

# TRUMAN

A Weekly Publication for Students, Faculty, and Staff



T O D A Y

Vol. 9, No. 3

Sept. 7, 2004

Strengths, challenges and issues for the future have been identified through the University's accreditation self-study process for the Higher Learning Commission.

These topics will be presented during two informational sessions.

The sessions are open to all faculty, staff and students.

The sessions are scheduled for:

3:30 – 5 p.m.  
Sept. 13  
SUB Alumni Room

3:30 – 5 p.m.  
Sept. 14  
SUB Governors Room

The flags on the Quadrangle will be flown at half-staff Sept. 11 in honor of Patriot Day

## National Science Foundation Awards Truman Faculty Members \$900,000 Grant

A cross-disciplinary group of faculty have been awarded a \$900,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to support a five-year interdisciplinary undergraduate research program. The program brings together faculty, students and off-campus professionals with interest in research questions that exist at the intersection of the mathematical and biological sciences. The program will support research projects that span multiple semesters and summers with the goal of exposing undergraduates to all facets of the research enterprise.

The program consists of a team of faculty from the biology discipline and the Mathematics & Computer Science Division with support from the "Interdisciplinary Training for Undergraduates in Biological and Mathematical Sciences (UBM) program" at the National Science Foundation (NSF). The project is directed by Jason Miller, associate professor of mathematics (PI); Jon Beck, associate professor of computer science (co-PI); Michael Kelrick, professor of biology (co-PI); and Jeffrey Osborn, professor of and convener of biology (co-PI). These faculty will also actively guide research students.

Other faculty members who will be involved as research mentors for undergraduates include the following: Brent Buckner, professor of biology; Scott Burt, assistant professor of biology; Dean DeCock, assistant

professor of mathematics; Laura Fielden, associate professor of biology; Jon Gering, assistant professor of biology; Hyun-Joo Kim, assistant professor of mathematics; Phil Ryan, associate professor of mathematics; and Scott Thatcher, assistant professor of mathematics.

Truman will begin putting these programs into place this fall and begin taking applicants for the summer program in January 2005. The NSF will support these programs through the summer of 2009.

Each interdisciplinary research team will include at least two undergraduates (a biology major and a mathematics or computer science major) and at least two faculty members, one from biology and one from mathematics or computer science. At least four teams will be supported each year. Most research will occur on or near campus, but funds are available to support research that must occur elsewhere. Funds will also support faculty and students to present their results in publications and at national and international meetings of professional societies. The program has the support of several regional industries and research institutions such as A.T. Still University of Health Sciences (Kirksville, Mo.), the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center (St. Louis), the University of Missouri Bioinformatics Consortium (Columbia, Mo.), the Missouri Biotechnology Association, Monsanto (St. Louis) and others.

## Mathematical Biology Seminar Explores Collaborative Research with Undergraduates

Last year Truman faculty from biology and the Mathematics and Computer Science Division began a joint Mathematical Biology Seminar to explore opportunities for collaborative research with undergraduates in the growing area of mathematical biology. Faculty and students were invited to attend the biweekly meetings, as were regional professionals and scientists.

About the time this seminar was starting, Truman was awarded \$100,000 from the National Science Foundation's Interdisciplinary Training for Undergraduates in Biological and Mathematical Sciences (UBM) program to develop the institutional infrastructure needed to prepare undergraduates to pursue graduate studies and careers in mathematical biology. Since then, more than 100 undergraduates and 30 faculty members from Truman and ATSU have participated in what is called Truman's Mathematical

Biology Initiative.

This grant has supported the development of a course to be taught on mathematical modeling in biology during the spring 2005 semester, a bioinformatics course, a research practicum course and programming for scientists course. It also supported two summer research teams during the summer of 2004. One team (Michael Kelrick, Hyun-Joo Kim and two undergraduates) did some statistical modeling of a threatened plant species that is native to Missouri. Another team (Jason Miller, Jon Beck, Don Bindner and two KCOM faculty Rob Baer and Jim Rhodes) developed image analytic tools to assist in the exploration of questions about angiogenesis and the cell cycle kinetics of skin cells.

