The clock is running for Recyclemania 2016 at the University of Missouri—St. Louis, a competition between universities across the U.S. and Canada to see who can recycle the most. The competition runs from February 7 to April 2, and currently involves 329 universities. Recyclemania began in 2001 as a challenge between Ohio University and Miami University, as the school recycling coordinators wanted to motivate students to recycle. More colleges were invited to join, and it soon became a national competition.

UMSL has participated for the past two years, with an average diversion rate of 17 percent. This means that 17 percent of total waste material from the campus is typically recycled. Other participating colleges around this rate from 2015 include Southern Illinois University—Carbondale, Indiana State University, and University of Maryland, Baltimore. The winner from last year was Antioch University—Seattle, with a diversion rate of 97 percent. In second place was UM—Kansas City, with a rate of 85 percent.

Aside from the diversion rate, there is the “Per Capita Classic,” which calculates per capita recycling rate by taking the total weight of recyclables and dividing by the full-time student and staff population of the school. There is also the “Waste Minimization” category, a per capita measure of the total amount of trash and recyclables produced.

Continued on page 3

KAT RIDDLE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Wednesday, the Higher Education Appropriations Committee of the Missouri House of Representatives denied the six percent funding increase proposed by Governor Jay Nixon to all public Missouri colleges and universities. Governor Nixon’s proposed increase to higher education would amount to $55.6 million. Instead, the committee voted for a two percent increase for Missouri colleges and universities except for the UM System campuses. The UM System would have received an increase of $26.8 million more for the 2017 fiscal year.

According to the Columbia Tribune, the chair of the committee, Representative Donna Lichtenegger, R-Jackson, cited the protests of Concerned Student 1950 and the University of Missouri—Columbia’s failure to fire Melissa Click as reasons to cut the system’s proposed funding increase.

“They are there to learn, not to protest all day long,” Lichtenegger told the Tribune. “I thought we learned that lesson in the ’60s. Obviously we haven’t.” Governor Nixon pushed back on these comments, and it appeared that the Republican leadership of the House of Representatives was willing to entertain further negotiation with the UM System.

Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer Brian Burnett said that of a UM System budget of about $3 billion, 14.6 percent of the budget comes from the state of Missouri.

Each campus comes up with a financial plan that they submit in a funds request. This includes when campus tuition and fee rate requests are also made. The UM System President then reviews the request and makes recommendations to the Board of Curators for approval.

Burnett said, “In the last few years, new core appropriation funding that comes to the UM system is distributed by the UM System President to the campuses based on strategic funding proposals that support campus strategic plans. These are generally incremental funds in addition to the base core each campus had from the year prior.”
GAME CORNER

The UMSL MATH CLUB
Presents Problem of the week

Difficulty: Bruh

Submit your solution to the problem below by Friday, February 19. Solvers will be eligible for our pi day drawing on March 14. Submit solutions to R. Dotzel 329 ESH (dotzelr@umsl.edu)

Square a number plus two score
And subtract the square of fourteen and four
Then half a gross less fifteen and six
Is taken from the mix
Divide by ten gives the number, not one bit more.

Problem: What is the number?

Math Club meeting on Wednesday 2/17 at 1:00pm in ESH304. A 30 minute film, ”The Joy of Pi” will be shown. Refreshments too. All are welcome.
Recyclemania 2016 Kickoff at UMSL

SARAH BELL
STAFF WRITER

Continued from Page 1

For UMSL to improve its recycling rate, there needs to be more awareness about what is recyclable, since often materials are put in the trash which could be recycled. UMSL’s waste service provider, Republic Services, does Single Stream Recycling, meaning that all the recyclable materials are taken in the same bins and are then sorted later at a Materials Recovery Facility. Recyclable materials include paper, cardboard, aluminum and steel cans, plastics 1-7 (but not Styrofoam or plastic bags), and glass bottles. It is acceptable to put items with some food waste in the recycling bins (like pizza boxes with some oil residue), though materials with large pieces of food cannot be taken.

Recently, plastic bags started being accepted at UMSL in a container outside the Triton Store. In a conversation with Stephanie Eaton, manager of the UMSL Triton Store, she explained that the collected bags are reused by the bag company to be made into patio furniture, then shipped to Regal Poly Pak, a packaging manufacturer, which recycles the plastic bags.

