



## News Updates

### [FACT CHECK: Has MU "bent over backwards" to increase faculty diversity?](#)

Columbia Missourian - December 5, 2018

While **MU** has indeed taken measures to increase faculty diversity, faculty diversity has hardly increased. In 2015, black faculty was slightly less than 3 percent. The most recent data (2017) shows that 3.3 percent of MU's faculty is black — 65 faculty members out of 1,969. Additionally, 44 percent of non-black faculty have tenure, while 22 percent of black faculty have tenure.

### [Students pledge \\$1.3 million to MU Women's and Children's Hospital\\*](#)

Columbia Daily Tribune - December 4, 2018

MizzouThon, an **MU** student-led philanthropy organization, pledged \$1.3 million to the MU Women's and Children's Hospital on Tuesday.

*A similar story also ran in the [Columbia Missourian](#).*

### [Facility Review Says Some MU Buildings Need Renovation](#)

KBIA - December 5, 2018

The Missouri Department of Higher Education released its Facility Review last month with concerns about deferred maintenance issues on Missouri campuses. It also identified 40 buildings at **MU** in need of major renovation or complete demolition.

### [Symposium focused on the 'science of addiction' to be held at MU\\*](#)

Columbia Missourian - December 5, 2018

An all-day symposium covering many different aspects of addiction will be held Thursday at **MU**. It is meant to help kick-start collaboration between professionals and researchers who do addiction-related work, according to an **MU** news release.

*A similar story also ran in the [Maneater](#).*

### [Speaker rallies citizens at Medicare for All event](#)

Columbia Missourian - December 5, 2018

In a speech Wednesday at the **MU School of Medicine**, Wendell Potter compared the U.S. health care system to those of other countries and discredited the corporate practices he learned as an insider. According to Potter and data from the Commonwealth Fund and the Kaiser Family Foundation, the average cost of family premiums has nearly tripled since 1999, from about \$6,000 to almost \$20,000 today. The amount spent on deductibles has gone up by 250 percent since 2005.

### [Former President Jimmy Carter's legacy deserves reconsideration, says former domestic policy adviser](#)

Phelps County Focus - December 5, 2018

Former President Jimmy Carter always said George H.W. Bush was his favorite successor. Stuart Eizenstat, Carter's chief White House domestic policy adviser, reminisced on Wednesday that the two former presidents had many similarities despite their differing party affiliations. Eizenstat spoke Wednesday at **MU**. "Both were ferocious campaigners, but who, once elected, governed from the middle, who reached compromises on important areas," he said.

### [Keepin' it green](#)

Fulton Sun - December 6, 2018

Few things are sadder than a poinsettia in January. **University of Missouri** Extension Horticulturist David Trinklein has advice for how to keep the plants perky. "The care given a poinsettia following the holiday season largely will dictate whether or not the plant lives to see another Christmas," Trinklein said.

[New contract pays Mizzou's Barry Odom \\$3.05 million through 2024](#)

St. Louis Post Dispatch – December 5, 2018

On Tuesday, **University of Missouri** football coach Barry Odom got his quarterback. On Wednesday, he got his contract. Coming off an 8-4 regular season that ended with the program's first national ranking in more than three years, Missouri has rewarded Odom with a new contract that will push his salary from \$2.35 million to \$3.05 million and extend the deal two more years through the 2024 season. The University of Missouri System Board of Curators approved the new contract during an executive session meeting Wednesday afternoon.

**Similar stories appeared in multiple national media outlets.**

## University of Missouri System

[MU graduate workers still aren't employees, curators argue in new appeal](#)

Columbia Missourian - December 5, 2018

**MU** graduate student workers still aren't employees, the **UM System Board of Curators** argues. The curators filed an appeal last week to a judge's ruling that sided with the Coalition of Graduate Workers' suit against the curators.

[Grant aims to connect St. Louis businesses with university researchers](#)

St. Louis Post-Dispatch – December 6, 2018

The **University of Missouri System** has received a \$692,144 federal grant to build an online portal linking St. Louis area businesses with university researchers and potential student interns.

