

TRUMAN

A Weekly Publication for Students, Faculty, and Staff



T O D A Y

Vol. 8, No. 10

Oct. 21, 2003

THE BOARD OF
GOVERNORS
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU
TO THE
INSTALLATION
OF
BARBARA DIXON
AS THE FOURTEENTH
PRESIDENT OF
TRUMAN
STATE UNIVERSITY
3 P.M.
NOV. 14
BALDWIN AUDITORIUM

Due to limited seating,
contact the President's Office
at 785.4100 to make
reservations by Oct. 31.

Elizabeth C. Nolan Scholarship Established at Truman State University

The Truman State University Advancement Office is pleased to announce the establishment of the Elizabeth C. Nolan Scholarship at Truman State University. The scholarship, in honor of Nolan, was made possible by a \$200,000 gift from her estate. Nolan passed away on April 15, 2003.



Nolan was born Feb. 6, 1903. She graduated from Edina High School in 1921 and taught for several years in the Knox County elementary schools before attending Truman State University (then Northeast Missouri State Teachers College). She graduated with a degree in education in 1928.

Nolan taught high school in Hannibal, Mo., and Detroit. She received a master's

degree from the University of Michigan in 1939, and continued teaching in Michigan until 1965. She then returned to Missouri to be with her sister Geraldine and taught freshman English part-time at Truman. Upon her sister's death in 1969, she returned to Michigan and later moved to North Carolina where she lived in a retirement community until her death at the age of 100.

According to friends, Nolan was a life-long learner who loved to read and was passionate and enthusiastic in her support of students. She spoke often of her connections to Truman State University, and recognized the importance of education. The Elizabeth C. Nolan Scholarship was established for the benefit of students who demonstrate academic ability and financial need. In accordance with Nolan's wishes, preference in awarding will be given to graduates of Knox County High School.

Truman Faculty and Students Receive NSF Grant

Brent Buckner, associate professor of biology, recently received notification he was awarded a National Science Foundation Grant within the Plant Genome Research Program. Buckner is the co-principal investigator for this grant, titled "High-Density Genetic Map of Maize Transcripts." The grant is a collaborative effort between Buckner's research group and the laboratories of Dan Ashlock of Iowa State University and Patrick Schnable. Schnable is the senior principal investigator.

The award is for a total of \$3,691,269 during a three year funding period. The Truman research effort will receive just more than \$143,000 for its three-year com-

mitment to this collaboration. In addition to funding these research activities, the award also will fund an international scientific cultural experience for the undergraduate researchers from Truman State University and Iowa State University. Buckner will lead a group of students on a tour of the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) located outside of Mexico City.

En route to CIMMYT, the undergraduate research students will stop in New Mexico and visit museums, extant Native American Pueblo communities and prehistoric Native American settlements, to consider the influences of maize on modern and traditional art and culture.



is proud to present
**Trinity Academy
Irish Dancers**

7:30 p.m. • Oct. 25
Baldwin Auditorium

Free tickets are available
for students, faculty and
staff at the SAB Office or
the CSI.

Call 785.4016
for more information.

FALL 2003 CAREER EXPO

1-5 p.m.

Oct. 21

Student Union
Building

RECEPTION

5-6 p.m.

Oct. 21

SUB Alumni Room

Visit

[http://career.truman.edu/
CareerExpo/home.asp](http://career.truman.edu/CareerExpo/home.asp)
to view a complete list of
employers attending the
Career Expo.

For more information, call
Career Center at 785.4353.

Foundation Scholarship Deadline Extended

The Truman State
University Foundation
announced Oct. 14 that
the deadline for applying
for Spring Scholarships
has been extended to 3
p.m., Oct. 31, due to
technical difficulties with
the server.

Students who submitted
applications between
Oct. 5-13 are asked to
contact the Advancement
Office at 785.4688
to confirm that their
applications were
received.

2003 Interview Project Analysis Provides Better Understanding of Student Life

This article is the first of several articles that will discuss how assessment is being used at Truman.

Article submitted by

Christy Dixon and Allison Dougherty

Analysis of the spring 2003 Interview Project, which surveyed student activities, the liberal arts environment, and the curriculum, provides the University with a better understanding of student life at Truman.

Members from the Interview Project Team meet with students every spring semester and ask questions designed to give students an outlet for their opinions. Sample groups of Truman first-year and upper-class students were randomly selected and offered the opportunity to participate in the Project.