Many other colleges now have composting for food organics, and their composted food weight is included in their recycled material for diversion rates. Although UMSL does not yet have composting, a plan has been proposed by UMSL Sustainability and is pending approval. Currently, much of the leftover food from Sodexo is sent to the landfill; about 150 pounds each week of food is sent to a food pantry in University City, called City of Life.

Osama Rammaha, custodial supervisor for some of the buildings on North campus, recommends UMSL, “Make it simple. Make it more convenient. The school’s company takes all the recycling together, so you need to educate students. Make more signs by the bins, with recycling logos on them, make fliers, send out emails.” He talked about how he trains the custodians, and monitors them to make sure they do not mix trash with recycling. He also noted how plastic bags cannot be accepted in recycling, so he now requires custodians to empty the recycling bins and then reuse those plastic bags to line trash containers. He or other custodians sometimes take plastic bottles from the trash and put them in recycling, but ultimately it is the students’ choice whether or not to recycle.

While it may appear to be only a difference of throwing something in a blue or a black bin, the difference between recycling and land filling is much more. Materials which are recycled can help reduce the energy needed to produce materials in big ways. For instance, making aluminum cans from recycled plastic consumes 5 percent of the energy needed to produce them from raw bauxite. By making the decision to recycle, everyone at UMSL can make a small difference that can amount to something much larger. More information on Recyclemania can be found at Recyclemaniacs.org.

February 3: A student reported that two windows of her car were broken while it was parked in Lot VV at 5:10 a.m. Another student reported losing their wallet in Lot N and a report was filed at 10:57 a.m. Later that day, in the West Drive Garage, a wallet was found by a student and is now being held by UMSL PD for pick up by its owner.

February 4: At 2:11 p.m., a student was transported from the MSC to the hospital after reporting chest pains. A report of smoking by a resident at University Meadows was filed at 6:41 p.m. by an unaffiliated apartment resident. At 6:40 p.m., a Visa card was found in Parking Lot M and turned in to UMSL PD. The owner has been notified and the card is being held by UMSL PD for the owner to pick up.

February 5: Two reports of found property: an iPhone was found in Oak Hall at 12:39 a.m.; a tablet was found in a Seton Hall classroom at 4:35 p.m. Both items are being held by UMSL PD. At 4:35 p.m., a student was transported from the MSC to the hospital for psychiatric evaluation; it was not made clear what triggered this response. UMSL PD responded to a disturbance report at 4:54 p.m. in the Thomas Jefferson Library after an incident between a student and a security guard.

February 6 and 7: There were no incidents to report.

February 8: Several incidents of property lost and found: a student reported their laptop missing while in Marillac Hall at 12:20 p.m.; at 3:59 p.m. in Seton Hall, several pieces of mail and office supplies were reported missing by a staff member; at 4:29 p.m., a student parked in Lot U reported their license tabs as stolen; at 6 p.m. in Woods Hall, an officer found a Fishtat bracelet and turned it into UMSL PD office for safe keeping.

February 9: At 12:05 p.m., two checks were found and turned into the UMSL PD station. The owner was then notified by the police.
“I’m black and I’m proud.” With these words the second annual Soul’d Out show began. Organized by the Office of Student Life and Demetrius Reynolds, graduate, adult and higher education, the event featured African-American artists and performers in every area of interest from painting to poetry. Visual artists at the event included University of Missouri—St. Louis students Christian F. Cohill, graduate, social work, and Brock Seals, junior, studio art, as well as visiting artists such as fashion designer Simone McGary, better known as Monie Christo because of her handmade ties made with African sourced fabrics.

The event was hosted by T-Animated, an UMSL alumna and radio personality from FM 95.5. She introduced the first act, a four-woman performance group called Harmony, who performed a quick history of being black in America entitled “Songs of Protest, Songs of Power.” They sang snatches of songs like the classic spiritual “Wade in the Water,” Billie Holiday’s “Strange Fruit,” James Brown’s “Say it Loud,” and Nina Simone’s “Revolution,” which includes the lyrics “to be young, gifted, and black.” A slide show of various images and video clips played in the background of each song. “Revolution” was sung over images of black inventors and their inventions while “Strange Fruit” was sung over images of lynchings. The performance covered American history from the time of slavery before the Civil War until the election of President Obama in 2008 and ended with a chorus of the president’s quote, “We are better together.”

