was also based on additional factors, including “risk management, health and safety (including hazing) issues, as well as a scenario in which most chapters are run by sophomores with upperclassmen generally ‘checking out’ of the fraternity experience.”

Gentry McCreary, Dyad’s CEO, said, during his initial visit to the MU campus, an administrator — whom he did not identify — told him that freshmen fraternity members do not perform well academically. He put that comment into his notes, and it ultimately ended up in the report.

“I have since been provided with grade reports indicating that some (but not all) fraternity freshman perform above the all freshman male average,” McCreary wrote in an email. “I should have checked the information in my report against the campus grade reports but did not.”

Dean said the flaw calls the report into question.

“I find that the report is lacking in credibility,” he said.

John Hartman, president of the Missouri Fraternity Alumni Consortium, declined to comment.

The Residential Life Committee, which includes Dean of Students Jeffrey Zeilenga, met the day after the original report was released, and its members discussed an unenforced rule that all freshmen live in residence halls, said Tom Phillips, the committee chair.

“We think it would be good if more people lived in the residence halls because it does promote good academics and college success,” Phillips said.

Gary Ward, interim vice chancellor for student affairs, said in an [Oct. 26 statement](#) about the Dyad report that “no final decisions about specific recommendations will be made before spring.”

Zeilenga was not available for comment Friday.

Former MU Residential Life Director Frankie Minor, [who was laid off during university budget cuts in July](#) and has since taken a similar job at the University of Rhode Island, said decades of research indicate students benefit greatly from spending their first year living on campus.

“It gets them connected with each other, and it gets them connected with the campus,” Minor said. “It’s the one experience they share in common.”

But individual experiences are hard to predetermine, he said.

“No one can predict what’s going to be the best experience for an individual student,” Minor said. “We have to look at what we know is best for most students and develop policies and practices around that.”

Minor said he recognized that some students want or need alternatives to living on campus and that Greek life is one available option.

“It’s unfortunate that some of the men didn’t choose to (live on campus),” Minor said. “They chose something that they thought was equally as good and beneficial.”

McCreary is expected to return to the MU campus in the coming weeks to share recommendations with Greek students, alumni, faculty, staff and MU leadership, [according to Ward’s statement](#).

An open forum to discuss the report is scheduled for 2 p.m. Nov. 10 in Jesse Wrench Auditorium in the Memorial Student Union, MU spokesman Christian Basi said.



MU Health Care and SSM Health connect medical records

By: Lindsey Fafoglia

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/mu-health-care-and-ssm-health-connect-medical-records>

COLUMBIA - MU Health Care can now access patient records from SSM Health and vice versa.

Health records can now be shared between SSM Health and the Tiger Institute Health Alliance Health Information Exchange, which includes University of Missouri Health Care, Capital Region Medical Center and other Missouri hospitals, clinics and post-acute care providers.

The Tiger Institute Health Alliance Health Information Exchange is an organization that facilitates the exchange of medical records.

"Both of us recognized that there would be a lot of value to patients throughout the region and really throughout Missouri and beyond if we were able to share electronic medical record information," said Tiger Institute Director of Regional Operations Michael Seda.

MU Health recently joined the Sequoia Project eHealth Exchange, a national health information exchange that encourages health care companies to connect.

Seda said if someone who usually receives care at SSM in Jefferson City needed care at the University Hospital, this new connection could help physicians make better decisions.

"So now through the health information exchange connection, the emergency physicians at University of Missouri will have visibility to all of the problems, conditions, medications and all of the other medical information on that patient."

Some of the benefits of this connection include visibility to allergies, decreasing the chance that tests are duplicated, and more efficient health care.

Seda said this could also help MU students who receive care in both Columbia and their hometown where they might go to SSM Health.

SSM Health and MU Health Care will be able to see records up to 90 days back.

"This helps us provide the most appropriate, safe and streamlined care for these patients." said Thomas Selva, pediatrician and chief medical information officer at MU Health Care.



University of Missouri health care celebrates 35 years of emergency helicopter service

By: Sasha Gomez

Watch the story: <http://www.abc17news.com/news/university-of-missouri-health-care-celebrates-35-years-of-emergency-helicopter-service/652717003>

COLUMBIA, Mo. - On Monday, University of Missouri health care celebrated the 35th anniversary of their emergency helicopter service.

The team serves the entire state and has saved numerous lives, as they can pick up patients with severe injuries much faster than ground crews.

A senior Staff for Life lead pilot says on average, there is about one flight per day.