Seeking to create a profile of students to augment their more specific oral responses, the written questionnaire asks about a variety of questions from study habits to participation in out-of-class experiences.

Students were first asked to evaluate the importance of several factors in producing a personally successful class experience. Specific characteristics were rated as either not at all important, of minor importance, somewhat important, very important, or extremely important.

Both first-year and upper-class students rated as very important in the success of the class "interest in subject matter" and "homework assignments relating to the test material." They also rated "understanding course material, regardless of the grade received," as very important.

When asked for the earliest time they could have a successful class experience, first-year students most frequently answered with 8:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. Upper-class students generally preferred no classes earlier than 9 a.m.

When asked about personal study habits, 63 percent of first-year students preferred to study in their own rooms, but only 39 percent indicated that their room also was their most efficient place to study; 36 percent said their most efficient study periods took place in the library. Forty-one percent of upper-class students indicated their most efficient study periods were at home.

Students also ranked the importance of several characteristics of out-of-class activities. Both first-year and upper-class students rated the opportunity for professional advancement between somewhat and very important. At the same time, both student groups indicated that "having fun" fell between very and extremely important. Students considered out-of-class experiences that introduce them to new ideas and concepts very important.

Upper-class students participate on average in 2.9 different out-of-class activities while first-year students participate in 2.4. Seventy-two percent of upper-class students hold jobs compared to 21 percent of the first-year students, perhaps explained in part by upper-class students having a work obligation that first-year students do not: scholarship hours.

Division between first-year and upper-class student opinion occurred on important factors involved in student-faculty interaction. First-year students considered it very to extremely important for a faculty member to have good presentation skills, whereas upper-class students only considered it very important. Faculty concern for student development was very important to both upper-class and first-year students.

Analysis of this survey continues and the Interview Team extends their appreciation to all who participated.

Ryle Hall Date Auction Benefits Cancer Research

Two Ryle Hall Student Advisers, Brooke Sorrell and Sharice Adkins, sponsored a Date Auction with all proceeds going to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Oct. 1. The fun-filled event raised \$1,554 through the generous giving from



all audience members.

Thirty people volunteered to spend a social evening with their "date" with the understanding the main reason for the event was to raise money and awareness for the fight against breast cancer.

Notables

David Conner, associate professor of psychology, had the article he co-authored with David R. Cross, "Longitudinal Analysis of the Presence, Efficacy and Stability of Maternal Scaffolding During Informal Problem-Solving Interactions," published in the 2003 edition of *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*.

Taner Edis, assistant professor of physics, was a panelist in a "Mormon-Humanist Dialogue" held Oct. 12 in Amherst, N.Y. Masahiro Hara, assistant professor of Japanese, presented a paper titled "Why

Do L2 Learners Optionally Choose a Certain Divergent Analysis of TL Over a TL-like One?" at the 13th European Second Language Association Annual International Conference Sept. 20 in Edinburgh, UK.

Mark Spitzer, assistant professor of English, will have the following translations published in *The Tin Lustre Mobile*: "Katika," (two versions) by Louis-Ferdinand Celine; "Funeral March," by Jean Genet; "First Song of Maldoror," by Count Lautreamont; and "Secrets on the Isle," by Celine.

New Music Festival Showcases Truman Musicians and Special Guest

The Truman State University Division of Fine Arts, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and Sigma Alpha Iota are pleased to announce the 2003 Truman State University New Musical Festival from Oct. 23-24. Guest composer Charles Argersinger, professor of music at Washington State University and winner of the 2003 Truman Composition Competition, will speak to music classes, work with student composers in master classes, and rehearse three of his works with Truman musicians.

Two concerts presented during the Festival will involve performances by Argersinger, by Truman faculty and student composers, and by other contemporary composers.

Cantoria, under the direction of Mark Jennings, will premiere Argersinger's

"When I Have Fears," from 7:30-9 p.m., Oct. 23, in the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall. "When I Have Fears" was co-commissioned by Truman's chapters of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and Sigma Alpha Iota. In addition to Cantoria, the Truman Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Choir, Brass Choir, and ensembles drawn from the Truman Wind Symphony will perform.

The Truman Brass Quintet will perform a work by Argersinger from 1:30-3 p.m., Oct. 24, in the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall. Other Truman faculty and student musicians also will perform recent compositions by other composers.

Argersinger will speak briefly at both concerts. The concerts are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Warren Gooch at 785.4429.