## University of Missouri - Kansas City

[Seg. 1: Kansas City Makes National Geographic Best Trip List. Seg. 2: Offbeat Holiday Films.](#)

KCUR – December 4, 2018

Guests on "Up-to-Date" were **UMKC** faculty members Mitch Brian and Erin Hamer-Beck.

[466 tenured faculty eligible for university buyouts](#)

The Associated Press (via The Kansas City Star) – December 4, 2018

More than 450 tenured faculty in the University of Missouri System are eligible for an employee buyout program. The largest number is on the Columbia campus, where 224 faculty members are eligible. The **University of Missouri-Kansas City** has 112 eligible faculty; Missouri-St. Louis has 72; and Missouri University of Science and Technology has 55 eligible.

## Missouri University of Science and Technology

[Building better aerogels by crushing them\\*](#)

Research and Development Magazine – December 5, 2018

Strong, flexible and ultralight aerogels are used in a wide variety of products, from insulation for offshore oil pipelines to parts for space exploration missions. Now, aerogels are undergoing a paradigm shift due to a breakthrough in the understanding of their mechanical properties at the nanoscale level. ... Researchers at **Missouri University of Science and Technology** are investigating the mechanical properties of aerogels at the nanoparticle level – combining experiments and computer modeling to look at how polymeric aerogels can fail and become deformed.

**Several science news websites posted this news release on aerogels.**

### [Missouri S&T named to Safe Campus Top 25 list\\*](#)

Phelps County Focus – December 5, 2018

The National Campus Safety Summit has named **Missouri University of Science and Technology** Police Department to its Safe Campus Top 25 list, a list of 25 universities that are making a difference in student safety. Missouri S&T, which ranked 20th, is the only Missouri University to be ranked.

### [Miner performance in Mineral Water Bowl dominating on the field, in the stands and at the tailgates](#)

Phelps County Focus – December 5, 2018

Yes, to a man the **Missouri S&T** football team would have preferred to be included in the field of schools battling for the NCAA Division II national championship. But one glance at the rain-soaked field, bleachers and tailgate row by the end of the game showed just how meaningful Saturday's dominating performance in the Mineral Water Bowl was to the Miner players, fans and alumni.

### [Leach Theatre to showcase Celtic Angels\\*](#)

Phelps County Focus – December 5, 2018

Leach Theatre will host the Celtic Angels for a performance of their holiday show, "Celtic Angel Christmas," as a part of the 2018-19 Leach Special Performance Series at **Missouri University of Science and Technology**.

## University of Missouri-St. Louis

### [MSW alumna puts her training to work in advocating for death row inmates\\*](#)

UMSL Daily - December 5, 2018

She works in tandem with lawyers, paralegals and fact investigators, with the goal of getting people off death row. Land, who earned her MSW from the **University of Missouri–St. Louis** in 2015, knows the gravity of her work.

### [Grant aims to connect St. Louis businesses with university researchers](#)

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - December 5, 2018

Tamara Wilgers, director of the office of technology commercialization and economic development at the **University of Missouri–St. Louis**, said the interchange should be up and running in 2020.

### [Symposium focused on the 'Science of Addiction' to be held at MU](#)

Columbia Missourian - December 5, 2018

The symposium will feature other speakers from MU; the University of Missouri-Kansas City; the **University of Missouri–St. Louis**; and Missouri University of Science and Technology. The full schedule can be found on MU's College of Arts and Science's website.

### [Opinion: Prominent Church Leader Laments Archdiocese Council "Meltdown"](#)

Pappas Post - December 5, 2018

Nicholas Karakas is the founder of the Karakas Family Foundation, a former member of the Archdiocesan Council and an active philanthropist. In 1996, Karakas donated \$1.5 million to the **University of Missouri St. Louis** to establish the university's Greek Studies program and to endow a chair in Byzantine and Orthodox Studies.

## The Chronicle of Higher Education

### [What Would It Take to Keep Campus Protests Safe? One Idea: a 'Mobile Force Platoon'](#)

The Chronicle of Higher Education – December 5, 2018

A safety panel at the University of North Carolina recommended that the university create a 40-person "mobile force platoon" to respond to protests on the Chapel Hill campus and across the sprawling 17-campus system. The price tag: \$2 million annually, with \$500,000 in equipment costs.

***\*Story generated by efforts of the university's PR team.***