The next performance was by the spoken word team UrbSLAM composed of Greg the Poet, EmCee, and Sydney Ray. Greg the Poet and EmCee started off with a poem on the origins of hip-hop. The poem included ideas that hip-hop is not new but is actually a traveler that has picked up many aspects of the African-American experience. It described hip-hop as having been “born in the South, educated in the Bronx,” and an important part of modern culture. Sydney Ray followed with a poem about the differing levels of racism in his family, from his grandmother’s acts of rebellion working in a segregation era diner to his parents’ refusal to go to North City to watch his performance because of the supposed danger. EmCee followed with a poem about the over-sexualization of black women and the counter-productive ways in which they fight against it. Greg the Poet finished the poetry with a performance about the violence perpetrated by and against young black men, including a haunting imitation of a heartbeat and the heartbreaking line “gunshots talk in St. Louis cuz.”

Other performers included hip hop artist YaYa Jonez with previews from his new mixtape “Bridge,” the Phi Mu Alpha jazz band, and musician Isaiah Cox who covered songs from famous African-American guitarists George Benson and Maurice White. There was also a performance by the dance group Beyond Measure. The dances were a mix of African inspired moves and music with more modern American music and moves.

T-Animated presented a short video in which she toured places in St. Louis that were important African-American historical sites. Sites included the Old Court House, which saw Dred Scott’s fight for freedom in 1857; the land on which the Pruitt-Igoe housing complex once stood; the Arch, which was the site of a protest for more jobs for African-American workers by Percy Green in 1964; the community of Kinloch, which boasts a history of being the oldest African-American community in the St. Louis area but has become dangerous since its deterioration in the 1980s.

The night ended with a performance by event coordinator Demetrius Reynolds, who sang a rousing hip-hop song, followed by T-Animated encouraging everyone to grab snacks and drinks.
‘VIDEO210’ Puts Art On Screen

SARAH HAYES
A&E EDITOR

The walls of Gallery A at the University of Missouri—St. Louis’ Gallery 210 have been no stranger to the more avant-garde side of art, from chaotic sound machines to performance art using human beings as props. The newest exhibit to grace the inside of Gallery A, however, is not contained in these outlandish media, nor do they exist in the paints and oils of classic art. The digital world is what frames the various works of video art that make up the current Gallery 210 exhibit, “VIDEO210: Selections of Video Art from the Gallery 210 Collection.”

The first video that introduces patrons to “VIDEO210” is an exercise in special effects, Julia Hechtman’s “Small Miracles.” The video is a series of micro-scenes in which a woman is on screen performing feats of magic, from summoning lightning between her hands to turning her eyelids into planets and carrying galaxies in her hand. Considering that the film was made in 2006, the effects are a little underwhelming to watch, but the juxtaposition of unearthly abilities and the female body give it an interesting feminist twist.

On the other end of the special effects spectrum, at least in terms of purpose, is Susie Silver and Hilary Harp’s “Robot Love,” which combines disco with robots in a very 1980s-style music video, down to the screen wipes and strobe lights. This is probably the most carefree and light-hearted video of the set and is just fun to watch. Plus, the song itself, by band Ganymed, is an earworm of a track that is difficult to forget with its simplistic lyrics, repetition of sounds, and robotic vocals.

Political statements are common place in “VIDEO210,” but some are less effective than others. Case in point: Les LeVeque’s “Backwards Birth of a Nation,” which takes the classic racist film by D. W. Griffith and flips it backwards and speeds it up, turning a three hour plus film into a 13-minute video art piece. As a work of anti-racist activism, it falters, but it is a visual marvel, turning characters into silver and white phantoms on the screen while other images look like dark cut outs on top of washed out backgrounds. The audio sounds like glitchy 8-bit music strung through a classical orchestra pit. As art made for art’s sake, it is interesting, but some may find the combination of sped-up sound and video to be seizure-inducing.

More successful is Alex Rivera and Lalo Lopez’s “Animaquiladora,” a bitingly satirical take on Mexican-American relations and the violent xenophobia that is prevalent in the immigration conversation. Through computer animated segments, Rivera and Lopez take on the politics behind the phrase ‘illegal alien’ with a fake film trailer depicting giant flying sombreros, how “Latinos on TV” are portrayed (i.e. not at all), and anti-bracero racism. The last point is addressed with a propagandist advertisement for the “Cybraceros”—robotic replacements for Mexican farm hands so Mexican workers can still pick crops from home while Americans can take advantage of their labor without the fear of immigrants coming over the border.