Flight nurse Silva Tribble says, "It's interesting in the state of Missouri, because we have more medivac helicopters in the state of Missouri than I think any other state in the nation."

She added, "This is not the type of job that you can train till you get an A on the test. This is the type of job that you train until you cannot get it wrong. The moment you need those skills, they better be there."

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

How can we fight hate crimes when liars ruin the cause?

BY JENEÉ OSTERHELDT, NOVEMBER 06, 2017 10:27 PM

Racism is as American as apple pie, but it's something our country loves to deny. So the last thing we need right now is Dauntarius Williams adding fuel to the fire of the nonbelievers.

Williams is the 21-year-old who claimed his car parked near Kansas State University was vandalized with slurs like "[Go home n****r boy.](#)" We found out Monday [it was a hoax](#). He apologized, and no charges were filed.

He's not the only liar. Nathaniel D. Nelson spray-painted [racist graffiti](#) on his own south Kansas City church and set a fire inside to cover up his theft of money. Last week [he was charged](#) with arson.

Williams and Nelson just made it that much easier for real hate crimes, like [the noose found hanging](#) from a tree in front K-State's King Hall last May, to be dismissed as a sham. It's bad enough university President Richard Myers encouraged students who didn't understand the implications of a noose to "reach out to one of our African-American students, faculty or staff to ask why this act is intolerable."

Lying makes it harder for victims to be believed. Even with proof, getting hate crimes to be taken seriously is a battle. As it was at the University of Missouri where over the course of a couple of years, professors and students were called the N-word, a poop swastika was smeared on the bathroom wall of a dorm and administration did very little.

It took [a boycott by the school's football players](#) and [a graduate student's hunger strike](#) to force the resignation of the school's president, Tim Wolfe, and chancellor, R. Bowen Loftin. And that resulted in

death threats against black students. Maybe if the school had taken things seriously sooner, it wouldn't be suffering from [a decline in enrollment](#) now.

So we cannot change our willingness to hear survivors out and take a stand just because of a few big liars. Doing that will only make it easier for hate crimes to go unrecognized, as is the tragic case in the killing of 17-year-old transgender teen [Ally Steinfeld](#) in the Ozarks.

Because here's our reality: In the United States, hate crimes rose 5 percent from 2015 to 2016, according to the [Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University](#). Such crimes against Muslim, LGBTQIA, Jewish and black people are among the most common. Our nation's capital saw a 62 percent rise. And in 2017, the number rose 20 percent in our largest cities already.

The problem with these numbers is they rely on reported cases. The [Department of Justice found](#) more than half of hate crimes between 2011 and 2015 were not reported and nearly half (48 percent) were racially motivated.

Williams and Nelson must not be given the power to discredit real hate crimes — like [the case of Brianna Brochu](#), a former University of Hartford student. The 18-year-old white freshman posted on social media about rubbing tampons on her black roommate's backpack, spitting in her coconut oil, putting moldy clam dip in her lotion and sticking her toothbrush "where the sun doesn't shine" so she could get rid of "Jamaican Barbie."

This went on for over a month before someone finally did the right thing and told her roomie, [Chennel Rowe](#). Brochu was expelled, but the school also tried to forbid Rowe from ever speaking about what happened to her, threatening to remove her from her dorm. This story may have never received national attention had she not ignored authorities and posted her story on [Facebook](#).

Brochu has been charged with criminal mischief. And Hartford police [requested a hate crime charge](#): intimidation based on bigotry or bias.

Maryland didn't hide from the ugly truth last month when [Sean Urbanski was indicted on a hate crime](#) charge in the stabbing death of Richard Collins III May 20 at the University of Maryland. Collins was

days away from his Bowie State University graduation. He was a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. And, the prosecutor says, he was killed for being black.

We must take every hate crime accusation seriously, investigate, and when the proof is evident, convict. There is no excuse for falsely reporting hate crimes. But we cannot ignore our hateful truths.

MISSOURIAN

MU Media and Diversity Center to host workshop on media literacy

MYLES POYDRAS

MU's Media & Diversity Center will host a media literacy workshop this week to celebrate Media Literacy Week.

The National Association for Media Literacy Education established the national event, and it takes place Nov. 6-10.

"The purpose (of media literacy) is to develop skills that lead to productive and healthy message consumption for consumers and for society more generally," said Julius Riles, who's the co-director and co-founder of [the center at MU](#).

The workshop will attempt to provide a space where participants can learn media literacy techniques so they can practice them and, further, spread awareness. The center wants participants to understand the value of media literacy and engage in its practices so they can begin to develop the skills on their own, Riles said.

