

# Truman today

A weekly newsletter for students, faculty and staff | Vol. 17 No. 29 | April 22, 2013

## Seniors Given Opportunity to Give Back

The Office of Advancement is inviting all May graduating seniors to participate in its senior giving campaign by making a \$20 gift to the Truman State University Foundation.

Any student who makes a gift to the Foundation will be invited to a special "Party with T-Pain" on May 6 in the Student Union Building.

Students may decide to allocate their gift towards the University Fund of their choosing, depending on what has been most important to them during their time at Truman. Possible funds include a variety of general scholarship funds, athletics and academic department scholarships. Visit [giving.truman.edu/FundsList.asp](http://giving.truman.edu/FundsList.asp) to see a full

listing of all the different Foundation funds.

Thanks to the continued generosity of our alumni, parents and friends, the Foundation is able to provide numerous scholarship opportunities for our students. As the graduating senior class will soon be transitioning over to being member of a much larger alumni network they are being asked to consider a small gift back to the University that will make a difference for future students.

For more information, or details concerning the invitation, a donation or the possible funds available, visit [alumni.truman.edu/Graduates/2013/PartyWithT-Pain\\_Main.asp](http://alumni.truman.edu/Graduates/2013/PartyWithT-Pain_Main.asp) or call 660.785.4133.

## Students Awarded NSF Fellowship

Erin Farmer, a senior biology major from Arma, Kan., and Tyler Young, a senior computer science major from Kearney, Mo., have both been awarded a competitive Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The NSF Fellowship program began in 1952 and is designed to support research-based graduate students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The fellowship provides three years of support, including \$10,500 in tuition assistance and a

\$30,000 stipend. This year the NSF received more than 13,000 submitted applications from students all over the country and made only 2,000 award offers. Farmer plans to attend the University of Kansas to pursue research in molecular biology. Young plans to defer his graduate school at this time.

Along with Farmer and Young, 2010 alumnus Will Petry and 2009 alumnus Josh Hirner received fellowships. Both attended and conducted research at the University of California, Irvine.

## Zuspann Chosen for Inaugural Scholarship

Steve Genevieve High School chemistry teacher Steve Zuspann has been selected as the inaugural honoree of the James and Margaret Mudd Teacher Recognition Scholarship.

Thirty-nine teachers were nominated by spring graduates for the significant impact they made in their students' lives.

A selection committee reviewed the candidates, and based on essays written by seniors Jenna McClanahan and Nicole Boyer, Zuspann was selected as this year's honoree.

Zuspann will be recognized during the Spring

2013 Commencement Ceremony and a \$1,000 scholarship will be given in his honor to an incoming Truman student from Ste. Genevieve High School.

Since its origin as the North Missouri Normal School in 1867, Truman State University has been committed to providing a strong teacher education program. Over the years, more than 8,000 teachers have received their preparation at the University, and the dedication to teacher programs is deeply rooted in the University's history.



### Upcoming Events

#### Spring Drive-In "A Night at the Oscars"

April 27  
Red Barn Park

#### Featuring:

"Silver Linings Playbook"  
7:30 p.m.  
&  
"Zero Dark Thirty"  
9:45 p.m.

Admission is free. Rain site will be located at Pershing Arena. Both featured films were Oscars' Best Picture Nominees.

#### Spring Concert Lee Brice

8:15 p.m.  
May 3  
Red Barn Park  
Doors open at 7:45 p.m.

Admission is free. Pershing Arena will be the rain site. Rain site vouchers are now available for students, faculty, staff and general admission at the SAB Office located in the Student Union Building. For more information visit [sab.truman.edu](http://sab.truman.edu) or call 660.785.4722

# Students Participate in Service-Learning in the Community

For several years the University has increasingly incorporated service-learning into the curriculum and many students have found it to be a rewarding part of their Truman experience.

"I was unsure about the service-learning at first because it was something new," said Truman sophomore Laura Beckering, who tutors students at Ray Miller Elementary School in Kirksville. "Now that I am getting used to it, I really enjoy helping the students and seeing the results when a child understands something they didn't before."