More information about the Mathematical Biology Seminar can be found online at <http://mathbio.truman.edu>.

## Voter Registration Information for Adair County

The Nov. 2 general election is approaching and students can choose to vote in Kirksville by registering in Adair County.

Students can fill out a registration card at the Adair County Clerk's Office located in the County Courthouse, downtown Kirksville. Those registering need to have a valid driver's license or a photo ID.

An additional way to register to vote is by mailing the registration card to the County Clerk's Office at the Courthouse. You must allow seven days for confirmation of registration.

If you choose to register in Adair County but are already registered in another county, the Adair County Clerk will cancel your previous registration.

For anyone who is already registered in Adair County but has moved since filling out a registration card, you can call the County Clerk's Office and inform them of the change.

To vote in the Nov. 2 election, you must be registered by Oct. 6. The County Clerk's Office urges those who will be registering in Kirksville to do so before the deadline to allow extra time for them to enter the registration information.

If you are uncertain about where you vote, you can call the County Clerk's Office at 665.3350.

**The Public Relations Office would like you to get your event on the Master Calendar.**

University divisions and active/chartered student organizations can submit on-campus events at <http://www.truman.edu/pages/203.asp>.

## Professor Receives Grant to Pilot Composting Project

Michael Kelrick, professor of biology, received a grant during the summer to establish a pilot program for composting food waste generated by the residence hall cafeterias. The proposal was developed in conjunction with several students during the past three years. The Northeast Solid Waste Management District of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources is providing the funding. Food waste from Ryle Hall cafeteria will be collected and transported to the University Farm, where it will be mixed with grass clippings and leaves from campus grounds, as well as with bedding from the University Farm's horse barns. Kelrick has estimated that during a single school year, about 150 cubic yards of materials would be composted. The compost will be utilized on the University's grounds and at the University Farm.

To implement the program, approximately two dozen students will be employed. Students can satisfy their University scholarship commitments or work study positions with project jobs, or they can work for institutional wages supplied by the grant. Time commitments can vary according to students'

needs, between three and 10 hours per week. Jobs will include collecting the food from the cafeteria dish line, transporting the collected food on a daily basis to the University Farm, mixing collected food waste with other input materials; compost pile building at the Farm and collecting data associated with monitoring decomposition of the materials. In addition to these jobs, the project will hire an environmental intern who will work closely with Kelrick to oversee the day-to-day operations of the project. The intern position will require a 10-hour-per-week commitment for the entire academic year and is supported by a \$6,000-per-hour stipend.

Kelrick said the project's success hinges upon student participation. Students interested in the project should contact Michael Kelrick as soon as possible. He plans to begin screening applicants for the intern position and holding organizational meetings for prospective compost workers by the week of Sept. 13. Contact Kelrick preferably by e-mail at [mkelrick@truman.edu](mailto:mkelrick@truman.edu). He can also be contacted at 785.4071 or at his office in Magruder Hall 3024.

## Forensic Union Seeks Academic Partners for DebateWatch 2004

Continuing a tradition begun in 2000, the Truman Forensic Union, in cooperation with COMM 429: Political Communication and Truman's Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) will be sponsoring DebateWatch, a national program designed to increase interest in, and discussion of, the presidential and vice presidential debates. The program is coordinated nationally by the Commission on Presidential Debates with DebateWatch discussion groups occurring throughout the United States and among pockets of U.S. citizens living abroad.

In 2000, the Truman DebateWatch effort included large gatherings for students and faculty in residence hall common areas as well as numerous small discussion groups in students' dorm rooms and off-campus apartments.

"The objective of the program is to get as many people talking about the debates as possible," said Kevin Minch, associate professor of

communication and director of forensics.

Research has demonstrated that the debates are a significant source of useful political knowledge.