United Way Student Committee Works on Goal

Student co-chairs Rebecca Rose and Ann Sterrett are busy with the student committee for United Way, making plans to reach their goal of \$4,000.

A large part of the student drive goal will be reached with the Annual Food Fair for United Way in the residential colleges Oct. 22. Morgan Meyer, Missouri Hall director, is coordinating the event. For each student who indicates he/she will donate a meal in his/her block meal plan, Sodexo will donate \$1.65 to United Way or a student may choose to eat, but donate \$1.65 to

United Way. Students may sign up outside of residence hall cafeterias during lunch and dinner. Last year, this event raised more than \$3,100, for the United Way and they are hoping to top that this year.

The student committee also is soliciting the help of student organizations to contribute to United Way as a service project, and organizing an auction that will be held later this month with the help of several area businesses.

Truman has collected \$27,559.43, or 55.1 percent of Truman's goal as of Oct. 15.

Styrofoam or other packaging peanuts may now be recycled. Please place peanuts in a bag or box and drop off at any recycling bin or the at Truman's Recycling Center.

USA Today Academic Team Seeks Nominees

USA Today is now accepting nominations for its 2004 All-USA Academic Team. Sixty students will be named to the first, second and third teams and will be featured in a two-page color spread in the USA Today in February 2004. The 20 members of the first team each will receive a \$2,500 cash award.

Eligible students are any full-time undergraduate of at least sophomore standing at a four-year institution. U.S. citizenship is not required.

To nominate a student, go to <http://allstars.usatoday.com> and download the form. Nominations must be postmarked by Dec. 1.

Winners will be selected by a panel of educators, chosen in cooperation with the program's co-sponsors.

For more information, e-mail USA Today at allstars@usatoday.com.

Midterm grades
for all 100-200
level courses
are now available
on Banner Web.

To access, log in to
Campus Pipeline,
then select the
Banner Web Services tab.

Notes

The \$60 down payment to pre-enroll is no longer required by the Business Office. Students with a hold affecting registration will be prevented from enrolling. Students must satisfy any conditions that have created the hold prior to attempting to register. Students can check for holds on Pipeline.

The Student Health Center will be offering flu vaccinations for two hours every weekday through Oct. 24. Scheduled times for flu vaccines will vary each day. Posters will announce the schedules. All influenza vaccines are on a first-come, first-served basis. The vaccines will be provided free of charge to faculty, staff and spouses covered by the University insurance and for \$10 to all students. Call Brenda Higgins at 785.4562 for more information.

The Truman Art of Living Club is sponsoring a six-day intensive basic course in yoga and breathing. The introduction and registration meeting is at 7 p.m., Oct. 21, in BH 303. All are welcome. For more information, contact Lloyd Plueger at ss57@truman.edu.

The Weekly Lunch Series will continue for faculty, teaching staff and GTRAs with Campus Conversation from 12:30-1:30 p.m., Oct. 22, in the SUB Spanish Room. They will discuss "From Teaching to Learning: A New Paradigm for Undergraduate Education." Call the Center for Teaching and Learning at 785.4391 for more information.

Considering Safe Zone training? Sessions will be offered from 9-11 a.m., Oct. 22, in PML 205; and from 1-3 p.m., Nov. 18, in PML 205. Contact the Center for Teaching and Learning at 785.4391 for more information.

The Global Issues Colloquium presents "Natural Resources" from 7-9 p.m., Oct. 23, in the SUB Activities Room. Contact Julie Lochbaum at 785.4477 for more information.

The University Observatory will be having an Open House, from 8-10:30 p.m., Oct. 23, weather permitting at its new location at the University Farm. Call the Science Division Office at 785.4597 or visit the Observatory Web site at <http://observatory.truman.edu> for more information.

The Division of Fine Arts presents the exhibit "Traditional Textiles of Indochina," on display until Oct. 24 in the University Art Gallery. Gallery hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturday, noon-4:30 p.m. For more information on this exhibit, call Aaron Fine at 785.5386.

The Computer Gaming Association will be having LAN: Counterstrike, Quake 3 Arena and Halo tournaments from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., Oct. 25, in the SUB Activities Room. Participants must pre-register at <http://cga.truman.edu>. The

fee includes two meals. Tournament and door prizes will be awarded. Bring your own computer. Spots are limited to 40. For more information, contact Ryan Lavery at 785.5163.

The Women's Resource Center will be sponsoring the movie "Bend It Like Beckham," at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., Oct. 25, in VH 1000. For more information, call the WRC at 785.7224.