"One of our main goals is to build awareness of the need for media literacy," he said. "Another goal is to reveal the skills: give people the skills to think about in the moment but also to take with them."

The workshop will be held at 301 Switzler Hall from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday. It is free and open to the public, but the center does ask that participants RSVP on its [website](#).

MISSOURIAN

Doris Kearns Goodwin applies lessons from past presidents to Trump at MU lecture

NANCY COLEMAN

Has history ever seen a president quite like Donald Trump?

This is a familiar question for Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, who spoke Monday night to a sold-out audience in Jesse Auditorium as one of the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy's distinguished lecturers.

There have been plenty of businessmen to hold the office, but they all spent time in the public sector before moving to the White House. Others have had some sort of military background, another trait that sets Trump apart. Have any been, as Goodwin put it, "A true outsider who's never held public office? Never been a leading military figure?"

Her answer? No.

However, Goodwin said there are still similarities to be found in the stories of the 44 men who came before Trump. Her lecture Monday night focused on lessons that can be applied to the problems he faces today.

"I believe the potent mix of anger, anxiety, fear and hope that fueled Trump's momentum has clear echoes in the past," Goodwin said.

Goodwin's lecture was structured around the leadership characteristics Trump can adopt from his predecessors. How would Abraham Lincoln handle his frustration? What would Franklin Roosevelt do to relax during the trials and tribulations of World War II?

Many of these leadership characteristics involved problems that likely every president has faced: the ability to control impulses and anger, or the ability to replenish energy and relax.

Goodwin said she thought relaxing by golfing and traveling to Mar-a-Lago was "just fine." But, just as Lincoln would let off steam by writing angry letters without sending them, Goodwin said it might be best if Trump held two Twitter accounts, with the intention of using a fake one to tweet his more heated sentiments.

Goodwin also drew a comparison between how both Trump and past presidents have used the most common media at the time to their advantage. Roosevelt, she said, drew American families around their radios to listen to his fireside chats, while John F. Kennedy had a similar effect with the rise of television.

Likewise, she said, Trump has "mastered" social media: When he tweets, news outlets pay attention. But Goodwin also said there is a difference from other presidents in Trump's tendency toward instantaneous communication. Lincoln, in contrast, would rarely speak unprepared.

"There is a gap between campaigning and governing, which makes these instant comments more troubling," Goodwin said.

Goodwin said one of the most helpful lessons for Trump to take away is the ability to stay motivated and resilient when faced with frustration, particularly after what she described as a turbulent 10 months in office.

"Clearly, these initial months of the Trump administration have revealed a number of things that need to be changed," Goodwin said. "So the critical question for him is, will he learn from these trials in office?"

... Is his temperament suited for self-reflection? Does he have the humility to admit error, to learn from his mistakes?"



Event provides space for immigrants to tell their stories

By: Kristen Harris

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/event-provides-space-for-immigrants-to-tell-their-stories>

COLUMBIA - About one in four children under 18 in the United States have at least one foreign-born parent. Due to this growing number and the recent controversial political conversations, three MU organizations banded together to host an event in hopes of raising awareness for the challenges immigrants face.

Thursday, panelists told their immigrant experiences to members of the community at the More Than One Story: Immigrants in the United States panel dinner discussion.

The Bridge in the College of Education, the Cambio Center & MU Latino Professional Network co-sponsored the event.

Lindsey Saunders, Cambio Center coordinator, said, "We organized this event to help share with the MU community and the Columbia community about the variety of experiences that immigrants have in the United States and in our community and to also see the contributions and assets that immigrants are bringing to our communities," Saunders said.

They chose the name "More Than One Story" to symbolize the diverse locations migrants come from and every immigrant has a different experience.

Kania Johnson, student advisor for The Bridge, said, “It’s just important for people to understand that everyone’s story is different, and what brought them to the United States and the things they have to go through aren’t always similar,” Johnson said.

Saunders said she agrees that it's important to look at immigration from another standpoint.

“It’s important for those of us who are not immigrants to recognize the challenges of leaving your life and starting a new life in a different place,” Saunders said.

The co-hosts developed this event to help get rid of some of the negative stigma against immigrants.

“Living in a new location and a new country in a new culture is very challenging, and despite that, immigrants bring a lot of contributions, a lot of assets, a lot of different perspectives. A lot of innovation. The research shows us that immigrants are assets to our communities,” Saunders said.