While Jim Finn’s “Dick Cheney in a Cold Dark Place” is a creative usage of video editing techniques, the actual content does not connect with its title or the apparent intended message. Finn juxtaposes Judy Garland’s “The Man Who Got Away” with scenes from films such as “Damien: The Omen II,” which in itself creates a lovely feeling of cognitive dissonance. But if, as Finn’s artist statement claims, the piece is a comment on “amount of anxiety created by vice president who usurped authority for eight years” before retiring to private life, then maybe that intent should be made clearer in the work itself, not just in the accompanying material.

Capping off the exhibit is the most dominant video art in the collection: Jesse McLean’s “Just Like Us,” the sound of which fills the room for the few moments it actually has sound. Reliant on a combination of natural audio and Europe’s “Take My Breath Away,” the main ‘voice’ of the piece comes through in the on-screen subtitles of an unheard interview that seems to be narrating a story running parallel to the visuals of the film. Dominant images are of consumerism and celebrity culture in their most naked, simplest forms, reducing figures of power and wealth into empty vessels and faceless figures. In a way, the voice that McLean lends to the film through the subtitles is the voice of anyone who has felt closed in or shut out from their own past by the creeping touch of modern industry.

A variety of film art can be found at “VIDEO210,” and while some videos impress more than others, the wide array of subject matter and media makes it an appealing exploration through the way artists use film to tell a story or make a statement. The exhibit will be on display at Gallery 210 until March 22. For more information, including gallery hours and upcoming shows, visit the gallery online at gallery210.umsl.edu or by phone at 314-516-5976.
The ninth ranked University of Missouri—St. Louis Tritons women's softball team stayed solid on defense this weekend as they shut down two opposing teams while away in Bentonville, Arkansas. On February 12, the Tritons faced off against both Southern Oklahoma State and Northeastern Oklahoma State in two games that ended in strong victories for the UMSL women.

The first game saw the Tritons playing against Southern Oklahoma to kick off Friday evening. Pitcher Hannah Perryman, senior, criminology, was the star of the show as she struck out a total of 10 Oklahoma players while only walking two. The UMSL defense and catcher Serena Olson, freshman, undecided, helped allow her to still face the minimum 18 batters for a near-perfect game. Her performance at the mound was dazzling, helped allow her to still face the softball that day.

In their second game of the evening, the Perryman sisters struck again. Jenna Perryman was a big factor in the Tritons’ offense; she was joined by Erin Walker, senior, elementary special education, and both players got two hits each as part of the seven that the Tritons tallied over the course of the game. She was a major contributor to the seven that the Tritons tallied over the course of the game. Her performance at the mound continued to dazzle with her dominating presence on the mound. She and battery-mate Olson were on a different level, effortlessly dismantling the second Oklahoma offense of the day. Together, the two Tritons kept the Rangers from scoring.

Tritons Cream Oklahoma Softball in Doubleheader

SPORTS THECURRENT-ONLINE.COM

February 15, 2016

With just five regular season games to go, both the University of Missouri—St. Louis men’s and women’s basketball teams were defeated by the Bellarmine Knights in their Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) games on February 11 in Louisville, Kentucky. The Triton women first battled the Knights but fell to their opponents by a longshot, with a 47-68 loss. The Triton men subsequently took a 10-point loss to the Knights with a final score of 71-81, putting an end to their four-game winning streak.

The Triton men got off to a strong start with a 6-0 lead in the first few minutes of the game, with a layup at 9:07 by Kelly Kunkel, senior, marketing and economics administration, who racked up 12 points a few times in the second half, the Knights would ultimately take a 10-point lead into halftime. Despite getting within eight points a few times in the second half, the Tritons would get no closer. The Knights continued to pull ahead, stretching their lead into double digits, and the Tritons would ultimately take the 10-point loss.

The Triton men experienced strong offensive play-making by Reine, who scored 15 points and 10 rebounds, Joshua Webster, redshirt freshman, communications, who scored 15 points, and Brandon Marquardt, senior business administration, who racked up 12 points and three steals.