Through her Motivation and Emotion Psychology class, Beckering works with the Kirksville after-school program called Tiger Club, which provides students with a healthy snack, recess, help with their homework and academic instruction in reading and math.

Theresa Heckert, professor and chair of psychology and instructor of Beckering's class, is a supporter of service-learning and has implemented it in her classroom settings. She has experimented with different ways of getting her students involved in the community. Heckert recalls first hearing about service-learning at a University Conference Day and has since published research on the topic.

Heckert's goal for this particular class is to put Truman students in a position of motivating a child. Truman students have found themselves using resources from their own classroom to positively affect and reason with Kirksville students with homework, on the playground or during free reading time.

Teachers such as Amy Martin volunteer to stay two hours beyond their contract time to assist the students. Martin, a Truman alumna, has spent the past 10 years investing in her students after school.

"It is very beneficial for them both academically and socially

to have a safe, structured, supportive environment after school," Martin said.

This year the structure for the motivation class is experimental. Students meet with the professor once a week for a lecture, tutor once a week and submit a journal at the end of each week connecting their experiences with the textbook material. Online lectures are also provided for more in-depth discussions on each chapter.

At the beginning of the semester students were given the choice of different grades and after-school programs to assist with, one being Ray Miller Elementary School.

Heckert has found all the evidence she needs to believe in the power of service-learning. Through her students' work and course evaluations she can attest to the deeper learning that pairs with civil involvement. She feels that each person should know that he or she can have an impact.

Participating in after-school programs has made course material valuable and instilled confidence in the lives of Beckering and her fellow classmates.

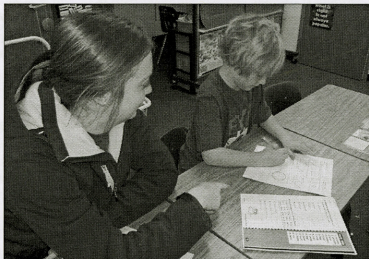
"This is a class where I become genuinely excited about what we are

learning," Beckering said. "The course material is really just that – material from a course – until it is applied to real life."

Ray Miller students warmly accept Truman students into their schools each semester. Although some may be shy at first, Beckering commented, "several kids are not hesitant about shooting up their hands."

Martin has worked with Truman students for years and seen the same positivity coming from her students.

"The kids love working with Truman students," she said. "The extra attention makes them feel special."



Sophomore Laura Beckering tutors a student at Ray Miller Elementary as a part of the Kirksville after-school program called Tiger Club.

## McNair Scholars Selected for External Research Programs

Three McNair Scholars, Kate Angulski, David Hutchinson and Alexis Morris have all been accepted to participate in external research programs.

Angulski, a justice systems major, is one of only four students selected nationwide to participate in the criminal justice track of "Using the Social Sciences, Natural Sciences and Mathematics to Study Crime." This eight-week Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham is supported by a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant. As part of the REU, Angulski will receive room, board, travel and a \$3,600 stipend.

Hutchinson, a history major, will conduct research at Washington University in St. Louis through a Leadership Alliance Summer Research Early Identification Program (SR-EIP). As part of the 10-week program, Hutchinson will receive room, board and a \$3,000 stipend.

Morris, a chemistry major, will be a fellow in the CRISP REU Fellowship Program at Yale University, a NSF grant supported Materials Research Science and Engineering Center program. As part of the eight-week REU, Morris will receive room, board and travel as well as a stipend.

# Truman Students Present at NCUR

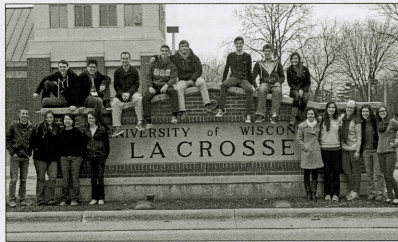
Seventeen students represented Truman at the 27th National Conference on Undergraduate Research hosted by the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse April 11-13.

More than 3,000 undergraduate students from 48 states and seven countries showcased presentations representing 60 disciplines including: biology, business, chemistry, communications, diversity, English, health science, history, math, physics, psychology and sociology.