The heart of the DebateWatch program is the individual DebateWatch Discussion Group. Truman DebateWatch seeks educational partners in campus student organizations, professors and students interested in hosting such groups. All that is required to host is a television with access to a major network, space to seat a group of people (10-12 is recommended for effective discussion) and a facilitator's packet (supplied by Truman DebateWatch). This is an excellent extra credit opportunity for faculty to offer their students.

An informational meeting for DebateWatch will be at 6 p.m., Sept. 8, in Kirk Memorial 204. People unable to attend the meeting are welcome to contact Minch for more information at 785.5677 or [kminch@truman.edu](mailto:kminch@truman.edu).

## Notables

**Julia DeLancey**, associate professor of art, was invited to deliver a paper in June as part of a conference on expanding boundaries of early modern medicine hosted by the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine in London. The paper was titled "Cures or Colors: Pigments and Medical Ingredients in Renaissance Italy."

**Lucy Lee**, professor of Spanish, was presented with the José Martel Award at Sigma Delta Pi's Triennial Convention this summer in Acapulco, Mexico. Sigma Delta Pi is the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society. This honor is presented only once every three years to one outstanding faculty adviser among the 520 Sigma Delta Pi chapters nationwide. Lee was also inducted into Sigma Delta Pi's Order of Discoverers, one of the society's highest honors that is only bestowed to approximately five people in the U.S. yearly. Her outstanding work during the 2001-2004 triennium as Sigma Delta Pi's regional vice-president of the southwest earned her this national distinction.

**Huping Ling**, professor of history, has been named to the editorial board of the *Journal of Asian American History*, the official publication

of the Association of Asian American Studies, the premier professional organization in the field.

**Daniel Mandell**, associate professor of history, has been appointed to the Organization of American Historians (OAH) Committee on the Status of African American, Latino/a, Asian American and Native American (ALANA) History and Historians. The OAH is the largest and oldest organization of scholars and teachers specializing in American history. His term on the committee will last four years.

**Mark Spitzer**, assistant professor of English, has had the following commissioned book reviews accepted for publication: "Queens and Revolutionaries: New Readings of Jean Genet" by Pascale Gaitet, for *Studies in the Novel* (literature journal from the University of North Texas), forthcoming 2005; "The Flash of Lightning Behind the Mountain: New Poems" by Charles Bukowski, for *Oyster Boy*, forthcoming; "Rebel Verse Review" (The Outlaw Bible of American Poetry, ed. Alan Kaufman) in *Jack Magazine*, vol. 2, no. 4; and under the pseudonym Christian Prozak, "No B.S. Reviews: Sanders, Kerouac, Céline, Topp" in *Exquisite Corpse* #14.

## Walter Named New Public Relations Intern

The Public Relations Office has announced

Jessica Walter, a communication major, as its intern for the fall semester. Walter, a graduate of Valley High School in West Des Moines, Iowa, is from West Des Moines. She is the daughter of Tom and Earleen Walter.

As the intern, she will assist in the writing, producing and distributing of the University newsletter, *Truman Today*, as well as posting it online. She also will be responsible for editing the calendar on channel 36, writing press releases, and performing various office duties.

At Truman, Walter is currently a member of the Delta Zeta social sorority, the communication honor fraternity Lambda Pi Eta and the Society of Professional Journalists.

Walter's interest in obtaining experience and skills in various communication outlets has lead her to this position.



## Staff Council Candidacy Statements Due

University staff members interested in running for a position on the Staff Council must submit a candidacy statement of no more than 100 words to the Human Resources Office, McClain Hall 106 or [lpPhillip@truman.edu](mailto:lpPhillip@truman.edu), no later than 5 p.m. on Sept. 8.