Following these defeats, the Tritons took to the court against Bellarmine and Southern Indiana.

LORI DRESNER NEWS EDITOR

Triton Basketball Stumbles Against Bellarmine and Southern Indiana

Women’s basketball saw the Tritons lose 4-0. Theriot maintained to capitalize the most points a few times in the second half, stretching their lead into double digits, and the Tritons would ultimately take the 10-point loss.

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Forgotten Step-child of the UM System

KAT RIDDLER  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The University of Missouri—St. Louis is scrambling to dig its way out of a $15 million budget hole. A hiring freeze, implemented last year, continues to unduly strain the ability of departments to offer the courses students need to complete their degrees in a timely manner. The $55.6 million increase in funding for higher education proposed by the Governor would certainly help, but this is being held hostage in the Missouri General Assembly, at least for now.

It would help to hear a logical explanation for how the University of Missouri System allocates its resources. Lamentably, budgeting between the university campuses is primarily incremental, so they automatically start with their budgets from the previous year. Any new funding is then allocated by the UM President, with the approval of the Board of Curators, based on each campus’s strategic plan. With that explanation it is hard to imagine why there is a $15 million deficit.

Sure, enrollment is down, but only by about four percent—not much more than some of the fluctuations experienced over the past decade. UMSL and UMKC have a roughly equal number of students, approximately 17,000 each. Mizzou has about 35,000 and Rolla around 9,000. Yet UMKC received more money than UMSL and has more staff and faculty.

In fact, UMKC has almost double the staff and about 300 more faculty than our campus of roughly the same size. This of course will change in favor of UMKC once again after our budget deficit forces layoffs of faculty and staff.

UMSL, the Cinderella of the UM System, seems to have been left to fend for itself while our step-sister campuses enjoy the favor of the Board of Curators. Too bad we do not have a fairytale wedding in our near future.

In fact, we only have one representative from St. Louis. Due to the resignations of the two African-American members and the reluctance of the Missouri Senate to approve another minority member from the 1st Congressional District, St. Louis may not have much smaller voice to decide where the money goes.

This hardly seems fair considering that the St. Louis Metropolitan Area has one-third of the State’s population and arguably generates half of the State’s corporate income tax, a large percentage of the State’s sales tax, and more than a third of the individual income tax. Nearly 15 percent of the UM System operating funds come from the state. St. Louis seems to be doing some heavy lifting for little reward and things do not look like they will be magically changing soon.

When the seats on the new UM System Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force were announced, those chosen to represent the campuses consisted of five UM system members, six Mizzou members, four UMKC members, two Rolla members, and two UMSL members. Why are we underrepresented so much on a diversity council by our own system? UMSL should be leading this diversity task force since we have already had the Chancellor’s Cultural Diversity Council since 2004. As for the rest of the UM System, if the glass slipper fits, they can wear it.

St. Louis business, civic, and political leaders need to demand fair and equal representation on the Board of Curators and not allow one of our chairs to remain empty. They should demand minority representation before the reputation of the state and region is embarrassed by more national focus on the lack of diversity.

Move over Cinderella, we are going to have to make our own fairytale wedding.

House Committee Funding Threat Is Due to Students’ Free Speech, Assembly

KAT RIDDLER  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Over 77,000 students and millions of alumni of the University of Missouri system were taught an important lesson last week by the Chairwoman of the House Committee for Higher Education. It is not the Board of Curators or the interim President of the UM System that is in charge, nor the Chancellors of the various campuses, and, least of all, the collective voices of the students. Apparently, the Republican super-majority in the Missouri House of Representatives has decided that educational policy—indeed the micro-administration of higher education in Missouri—are under the thumb of State Representative Donna Lichtenegger of Jackson, Missouri.

Representative Lichtenegger led her committee’s effort to exclude the University of Missouri System campuses, including UMSL, from the Governor’s proposed 6 percent performance increase in state support for higher education. The $55.6 million increase was intended to help free up a potential tuition hike. While stripping funding from the UM System, the committee voted to give a 2 percent increase to all other state-supported public colleges.

So what possibly could be the motivation for singling out students and faculty of the University of Missouri to be discriminated against in state funding? It seems Representative Lichtenegger, upset about the race-related protests last year at Mizzou, wished to punish the university and its students for their actions. Nothing like proving a point there, Representative.