Students awarded travel funds from the Office

of Student Research include: Chris Becker, Emma Brockshmidt, Thomas Bunting, Harold Eyechaner, Jennifer Flynn, Laura Franks, Sheri He, Devin Heier, April Johnston, Nena Koseva, Grant Libra, Lona Moody, Emma Shirey, Eric Volstromer, Bridget Waller and Bob Williamson.

The National Conferences on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), established in 1987, is dedicated to promoting undergraduate research, scholarship and creative activity in all fields of study by sponsoring an annual conference for students.



Seventeen Truman students traveled to La Crosse, Wis., to showcase their undergraduate research across all disciplines at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research April 11-13. Students were able to receive financial support from Truman's Office of Research (OSR) to attend the conference.

## Guidelines to Follow for Cyclists

As the weather improves, the Department of Public Safety wants to remind all cyclists of the campus guidelines.

Anyone operating a bicycle must obey the same traffic control regulations that apply to cars and motorcycles, such as stopping for stop signs and riding in the right-hand portion of the roadway. When ridden after dark, bikes must be equipped with a headlight, large red reflector on the rear and white or amber pedal and spoke reflectors.

Bicycles parked on campus must be left in bicycle racks, which are provided in convenient locations. Bikes are not to be left in buildings, entrances, ramps or any other hazardous location.

They should not be attached to any trees or light poles. Bicycles that are illegally parked are subject to parking tickets and/or confiscation by the Department of Public Safety. Bicycles should be ridden on streets, not on sidewalks, lawns or parkways that are property of Truman.

Students are strongly encouraged to register their bikes with DPS. Registration permits are issued free of charge. More information on the biking policies may be found at [police.truman.edu/parkingservices/parkServ.asp](http://police.truman.edu/parkingservices/parkServ.asp).

Truman supports the use of bicycles as a means of transportation, but ultimately the safety of all campus pedestrians is of first priority.

## NOTABLES

**Gregory Jones, professor of music**, will return to China in early May for a tour that will include recitals and performances with Chinese colleagues and master classes. Jones will be working with Chinese brass players and teachers as well as performing in concerts that include an evening recital at the famed Beijing Central Conservatory, as well as performances in Tianjin and Lanzhou. This will be Jones' fourth tour of China following earlier appearances in Beijing, Tianjin, Weihai, Weifang, Yantai, Jinan and Nanjing. He has held the position of visiting professor of music at the Tianjin Conservatory since 2001 and has hosted his counterpart, professor Chen Rui from Tianjin, at Truman.

**Five anthropology majors from Truman, Kathryn Hedlund, Racheal Kisse, Zoe Matlock, Rose McCray and Julianne Meyer**, attended the Central States Anthropological Society annual meeting in St. Louis April 4-6 with **Amber Johnson, professor of anthropology**. Hedlund and Meyer also presented papers at the meeting. Hedlund's paper was entitled "Cultural Views and their Impact on Mental Illness: An Analysis of Schizophrenia, Recovery and Attitudes about Mental Illness across Cultures," and Meyer's paper was "The Devil Lives in the Apple Orchard and other Kansas City Ghost Tales."

### THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES RESEARCH PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

The School of Social and Cultural Studies invites you to join us to learn about research supported by summer research fellowships in 2012. There is a \$5 credit toward lunch at Mainstreet Market with a sign in sheet at the register. All events take place at 12 p.m. in the Student Union Building 3203.

#### April 22

XIAOFEN CHEN

*Economics*

"Is China's High Household Saving Sustainable?"

AMANDA MEDLOCK-

KLYUKOVSKI

*Communication*

"Student Resistance and Communication Apprehension"

## NOTES

**The Music Department Spring Gala** will take place at 7:30 p.m. April 27 in the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall. A broad range of ensembles will be featured.

**A retirement reception for Sandra Fleak and Scott Fouch, professors of accounting,** will take place from 2:30-4 p.m. April 25 in the School of Business Lounge.

**The Physics Colloquium** will conclude at 4:30 p.m. April 25 in Magruder Hall 1096 when alumnus Sucheta Jawalkar of the Department of Physics at Duke University presents "Proton Tomography in Momentum Space Using An Electron Beam."