Tomiwa Shonekan, immigrant panelist speaker, said, “The United States is a country of immigrants. Immigration brings diversity to the United States, so we have to be willing to engage immigrants at different levels without making it difficult on the system or on immigrants themselves. The immigration laws are structured to eliminate rather than to include.”

According to the center for immigration studies, "An analysis of new government data by the Center for Immigration Studies shows more than three million new legal and illegal immigrants settled in the United States in 2014 and 2015 — a 39 percent increase over the prior two years. The number of legal and illegal immigrants settling in the country is now higher than before the 2007 recession and may match the level in 2000 and 2001. Immigration from other countries has offset a decline in immigration from Mexico."

City council approves first phase of Clary-Shy agriculture park

By **BRITTANY RUESS**

The Columbia City Council received a rare round of applause Monday after members unanimously approved plans for the Clary-Shy Agriculture Park.

The council gave the OK to the first phase of the park project, which will create 40 covered stalls for Columbia Farmers Market vendors in a pavilion named after University of Missouri Health Care, which paid a \$495,000 sponsorship to maintain naming rights for a decade.

The MU Health sponsorship money will go toward the phase 1 project cost of nearly \$1.47 million. Other funding will come from \$400,000 in park sales tax revenue and nearly \$575,000 from the city's designated loan fund.

Phase 1 will also include a 40-car parking lot, urban garden and outdoor classroom at the site near the city's Activity & Recreation Center on West Ash Street. Construction is expected to start in the spring and be completed by fall 2019.

For about two years, the Columbia Parks and Recreation Department and various groups including the farmers market, Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture and Sustainable Farms and Communities have collaborated on the park plans and raising funds for the project.

In upcoming phases of the project, an additional 58 covered vendor stalls will be built within the pavilion for a total of 98 spots.

Corrina Smith, executive director of the Columbia Farmers Market, said the market currently has 66 spots. The farmers market has a maximum of 80 vendors, some of which are seasonal, who come from within a 50-mile radius of Columbia, Smith said. Vendors sold about \$2.1 million worth of food and products last year, she said.

The market has grown in its 37 years and now sees about 3,000 customers throughout the summer months, Smith said. The park will help the farmers market serve a growing customer base, she said.

The Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture will build a 3-4 acre fruit and vegetable garden, orchard and other areas to grow fruit. The organization will teach gardening and agriculture classes at the park. Healthy living and sustainable food production classes will be held on the site.

Billy Polansky, executive director of the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture, said the gardens the organization will oversee will produce about 50,000 pounds of food annually for local food pantries while giving residents and children their first exposure to agriculture.

The Columbia Farmers Market has accepted federally-subsidized payments for food since 2010, Smith said.

Kenneth Pigg, chair of Sustainable Farms & Communities, said expanding the farmers market could grow the organization's healthy food program, which matches the first \$25 of food purchases for individuals at or below 300 percent of the federal poverty line. A family of three at 300 percent of the federal poverty line has an annual household income of \$61,260.

Sustainable Farms & Communities' healthy food program served 355 families last year, representing more than 1,000 people, at about \$40,000, Pigg said. The program will likely reach \$50,000 in support for families next year, he said. Those families spend about \$100 per person per month on food on average.

Robbie Price, the architect for the project, said plans are being reviewed by city staff. The entire project is expected to cost \$5 million to \$7 million. The project has also received a \$50,000 grant from the National Association of Conservation Districts and a \$700,000 grant from the Missouri Foundation for Health.

Price said the park and pavilion could also be used as a meeting space or party venue that would generate revenue for the city.

Florida State Bans All Fraternities, Sororities

NO MU MENTION

By JEREMY BAUER-WOLF

Florida State University has banned fraternities and sororities following the death of a student, [its president announced Monday](#).

Andrew Coffey, 20, who was pledging Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, was found unresponsive the morning after attending a party Thursday night. He received medical treatment but was unable to be revived.

President John Thrasher said Monday he was suspending all Greek activities immediately and indefinitely. He did not specify when or under what circumstances he would rescind the prohibition.

“For this suspension to end, there will need to be a new normal for Greek life at the university,” he said in a statement. “There must be a new culture, and our students must be full participants in creating it.”

Alcohol is also banned at all events by student organizations affiliated with the university, Thrasher said.

While the suspension is in place, fraternity and sorority chapters can’t hold new member events, council or chapter meetings, tailgates, or other events such as socials or retreats. They can continue living in their chapter houses.

Another Florida State fraternity member, Garrett John Macy, of Phi Delta Theta, was recently charged with selling and trafficking cocaine. His case is unrelated to Coffey’s.