Lichtenegger is quoted as saying about the students expressing their First Amendment rights, “They are there to learn, not to protest all day long. I thought we learned that lesson in the ’60s. Obviously we haven’t,” she said. Lichtenegger must not be very well read that anti-war protests led to pressure to end America’s involvement in the Vietnam War. In other words, the lesson Lichtenegger should have learned is that student protests are pretty darned effective.

To be fair, the student protests were not the only thing that disgruntled Representative Lichtenegger. She is also upset about the University of Missouri’s handling of tenured professor Melissa Click. Click, who was seen in a viral video threatening a journalist, was later charged with misdemeanor assault, has publicly apologized, and agreed to do community service. She was also suspended pending the steps the University may take. But despite all that, Lichtenegger wanted Click to have been punished immediately.

So what better way to express her anger than by punishing 77,000 students who had nothing to do with the actions of Melissa Click? If this does not seem like a very sound way to run a kindergarten class—let alone a major University system—perhaps the people who appointed Representative Lichtenegger Chair of the House Committee for Higher Education know of some unique experience that qualified her for this important leadership position. Checking her official biography, that experience is not readily apparent.

“Following her 1969 graduation from Normandy High School, she attended the University of Missouri and then transferred to St. Louis Community College – Forest Park where she received an A.S. in Dental Hygiene in 1973.” (http://www.house.mo.gov/bio.aspx?year=2016&district=146 – retrieved 2/13/16)
Bioretention Adds Beauty and Functionality to RWC

KAT RIDDLER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With the warmer weather, it is hard not to think of spring—the time of snow passing with the hope of seeing the colorful buds start to peek through the warming earth. While walking around the University of Missouri—St. Louis campus this spring, take some time to look at the landscape around the Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC).

While landscaping might seem more artistic than functional, the landscape around the RWC is both beautiful and functional. A student stopping by the informational boards around the building can learn about the bioretention process that the landscape provides for the campus.

Bioretention is the process of removing contaminants and sediment from runoff water that would otherwise eventually go into the sewer system. The plants and rock formations in the treatment area act as a natural filter for the pollutants that can be found in runoff water. According to the informational signs, “Bioretention areas also help recharge water tables by allowing storm water to be absorbed slowly into surrounding soil.”

These plants also provide that eye appealing pop of color in spring. The flora was specifically chosen to help the bioretention process and thrive in our ecosystem. The board explains, “The Bioretention Basin was designed to utilize visually appealing Native Plant Species from Missouri. Missouri Plant Species are desirable since they are well suited to our local climate, and they work in harmony with our local birds and insects. The plants species selected for this Bioretension Basin also have deep root systems, making them ready to transpirate water quickly.”

Miriam Roccia, assistant dean of students, said, “As an educational institution, we do believe that the landscaping and corresponding information related to the landscaping at the new building speaks to our core mission to educate students both inside and outside the classroom.”

Informational signage at the site helps to explain and inform visitors and students about the process. It reads, “During a rain event, storm water from pollution sources, such as parking lots and roadways, flows into the basin through pipes and overland flow paths. As the water infiltrates through the mulch and planting soils, pollutants are removed through absorption, microbial activity, plant uptake, sedimentation and filtration. As the soil becomes saturated, the incoming water is then allowed to temporarily pond to a height controlled by a natural rock overflow spillway. This captured water is then allowed to evaporate and continue to transpirate into the ground. Bioretention areas have been found to remove metals, hydrocarbons, fertilizers, sediments, and fecal coliforms.”

Roccia said that the students involved in the decision process really emphasized sustainability with the building. Along with the water runoff design, students also pushed for solar panels on the roof. The architects, Cannon Design, gave suggestions to help meet these sustainable goals.

Because the RWC construction was built with such a sustainable influence, UMSL hopes to receive the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification for its efforts. The LEED certification is recognized across the globe for achievement in green building. There are different levels of certification based on points for each building. A building is certified for 40-49 points, silver for 50-59 points, gold for 60-79, and platinum for 80 and above.

While a building dedicated to fitness does not usually offer lessons on the environment, biodiversity, and bioretention, the RWC manages to do so for those who take the time to visit these informational boards and to enjoy the landscape. UMSL is helping to lead the way on what will become a much more common feature of future building projects, as the federal government and Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) are pushing for reductions in pollutants that runoff into streams and rivers.