Individuals may declare candidacy for only one position per election. Elections for Staff Council representatives will be Sept. 23 and Sept. 24. If you have questions about becoming a candidate for Staff Council or the Staff

The following positions are available:

Assignment Area	Job Classification
Academic Affairs	2 hourly, 1 contract
Academic Support	2 hourly, 2 contract
Administrative Offices	2 hourly, 2 contract
Physical Plant	5 hourly or contract
Student Affairs	1 hourly, 3 contract
At Large Representatives	3 hourly or contract

Council election, please contact Linda Phillips, interim director of human resources, 785.7298 or [lpPhillip@truman.edu](mailto:lpPhillip@truman.edu).

## "Shape Up Missouri" to Kick Off in Kirksville

The Kirksville community will kick off "Shape-Up Missouri," an eight-week statewide health and fitness challenge led by the mayors of every town in the state, at 5 p.m., Sept. 13, at the Adair County YMCA parking lot and hike/bike trailhead. Mayor Debbie Masten will lead the beginning of the program with a "Community Walk" around the hike/bike trail. A prize drawing will also be held.

This local Shape-Up event is part of a statewide fitness challenge sponsored by Gov. Bob Holden and the Missouri Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health.

Kirksville ranked in the "Top 10" fittest cities last year.

Those interested in participating can register at the Web site located at <http://www.mofitness.org> by clicking on the "Shape-Up Missouri" link.

Holden initiated the program to address the alarming rate of cardiovascular disease caused primarily by obesity.

Contact Carolyn Cox, council member and associate professor of health and exercise sciences, at 785.7256 or [ccox@truman.edu](mailto:ccox@truman.edu) for more information.

## JUDGES NEEDED

The Truman Forensic Union needs judges for its annual intercollegiate speech and debate tournament, the Show Me Swing, Sept. 24-26.

No previous experience with forensics is necessary. Optional judge training is available.

Volunteers accepted or \$10 per round honorarium is available.

For more information, contact Kevin Minch at [kminch@truman.edu](mailto:kminch@truman.edu) or download the Judge Volunteer Form at <http://forensics.truman.edu/tournament.html>.

## Notes

Students living off-campus should update their local mailing address with the University via **TruView**. Address changes can also be made in the Registrar's Office, McClain Hall 104. Students are responsible for all information sent to their local mailing address from University offices and personnel conducting University business.

### December 2004 Undergraduate Degree

**Candidates:** If you have made any changes in your course schedule(s) since you submitted your graduation application and have not yet updated your application with the Registrar's Office, you need to do so immediately.

Updates can be made in the Registrar's Office, McClain Hall 104, Monday through Friday between 8 a.m.-5 p.m. You do not need to complete a new application. To remain on the graduation list, all changes to your degree plan and all required substitutions must be on file in the Registrar's Office no later than Sept. 30.

### Graduation Applications for May 2005

**Undergraduate Degree Candidates are due in the Registrar's Office, McClain Hall 104, no later than Sept. 10.** Applications and worksheets are available at the Registrar's Web site at <http://registrar.truman.edu>. The Spring 2005 open course list is now available via TruView to help you complete your application. Applications must be signed by your academic adviser prior to submission.

Effective immediately, the Registrar's Office will accept undergraduate degree applications only after a student has completed 90 hours of credit. Information about filing a graduation application and upcoming deadlines is available at <http://registrar.truman.edu>.

**The Writing Center, located in McClain Hall 303, is now open for consultations.** The Writing Center hours will be announced at a later date.

Students interested in a part-time job this semester are encouraged to apply to work the Tel Alumni campaign. Applications are due Sept. 8. Tel Alumni is hiring between 30-40 students to work for 10 weeks. For more information, go to <http://truman.edu>.

Recruiting.com or pick up an application in the Advancement Office, McClain Hall 101. Contact Laci Cook at 785.7432 or [lacicook@truman.edu](mailto:lacicook@truman.edu) for more information.

**There will be a Homecoming organization chairs meeting at 10 p.m., Sept. 7, in Violette Hall 1010.** If your organization is participating in Homecoming, you must send a representative to this meeting. For more information, e-mail [homecoming@truman.edu](mailto:homecoming@truman.edu) or contact Amy Currier at 785.4222.