Lambda Alpha Epsilon will host a former FBI serial killer profiler to speak at 8 p.m., Oct. 28, in Baldwin Auditorium. Robert Ressler will express his life experience tracking serial killers. There is no cost to attend. For more information, call Tammy Merline at 660.349.9833.

Sierra Club at Truman will present two programs by speaker Robert L. Wixom, a professor emeritus of biochemistry at the University of Missouri-Columbia, on Oct. 29 in the SUB Alumni Room. Wixom will speak on "Costa Rica - Sustainable Development and Tropical Rain Forest" at 4 p.m. Wixom will talk on "Alaska-Land of Glaciers and Habitat" at 8 p.m. For more information, call James Turner at 785.4348.

Alpha Kappa Lambda will be hosting a Haunted House from 8-11 p.m., Oct. 29, and from 8 p.m.-midnight, Oct. 30-31, at the Alpha Kappa Lambda house at 918 S. Osteopathy. The cost is \$4 for students, \$5 for adults and \$2 for children under 15. For more information, call Kevin Price at 665.9100.

The Graduate English Organization is hosting a Poetry Slam at 8 p.m., Oct. 30, in the Dukum Inn, second floor. All ages are welcome to attend. Cost is \$5.00. E-mail b1378@truman.edu for more information.

The SAB will be showing the film "The Exorcist" at 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m., Oct. 31, in VH 1000. The event is free to attend. For more information, contact the SAB Office at 785.4722.

The Ronald E. McNair Program is now accepting applications. The McNair Program prepares students for doctoral studies through involvement in research, mentoring, and other activities and supports students in the completion of doctoral studies. Applications can be picked up from the Adair Building second floor and are due by 5 p.m. Nov. 10. For more information, call Crystal Tillman at 785.5393 or e-mail her at ctillman@truman.edu.

Abstracts are welcome for a conference to be held March 25-27, 2004, in honor of Women's History Month. The deadline for abstracts is Jan. 30. For more information, contact Linda Seidel at lseidel@truman.edu.

Students who have moved need to update their local off-campus addresses. This can be done online at <http://diamonds.truman.edu> and accessing the Banner Web or by going to the Registrar's Office, MC 104.

On Campus

21 TUESDAY

8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.-"Traditional Textiles of Indochina," University Art Gallery; see Notes 1-5 p.m.-Career Expo, SUB; see Page 2
7 p.m.-Yoga and Breathing Course registration and information meeting, BH 303; see Notes

22 WEDNESDAY

8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.-"Traditional Textiles of Indochina," University Art Gallery; see Notes 3 p.m.-Men's Soccer vs. UM-St. Louis, Truman Soccer Park

23 THURSDAY

8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.-"Traditional Textiles of Indochina," University Art Gallery; see Notes 7 p.m.-"Natural Resources," Global Issues Colloquium, SUB Activities Room; see Notes
7:30-9 p.m.-New Music Festival Large Ensemble Concert, OP Performance Hall; see Page 3
8-10:30 p.m.-University Observatory Open House, University Farm; see Notes

24 FRIDAY

8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.-"Traditional Textiles of Indochina," University Art Gallery; see Notes 1:30-3 p.m.-New Music Festival Chamber Concert, OP Performance Hall; see Page 3

25 SATURDAY

9 a.m.-10 p.m.-Computer Gaming Association Tournament, SUB Activities Room; see Notes
10:30 a.m.-Men's & Women's Cross Country Hosts MIAA Championships, Kirksville Country Club
2 p.m.-Women's Soccer vs. Southwest Baptist, Truman Soccer Park
7 and 9 p.m.-"Bend It Like Beckham" sponsored by the Women's Resource Center, VH 1000; see Notes
7:30 p.m.-Trinity Academy Irish Dancers, Baldwin Auditorium; see Page 1

26 SUNDAY

2 p.m.-Women's Soccer vs. Central Missouri, Truman Soccer Park

Truman Today is a weekly publication of Truman State University for students, faculty and staff. Deadline for entries is 5 p.m., the Wednesday preceding Tuesday's publication. Entries should be submitted by sending an e-mail to ksvboda@truman.edu or by completing a *Truman Today* form available in the Public Relations Office, McClain Hall 102. The form may also be accessed online at <http://trumantoday.truman.edu/submissionform.pdf>. All submissions are subject to editing for clarity, style and space.