**Minor Detail** will host its Spring Concert 8 p.m. April 26 in the Baldwin Hall Auditorium.

**The local Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring Spring Fever** 8 a.m.-4 p.m. April 27 at the Crossing Church, 810 E. Shepherd, with special student hours from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Jimmy John's will be handing out samples to students with an ID. There will also be Minute to Win It games and great prize giveaways including an iPad

and headphones. Tickets for students are \$1 and there is a \$1 off coupon for Belacino's on the back of each ticket. For more information contact the Chamber at 660.665.3766.

**Many Truman faculty, staff and students are involved in helping raise money and gathering canned food for multiple local organizations.** One of those organizations is the Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri at [sharefoodbringhope.org](http://sharefoodbringhope.org). Walmart is splitting \$3 million to 100 different food banks across the county and the decision on who gets that money is based upon the number of votes each one gets through April 30. A person can vote every day. To vote, go to [wm8.walmart.com/Hunger](http://wm8.walmart.com/Hunger).

**The Staff Council BBQ** will take place from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. May 3 at the University Club for all University staff. The menu includes grilled hamburgers, hotdogs, veggie burgers, fresh fruit and vegetables. Attendees are encouraged to bring a dessert to share and to remember to sign up for door prizes when they arrive. RSVP via email to [cdavis@truman.edu](mailto:cdavis@truman.edu). An RSVP is not required but greatly appreciated.

### School of Social and Cultural Studies Interim Dean Open Forums

The open forum times and locations for the two School of Social and Cultural Studies Interim Dean candidates have been finalized. The search committee hopes that as many members of the Truman community as possible will be able to attend these events, during which Truman staff, students and faculty may ask questions of each of the candidates. The dates, times and locations are as follows:

**Teresa Heckert**  
3 p.m. • April 23  
Violette Hall 1000

**Elizabeth Clark**  
4 p.m. • April 23  
Violette Hall 1000

Evaluation forms will be available at the forums and online at [sacs.truman.edu](http://sacs.truman.edu).

Please hand in forms immediately following the forum or submit them to Peggy Clark in McClain Hall 213 or at [pegclark@truman.edu](mailto:pegclark@truman.edu) no later than 4:30 p.m. April 24.

For those who are unable to attend, the open forums will be videotaped and made available online at [sacs.truman.edu](http://sacs.truman.edu) as soon as possible following the forum.

### Summer JINS Course in St. Louis

JINS 366, Art, Environment and Community, will be offered this summer for students in the St. Louis area. Weekly meetings will take place at various locations in the city including the St. Louis Art Museum, Missouri History Museum, St. Louis Public Library and the Missouri Botanical Garden. Students will create artwork dealing with ecology in the St. Louis community. Other coursework will be online via Blackboard. For more information, contact Kelsey Wiskirchen at [kelseyw@truman.edu](mailto:kelseyw@truman.edu).

## PICKLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

### Book Sale

The Library is accepting donations for its annual fall book sale. Donations can be dropped off at the Library Service Desk or in the Library Dean's office (PML 102). The 2013 sale has been scheduled for Sept. 24-25, 2013.

For more information, go to [library.truman.edu/about-us/book-sale.asp](http://library.truman.edu/about-us/book-sale.asp).

## ASSESSMENT AT TRUMAN

*How Does Truman Measure Up?*

### Think You Know Your Professors?

In both 2011 and 2012, more than 80 percent of first-year students surveyed said they "expect to graduate from Truman knowing three or more faculty well enough to ask for a letter of recommendation." However, of the seniors surveyed, only 28 percent reported that they "discussed grades or assignments with and instructor" and a mere 19 percent said they "talked about career plans with a faculty member or advisor." Now is as good a time as any to get out and meet your professors. Whether you are a freshman just beginning to get to know your department, or a senior looking for after-college opportunities, getting to know the faculty is always beneficial. How many professors do you know well? Are you meeting the expectation? You can access this data, as well as other interesting facts, via the Assessment Almanac, at [assessment.truman.edu/almanac/index.asp](http://assessment.truman.edu/almanac/index.asp).