**The Center for Teaching and Learning will**

**launch its Weekly Lunch Series for faculty, teaching staff and GTRAs at 12:30-1:30 p.m., Sept. 8, in the SUB Spanish Room.** The subject is "Summer Online Courses: How Did It Go?" Participants may receive \$3.00 towards their Sodexo meal by signing the attendance sheet at any of the Student Union checkout counters. Contact the Center for Teaching and Learning at 785.4477 for more information.

**The Truman chapter of Amnesty International announces its first meeting of the school year from 5-6 p.m., Sept. 8, in McClain Hall 308.** All people interested may attend this informational meeting.

Contact Betty McLane-Iles at 785.4507 for more information.

**The first of the new Global Issues Colloquium begins at 7 p.m., Sept. 9, in Violette Hall 1000.**

This event is sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning in cooperation with the Northeast Missouri Phi Beta Kappa chapter. Call 785.4477 for more information.

**The Society of the Prim Roses will have Fall Recruitment the week of Sept. 13-18.** Prim Roses is an independent social sisterhood and all interested females are invited to attend. An informational meeting will be at 7 p.m., Sept. 9, in Baldwin Hall 262. Contact Christina Collison at 665.0101 for any additional information or visit the Prim Rose Web site at <http://primroses.truman.edu>.

**The Pre-Law Club will have an informational meeting from 7:30-8:30 p.m., Sept. 9, in Violette Hall 1430.** The meeting is open to any major interested in attending law school. Paul Parker will be speaking about his experiences as a pre-law adviser. Contact David Johnson at 785.4836 or e-mail [d1595@truman.edu](mailto:d1595@truman.edu) for more information.

**The University Art Gallery at Truman presents an art faculty exhibit, "The Truman Show," until Sept. 25.** A public reception will be at 6 p.m., Sept. 13, at the University Art Gallery. Contact Aaron Fine at 785.5386 or e-mail [afine@truman.edu](mailto:afine@truman.edu) for more information. **Cardinal Key and Blue Key will be sponsoring a blood drive from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sept. 14-16, in the Student Union Building Activities Room.** Contact Jamie Sharp at 665.2587 for more information.

**High Street Dancers will have tryout clinics in the Pershing Building Small Gym from 6-8 p.m., Sept. 15 and from 7:30-9:30 p.m., Sept. 16.** A review will be from 7:30-9:30 p.m., Sept. 17, in the Pershing Building Small Gym.

Tryouts will begin at 9 a.m., Sept. 18, in the Pershing Building Small Gym. For more information, contact the High Street Dancers faculty sponsor Melody Jennings at 785.7259 or [jennings@truman.edu](mailto:jennings@truman.edu).

## On Campus

### 7 TUESDAY

10 p.m.-Homecoming organization chairs meeting, VH 1010; see Notes

### 8 WEDNESDAY

12:30-1:30 p.m.-Weekly Lunch Series for faculty, GTRAs and teaching staff, SUB Spanish Room; see Notes

5-6 p.m.-Amnesty International informational meeting, MC 308; see Notes

6 p.m.-DebateWatch informational meeting, KM 204; see Page 2

### 9 THURSDAY

7 p.m.-Global Issues Colloquium, VH 1000; see Notes

7 p.m.-Prim Roses fall recruitment informational meeting, BH 262; see Notes

### 13 MONDAY

5 p.m.-Truman Week grades available on TruView

6 p.m.-"The Truman Show" art faculty exhibit opening reception, University Art Gallery; see Notes

*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 [kbest@truman.edu](mailto:kbest@truman.edu) or by completing a *Truman Today* form available in the Public Relations Office, McClain Hall 101. The form may also be accessed online at <http://trumantoday.truman.edu/submissionform.pdf>. All submissions are subject to editing for clarity and style.